

Name _____

Time-Travelers' Memorial Day Adventure

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The experiences of the time-travelers witnessing different eras of Memorial Day celebrations likely deepened their understanding of the holiday's significance by showing them how it adapted to the changing times while always honoring the sacrifice of veterans.
2. Memorial Day celebrations evolved due to societal changes and historical events. For example, the early 20th century saw the addition of parades, reflecting patriotism during times of peace. World War II added significance to the holiday, and the 1960s brought a period of reflection and protest. The 21st century emphasized community service projects, reflecting modern values.
3. Answers may vary, but students might find different eras meaningful for various reasons. Some may appreciate the simplicity and solemnity of the 1860s, while others might value the unity and patriotism of the early 20th century or the reflection on the consequences of war in the 1960s.
4. The enduring core purpose of Memorial Day connects to the way people honor and remember veterans today by reminding us that the holiday is about paying tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. This purpose remains at the heart of Memorial Day, even as traditions evolve to reflect changing times and values.

