Examining the U.S. Pledge

Answer the following questions as you read about the history of the pledge.

1. Who wrote the first version of the pledge?

2. Why did he leave out the word “equality” in his version even though he had wanted to include it?

3. What year was the first draft published?

4. Why did “my flag” change to “the Flag of the United States of America” in 1924?

5. What decision did the Supreme Court make in 1943 regarding the pledge?

6. Why was “under God” added?

Next, let’s look at the words in the Pledge of Allegiance and see what they mean: Define each underlined word. We will do this together.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Pledge __________________________________________________________

Allegiance _______________________________________________________

Republic _________________________________________________________

Indivisible ________________________________________________________

Liberty ___________________________________________________________