Memorial Day History

Choose one answer per question. Circle A, B, C, or D.

1. Whom does U.S. Memorial Day honor?
   A. People who died while serving in the U.S. military
   B. Past presidents of the United States
   C. New members of the U.S. military
   D. Americans inducted into a national sports hall of fame

2. When is U.S. Memorial Day observed each year?
   A. The last Friday in May
   B. The first Monday in May
   C. The last Monday in May
   D. The first Monday in June

3. What earlier name for Memorial Day referred to placing flowers on graves?
   A. Flag Day
   B. Decoration Day
   C. Founders Day
   D. Arbor Day

4. Which flower did the Veterans of Foreign Wars adopt as its official memorial flower?
   A. The marigold
   B. The daffodil
   C. The iris
   D. The poppy

5. Which cemetery holds Memorial Day ceremonies at its Memorial Amphitheater?
   A. Gettysburg National Cemetery
   B. Arlington National Cemetery
   C. Dayton National Cemetery
   D. Fort Logan National Cemetery

6. According to the U.S. Flag Code, when should an American flag flown at half-staff on Memorial Day be raised to the top?
   A. At noon
   B. At 9 a.m.
   C. At 3 p.m.
   D. At sunset

7. When does the National Moment of Remembrance begin on Memorial Day?
   A. Sunrise in Washington, D.C.
   B. Noon Eastern time
   C. 6 p.m. local time
   D. 3 p.m. local time

8. Which veterans’ organization issued General Orders No. 11 for the 1868 observance?
   A. The Veterans of Foreign Wars
   B. The American Legion
   C. The Grand Army of the Republic
   D. The Disabled American Veterans

9. What date did the 1868 order designate for Decoration Day that year?
   A. May 30
   B. May 5
   C. April 26
   D. June 14

10. The national Decoration Day order followed the end of which war by about three years?
   A. World War I
   B. The War of 1812
   C. The Spanish-American War
   D. The U.S. Civil War

11. Which town received federal recognition as the birthplace of Memorial Day in 1966?
   A. Lexington, Massachusetts
   B. Richmond, Virginia
   C. Waterloo, New York
   D. Baltimore, Maryland

12. Who issued the 1868 Decoration Day order as commander of the Union veterans’ organization?
   A. Ulysses S. Grant
   B. John A. Logan
   C. William T. Sherman
   D. Philip Sheridan

13. Which poet wrote an ode for Memorial Day in 1896 and was the son of a U.S. Colored Troops veteran?

A. Robert Frost
B. Walt Whitman
C. Edgar Allan Poe
D. Paul Laurence Dunbar

14. The 1968 federal law moving Memorial Day to the last Monday of May took effect in what year?

A. 1971
B. 1966
C. 1969
D. 1976

15. Which sequence puts these Memorial Day milestones in chronological order?

A. Federal recognition of Waterloo, national Decoration Day order, Arlington Memorial Amphitheater dedication
B. Arlington Memorial Amphitheater dedication, national Decoration Day order, federal recognition of Waterloo
C. National Decoration Day order, Arlington Memorial Amphitheater dedication, federal recognition of Waterloo
D. National Decoration Day order, federal recognition of Waterloo, Arlington Memorial Amphitheater dedication