

Why is the “National Anthem” important?

Prompt: Explain or describe why it is important for our country to have a “National Anthem,” our citizens to know the history of the “National Anthem,” and why it is important to you.

I. Introduction

A. Choose ONE of the following:

- Ask a rhetorical question
- Describe the setting
- Use onomatopoeia
- Use a quote

B. Thesis Statement: The “National Anthem” by Francis Scott Key is a song for all Americans as it reminds us that we are brave people willing to defend our great nation.

C. Method Statement (supports the thesis statement): The “National Anthem’s” history helps us better understand the sacrifices that were made by our forefathers, and it helped us build pride in our country.

II. Body Paragraph 1

A. Topic Sentence: To begin with, the “National Anthem’s” history helps teach Americans today what the words “sacrifice” and “pride” mean.

Choose ONE of the following:

1. Describe how Colonel Armistead commissioned Mary Young Pickersgill to make a flag so large that the English fleet would easily see it from a great distance and know that the Americans were ready to fight.
2. Describe how Francis Scott Key saw the flag from a British ship 8 miles down the Patapsco River on September 14, 1814 after witnessing 25 long fought hours against the British.
3. Compare how you are inspired by the sacrifice and pride Americans show by still waving the flag during tumultuous times. (Think about difficult times when you have witnessed Americans pulling together, showing pride, and making sacrifices by coming together as a nation. Explain and describe.

B. Closing Sentence: Thus, the “National Anthem’s” history helps Americans today to better understand the meaning of “sacrifice” and “pride.”

III. Body Paragraph 2

A. Topic Sentence: In addition, the “National Anthem” helps us build pride in our country and unifies us as a nation.

Choose ONE of the following:

1. Explain how you feel American pride when you hear the “National Anthem.” Use specific examples such as when you are at a sporting event, watching the Olympics, at the Veteran’s Day assembly, watching Presidential ceremonies, etc.
2. Re-read the lyrics to the “National Anthem” and incorporate them into your paper on how the lyrics themselves make you proud to be an American.

B. Closing Sentence: Therefore, the “National Anthem” is an important song that helps build pride in our country.

Why is the “National Anthem” important?

IV. Conclusion

A. **Restate thesis:** In conclusion, the “National Anthem” helps all Americans realize that we are truly “the land of the free and the home of the brave.”

B. **Restate method statement:** Through the lyrics of the “National Anthem” we understand our nation’s forefather’s sacrifice, and it builds pride in the citizens of the United States today.

C. Author’s comment.

Choose ONE of the following:

1. Warning
 2. Quotation
 3. Prediction
 4. Hope for action
 5. Suggestion for action
-

Your paper should include:

1. An effective beginning with a hook.
 2. Writing that is focused on the prompt.
 3. Clumps or chunks of information organized with ideas and information not linked together by time.
 4. Introduction, body, and a conclusion.
 5. Use second and third level supporting details.
 6. An effective ending to wrap up the writing.
 7. Correct sentences, punctuation, and spelling.
 8. At least one direct quotation. (REMEMBER: If you are quoting someone, a comma must be placed after the speaker before the direct quote; the first word of the direct quote is capitalized, and all punctuation occurs inside the quotation marks.
 9. Sentences started with prepositional phrases, present participles, or subordinate conjunctions to attain complex sentences.
 10. Use sensory details to relate the event and convey the dominant emotion.
 11. At least one simile.
-

Essay Due: _____

Why is the “National Anthem” important?

Prompt: Explain or describe why it is important for our country to have a “National Anthem,” our citizens to know the history of the “National Anthem,” and why it is important to you.

	1	2	3	4
IDEAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - minimal topic development - limited reasoning, details, and text-based evidence - thesis is absent or unclear - does not seem to know about the topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provides some topic development using reasoning, details, and text-based evidence - includes a thesis - knows about topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develops the topic - includes a clear thesis - includes details about the topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - effectively develops topic - uses clear and convincing reasoning, details, and text-based evidence - strong thesis - sounds like an expert
SENTENCE FLUENCY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - uses fragments or simple sentences - little to no complex or compound sentences - little to no figurative language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - has several fragments and run-ons - some transitions - attempts to vary sentence structure - some figurative language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - some fragments and run-ons - consistently uses transitions - uses complex and compound sentences - some incomplete sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - varies sentence structure - always uses complete sentences - consistently uses appropriate transitions - lots of figurative language
VOICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - response has limited style, emotion, or attitude - reads like a list or outline - no sense of audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establishes a hint of an effective style - occasionally expressive - knows audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - established a mostly effective style - expressive - knows and relates to audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establishes and maintains an effective style - very expressive - interacts with reader
CONVENTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - weak command of the conventions of standard English - multiple errors in grammar, spelling and punctuation - errors prevent the reader’s understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inconsistent command of the conventions of standard English - noticeable errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation - errors occasionally prevent understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consistent command of conventions - a few errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strong command of the conventions of standard English consistent with effectively edited writing - meaning is clear - little to no errors in grammar, spelling and punctuation
WORD CHOICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - includes little to no precise language - bland word choices - tells, does not show 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - uses some descriptive language - includes a few colorful words, phrases, and sensory details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - uses descriptive language most of the time - includes colorful words, phrases, and sensory details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - uses engaging language consistently - includes several colorful words, phrases and sensory details - shows, does not just tell
ORGANIZATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - demonstrates limited understanding making the progression of ideas unclear - lacks clear topic/closing sentences - all middle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - attempts an introduction and conclusion - ideas are sometimes grouped logically - progression of ideas present but needs more development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - includes clear introduction and conclusion - ideas flow logically - clear progression of ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - includes a strong introduction and conclusion - smooth transitions and topic/closing sentences - well developed introduction, body, and conclusion

Final Score: _____/24 x 2 = _____/48

Name: _____