

Allies Day - May, 1917 by Childe Hassam [1859-1935]

1. Describe the brushstrokes in this painting.
2. Where is the church tower?
3. What is happening in the street?
4. Locate several United States flags, two British Union Jacks, three French Tricolors, and a red flag with a small Union Jack on it that represents Canada.
5. How is this painting like an impression rather than a finished artwork?
6. What is "Impressionism" and where did it begin?
7. Which flag in the middle ground stands alone and is not overlapped by other flags?
8. What does this suggest about how Hassam felt about his country?
9. What international event was happening when this was painted?
10. Why were so many flags flying in New York City on this day?
11. What do these flags flying together symbolize?
12. What elements do the flags have in common?
13. What does this painting show about America's spirit in 1917?
14. Why did this painting become famous soon after it was completed?
15. Why did Americans want copies of this painting?

Historical Connections: American isolationism; World War I; League of Nations

Historical Figures: Woodrow Wilson; Archduke Franz Ferdinand

Civics: history of the American flag

Geography: the Allied Powers (France, Russia, United Kingdom, Italy, United States); the Central Powers (Austria- Hungary, Germany, Ottoman Empire); the Western Front

Literary Connections and Primary Documents: *The Sun Also Rises*, *A Farewell to Arms*, Ernest Hemingway (secondary); *The Waste Land*, T. S. Eliot (secondary)

Music: "The Star Spangled Banner"

Arts: Impressionism; American Impressionism