**Remembrance Days**

*Individual talk*

**Introduction:**

* Good morning, my name is Eidenis, and today I'm going to talk about Remembrance Days in Lithuania.
  + In the world, many wars have been fought, numerous military conflicts have occurred. In each country, as well as in Lithuania, their casualties are honored during Remembrance Days.

**Main body:**

* 25 days from today will be the 13th January. In Lithuania, this day is the Defenders of Freedom Day.
  + On 13th January 1991, Soviet Union troops invaded Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, and tried to occupy the Vilnius television tower along with some public and government buildings.
  + Sadly, during the occupation of Vilnius television tower 14 people died. What's more - over 700 civilians were injured from shots and tanks or BMPs driving over them.
* To honor those casualties and to denounce the actions of soviets, each year on 13th January in the whole state, but mostly in the capital many public events take place, for example, the meeting of the remaining defenders of freedom in Seimas, many ceremonial flag risings, one-minute silences, etcetera, especially in schools, to bring consciousness about the past.
  + But It's not just about getting sad for a day.
  + Actually, on this day, everyone is prompted to think about our past, remember those, who died for our freedom and to make sure that we don't waste their self-sacrifice.
* To be honest, I'm a first-former, so I don't know yet, how our school commemorates this day, but in "Krantas" primary school, last year, we lighted a fire outside and a few witnesses of the January events came to our school to speak about how they felt on that day, standing next to the television tower and Seimas.
  + Anyway, that happened in our school. But on 13th January, everywhere in Lithuania people carry a forget-me-not - a light blue flower, as a symbol, that reminds us about our fights for independence and shows the world that we are still united.
* Clearly, the Defenders of Freedom day is the most important remembrance day in Lithuania, but there are others, for example: 16th February - the Day of Restoration of the State of Lithuania, the 23rd September - Holocaust Remembrance Day and many more.
* All these days remind us about something - either casualties of war or important achievements in the state's history.

**Conclusion:**

* All in all, we live in a better world, than it was yesterday. Needless to say, that came with a cost. Those, who died to make our lives better, we honor during remembrance days.