

The Flag Goes By

by Henry Holcomb Bennett

Hats off!

Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,
A flash of colour beneath the sky:

5 Hats off!
The flag is passing by!

Blue and crimson and white it shines
Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.
Hats off!

10 The colours before us fly;
But more than the flag is passing by.

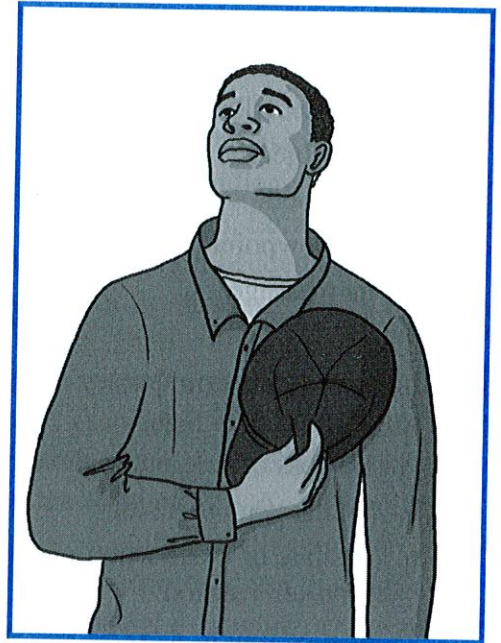
Sea-fights and land-fights, grim and great,
Fought to make and to save the State:
Weary marches and sinking ships;

15 Cheers of victory on dying lips;

Days of plenty and years of peace;
March of a strong land's swift increase;
Equal justice, right, and law,
Stately honour and reverend awe;

20 Sign of a nation, great and strong
Toward her people from foreign wrong:
Pride and glory and honour,—all
Live in the colours to stand or fall.
Hats off!

25 Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
And loyal hearts are beating high:
Hats off!
The flag is passing by!



- 33.** Where is this poem set?
- A in a large auditorium
 - B near lines of marching soldiers
 - C over a battlefield in a time of war
 - D over a cemetery for the war dead
- 34.** What is described by the poem's title?
- A its subject
 - B its mood
 - C its viewpoint
 - D its message
- 35.** In line 14, what do "weary marches and sinking ships" refer to?
- A the loss of soldiers in the current war
 - B all the wars in history
 - C the fate of those who fight against the speaker's nation
 - D battles fought by the speaker's nation in the past
- 36.** Which *best* describes the tone of this poem?
- A strongly patriotic
 - B somewhat urgent
 - C completely peaceful
 - D extremely warlike
- 37.** Which line contributes *most* to the tone of the poem?
- A "A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums"
 - B "Blue and crimson and white it shines"
 - C "Pride and glory and honour,—all"
 - D "Along the street there comes"
- 38.** With which statement would the speaker *most likely* argue?
- A Respect the flag of any nation, no matter what it stands for.
 - B You should always salute your nation's flag.
 - C Be proud of your flag; it represents your nation.
 - D Remember what your nation's flag represents.