



# Canada and United States of America.

North America is the third largest of the seven continents. It is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the east, and the Pacific Ocean to the west. North America is dominated by its two large countries: Canada and the United States.

Even if Christopher Columbus is considered "the person who discovered America", people lived there long before his arrival. These people and cultures are called Native Americans. Sometimes these peoples are called Indians or American Indians and this is because Columbus thought to be in India. Some examples of tribes of Native Americans are: Cherokee, Apache, Navajo and Sioux.

Some very important events are:

- In 1497 **John Cabot** reached the coast of what is now Canada on an English ship.
- In 1519 Ferdinand Magellan's ships left Spain and he circled the world.
- On the 14th of May 1607, a group of 105 colonists landed in Virginia and established **Jamestown**.
- **In 1776 INDEPENDENCE was declared and the document was prepared principally by Thomas Jefferson.**
- In 1789 **George Washington** became the first president of the United States.
- The American Civil War started in April 1861 and ended in 1865. The South wanted to form its own Confederacy. President Lincoln led the Northern states. He was determined to stop the rebellion and keep the country united.
- In 1876 there was the famous battle of **Little Big Horn**.

The United States and Canada are largely English- speaking countries. But Spanish is widely spoken in the American Southwest, southern Florida, and in many large urban areas. French is dominant in Quebec and common in parts of New England and Louisiana. Moreover, European and Asian immigrants continue to bring different languages to the United States and Canada.

## USA

the United States has become "melting pot" of people and cultures from around the world.

The landscape differs across the large country from tropical beaches in Florida to peaks in the Rocky Mountains.



Music is everywhere in the United States. One special kind of music that is typically American is called Jazz and it has been strongly influenced by the music of Africa. But we don't have to forget about Rock, Pop, Grunge and American Punk.

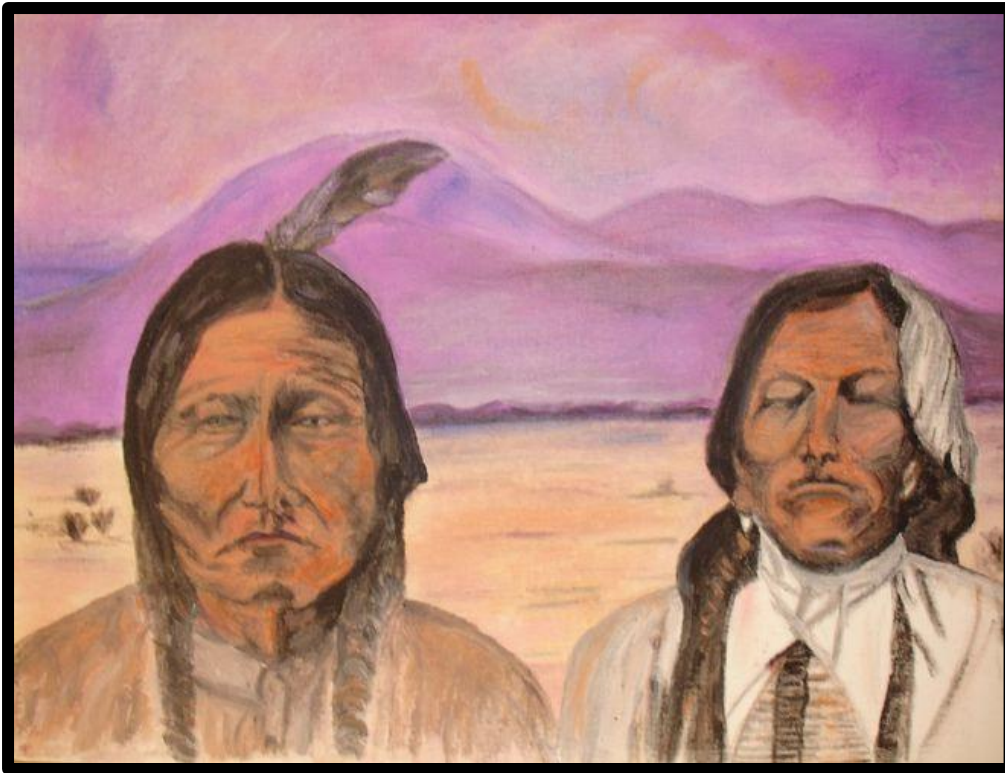
Electronic media is an important part of culture in the United States: television, movies, music, and video games take up a great amount of American's free time.

**Government and Economy.** Citizens over the age of 18 years old vote to elect the President and Vice President of United States every four years. The president lives in the White House in the capital city of Washington, D.C. For the first time in the nation's history an African American, Barack Obama was elected President of the United States in 2008

**The USA's Activities.** Baseball is often referred to as the American National pastime. Many Americans also play or enjoy watching football, soccer, hockey and basketball. Girls as well as boys are involved in many sports in the United States.

## Facts about the U.S.A.

<b>Capital:</b>	Washington, D.C.
<b>Independence Day:</b>	July 4, 1776
<b>Motto:</b>	In God We Trust
<b>National Bird:</b>	Bald Eagle
<b>Area (50 states and District of Columbia only):</b>	9,631,418 sq km <i>Area of China: 9,596,960 sq km</i>
<b>Largest State:</b>	Alaska
<b>Smallest State:</b>	Rhode Island
<b>Largest Cities:</b>	New York, Los Angeles, Chicago,
<b>Border Countries and Oceans:</b>	Canada, Mexico, Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, Pacific Ocean
<b>Population:</b>	295,734,134 (July 2005 est.)
<b>Languages:</b>	English 82.1%, Spanish 10.7%, other Indo-European 3.8%, A
<b>Religions:</b>	Protestant 52%, Roman Catholic 24%,



---

*"Listen! or your tongue will  
make you deaf!"*

*(Cherokee saying)*

*in the picture: Chief Sitting  
Bull and Chief Crazy Horse*

---

## CANADA

Canada is a vast and rugged land. From north to south it spans more than half the Northern Hemisphere. It is the second largest country in the world, but it has only one-half of one percent of the world's population.



Canada features lakes, numerous rivers, majestic mountains, rolling central plains, and forested eastern valleys. The country's lakes and rivers, which contain about 20 percent of all fresh water on Earth, are full of fish such as trout and salmon. Canadians work hard to protect the native wildlife. Canada has 41 national parks and three marine conservation areas!

In some ways Canada is many nations in one. Descendants of British and French immigrants make up about half the population and this is why there are two national languages: English and French.

The Capital is Ottawa, but there are other very important cities like: Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal (in Quebec).

Canada is a federation of ten provinces, but The British monarch, Elisabeth II, is still the head of state of Canada.