ACIVITY 1:

**The Unknown Soldier in Great Britain**

This text is a summary of the story of the Unknown Soldier taken by eight documents that had the purpose of inform the reader about events all around the history of the Unknown Soldier and his grave. The language used in these documents is formal, simple and free from any comment made by authors.

The idea to build a tomb to the brave of the soldier of the WWI came by  the Reverend David Railton, in 1916, who discovered a make shift grave marked by a rough wooden cross with the written “An Unknown British Soldier”. After four years, he wrote to the Dean of Westminster, he decided to build a tomb to remember fallen soldiers of the WWI.
Four bodies, from different battlefields, were transported to St. Pol in Northern France on the night of November 7, 1920, where Brigadier General L.J. Wyatt, at random selected one of them to become the “Unknown Soldier of the Great War”. The chosen body was placed in a plain coffin and sealed it. The other three bodies where instead buried in a cemetery in the near about.
On the morning of 8thNovember of the same year, a service was held to commemorate the sacrifice of the Unknown Soldier, officiated by chaplains from different Churches, that symbolized that any religion confession whatsoever pay tribute to the death soldiers who had lost their lives in the First World War.
The body was escorted to Boulogne and on 9thNovember the plain coffin was placed inside another one and sent over from England.  A plate on the coffin bore been inscription  "A British Warrior who fell in the Great War 1914-1918 for King and Country".
The Unknown Soldier was taken to Dover and greeted with a 19-gun salute, later the coffin was taken by officers representing different institution on the train due to Victoria Station in London.
On the morning of 11th November, a parade welcomed the coffin that passed in different streets and placed in London for people to greet . Then the soldier reached Westminster Abbey where the coffin was laid to rest. Hymns where sung in the presence of the Royale Family and soil from Ypres battlefields was sprinkled. Also the congregation there sang Rudyard Kipling's Recessional "God of Our Fathers" and Reveille and Last Post were sounded.
The tomb laid there for seven days the tomb where thousands of people could paid respects. It was only on November 18, 1920 that a stone sealed the grave with the words: "A British Warrior Who Fell in the Great War 1914-1918 for King and Country.  Greater Love Hath No Man Than This."
A year later, on 17 October 1921, the Unknown Warrior was given the United States highest award for valor, the [Medal of Honor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medal_of_Honor), from the hand of [General John Pershing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_J._Pershing); it hangs on a pillar close to the tomb.

Many journalists began to asked if the Unknown Soldier was really “unknown”, if the army chaplain,who had the task to find the body, may know who he was and where he was found. Truth that was discovered only after his death in his autobiography where he wrote that the mystery of the identity of the Unknown soldier is the greatest mystery of the First World War and that all he can say was that the soldier was chosen from the countless unnamed dead in France and Flanders, that the nation should honor him without distinction of rank, birth or service because the only one could judge his is God and nobody else.

The Unknown Soldier’ s tomb became very important because represented one of the first pacifist memorials that had been built: their aim was to encourage the enrolment of many soldiers into the army. After the Great War instead people began to build pacifist memorials with the intent of denounce war and commemorate the many fallen soldiers.

The message the intelligent reader can understand reading the documents is that war is never a good way to establish a winner in a conflict because the only thing war can bring is death. So, they built a monument to remember to all the people the fear and the pain that forebears have suffered and to invite all the people to fight against the war.