

Name _____ Date _____

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders Fields is one of the most famous war poems. It was written in May of 1915 by a Canadian military doctor, John McCrae, who saw his friends die on the battlefields in Belgium during World War 1. Flanders, referred to in the poem, is a county in northwest Belgium.

The poem, written from the point of view of dead soldiers, describes how men sacrificed their lives in war. They ask that people carry on their fight and never forget them.

John McCrae wrote the poem in less than an hour. He was very upset after the death of a friend who died in battle and expressed his feelings through the poem. After writing it, he tossed it in the garbage! Another officer picked it up and sent it to some newspapers in England, where it was soon published.

As a result of the poem, poppies, the flowers referred to in the poem, have become an international symbol for remembrance.



Circle the correct answer.

1. What does “hold the torch high” mean in this poem?

to hold candles

to set free

to be proud and lead the way

2. When was In Flanders Fields written?

1915

1912

1867

3. What is another word for foe?

fight

enemy

friend

4. Where is Flanders fields?

Belgium

France

England

5. Who wrote this poem?

An unknown soldier

Robert Frost

John McCrae

6. The poem says, “We are the Dead.” Who is “We”?

lost soldiers

military doctors

soldiers who died fighting

7. How long did it take the author to write this poem?

1 day

1 hour

1 week

8. What flower became an international symbol of remembrance?

poppies

daisies

roses

ANSWERS IN FLANDERS FIELDS

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