

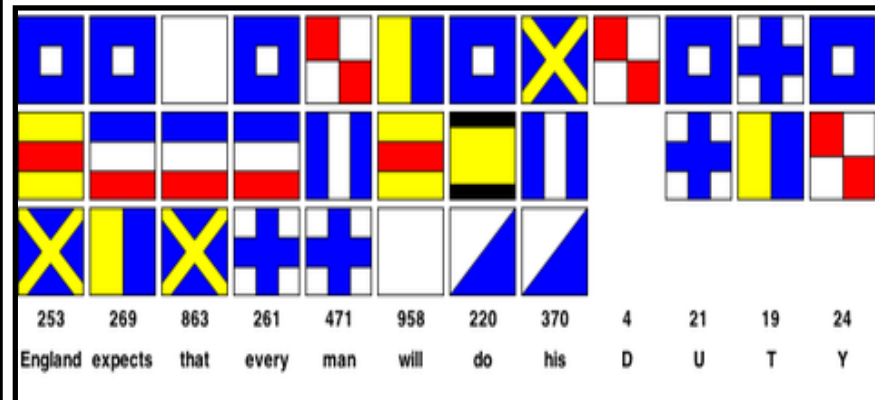
Signal flag exercise.

Using the numeric and other flags, groups of pupils can send messages to each other. They can make up new words using combinations of three flags as numbers; or spelling individual letters. For example the word 'homework' might be represented by the code 666. In Nelson's famous signal, it was supposed to read 'Nelson confides that every man will do his duty'. But time being short, and there being no code for the words 'Nelson' and 'confides', it became 'England expects' because both 'England' and 'Expects' had their own codes in the secret book introduced by Admiral Popham.

(These read from top to bottom for each word, forming Nelson's famous signal before the Battle of Trafalgar on October 21st)

The class could create their own codebook and work out which words need codes and which don't, so that a shorthand could be composed: 'homework'+ 'French'+ 'due'+ 'Monday'.

Flags can be printed in colour and laminated to create a set for each group. Various code combinations can be produced with the additional element of total silence in the class!



Max Adams