

GEOGRAPHIC LITERACY: MAPS FOR MEMORIZATION

THIRD EDITION



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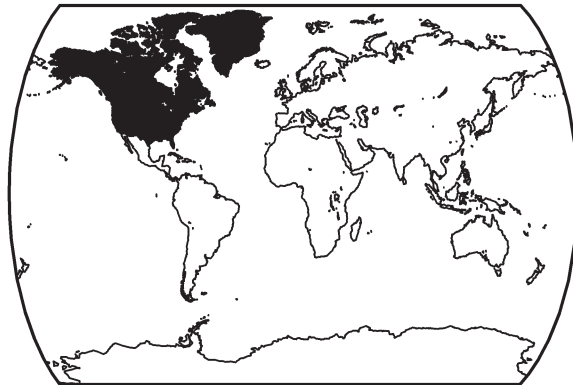
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CANADA, *the* UNITED STATES, *and* GREENLAND





CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, AND GREENLAND

Overview

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES are both located on the North American continent, in the Western Hemisphere. As well as sharing the same landmass, the two countries share many of the same landforms. They have great sweeps of craggy mountains in the west. They have rolling plains in the center. They have rounded mountains in the east.

The two countries also share some cultural features. Both are **federal states**. That means they are made up of a number of states or territories. These areas share power with the central government. Both are **plural societies**, which means they include different ethnic groups. Both countries, compared to the rest of the world, are wealthy, **industrialized** countries. And both were originally colonized by Europeans. They retain many features of European culture.

It has been more than 500 years since Europeans first came to the region. In that time, the face of the land has changed dramatically. Once, about half of the land—some 900 million acres—was covered by forest. Today, forests cover about one fifth of the land. Over time, both countries expanded from their bases on the east coast toward the west. Both created networks for transportation and communication that stretch some 2,500 miles (4,000 kilometers). These networks are a monument to human invention and grit. The barriers they cross in their east–west path, like the great Rocky Mountain Range, run from north to south.

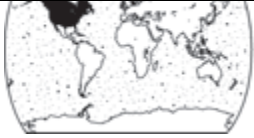
Another change to the landscape has been the growth of cities. Both the United States and Canada began as mostly rural economies. With the growth of industry came the growth of cities. Cities are still growing. As more people move to them from both rural areas and from

other countries, the outer edges of the cities keep expanding. In some places, the rural area between cities has shrunk so much that the cities almost merge with each other. They form an urban cluster. A cluster of cities like this is called a **megalopolis**—a “very large city.” In the United States, the largest megalopolis is the 600-mile-long (975-km-long) string of cities on the east coast. It runs from southern Maine to southern Virginia. Major cities within this megalopolis include Boston, Massachusetts; New York, New York; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Baltimore, Maryland; and Washington, D.C. Another megalopolis can be seen on the west coast: San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego, California. Two others are developing around the Great Lakes, in both Canada and the United States. In Canada, this megalopolis may someday connect the cities of Quebec City, Quebec; Montreal, Quebec; Toronto, Ontario; and Windsor, Ontario. On the United States side of the Lakes, the merging cities include Chicago, Illinois; Detroit, Michigan; Cleveland, Ohio; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The huge island of Greenland is physically part of the same region as Canada and the United States. But it has a very different culture. Greenland is a self-governing territory of Denmark. Most of the island is covered by an ice sheet almost two miles (three kilometers) thick. Because of the extreme cold, most people live on the southwest coast, where the climate is mildest.

Think About It

Compared to the rest of the United States, Hawaii has a very different location, climate, culture, and history. However, it is included in this geographic region. Why do you think it is included here?



CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, AND GREENLAND

Word List

Political Features

COUNTRIES

Canada
Greenland (Denmark)
United States

CAPITALS

Nuuk (Godthaab)
Ottawa
Washington, D.C.

UNITED STATES

Alabama (AL)
Alaska (AK)
Arizona (AZ)
Arkansas (AR)
California (CA)
Colorado (CO)
Connecticut (CT)
Delaware (DE)
Florida (FL)
Georgia (GA)
Hawaii (HI)
Idaho (ID)
Illinois (IL)
Indiana (IN)
Iowa (IA)
Kansas (KS)
Kentucky (KY)
Louisiana (LA)
Maine (ME)

Maryland (MD)
Massachusetts (MA)
Michigan (MI)
Minnesota (MN)
Mississippi (MS)
Missouri (MO)
Montana (MT)
Nebraska (NE)
Nevada (NV)
New Hampshire (NH)
New Jersey (NJ)
New Mexico (NM)
New York (NY)
North Carolina (NC)
North Dakota (ND)
Ohio (OH)
Oklahoma (OK)
Oregon (OR)
Pennsylvania (PA)
Rhode Island (RI)
South Carolina (SC)
South Dakota (SD)
Tennessee (TN)
Texas (TX)
Utah (UT)
Vermont (VT)
Virginia (VA)
Washington (WA)
West Virginia (WV)

Wisconsin (WI)
Wyoming (WY)

CANADIAN PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES

Alberta
British Columbia
Manitoba
New Brunswick
Newfoundland
Northwest Territories
Nova Scotia
Nunavut
Ontario
Prince Edward Island
Quebec
Saskatchewan
Yukon Territory

Physical Features

MOUNTAINS

Alaska Range
Appalachian Mts.
Cascade Mts.
Coast Ranges
Mt. Logan
Mt. McKinley (Denali)
Rocky Mts.
Sierra Nevada Mts.

(continued)



CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, AND GREENLAND

Word List *(continued)*

DESERTS

Death Valley Desert
Great Basin Desert
Mojave Desert
Painted Desert

RIVERS

Arkansas River
Colorado River
Mackenzie River
Mississippi River

Missouri River

Ohio River

Río Grande

St. Lawrence River

Yukon River

OTHER WATER BODIES

Atlantic Ocean

Great Bear Lake

Great Salt Lake

Great Slave Lake

Hudson Bay

Lake Athabasca

Lake Erie

Lake Huron

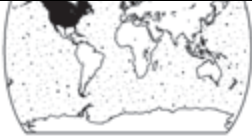
Lake Michigan

Lake Ontario

Lake Superior

Lake Winnipeg

Pacific Ocean



CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, AND GREENLAND Labeled Political Map





CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, AND GREENLAND
Blank Political Map





CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, AND GREENLAND Labeled Physical Map

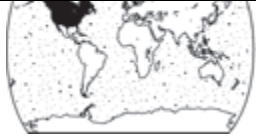




CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, AND GREENLAND

Physical Map Test





CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, AND GREENLAND

Map Test

Directions: On the political and physical maps of Canada, the United States, and Greenland, 50 places and physical features have been indicated by a number. Choose the correct label for each item from the numbered choices below.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. (A) Canada (B) United States (C) Greenland (D) United Kingdom | 9. (A) Alaska (B) Utah (C) Oregon (D) Washington | 17. (A) Louisiana (B) Arkansas (C) Alabama (D) Mississippi |
| 2. (A) Canada (B) United States (C) Greenland (D) United Kingdom | 10. (A) New Mexico (B) Oregon (C) California (D) Texas | 18. (A) Georgia (B) Alabama (C) South Carolina (D) Mississippi |
| 3. (A) Yukon Territory (B) Greenland (C) Northwest Territories (D) Alaska | 11. (A) Colorado (B) Utah (C) Nebraska (D) Idaho | 19. (A) Missouri (B) South Carolina (C) Georgia (D) Iowa |
| 4. (A) Alberta (B) Yukon Territory (C) New Brunswick (D) Ontario | 12. (A) Georgia (B) Colorado (C) Oklahoma (D) Kansas | 20. (A) Louisiana (B) California (C) Texas (D) Florida |
| 5. (A) Newfoundland (B) Nunavut (C) New Brunswick (D) Northwest Territories | 13. (A) New Mexico (B) Arizona (C) Utah (D) Colorado | 21. (A) New York (B) Illinois (C) Maine (D) Ohio |
| 6. (A) Manitoba (B) Saskatchewan (C) British Columbia (D) Quebec | 14. (A) Nebraska (B) South Dakota (C) Minnesota (D) North Dakota | 22. (A) New Hampshire (B) New Jersey (C) Connecticut (D) Massachusetts |
| 7. (A) Quebec (B) Manitoba (C) British Columbia (D) Alberta | 15. (A) Arizona (B) California (C) Texas (D) Florida | 23. (A) Washington, D.C. (B) New York City (C) Ottawa (D) Chicago |
| 8. (A) Nova Scotia (B) Alberta (C) Newfoundland (D) Saskatchewan | 16. (A) Montana (B) Minnesota (C) Wisconsin (D) North Dakota | 24. (A) Ottawa (B) Washington, D.C. (C) Toronto (D) Winnipeg |

(continued)



CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, AND GREENLAND

Answer Key

Map Test

1. (B) United States
2. (A) Canada
3. (D) Alaska
4. (B) Yukon Territory
5. (B) Nunavut
6. (C) British Columbia
7. (B) Manitoba
8. (C) Newfoundland
9. (D) Washington
10. (C) California
11. (B) Utah
12. (B) Colorado
13. (A) New Mexico
14. (D) North Dakota
15. (C) Texas
16. (B) Minnesota
17. (D) Mississippi
18. (B) Alabama
19. (B) South Carolina
20. (D) Florida
21. (A) New York
22. (D) Massachusetts
23. (A) Washington, D.C.
24. (A) Ottawa
25. (D) Mt. McKinley (Denali)
26. (B) Alaska Range
27. (A) Yukon River
28. (B) Rocky Mountains
29. (B) Great Salt Lake
30. (D) Great Basin Desert
31. (C) Colorado River
32. (C) Río Grande
33. (D) Missouri River
34. (C) Mississippi River
35. (A) Ohio River
36. (D) Mackenzie River
37. (C) Great Bear Lake
38. (A) Great Slave Lake
39. (B) Lake Athabasca
40. (C) Lake Winnipeg
41. (A) Hudson Bay
42. (D) Lake Superior
43. (C) Lake Michigan
44. (A) Lake Huron
45. (C) Lake Erie
46. (B) Lake Ontario
47. (D) St. Lawrence River
48. (A) Appalachian Mtns.
49. (C) Pacific Ocean
50. (B) Atlantic Ocean

Think About It

Although Hawaii is different from the rest of the United States in many ways, it is still part of the U.S. political region. For this reason, it is included with the rest of the United States.