

FLAG DAY

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/06/flag_day.html

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Flag Day is celebrated in the United States on June 14. It commemorates the birth of the country's flag on June 14, 1777. It was not until 1916 that President Woodrow Wilson recommended a day for all Americans to celebrate their flag. His recommendation was passed into law by an Act of Congress in 1949. Flag Day is not, however, an official federal holiday. The state of Pennsylvania is the only U.S. state to celebrate the day as a state holiday. The U.S. President does have the power to tell other states to observe the day. The President also asks citizens to fly the American flag from their houses for a week. There are Flag Day parades all across America. The largest one is in the town of Troy, New York. This attracts up to 50,000 spectators.

The flag of the United States is one of the most recognized symbols in the world. It consists of thirteen horizontal red and white stripes. There is a blue rectangle, with fifty small, white stars, in the top left corner. The thirteen stripes represent the thirteen former British colonies that rebelled against Britain and led to independence. The fifty stars represent the fifty U.S. states. The current flag has been around since 1959, which is when Hawaii, state number 50, joined the United States. There are several nicknames for the flag, including the Stars and Stripes, Old Glory, and The Star-Spangled Banner. Most Americans are extremely proud of their flag and all it represents. It arouses complex feelings in different people around the world.

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. It commemorates the birth | <i>a.</i> celebrate their flag |
| 2. a day for all Americans to | <i>b.</i> across America |
| 3. Flag Day is not, however, an | <i>c.</i> to 50,000 spectators |
| 4. fly the American flag | <i>d.</i> official federal holiday |
| 5. There are Flag Day parades all | <i>e.</i> of the country's flag |
| 6. This attracts up | <i>f.</i> from their houses |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. one of the most recognized | <i>a.</i> against Britain |
| 2. It consists of thirteen horizontal | <i>b.</i> proud of their flag |
| 3. colonies that rebelled | <i>c.</i> red and white stripes |
| 4. There are several nicknames | <i>d.</i> symbols in the world |
| 5. Americans are extremely | <i>e.</i> feelings |
| 6. It arouses complex | <i>f.</i> for the flag |

LISTENING GAP FILL

Flag Day is celebrated in the United States on June 14. It commemorates _____ country's flag on June 14, 1777. It was not until 1916 that President Woodrow Wilson recommended _____ Americans to celebrate their flag. His recommendation was passed into law by an Act of Congress in 1949. Flag Day is not, however, _____ holiday. The state of Pennsylvania is the only U.S. state to celebrate the day as a state holiday. The U.S. President does have the _____ states to observe the day. The President also asks citizens to fly the American flag from their houses for a week. There are Flag Day parades all across America. The largest _____ Troy, New York. This _____ 50,000 spectators.

The flag of the United States _____ recognized symbols in the world. It consists of thirteen horizontal red and white stripes. There _____, with fifty small, white stars, in the top left corner. The thirteen stripes represent the thirteen former British colonies _____ Britain and led to independence. The fifty stars represent the fifty U.S. states. The current flag _____ since 1959, which is when Hawaii, state number 50, joined the United States. There are _____ the flag, including the Stars and Stripes, Old Glory, and The Star-Spangled Banner. Most Americans are extremely proud of their flag and all it represents. It _____ feelings in different people around the world.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Flag Day is celebrated in the United States on June 14. It commemorates the _____ of the country's flag on June 14, 1777. It was not until 1916 that President Woodrow Wilson recommended a day for all Americans to _____ their flag. His recommendation was _____ into law by an Act of Congress in 1949. Flag Day is not, however, an _____ federal holiday. The state of Pennsylvania is the only U.S. state to celebrate the day as a state holiday. The U.S. President does have the _____ to tell other states to observe the day. The President also asks citizens to _____ the American flag from their houses for a week. There are Flag Day _____ all across America. The largest one is in the town of Troy, New York. This _____ up to 50,000 spectators.

passed
power
parades
birth
attracts
celebrate
fly
official

The flag of the United States is one of the _____ recognized symbols in the world. It _____ of thirteen horizontal red and white stripes. There is a blue rectangle, with fifty small, white stars, in the top left _____. The thirteen stripes represent the thirteen former British colonies that _____ against Britain and led to independence. The fifty stars represent the fifty U.S. states. The current flag has been _____ since 1959, which is when Hawaii, state number 50, joined the United States. There are _____ nicknames for the flag, including the Stars and Stripes, Old Glory, and The Star-Spangled Banner. Most Americans are extremely _____ of their flag and all it represents. It arouses complex _____ in different people around the world.

corner
consists
proud
around
feelings
most
several
rebelled

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

Flag Day is *celebration* / *celebrated* in the United States on June 14. It commemorates the birth of the country's flag on June 14, 1777. It was not *until* / *by* 1916 that President Woodrow Wilson recommended a day for all Americans to celebrate *there* / *their* flag. His recommendation was passed into law by an Act of Congress in 1949. Flag Day is not, however, an *official* / *officially* federal holiday. The state of Pennsylvania is the only U.S. state to celebrate the day as a state holiday. The U.S. President does have the *powerful* / *power* to tell other states to observe the day. The President also asks *citizen* / *citizens* to fly the American flag from their houses for a week. There are Flag Day parades all *across* / *crossed* America. The largest one is in the town of Troy, New York. This *attracts* / *attractive* up to 50,000 spectators.

The flag of the United States is one of the most *recognition* / *recognized* symbols in the world. It *consists* / *consist* of thirteen horizontal red and white stripes. There is a blue rectangle, with fifty small, white stars, in the *top* / *up* left corner. The thirteen stripes represent the thirteen former British colonies that *rebels* / *rebelled* against Britain and led to *dependence* / *independence*. The fifty stars represent the fifty U.S. states. The *currant* / *current* flag has been around since 1959, which is when Hawaii, state number 50, joined the United States. There are several nicknames for the flag, *included* / *including* the Stars and Stripes, Old Glory, and The Star-Spangled Banner. Most Americans are extremely *proud* / *pride* of their flag and all it represents. It arouses complex feelings in different people around the world.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

Flag Day is (1) _____ in the United States on June 14. It commemorates the birth of the country's flag on June 14, 1777. It was not (2) _____ 1916 that President Woodrow Wilson recommended a day for all Americans to celebrate their flag. His recommendation was (3) _____ into law by an Act of Congress in 1949. Flag Day is not, however, an (4) _____ federal holiday. The state of Pennsylvania is the only U.S. state to celebrate the day as a state holiday. The U.S. President does have the power to tell other states to observe the day. The President also (5) _____ citizens to fly the American flag from their houses for a week. There are Flag Day parades all across America. The largest one is in the town of Troy, New York. This attracts (6) _____ to 50,000 spectators.

The flag of the United States is one of the most recognized (7) _____ in the world. It consists of thirteen horizontal red and white stripes. There is a blue rectangle, with fifty small, white stars, in the (8) _____ left corner. The thirteen stripes represent the thirteen former British colonies that (9) _____ against Britain and led to independence. The fifty stars represent the fifty U.S. states. The (10) _____ flag has been around since 1959, which is when Hawaii, state number 50, joined the United States. There are several nicknames for the flag, including the Stars and Stripes, Old Glory, and The Star-Spangled Banner. Most Americans are extremely (11) _____ of their flag and all it represents. It (12) _____ complex feelings in different people around the world.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) celebrates | (b) celebration | (c) celebrated | (d) celebrate |
| 2. | (a) until | (b) by | (c) since | (d) for |
| 3. | (a) past | (b) passed | (c) passing | (d) passes |
| 4. | (a) office | (b) officially | (c) officials | (d) official |
| 5. | (a) asks | (b) asked | (c) ask | (d) asking |
| 6. | (a) up | (b) in | (c) of | (d) down |
| 7. | (a) symbolize | (b) symbols | (c) symbolic | (d) symbol |
| 8. | (a) up | (b) high | (c) top | (d) above |
| 9. | (a) rebels | (b) rebellion | (c) rebellious | (d) rebelled |
| 10. | (a) current | (b) currency | (c) currant | (d) currants |
| 11. | (a) pride | (b) proud | (c) proudly | (d) prides |
| 12. | (a) arouse | (b) arousing | (c) arousal | (d) arouses |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. the thirb of the country's flag
2. an ioicalff federal holiday
3. atlcreebe the day as a state holiday
4. erbosve the day
5. Flag Day aspdrae
6. This attracts up to 50,000 ascptrsote

Paragraph 2

7. one of the most recognized lsbyosm
8. thirteen horizontal red and white petsir
9. colonies that rebelled tsagina Britain
10. There are several nkcaiensm for the flag
11. Americans are extremely rupdo
12. It arouses mploxce feelings

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () official federal holiday. The state of Pennsylvania is the only U.S. state to celebrate the day as a state holiday. The U.S.
- (**1**) Flag Day is celebrated in the United States on June 14. It commemorates the birth of the country's flag on
- () the American flag from their houses for a week. There are Flag Day parades all across America. The largest
- () celebrate their flag. His recommendation was passed into law by an Act of Congress in 1949. Flag Day is not, however, an
- () proud of their flag and all it represents. It arouses complex feelings in different people around the world.
- () 1959, which is when Hawaii, state number 50, joined the United States. There are several nicknames for the
- () flag, including the Stars and Stripes, Old Glory, and The Star-Spangled Banner. Most Americans are extremely
- () June 14, 1777. It was not until 1916 that President Woodrow Wilson recommended a day for all Americans to
- () President does have the power to tell other states to observe the day. The President also asks citizens to fly
- () one is in the town of Troy, New York. This attracts up to 50,000 spectators.
- () horizontal red and white stripes. There is a blue rectangle, with fifty small, white stars, in the top left
- () The flag of the United States is one of the most recognized symbols in the world. It consists of thirteen
- () corner. The thirteen stripes represent the thirteen former British colonies that rebelled against Britain and led
- () to independence. The fifty stars represent the fifty U.S. states. The current flag has been around since

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. the commemorates It flag country's the of birth

2. their all flag Americans a to day celebrate for

3. President the U . have The S does power

4. Flag are There America across all parades Day

5. to up attracts This spectators 50,000

6. one symbols of in the the most world recognized

7. horizontal thirteen stripes white and red

8. states The fifty stars represent the fifty U.S.

9. There several for flag are nicknames the

10. in people arouses feelings different It complex

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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THE FLAG DAY SURVEY

Write five questions about Flag Day in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about Flag Day. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Flag Day. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. POSTER: Make your own poster about Flag Day. Write about will happen on this day around the world.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.