



National Anthem

The Star Spangled Banner was a poem written by Francis Scott Key during the War of 1812. This war was fought between the United States and England over 200 years ago! Francis Scott Key was in Baltimore, Maryland, when the city was attacked by England. He watched as English navy ships attacked the city and a large fort in Baltimore Harbor called Fort McHenry. As the fort was attacked, Key wrote a poem on the back of an envelope. The attack continued through the night. In the morning, the smoke cleared and the sun shone on the fort. The American soldiers noticed that their flag remained! It was a symbol that the United States could not be defeated and would remain a free country.

The poem that Francis Scott Key began with the famous words, "Oh say can you see...." Do you know the rest of the poem? It became known as the Star-Spangled Banner, America's National Anthem.

1. The War between America and England happened....

- A. recently
- B. in the future
- C. a long time ago
- D. about a hundred years ago

2. Who was Francis Scott Key?

- A. A soldier
- B. The author of the Star-Spangled Banner
- C. A president
- D. The passage doesn't say

3. Which is NOT true?

- A. The War of 1812 was fought between the United States and England
- B. Francis Scott Key wrote the Star-Spangled Banner
- C. Francis Scott Key watched the attack of Fort McHenry
- D. The attack on Fort McHenry stopped at night

4. What happened in the morning?

- A. The American flag was still flying
- B. The American flag had come down
- C. The Americans were defeated
- D. The English had won

5. Which of the following words is NOT important in how the Star Spangled Banner was written?

- A. Envelope
- B. War
- C. Parade
- D. Baltimore

