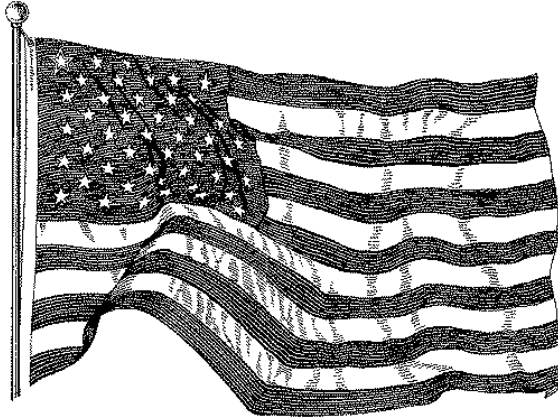


Flags Unfurled

Fourth Edition



Answer Key

20176 R3/15

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Prepared by Mark L. Beuligmann

Layout and editing by Eric L. Pfeiffelman

Copyediting by Diane C. Olson

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Introduction

This answer key for *Flags Unfurled* (4th edition, A Beka Book reading program) was developed to help you be as successful and efficient as possible as you teach reading to your student. In addition to providing suggestions for developing a good overall approach to reading, this answer key provides you with model responses to the “Thinking It Through” questions that students must answer. The model responses are by no means the only acceptable answers. In fact, some “Thinking It Through” questions merely ask the student to give his or her personal opinion regarding a story or story theme. Nevertheless, we believe that it is helpful to provide you with accurate model responses to these questions so that, without having to thoroughly read the book yourself, you can conveniently gauge how well your student retained the major points of each story.

When a story does not provide “Thinking It Through” questions, we suggest that you have your student orally explain the major points of the story before moving on to the next lesson. Students should be asked to identify the story’s major characters, state the plot or theme, and explain the moral.

Obviously, a good reading teacher will constantly work to improve a student’s reading skills. The four fundamental reading skills are:

1. Reading Comprehension/Retention
2. Vocabulary Recognition
3. Articulation
4. Reading Speed

The best way to improve a student’s reading comprehension is to discuss with the student the major points of his reading lesson until you are sure that he understands its meaning, purpose, and moral implications. Students should be encouraged to read and study the reading lessons until they fully understand the “who,” “what,” “when,” “where,” and “why” of the stories they have read.

Vocabulary recognition must also be developed so that students can read with increasing speed and accuracy. To develop proper vocabulary growth, instructors must insist that their students look up in the dictionary and, if possible, write out the definitions of new vocabulary words they encounter in their reading lessons.

Articulation is the ability to correctly pronounce vocabulary words. The basis for articulation is a thorough knowledge of phonics concepts and rules. Students who struggle with articulation do so because they cannot break down a particular word into its phonetic parts. You should encourage your student to read aloud on a regular basis so that you can determine whether his articulation reflects proper style and familiarity with phonics rules. If your student struggles with articulation, we recommend holding a few review sessions covering phonics rules.

A student's reading speed will improve as his vocabulary recognition and articulation skills increase. Perhaps the best way to develop the ability to read quickly is to read frequently. Students should be taught to compete with themselves so that they can concentrate on developing reading potential. The old saying "practice makes perfect" applies to the discipline of reading. The more your student reads, providing he understands the fundamentals, the better he will read.

To help your student excel in reading, we suggest that you establish a tradition in your home in which he spends time each evening reading a good book. During the summer break, consider establishing a daily quiet time when your child reads alone for a half hour or more. People who grow up in homes where reading is cherished are seldom poor readers. If you do these things, as well as limit the time your student spends watching television or participating in pointless electronic games, you will have the joy of seeing a child who excels in reading.

Answer Key

Bill's Bill, Page 18

1. Bill needed to consider the early morning hour of waking, the weather, and no time for play.
 2. The load of papers seemed heavier because he was so tired.
 3. Every day brought him closer to buying the motorcycle.
 4. Bill made so many mistakes because he was distracted by thoughts of the owner of the bill possibly advertising it in the lost-and-found column of the newspaper.
 5. *Answers may vary. Discuss honesty and the Golden Rule with the student.*
-

The Boy Who Recommends Himself, Page 21

1. He took off his cap when he came in and answered questions promptly.
 2. No, he probably didn't know the man would judge him in these areas.
 3. Yes, he picked a boy that showed his true character through his actions.
 4. The actions of this boy demonstrated that he had good character. If the boy had verbally recommended himself, but did not behave properly, his words would have meant nothing.
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Pioneers, Page 25

1. The pioneer got logs for his cabin from the trees he felled.
2. The stockade was built for the defense of the entire community, which took many hands to defend.
3. Boys of eleven and twelve were armed with rifles and guarded firing holes in the stockade.
4. Each household was expected to provide daily necessities for its own members.