

# Making Words

**Directions:** Unscramble the strip of letters at the bottom of the page. Try to move the letters around to make 3-letter words. How many words can you make? Write them in the box. Can you make any four-letter words? Five-letter words? Can you make any other words? Can you guess the SECRET WORD all these letters make?

<p><b>Three-letter Words:</b></p>	<p><b>Four-Letter Words:</b></p>
<p><b>Five-letter Words:</b></p>	<p><b>Other words:</b></p>

Students: total up how many words you have... you must have at least 25 words!

Total words
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Do you know the secret words?

\_\_\_\_\_

Unscramble these letters:

A	E	E	E	I	C	D	M	R	R	S	S	V
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**Clue:** Every year on November 11, we honor Americans who serve in this...  
(and you get a day off because of it)

**READ THE PASSAGE** Look for important events in the life of Sarah Edmonds.

### Soldier in Disguise

In April 1863, a Civil War soldier known as Franklin Thompson deserted from the Union Army. Thompson was sick with malaria but was afraid to go to an army hospital. What was Thompson so afraid of? His real name was Sarah Edmonds—and “he” was one of hundreds of women who pretended to be men so that they could fight in the Civil War.

Edmonds was born in Canada in 1841 and came to the United States in 1858. She disguised herself as Franklin Thompson and worked as a book salesman. In May 1861, one month after the Civil War began, she enlisted in the Second Michigan Infantry.

For two years, Edmonds served in the army as Private Thompson. The Second Michigan Infantry fought in some important and violent battles, including First Bull Run in July 1861, Antietam in September 1862, and Fredericksburg in December 1862. Edmonds kept her gender a secret by sleeping in her own tent and sneaking off to bathe privately.

Upon leaving the army, Edmonds resumed her real identity. She eventually revealed her service as Thompson in order to get a pension as a Civil War soldier. In 1886, the War Department recognized her as a female soldier who had served faithfully as a private during the war. She received the \$12-a-month pension and was cleared of the desertion charge. When she died in 1898, Edmonds was buried with military honors.

**STRATEGY PRACTICE** How does adding dates to the passage help organize it?

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**SKILL PRACTICE** Read each question. Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

- What caused Franklin Thompson to desert from the Union Army?  
 Ⓐ fear of fighting in the war  
 Ⓑ fear of illnesses such as malaria  
 Ⓒ fear of being discovered as a woman soldier  
 Ⓓ fear of being shot or killed in a bloody battle
- Because Edmonds revealed the truth about her service in the Civil War, she \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Ⓐ was buried with military honors  
 Ⓑ was forced to return to Canada  
 Ⓒ could resume her identity as a woman  
 Ⓓ could finally forget about the war
- The War Department’s recognition of Edmonds proves that \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Ⓐ the army was embarrassed by Sarah  
 Ⓑ Sarah gained the rank of officer  
 Ⓒ Sarah never learned to be a good soldier  
 Ⓓ the army respected Sarah’s war service
- Which of these events happened first in Sarah Edmonds’s life?  
 Ⓐ She got malaria.  
 Ⓑ She deserted from the Union Army.  
 Ⓒ She sold books for a living.  
 Ⓓ She applied for a pension as a Civil War soldier.