

Defining Bravery Answer Key

Expected Key Discussion Points:

- Heroes can come from many walks of life-soldiers, first responders, activists, teachers, or ordinary citizens showing extraordinary bravery.
- Memorial Day reminds us that courage often involves **sacrifice for a greater good**.
- Students may connect modern heroism to qualities like compassion, selflessness, integrity, and persistence.
- The discussion should highlight **respect, gratitude, and the lasting influence of past heroes** on current values.

Quick Tips for Differentiation:

- **Grades 9-10:** Provide sentence starters or guiding questions (e.g., "Is bravery always physical?").
- **Grades 11-12:** Have students research and reference real examples of modern heroism.
- **Advanced students:** Encourage use of rhetorical devices such as repetition, analogy, or emotional appeal.

Engagement Ideas:

- Hold a "**Hero Circle Debate**" where students share and defend their definitions of heroism.
- Play a short video or read a quote from a Medal of Honor recipient to inspire the discussion.
- Display words like "**sacrifice,**" "**duty,**" "**honor,**" and "**courage**" around the classroom as visual prompts.

Extension Ideas:

- Assign a reflective essay: "*How does courage shape a nation's identity?*"
- Encourage students to write a short tribute speech honoring someone they believe embodies true heroism.