

## A Synonyms

Complete each sentence with a word from the box. Use the synonym (a word that means the same) in parentheses to help you select the correct word. Compare answers with a partner

captured      complex      describe      memorized      remain      via

1. Traditional Navajo people \_\_\_\_\_ memorized \_\_\_\_\_ their history to share  
(remembered)  
with the next generation.
2. In 1864 Kit Carson and the U.S. Army \_\_\_\_\_  
(caught)  
thousands of Navajo people and made them march 300 miles to New Mexico as prisoners on the Long Walk.
3. Books \_\_\_\_\_  
(tell)  
how the U.S. Army burned Navajo crops, killed their animals, and destroyed their homes.
4. When the Navajo returned to Arizona, they had to \_\_\_\_\_  
(stay)  
on a reservation under U.S. government control.
5. The Code Talkers served their country \_\_\_\_\_ the  
(by way of)  
code, but they couldn't vote in Arizona until 1948.
6. The decision to help their country was \_\_\_\_\_ for the  
(difficult)  
Navajo because they were not always accepted as full Americans.

## B Prefixes

A **prefix** is a group of letters added to the beginning of a word that changes the word's meaning. Knowing what prefixes mean can help you figure out the meanings of words as you read.

### The Prefix Un-

**un- = not**

In adjectives and adverbs, **un-** is used to show an opposite or negative state:

The Navajo Code remained **unbroken** for many years.  
[not broken]

### The Prefix De-

**de- = remove from**

In some verbs or adjectives, **de-** means "to remove from something or to remove something from something":

They had to **decode** the message in order to understand it.  
[remove the code from]

Work with a partner to complete this summary of the reading. Circle the correct word.

The Navajo contribution to the United States war effort went almost \_\_\_\_\_ in American history. The Navajo Code remained \_\_\_\_\_ to the other 3,200 Navajo soldiers who were not Code Talkers. The code, like the Navajo language, was \_\_\_\_\_, and it was memorized only by the Code Talkers. Other Navajos could not decode it, because it contained a series of \_\_\_\_\_ Navajo words. This code remained \_\_\_\_\_ for more than 20 years after the war, until 1968, when the U.S. government \_\_\_\_\_ it and made its secret known to the public.