**Funeral Rites and War Memorials**

Ritual are symbolic activities that help people to express their deepest thought and feelings about life’s most important events.

There’s lots of different kinds of rituals, for example: Baptism, Birthday, Weddings and also Funerals.

In particular Funerals can be for a specific person, like a parent, but can also be for an Unknown man, like a soldier.

In this case rituals are call “War Memorial” and that is a building, a monument or also a statue to celebrate a war or to commemorate those who died or were injured in a war.

The oldest war memorial in the UK is *Oxford University’s All Souls College*, it was founded in 1438 with the purpose of pray for those killed in the long wars with France.

After WWI (The First World War) to commemorate the millions who died in, war memorials became commonplace in communities large and small all around the world.

Memorials to the First World War are many and varied. Official and private memorials are to be found on the battlefields of the various theatres of that war and in the home nation of those who served from the many countries which were involved in it.

After WWI, some towns in France set up pacifist war memorials. This memorials denounce war with strong figures like grieving widows and children rather than soldiers.

There are different types of war memorial:

1. Monuments, statue, buildings (containing a museum) or plaques.
2. Commemorative gardens, eternal flames, urban plazas, fountains or pools of water, military equipment and parks
3. Meeting place for commemorative services. These are often found near the centre of the town or contained in a park or plaza to allow easy pubblic access.
4. Plaques on there’s listing the name of those died in battle.
5. Epitaphs could be on a war memorial to relating the unit, battle of war they commemorate.
6. Cenotaphs