The History of the Star-Spangled Banner: Francis Scott Key and Fort McHenry

Fort Mc Henry	Dawn	Star spangled banner
sailor	Trade vessel	

Insert the correct present simple form.

On September 14, 1814, Francis Scott Key ………… (write) the poem "the Star-Spangled Banner" during the War of 1812 in Baltimore.
This war …….. (be) between the United States and the United Kingdom. It ………… (be) sometimes called the "Second War of Independence."
The United Kingdom ………… (be) at war against France. Because the British …………………… (not want) the United States to trade(=commerciare) with France, they place restrictions on them. The navy of the United Kingdom also ……………… (capture) U.S. trade vessels and ……………… (force) the sailors to join the British Royal Navy.

Key …………(be) on a British ship. He ……………… (want) to secure the exchange of American prisoners. While on the British ship, Key ………… (be) present during the Battle of Baltimore and the naval bombardment of Fort McHenry.

He ………. (be) unsure of the destiny of the fort until the "dawn's early light," Key ……….. (be) then inspired to write the poem "the Star-Spangled Banner" when he ……………. (see) the American flag still flying triumphantly over the fort the next morning. Key's poem ……………. (become) the National Anthem of the United States of America in 1931.

Watch the video of the national anthem sung by Lady Gaga.

Insert the correct words:

air - does - free - rocket - last – night - see - stars - streaming (=ondeggiare)

O say can you ………………………, by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hail'd (=salutare) at the twilight's …………

gleaming(=scintillio),

Whose broad stripes and bright …………………. through the perilous

fight(=combattimento)

Over the ramparts(=fortificazioni) we watch'd were so gallantly(=valorosamente)

…………………………. ?

And the …………………………. 's red glare(=bagliore), the bombs bursting (=scoppiare) in

……………………. ,

Gave proof(=prova) through the ……………. that our flag was still(=ancora) there,

O say, …………………. that star-spangled banner yet(=ancora) wave(=ondeggiare)

Over the land of the …………………. and the home of the brave(=coraggiosi)?