COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

USA

Reading | Discussion Questions | Writing Exercises

BRAND SMIT
ESSENTIAL LANGUAGE RESOURCES

Thank you for your support!

Terms of use

Credits

The following sources were used as reference guides:

Thomas H. Greer, *A Brief History Of The Western World* (HBJ, 1987)
Robert Famighetti (Ed. Dir.), *The World Almanac And Book Of Facts 1998* (World Almanac Books, 1997)
John Farndon, *Concise Encyclopedia* (Dorling Kindersley, 1999)
L.S. Stavrianos, *The World Since 1500* (Prentice Hall, 1988)
Wikipedia.ORG

You may also be interested in the other lessons in this series:

Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom … and more to come!

Visit us again for more resources:
www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Essential-Language-Resources
www.essentiallanguageresources.com

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Reading

The United States of America (U.S.A.) consists of 50 states and the District of Columbia (D.C.). The U.S.A. has two neighbors on the continent of North America – Canada in the north, and Mexico in the south. The land area of the United States covers more than 9,8 million square kilometers (3,8 million square miles), making it the fourth largest country in the world.

The U.S.A. has a population of almost 330 million people (2019 estimate). English is the official language, but Spanish is also widely spoken in states like California and Florida.

Washington, D.C. is the capital of the United States. Thousands of tourists visit the U.S.A. every year, and most of them visit one or more of the big cities, like New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Miami and Chicago. Other famous tourist attractions include the Grand Canyon in Arizona, and Disneyland in California.

Since the middle of the 19th century, the United States has been a popular destination for millions of immigrants from around the world. These people have brought with them their own customs, languages, religions, and cuisine. Many of these immigrants have settled in cities like New York and San Francisco, making these cities some of the most culturally diverse in the world.

Places

Arizona /ˌærɪˈzəʊnə/
California /ˌkæliˈfɔːnjə/
Chicago /ʃiˈkɑːgəʊ/
Disneyland /ˈdiznilænd/
District of Columbia /ˈdistrikt/ /kəˈlʌmbiə/
Florida /ˈflɔridə/
Grand Canyon /grænd ˈkænjən/
Los Angeles /lɔs ˈændʒeləs/

Mexico /ˈmeksikəʊ/
Miami /maiˈæmi/
New York /njuː jɔːk/
San Francisco /ˈsæn ˈfrænsiskəʊ/
United States of America
/yuˈnaɪtɪd steɪts/ /əˈmɛrɪkə/
Washington, D.C. /ˈwɔʃiŋtən/

Exercises

A. Discuss the following questions:

1. The Grand Canyon in Arizona and Disneyland in California are some of the most popular tourist attractions in the U.S.A. Can you think of any other popular tourist attractions the U.S.? Have you ever visited any of these places?

2. Cities like San Francisco and New York are described as culturally diverse, which means people from many different cultures live there. Some people think it is good for their city if people from other countries live in that city. Do you agree? Why, or why not? If there are people from other countries living in your city, where do they come from?

3. Many people have immigrated to the U.S.A. since the middle of the 19th century. Would you ever immigrate to another country? If you answer 'yes,' to which country would you like to immigrate? Give reasons for your choice.

B. All these statements contain false information. Identify the errors, and make new statements with the correct information.

1. Canada borders the United States in the south.

----

2. Spanish is the official language in some states like Florida and California.

----

3. Disneyland is one of Chicago's most popular tourist destinations.

_____

4. Many famous movie stars live in the Grand Canyon.

_____

5. The United States is the largest country in the world.

_____

6. New York City is the capital of the United States.

_____

C. Match the phrases in column B with the words in column A.

A	B
1. Disneyland	a. one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world
2. Washington D.C.	b. Grand Canyon State
3. settle	c. an amusement park in California
4. Arizona	d. a state famous for its beaches
5. New York City	e. to stay in one place for a long time/to make that place your home
6. California	f. the capital of the U.S.A.

D. Complete these sentences with words from the text:

1. The man traveled _____ in 80 days.

2. French _____ is famous all over the world.

3. Hong Kong became a British colony in the _____.

4. Mark has a very _____ group of friends.

5. After many years of traveling, James finally decided to _____ in Chicago.

6. People from different countries have different _____ regarding things like marriage and friendship.

7. The Statue of Liberty is in _____ _____ _____.

E. Find the following words in the puzzle:

continent, California, Miami, Chicago, Arizona, immigrant, customs, cuisine

C	G	I	E	J	A	Z	I	C	V	A
N	C	I	G	R	F	C	M	O	C	K
K	T	U	B	D	M	U	M	N	U	L
S	D	M	P	X	Q	S	I	T	I	P
S	U	I	R	Y	C	T	G	I	S	V
I	C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A
C	V	M	E	D	I	M	A	E	N	G
L	P	I	Y	R	Z	S	N	N	E	I
K	T	K	O	G	V	G	T	T	J	L
C	H	I	C	A	G	O	E	A	A	W
U	R	V	W	A	R	I	Z	O	N	A

F. Write a sentence with each of the following words or phrases:

1. around the world

_____

2. cuisine

_____

3. culture

_____

4. custom

_____

5. immigrant

_____

6. settle

_____

7. visit

_____