



Know Canada!

A Plain Language Study Guide for the Citizenship Exam



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Know Canada! is a free, downloadable resource available to CALP members and partners. You will find it on the CALP Portal.



Canada

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Know Canada!

Foreword

Without a doubt, the best resource for the Citizenship Test is ***Discover Canada: The Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship***. However, as many of us have discovered, ***Discover Canada*** can be quite challenging for English language learners who have not had much opportunity to improve their English skills. In particular, these may be learners from rural areas who came to Canada under the Foreign Worker Program. They often have more than one job as well as family obligations, so they have had difficulty accessing the English language learning opportunities available to them. Certainly, this is the case in our rural community, so some time ago, we began to talk about creating something to supplement ***Discover Canada***. In the end, we decided on a plain language version of the citizenship test study guide that would help both learners and volunteer tutors work through ***Discover***

Canada, together.

Here's what we did:

- Maintained the structure and most of the content of *Discover Canada*.
- Rephrased the content using the simplest words we could. We tried to keep the tone casual and conversational and the sentences short.
- In some sections, we've added information to give more context – we hope this helps tutors, too.
- Added vocabulary lists at the beginning of each section – **Important Words and People:**
- Highlighted important words, people and phrases.
- Included extra maps.
- Created questions at the end of each section to reinforce the learning.
- Double spaced the text to make room for translations.
- Provided a list of websites where learners can practice the kinds of multiple choice questions they will encounter on the exam.

Our goal with **Know Canada!** is twofold. Primarily, we want to help our learners pass the citizenship test and begin to enjoy the benefits as well as the responsibilities of Canadian citizenship. But, we also hope that plain language helps our learners better understand and absorb the Canadian experience, so integration is easier. We hope we've developed a resource that does both.



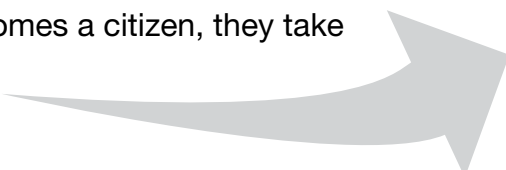
Table of Contents:

1. The Oath	6
2. Rights and Responsibilities of Canadians	7
3. Who Are We?	12
4. The History of Canada	20
5. The Government of Canada	53
6. Elections in Canada	61
7. Our Justice System	66
8. Important Symbols of Canada	69
9. The Economy of Canada	76
10. The Geography of Canada	78
11. Useful Websites	99

1 The Oath of Citizenship

For 400 years, immigrants have been coming to Canada. Along with the First Peoples of this nation, they have built a diverse, rich country with a strong identity and a proud history. When someone becomes a citizen, they take the following oath:

It is important to note that you are swearing loyalty to a person, not a place, an object or a country. The Queen or King personifies Canada, and Canada personifies the Sovereign.



*I swear (or affirm)
That I will be faithful
And bear true allegiance
To Her Majesty Queen
Elizabeth the Second
Queen of Canada
Her Heirs and Successors
And that I will faithfully
observe
The laws of Canada
And fulfill my duties as a
Canadian citizen.*

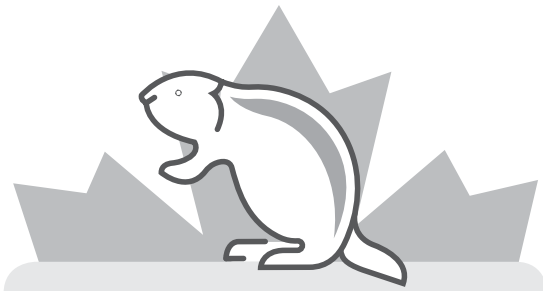
Questions:

1. What do you swear you will do when you become a Canadian citizen?
2. To whom or what do you swear allegiance?

2 Rights and Responsibilities of Canadians

Citizens of Canada have certain rights and freedoms that are guaranteed to us by the law, the constitution, and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. They have come from our history, our traditions, our identity and our values. Some date back more than 800 years to the signing of the Magna Carta (the Great Charter of Freedoms) in England in 1215.

A constitution is a set of rules about how a country is to be governed. Not all constitutions are written, but ours is. Great Britain's is not. Canada's first constitution was the British North America Act of 1867. In the beginning, Great Britain had more control over what Canadians did, but gradually that changed. For instance, Great Britain made



Important Words:

Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Magna Carta

constitution

rights

freedoms

common law

conscience

religion

thought

opinion

expression

speech

press

assembly

association

mobility

multiculturalism

equality

Habeas corpus

jury of your peers

responsibility

compulsory

the decision for Canadians to fight in World War I, but by World War II, we could make the decision for ourselves. Several changes have been made to the constitution over the past 150 years. At first, Great Britain had to agree to the changes, but the Constitution was “patriated” in 1982. Now, we can make our own changes without permission. The Charter of Rights and Freedoms was added to the Constitution in 1982. (More about that later.)

Some Canadian rights and freedoms come from English common law and the unwritten constitution of England. Others come from the civil code of France. Other sources are laws passed by Parliament and the provincial legislatures. The Constitution of Canada was changed in 1982 to include the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. It begins with the phrase “Whereas Canada is founded upon principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the “rule of law.” The “Supremacy of God” shows the importance of religious traditions in Canada, while the “rule of law” emphasizes the dignity and worth of all human beings.

Freedoms are rights usually given by the government that say you can do things without the government interfering. No one watches to make sure these rights are enforced, but the government shouldn’t limit them.

The four fundamental freedoms are:

- 1. Freedom of conscience and religion.** You can believe what you want, morally and religiously. For example, you can believe in abortion or not believe in it. You can believe in God or not believe. You can belong to any religion you want.
- 2. Freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression; freedom of speech and the press.** You can have your own ideas. No one can tell you what to think. You can say what you want, and you can write it down and publish it (unless it hurts another person’s rights).
- 3. Freedom of peaceful assembly.** You can gather in groups and even protest as long as you do it peacefully and lawfully.

4. Freedom of association. You can meet with anyone or any group that you want.

You can be friends with anyone.

Rights are legal, moral and social. People are entitled to them and someone, like the police or the government, has a duty to make sure you have them. You can't have the right to do something one time and not have the right to do it the next time. However, there are limits on the rights you have. You can't do something if it interferes with the rights of others. For example, even though you have Freedom of Speech, you can't use hate speech against someone else.

The Charter includes the four Freedoms listed above plus some additional rights:

- 1. Mobility Rights:** the right to live and work anywhere in Canada, to leave the country and come back, and to apply for a passport (which you need to leave the country and come back).
- 2. Aboriginal Peoples' Rights:** the rights in the Charter don't change the treaty rights or any other rights or freedoms given to the Aboriginal peoples in the past. Aboriginal people lived in Canada long before the Europeans came. The Europeans made treaties or agreements with them. Any right or freedom cannot change those agreements.
- 3. Official Language Rights and Minority Language Educational Rights:** French and English have equal importance in Parliament and in the federal government. English is considered to be a minority language in the province of Quebec because most of the people of Quebec speak French as a first language. In the rest of Canada, French is considered to be a minority language. Minority language groups have the right to educate their children in their own language if there are enough students to justify the cost.

4. Multiculturalism: Canada is made up of people from many different cultures. Other people may have different ways of doing things and different beliefs, but we respect the values and traditions of others. We can learn from them. We work hard to live in harmony and peace with others.

The Equality of Men and Women is also an important right. Men and women are equal under the law and have the same rights. Practices from other countries or belief systems which disrespect the rights of women are illegal. They are crimes and will be punished by the law. This includes spousal abuse, “honour killings,” genital mutilation, forced marriage and any other gender-based violence. It is important to note that men cannot be mistreated by women, either.

Another very important right is the right of Habeas corpus which means that you cannot be put in jail unless there is reasonable suspicion that you have broken the law. You have the right to go to court and have a “jury of your peers” decide if you are innocent or guilty.

Responsibilities: In exchange for these important rights, Canadians are expected to take certain responsibilities:

1. Obey the law. Nobody, not even the police, is above the law.
2. Take responsibility for yourself and your family. You should get a job and look after your family. You shouldn't expect others to look after them for you.
3. Serve on a jury if you are asked. You are required to do this by the law. (A jury is a group of people who help judges make decisions.)
4. Vote in elections. You have been given the right to vote, and you should now participate in our elections.
5. Protect and enjoy our heritage and environment.
6. Help others.

There is no compulsory military service in Canada. It is your choice. Serving in the military is a good way to contribute to your new country, and it can be a good career choice, but you are not required to serve.

All of the Rights and Freedoms enjoyed by Canadian citizens are also given to people living in Canada who are not citizens.

Questions:

1. What is the Canadian Constitution?
2. What document was added to the Constitution in 1982 that protects the rights of Canadians?
3. What are the 4 fundamental freedoms that are listed in the “Charter of Rights and Freedoms”? In what old document were these freedoms first written?
4. What 4 rights are also written in the Charter?
5. What are “Mobility Rights”?
6. What does “official language rights” mean? Where are they most important?
7. What is “multiculturalism”? Why is it important in Canada?
8. Who can apply for a Canadian passport?
9. What does “equality under the law mean”? Are women and men equal?
10. What is “Habeas corpus”?
11. What are some responsibilities that Canadians should take because they have “Rights and Freedoms”?
12. Who has to obey the law?
13. Do you have to serve in the military in Canada?
14. Why should you vote?

3

Who Are We?

Canada is known around the world as a strong and free country. Canadians are proud of their heritage and identity. Because Canada was a colony of England, Canada has one of the oldest constitutional traditions in the world. (This means that a country is governed by a set of rules and values. Governments may change, but they always follow the constitution.)

Canada is the only **constitutional monarchy** in North America. This means that Queen Elizabeth II is our Head of State, but Canada is governed by our Constitution. The main goal and highest ideal in Canada is to make laws for **Peace Order and Good Government**. This was a key phrase in Canada's original constitution (The British



Important Words:

constitutional Monarchy

Aboriginal

treaties

assimilate

residential schools

Indian

First Nations

reserves

Inuit

Métis

Anglophones

Francophones

bilingual

Acadians

descendants

deportation

Quebecers/Quebecois

Anglo-Quebecers

diversity

North America Act) in 1867. It is also a key phrase in the **Constitution Act of 1982**. The ideals of **Peace Order and Good Government**, combined with freedom, enterprise, hard work and fair play, have allowed Canadians to build a prosperous society in a rugged country that has a harsh climate. Because Canada is such a big country, it has been called the “**Great Dominion**”.

To understand what it means to be Canadian, it is important to know about our three founding peoples – **Aboriginal, French and British**.

Aboriginal Peoples:

The ancestors of **Aboriginal** peoples are believed to have come from Asia thousands of years ago. Most experts believe that the first humans to arrive in North America came about 15,000 years ago. It is believed that they crossed from Asia to Alaska using a land bridge that existed at that time. From there, Aboriginal peoples spread throughout North and South America. The First Peoples lived in Canada long before the Europeans arrived. Aboriginal cultures were rich and very different from each other. For example, the culture of West Coast peoples was different from the culture of the Aboriginal peoples of the prairies. This is because the natural environment determined how Aboriginal cultures developed. All Aboriginal cultures, however, were based on religious beliefs about their relationship with the Creator, the natural environment and each other.

When the Europeans first arrived in Canada, they were mainly interested in trading with the Aboriginal people. The Europeans wanted the furs that the Aboriginals trapped, and the Aboriginals wanted European goods. Later, Europeans wanted Aboriginal land for farms and settlements. As more and more Europeans came to Canada, their relationship with the Aboriginal people was not always peaceful. The French settlers made their own agreements and alliances with the Aboriginals, but after the takeover by the British in 1763, agreements became more formal and were written down. The **Royal Proclamation**

of 1763 established the basis for negotiating **treaties** and guaranteed territorial rights. It stopped the purchase of Aboriginal land by anyone except the British government. No individual of European descent could buy land from an Aboriginal, and no individual Aboriginal could sell land without a meeting of the whole group. In return, the Aboriginals received benefits such as reserves (or “hunting grounds”), annual payments and the right to hunt and fish. Sadly, these treaties were not always fully respected, and some were actually obtained illegally. The idea of “ownership” was often not understood by Aboriginals. Because they did not have written languages, the spoken word was more important to them than the writing on a treaty. Sometimes, the Aboriginal Chiefs signed blank pieces of paper. The original treaties with the Aboriginal people were made between the British government and individual groups, but after Canada became its own country in 1867, the federal government became responsible for agreements with the “Indians.”

From the 1800s until the 1980s, the Canadian government had a plan to **assimilate** Aboriginals into the mainstream Canadian culture. Among other things, the Canadian government forced many Aboriginal children to attend **residential schools**. (Some children did attend by choice.) Residential schools were boarding schools for Aboriginal children that were often a long distance from their parents and their communities. The hope was that these children would become educated and want to assimilate into the “white” culture. The children were not allowed to speak their native languages or practice their cultures. The schools were poorly funded and often mismanaged. Sometimes, the children were physically or sexually abused. Because of the government’s policy of assimilation, a lot of damage was done to the Aboriginal people. They forgot many of their old ways. They lost the ability to find food in the traditional way because their traditional hunting and fishing grounds were gone. In many ways, Aboriginal people were broken by government policies. In 2008, the Canadian government formally apologized to the former students of the residential schools and offered money to the students who were still living.

Today the term **Aboriginal Peoples** refers to three separate groups:

- **Indian** refers to all Aboriginal people who are not Inuit or Métis. “Indian” is the old word for some of the Aboriginal people. Most Aboriginal people do not like this term. Today, they want to be called **First Nations** because they were the first nations to arrive and settle in Canada. About half of all First Nations people live on **reserve** land. There are about 600 reserve communities in Canada. Some of the reserves are quite wealthy and the people have comfortable lives, but many are very poor. There are problems with poor housing, poorly funded schools, and with drug and alcohol abuse. The other half of First Nations people live off the reserve, mainly in cities. Sometimes they are called “Natives”, but they prefer First Nations. About **65%** of Aboriginal people are First Nations.
- **Inuit** (old term, “Eskimo”) refers to the Aboriginal people who live in the Arctic region of Canada. Inuit means “the people” in the **Inuktitut** language. The Inuit live in small villages across the most northern part of Canada. They have great knowledge of the land, sea and wildlife of the Arctic region. This knowledge has allowed them to survive in one of the harshest climates on earth. About **4%** of Aboriginal people are Inuit.
- **The Métis** are a distinct group of people of European and Aboriginal ancestry. The Métis live mainly in the Prairie Provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba). They come from both French and English-speaking backgrounds and speak their own dialect, **Michif**. About **30%** of Aboriginal people are Métis.

English and French:

The majority of Canadians are of British or French ancestry. English and French are the two official languages of Canada. This means that the federal government must provide

services in English and French in government offices across Canada. This applies only to the federal government services, not to provincial or local government services.

Today, there are 18 million **Anglophones** in Canada. These are people who speak English as their first language. There are also 7 million **Francophones** who speak French as their first language. While the majority of Francophones live in the province of Quebec, 1 million live in Ontario, New Brunswick and Manitoba. There are also small Francophone communities in other provinces. New Brunswick is the only province that is officially **bilingual**.

The **Acadians** are the **descendants** of some of the first French colonists who began to settle on the east coast of Canada in 1604. Their settlement was called Acadia (now Nova Scotia and New Brunswick). Because they were separated from France and the other French settlements in the Quebec area, they developed their own unique culture. In those days, war was common between the French and the English, and when there was fighting in Europe, there was also fighting in the colonies. The English took control of Acadia in 1749, but they allowed the French inhabitants to stay in the region. Between 1755 and 1763, there was another war between Britain and France. The English asked the Acadians to sign an oath of loyalty to Great Britain. The Acadians refused. More than two-thirds of the Acadians (10,000 people) were deported. Some moved back to France, but many went to Louisiana (which was still French) or to nearby settlements in Quebec. This **deportation** was called the “**Great Upheaval**”. It was time of great hardship for the Acadians. After the British defeated France and claimed all the land in Canada, the deportations stopped. Many Acadians returned home, bringing the cultural influences of their adopted areas with them. Most settled in New Brunswick. Today, the Acadian culture is strong, and it is a lively part of Canadian culture.

Quebecers are the people of Quebec. Most are French-speaking (**Quebecois**), and they are the descendants of 8500 French settlers who came to Canada in the 1600s and 1700s.

Because they were allowed to keep their way of life when the British gained control of the area in 1763, they have their own unique identity, culture and language. In 2006, the Parliament of Canada recognized that the approximately 6 million “Quebecois form a nation within a United Canada.”

Anglo-Quebecers are English-speaking Quebecers who also have a long history in Quebec. Some Anglo-Quebecers can trace their family histories back to the 1700s. There are about 1 million English-speaking Quebecers.

English Canada:

The basic way of life in the English-speaking parts of Canada was brought by hundreds of thousands of settlers from England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. There were big waves of immigration from Great Britain from the 1600s to the 1900s. Immigrants also came from other, non-English-speaking countries. Over time, they also became English-speakers. Generations of these settlers endured hardships and worked hard to build the foundations of our country.

Diversity in Canada:

Most Canadians were born in Canada. This has been true since the 1800s. However, Canada is often called a **country of immigrants** because millions of immigrants have come to Canada to build new lives and to help build a country.

In Canada, many different ethnic and religious groups live and work together in peace as proud Canadians. The largest groups are English, French, Scottish, Irish, German, Italian, Chinese, Aboriginal, Ukrainian, Dutch, South Asian and Scandinavian. Since the 1970s, most immigrants have come from Asian countries.

Many languages are spoken in Canadian homes. After English, **Chinese** languages are the most-spoken languages. Large numbers of Chinese immigrants have settled in Canadian cities like Vancouver and Toronto.

The majority of Canadians are Christian. The number of Muslims, Jews, Hindus, Sikhs and people with “no religion” is also growing. In Canada, faith groups are important. Governments have worked with faith groups to promote harmony among the citizens, to provide school and health care, to resettle refugees, and to uphold religious freedom, religious expression and freedom of conscience.

Canada’s diversity also includes gay, lesbian and transgender Canadians. They have **full protection of the law and equal treatment under the law**. They also have the right to civil marriage.

Becoming Canadian:

Canada understands that some new Canadians come from countries where they have experienced war and conflict or where not all citizens are equal. These experiences do not justify bringing violent, extreme or hateful prejudices to Canada. In becoming Canadian, newcomers are expected to embrace democratic principles including the rule of law. Immigrants are encouraged to follow and share their own cultural traditions while learning, accepting and respecting the traditions of others.

John Buchan was the **Governor General of Canada** from 1935-1940. He said that immigrant groups “should retain their individuality and each make its contribution to the national character.” Each could “learn from the other, and ... while they cherish their own special loyalties and traditions, they cherish not less that new loyalty which springs from their union.”

Questions:

1. Who are Canada's three founding peoples?
2. Who are the Aboriginal people?
3. Why did the government apologize to Aboriginal students who went to residential schools?
4. There are three main groups of Aboriginal peoples. What are they?
5. Which group of Aboriginal peoples is the biggest?
6. Which group makes up more than half the population of people living in the North?
7. Where do most of the Métis live in Canada?
8. What are the two official languages of Canada? Where do they have equal status?
9. Who are "anglophones" and who are "francophones"?
10. Who were the Acadians? What happened to them between 1755 and 1763? Why?
11. Who are the Quebecers? What is the difference between a "Quebecer" and a "Quebecois"?
12. What happened for the Quebecois in 2006?
13. Why is Canada called "a country of immigrants?"
14. Where did most of the immigrants to Canada come from before the 1970s? Where have most come from since then?

4 The History of Canada

Part 1

Aboriginal Peoples:

The first people to live in Canada were the Aboriginals. Early European explorers called them “Indians” because these explorers thought they had reached the East Indies. All of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada were hunters, but different groups made a living in different ways, depending on where they lived. Many lived in permanent or semi-permanent villages. The Huron-Wendat and the Iroquois lived by the Great Lakes. They farmed as well as hunted. The Cree and Dene lived in the Northwest. They were hunters and gatherers. (Gatherers



Important Words and People:

Indians

Aboriginals

Vikings

John Cabot

Jacques Cartier

Kanata

Samuel de Champlain

Acadia

Jean Talon

Count Frontenac

Bishop Laval

filles de roi

Great Upheaval

are people who pick berries, seeds and native plants to eat.) The Sioux, who lived in the Prairie region, were also hunters and gatherers. They followed the bison or buffalo herds. The Inuit lived in the Arctic region of Canada and lived off Arctic wildlife. The people of the West Coast caught fish and dried or smoked them. War between Aboriginal peoples was common as groups fought each other for land, resources or glory.

Europeans:

When the Europeans came, the lives and cultures of the Aboriginals changed forever. Many died from diseases brought from Europe. However, Europeans and Aboriginals did learn to work and live together, forming strong economic, religious and military ties.

The first Europeans to come to Canada were not the French or the English. The Vikings came from Iceland 1000 years ago, 500 years before other Europeans. The Vikings had settlements in Greenland. From there, they were able to explore the coasts of Newfoundland and Labrador. Then, they built a settlement in Newfoundland. No one knows for sure why the Vikings left Canada, but they only stayed in Newfoundland for a few years. Remains from their settlement have been found in l'Anse aux Meadows in northern Newfoundland. It is now a World Heritage site.

Five hundred years passed before a European came to North America again, and that was by accident. European explorers were actually looking for China and India.

In 1497, **John Cabot** sailed from England and claimed Newfoundland for the English. He was the first person to draw a map of the east coast of Canada. Thirty-five years later, in 1534, **Jacques Cartier** arrived and claimed the land he explored for France. He made three voyages and explored the country along the St. Lawrence River as far as Quebec City and Montreal. He heard a group of Aboriginals say the word "**Kanata**," and he thought that was the name of the country. It actually meant "village." By the 1550's, Europeans were calling the whole country "Canada."

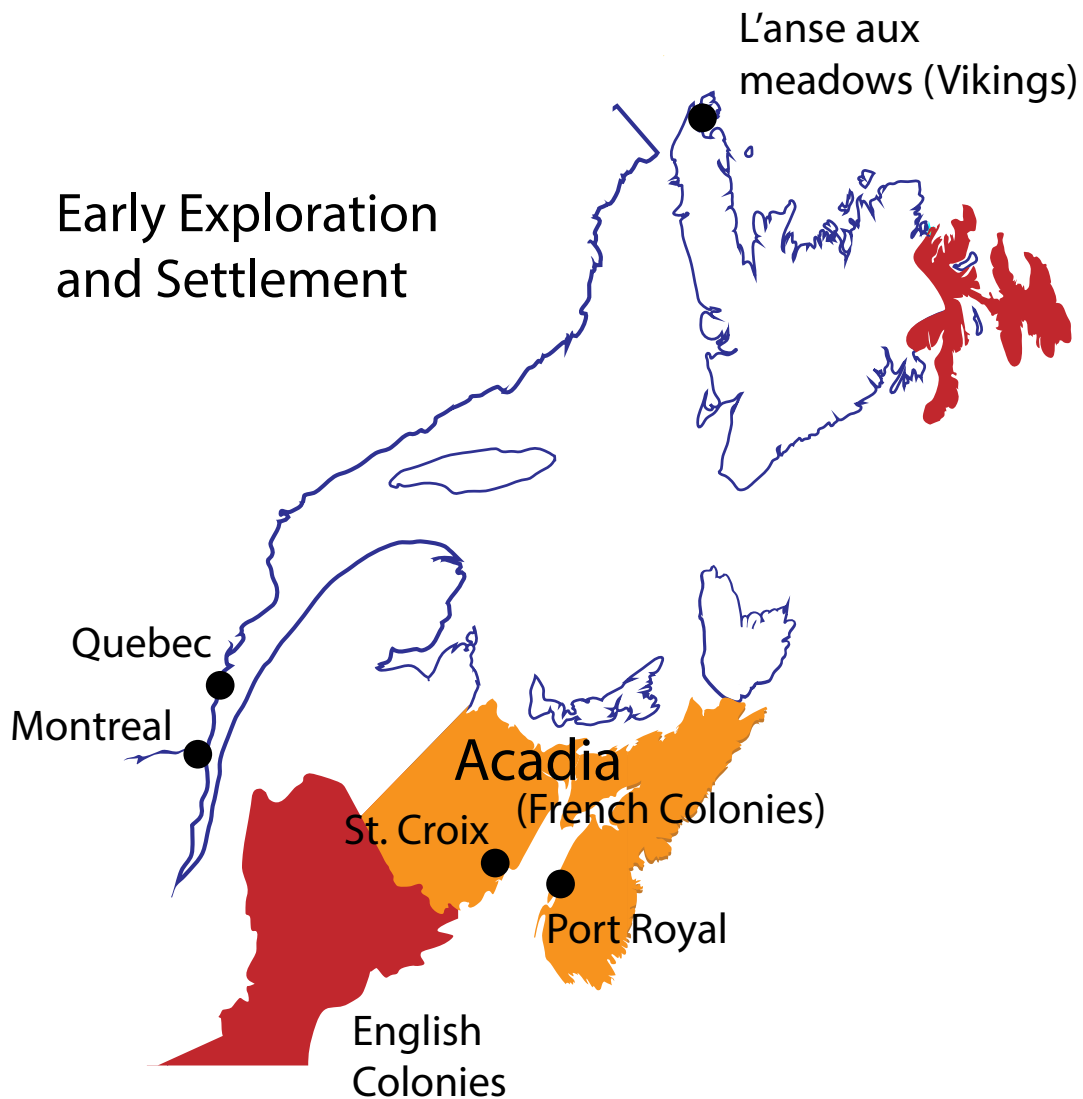
Early Settlement

In the beginning, Europeans were mainly interested in trading furs with the Aboriginals. They did not want to live in the country. They would travel across the ocean in the spring and go back to Europe in the fall. Around 1600, the king of France and the fur-trading companies decided to build permanent settlements. Private companies were formed to bring colonists and missionaries. In 1604, the first French settlement was established by **Samuel de Champlain** and **Pierre de Monts** at Port Royal, in Acadia (now the province of Nova Scotia). Champlain stayed in Port Royal for three years, but the settlement was not easy to defend from the British who had colonies to the south. Also, the weather could be bad. Champlain went looking for a new place to build. (The Acadian settlement was not abandoned, though. It grew into a prosperous farming settlement. You read about what happened to the Acadians in *Who We Are*.)

In 1608, Champlain decided to build his second settlement further inland on the St. Lawrence River. This second settlement is now Quebec City. Just like it was in Acadia, the first winter was very difficult. The weather was very cold, and there was a lot of snow. Champlain and his men did not know where to find food or what animals to hunt. This time, however, Champlain became friends with the “Indians” who lived in the region. They taught Champlain and his men how to survive. Champlain allied his colony with the Algonquin, the Montagnais and the Huron. These tribes were enemies of the Iroquois who were allied with the English colonies to the south. Both the French and the English got the Indian people to help them fight their wars with each other.

At first, mostly men lived in the colony of New France. After fifty years, the settlement was still very small. The king of France decided to take control of the colony away from the private companies. He established a new government in New France. **Jean Talon, Count Frontenac** and **Bishop Laval** were important early officials. They encouraged the settlers to build farms and businesses, and they worked with the Aboriginal people in the fur trade.

Beaver furs were especially wanted in Europe. Using the rivers and lakes of Canada, they built a French fur trading empire in North America that extended from Hudson Bay to the Gulf of Mexico. King Louis also sent young women from France to marry the young men. They were called “filles du roi” (daughters of the King). Today, most of the French families in Quebec are descended from these original families.



Questions:

1. In which parts of Canada did European people first live?
2. Who were the first Europeans to come to Canada? Where did they build their settlement?
3. When and why did the second group of Europeans come to Canada?
4. Who was the first person to draw a map of Canada's east coast?
5. How were the Aboriginal people affected by the arrival of Europeans?
6. Where does the name "Canada" come from?
7. Who was Samuel de Champlain? Where did he build his first settlement?
8. When did settlers first build settlements on the St. Lawrence River?
9. Which Aboriginal groups were allies of the French? Who were their enemies?
10. How did French leaders such as Jean Talon, Bishop Laval and Count Frontenac build a French Empire in North America?

Part 2

Struggle for a Continent:

Like the French, the English had also claimed large parts of North America. In the early 1600s, they had built colonies on the east coast of what is now the United States. They called this new land, “New England.” Now, the English decided that they also wanted part of the rich fur trade in the north.

In 1670, King Charles II of England gave the **Hudson’s Bay Company** the rights to trade in the region that had rivers or lakes that emptied into Hudson Bay. This was a huge piece of land. The French **voyageurs** and **coureurs des bois**, working with the Aboriginal people, were also trading in this area. They travelled by canoe, using the rivers and the lakes to trade and transport furs. For 100 years, there was fierce competition between the French and the English over the fur trade. After the French



Important Words and People:

Voyageurs

courier des bois

James Wolfe

Marquis de Montcalm

habitants

Canadiens

Sir Guy Carlton

Quebec Act of 1774

Loyalists

Joseph Brant

representative assembly

Constitution Act of 1791

Upper Canada

Lower Canada

British North America

John Graves Simcoe

Mary Ann Shadd Carey

Underground Railway

lost Canada to the English in 1759, the Hudson's Bay Company continued to control the north for another 100 years.

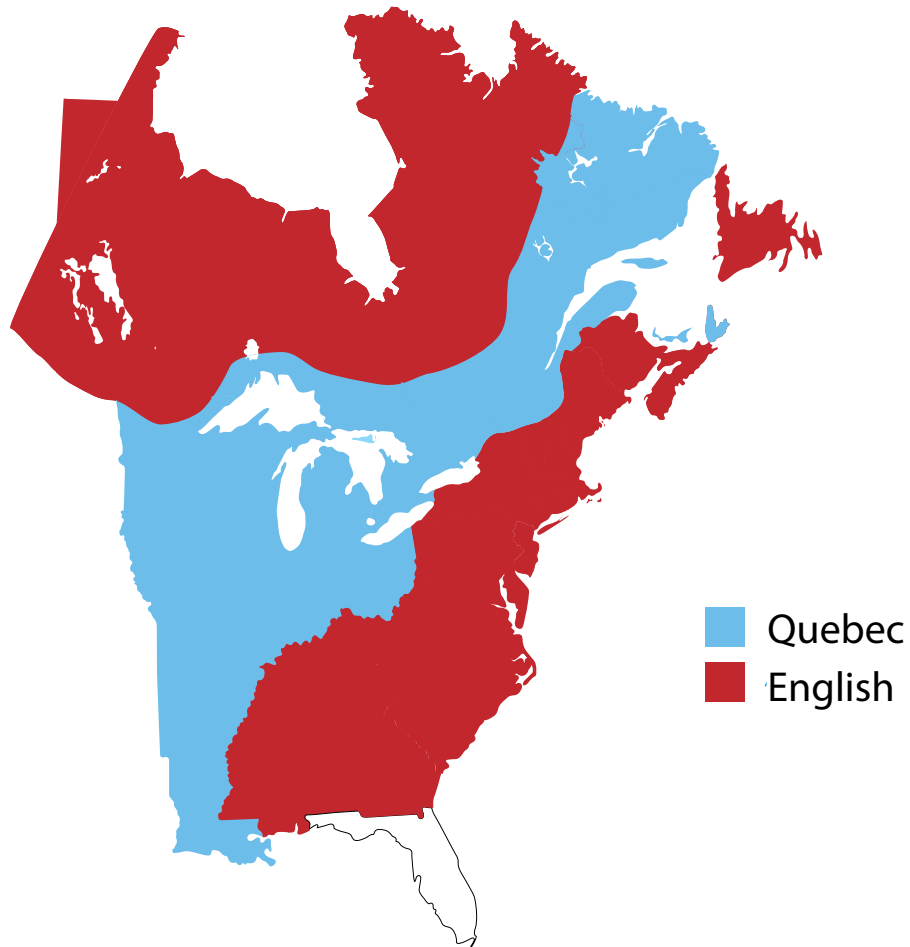
More and more people were immigrating to New England. Very few people were moving to New France. In the first 100 years, 15,000 French came to Canada, but only 3400 of them stayed. The English colonies were growing larger and becoming richer. The French colonies remained small. France and England began to fight over who would control the continent. In 1759, the British, led by **James Wolfe**, and the French, led by the **Marquis de Montcalm**, fought a last battle on the **Plains of Abraham** at Quebec City. The British won. They renamed the colony, the **Province of Quebec**. After England and France made peace in Europe in 1763, Canada became part of the British Empire.

There were problems. The English were Protestant, and the French were Catholic. In England and in the English colonies, Catholics didn't have the same rights as Protestants. The French had been living in Canada for 100 years. The **habitants** or **Canadiens** wanted to keep their way of life. They did not want to change their language, their laws, or their religion. In order to keep peace, the new governor of Quebec, **Sir Guy Carlton**, defended the rights of the French to the British Parliament. The British Parliament made a decision. The **Quebec Act of 1774** said that the French Catholics could have religious freedom and the same political rights as the English Protestants. They had to use British criminal law, but they kept French civil law. The French-speaking colony also got control over the Ohio Valley, a large piece of land west of the English colonies. The English were not allowed to settle there.

The United Empire Loyalists:

Peace did not last long. The colonists in New England were already angry that they did not have the same rights as people in Great Britain. They did not like the fact that the French (who had been defeated!) were allowed to have so many rights and freedoms. Also, they

Province of Quebec, 1774



didn't like the fact that the province of Quebec controlled the Ohio Valley, and they weren't allowed to settle there. In 1776, the New England colonies declared independence and formed the United States of America. Over the next 7 years, more than 40,000 **United Empire Loyalists**, people who wanted to stay part of the British Empire, moved to Canada. With the help of **Sir Guy Carlton**, they settled in Quebec and Nova Scotia. Many also settled on land west of Montreal in what is now Ontario. Nova Scotia was divided and a new colony of Loyalists was started in New Brunswick.

Chief **Joseph Brant** brought thousands of loyal Mohawk Indians to Canada. About 3,000 black loyalists, freedmen and slaves also moved north.

The Beginning of Democracy and the Abolition of Slavery:

New France had been a crown colony. That meant that the King of France made all the decisions. He sent the governors and other political officials to rule New France. The colonists had no say in the government. The Loyalists from New England had been able to participate in their government, and they wanted to have this right in Canada as well. As part of the British Empire, the colonies began to move towards democracy. They wanted more say in how they were governed. They wanted **representative government**. A representative government is one where the people elect someone to represent them in a legislature.

Each colony in British North America had separate governments and governors. Nova Scotia, a British colony since 1710, elected the first **representative assembly** in 1758. Prince Edward Island elected one in 1773, and New Brunswick did so in 1785. The settlers in these colonies could elect representatives to go to the assemblies, but the representatives did not have much power. They could give advice, but they did not have the power to make laws. The Governor, appointed by the British government, did that. The Province of Quebec also wanted an elected assembly.

The Constitutional Act of 1791 divided the Province of Quebec into two parts. The western part, settled by mostly Protestant, English-speaking Loyalists, became **Upper Canada** (now Ontario). The mostly French-speaking, Catholic part, became **Lower Canada** (Quebec). The Act also gave the people the right to elect legislative (law-making) assemblies. The name “Canada” became the official name of the two provinces. Altogether, Upper and Lower Canada and the Atlantic colonies were called **British North America**.

John Graves Simcoe was the first Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada. He founded the city of York, which is now Toronto, and made it the capital of Upper Canada. He was important in the fight against slavery. **Mary Ann (Shadd) Carey** was also important in this

fight. She published a weekly newspaper about the evils of slavery. In 1793, the province of Upper Canada became the first province in the British Empire to abolish slavery. In 1833, slavery was totally abolished throughout the British Empire. However, slavery was still legal in the United States. Many Americans, who were against slavery, helped thousands of escaped slaves get to freedom in Canada. They followed an anti-slavery network called the **Underground Railway**.

Questions:

1. What early trade spread across Canada?
2. Who were the voyageurs and the couriers de bois?
3. What was the Hudson's Bay Company? How long did it control the north?
4. Who were the generals who led the French and English armies at the battle on the Plains of Abraham? Why was this battle important?
5. Who were the habitants?
6. Which Governor stood up for the rights of the Canadiens?
7. What was the Quebec Act of 1774? Why is it important?
8. What happened in 1776?
9. Who were the Loyalists? When did they come to Canada?
10. What is representative government?
11. What was the Constitutional Act of 1791?
12. What was the first province to end slavery?

Part 3

The War of 1812:

In Europe, there was war between the British and the French again. At the time, Napoleon Bonaparte was the ruler of France. In 1805, the British defeated Napoleon's fleet and took control of the Atlantic Ocean between northern Europe and North America. The Americans were angry because the British wouldn't let them trade with France. Also, the British took men they claimed were British citizens off American ships to serve on British ships. The British also supported the Indians in their fight against the Americans. (American settlers were moving into Indian Territory west of the Appalachian Mountains.) To solve their problems with the British, the Americans decided to invade Canada. They thought it would be easy to conquer Canada and take the country away from England. They invaded Canada in 1812.



Important Words and People:

Chief Tecumseh

Sir Isaac Brock

Laura Secord

Charles de Salaberry

responsible government

reformers

Lord Durham

Canada East

Canada West

Lord Elgin

Louis-Hippolyte La Fontaine

Robert Baldwin

Joseph Howe

John A. Macdonald

The Americans were wrong. Canadians did not want to be part of the United States. Canadian volunteers and Aboriginals (led by **Chief Tecumseh**) joined with the British soldiers to defeat the American invaders.

In 1812, **Major-General Sir Isaac Brock** captured Detroit and then defeated the Americans at Queenston Heights, near Niagara Falls. He was killed in the battle. Attacks continued all along the border. There were naval battles on the Great Lakes and up the Atlantic coast. Even Canadians who were not fighting did what they could to help. **Laura Secord** made a 30 kilometer journey by foot, in 1813, to warn of an American attack. **Charles de Salaberry** and his army of less than 500 French Canadiens defeated 4000 American soldiers south of Montreal in October, 1813. (The Americans were trying to stop shipping on the St. Lawrence River to cities in Upper and Lower Canada.) The Americans burned Government House and the Parliament Buildings in York (Toronto), the capital of Upper Canada. In retaliation, a group of Canadians burned down the White House in Washington in 1814. Finally, a peace treaty between the United States and Great Britain was signed in 1814.

No land changed hands in the war of 1812-14, but the Canada-US border was established. A series of citadels and forts were built along the border to ensure that Canada would remain independent of the United States. The Americans never invaded Canada again.

The Rebellions of 1837-38 and the Beginning of Responsible Government:

After the War of 1812, Canada continued to grow. Thousands of immigrants were arriving every year. Most came from England, Ireland or Scotland. Cities and towns were being built and new businesses were opened. Unfortunately for the Aboriginal people, the settlers didn't think they needed help from the Indians anymore, and the settlers wanted their land. The Indians were pushed onto small reserves or farther into the North.

The provinces of Upper and Lower Canada and the maritime colonies had **representative governments**, but they didn't have **responsible governments**. Canadians could elect people to represent them, to discuss their concerns and make suggestions, but all the decisions about government, laws and taxes were still made by the Parliament in London, England. In a responsible government, the governor (still chosen by the British government) would have to appoint a Cabinet that the elected representatives (Assembly) chose. He couldn't just appoint his friends. The elected representatives would also be able to pass laws. Reformers in Upper and Lower Canada thought that progress towards a real democracy was too slow, and they wanted change. Some people thought that Canada should be a republic like the United States or even join the United States. Armed rebellions broke out near Montreal and Toronto, but the rebels didn't have enough support and were defeated by British troops.

Lord Durham was sent from England to make suggestions about what could be done to stop more rebellions from happening. He suggested that Upper and Lower Canada be joined into one colony with a responsible government. The Governor and his Cabinet would need the support of a majority of elected representatives in order to govern. Canadians would be making the final decisions. He also said that French-speaking, Catholic Canadians should be assimilated into the English-speaking, Protestant culture. He wanted everyone to speak English. This was not a popular idea in Quebec where the people wanted to keep their language and culture. Upper and Lower Canada were united as the Province of Canada (Canada East and Canada West) by the **Act of Union** 1841, but the British Parliament said "No" to responsible government. The Governor was still in charge, only this time, there was just one governor. Queen Victoria chose Ottawa as the capital of United Canada because it was on the border between Upper and Lower Canada, and it was far from the United States border.

People in British North America did not stop wanting responsible government. In 1847, Nova Scotia was the first colony to succeed. In 1849, **Lord Elgin** introduced responsible government to United Canada (Canada East and Canada West). **Sir Louis-Hippolyte La Fontaine** became the first leader of a responsible government. His job was similar to that of a Prime Minister. He is remembered because he helped to protect French rights.

La Fontaine, Robert Baldwin and Sir John A. McDonald from Canada West, and Joseph Howe from Nova Scotia, had all worked with British governors to get responsible government. Now that they had responsible government, they wanted more. They wanted Canada to become a new country, separate from Great Britain.

Questions:

1. What was the war of 1812?
2. During the War of 1812, the Americans burned down the Parliament Buildings in York (now Toronto). What did the British and Canadians do in return?
3. What did the supporters of the Rebellions in 1837-1838 want?
4. What is responsible government?
5. Who recommended that Upper and Lower Canada be joined to make one colony?
6. What were Upper and Lower Canada called after they were united in 1840?
7. Who introduced responsible government to the Province of Canada in 1849?
8. Who was Louis-Hippolyte La Fontaine? Why is he remembered?

Part 4

Confederation:

British North America was made up of five colonies. Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland all had their own governments. By 1864, the British government began to work with representatives from British North America to create a new country. The Maritime colonies of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island had already decided that they wanted to talk about a union. They planned a meeting in **Charlottetown**, Prince Edward Island in 1864. Leaders from Canada (**Sir Etienne-Paschal Tache, Sir Georges-Etienne Cartier, George Brown and Sir John A. Macdonald**) thought that it would be better if all of the British colonies joined together, so they decided to go to the meeting, too. They came with a plan that they presented to the representatives from the Maritimes. They all agreed to another



Important Words and People:

British North America

Etienne-Paschal Tache

Georges-Etienne Cartier

George Brown

John A. Macdonald

**British North America Act
(BNA)**

Confederation

Dominion of Canada

Northwest Mounted Police

Louis Riel

Sam Steele

Head Tax

Sir Wilfred Laurier

meeting in Quebec City to figure out the details. This time, Newfoundland decided to go to the meeting as well.

There was a lot of talking and arguing at the **Quebec Conference**. The delegates did come up with a plan for a constitution, but some of the representatives from the Maritimes were not happy. They were afraid that the new country would be dominated by the larger, United Canada. Finally, in 1866, the colonies of Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia decided to form a single country. Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland decided not to join. The government of Great Britain passed the **British North America Act (BNA)** in 1867, and on July 1, 1867, the **Dominion of Canada** was born. **Sir William Tilley**, a Father of Confederation from New Brunswick, picked the name from a Bible verse about having “dominion from sea to sea.” Prince Edward Island decided to become part of Canada 6 years later, in 1873. Newfoundland did not join Canada until 1949. **The first Prime Minister of Canada was Sir John A. Macdonald.**

MacDonald’s picture used to be on the \$10.00 bill. At present, **Sir Wilfred Laurier**, the first French-Canadian Prime Minister, is on the \$5.00 bill.

Dominion of Canada, 1867



Adding the West:

In 1870, Canada began to expand further west. The Hudson's Bay Company had controlled the northwest region of Canada for almost 200 years. In 1868, the Hudson Bay Company sold the rights to this land to Canada. There were more than 12,000 Métis living near the Red River on land that would become Manitoba. Neither they nor the Aboriginal peoples were asked if they wanted to join Canada. If they were going to be part of this new country, the Métis wanted to have a province with their own language and religious rights like the rest of Canada. They did not want to join Canada as a territory. **Louis Riel** led a rebellion to get these rights. He and Gabriel Dumont took control of Fort Garry (now Winnipeg). Ottawa sent soldiers, and Riel escaped to the United States. The Prime Minister, **Sir John A. Macdonald**, agreed to the Metis' demands, and the province of Manitoba (just a small corner of today's Manitoba) and the Northwest Territories entered Canada. Great Britain made the Arctic Islands part of the Northwest Territories in 1880. The Yukon Territory became a separate territory in 1898 when many people moved there after gold was discovered.

After the Métis rebellion, **Prime Minister Macdonald** decided that it would be best to have a police force to keep peace in the new territories and to negotiate with the Indians. He created the North West Mounted Police (NWMP). They built forts in different parts of the big, new Northwest Territory. These forts later became towns and cities like Fort MacLeod, (Fort) Calgary and (Fort) Edmonton. One important hero of the NWMP was **Sam Steele**. As new settlers began to move west, the Métis and Indians felt threatened again. In 1885, **Louis Riel** led another rebellion, this time in Saskatchewan. He was defeated and executed, but he is still seen as a defender of Métis rights. Today, **Louis Riel** is considered a hero, especially to the Métis and First Nations People.

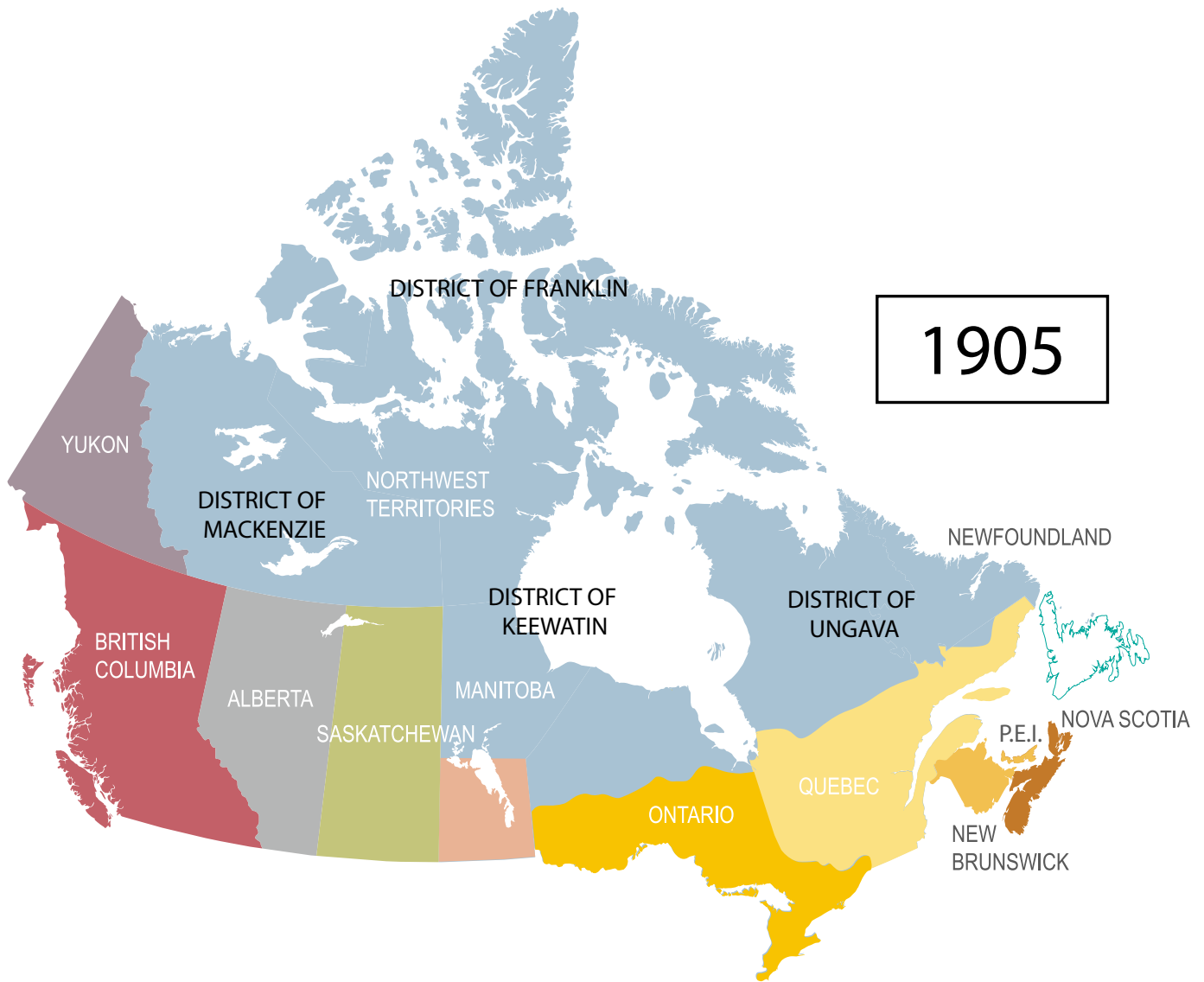
British Columbia, a small British colony on the west coast, joined Canada in 1871. It had been a British colony for many years. Most of the people lived on Vancouver Island, in the capital city of Victoria. Very few British lived on the mainland. Because of this, people

from the western United States wanted to move north and claim the land. The people of British Columbia knew that they could not stay independent for long, mostly for economic reasons. They had to decide whether to join Canada or the United States. They asked the Canadian government if Canada would build a road to link British Columbia with eastern Canada. Canada did better and promised to build a railroad. (This was one of the reasons British Columbia decided to join Canada.) The railroad was finally finished in November, 1885. The completion of the railroad was the fulfillment of a promise to the people of British Columbia. It was also a source of great pride for Canada and a powerful symbol of Canadian unity. The new railway also brought thousands of new settlers to western Canada.

While the building of the railroad from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean was a great accomplishment for Canada, there is a part of the story that does not make Canadians proud. Much of the hard and dangerous work on the railway was done by Chinese workers. These workers were not treated fairly. They had to pay a Head Tax to get into Canada to work, and they were not allowed to become citizens. The government of Canada apologized to the descendants of the Chinese workers in 2006.

In the 1890s and early 1900s, more than two million British and American people immigrated to Canada, but the vast Prairie region did not attract many settlers. Most immigrants wanted to live in cities in the eastern regions. **Sir Wilfrid Laurier (the first French-Canadian Prime Minister)** wanted the Prairies to become settled. He encouraged immigrants from other parts of Europe (especially Poles, Ukrainians, Germans, Norwegians and Swedes) to move to western Canada and start farms. By 1905, there were enough people in the West to make Manitoba bigger and to make two new provinces, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Finally, in **1949**, Newfoundland and Labrador joined Confederation, and the country was complete.



Questions:

1. What does “confederation” mean?
2. In what year did the Confederation of Canada take place?
3. What document made Confederation legal?
4. What does the phrase, “dominion from sea to sea,” mean?
5. What provinces first joined together to create Canada?

6. When did each of the other provinces and territories join Canada?
7. For how long did the Hudson's Bay Company control the Northwest Territory?
8. Who was Louis Riel?
9. What was the Northwest Mounted Police (NWMP) and what are they called now?
10. Who was an important member of the NWMP?
11. Why was the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) important?
12. Who played an important part in building the railway and how were they mistreated?
13. Who was Sir Wilfred Laurier?

Part 5

World War I:

In 1914, there were about 8 million people living in Canada. Most were either British immigrants or of British descent. Between 1899 and 1902, more than 7,000 Canadians had fought with Great Britain in the South African (Boer) War. Canadians fought well, and they were proud of their victories. In 1914, war broke out in Europe. Germany attacked Belgium and France. Britain, France and Russia allied with other countries to fight against Germany, Austria-Hungary and others. Because Canada was part of the British Empire, when Britain declared war, Canada was also at war. Ottawa formed the Canadian Expeditionary Force (later called the Canadian Corps). More than 600,000 men, mostly volunteers, went off to Europe to fight.

The fighting was bloody and terrible. Trench warfare and new weapons like poison gas,



Important Words and People:

World War I

Canadian Corps

Vimy Ridge

Sir Arthur Currie

Women's Suffrage Movement

Emily Stowe

Agnes McPhail

Great Depression

Dirty Thirties

World War II

machine guns and tanks were used. Canadians were good soldiers. They were tough, smart and brave. The Canadian Corps captured **Vimy Ridge** on April 9, 1917. This was the first British victory of the war! In the battle, 10,000 Canadians were killed or wounded, but Canadians became known as the “shock troops” of the British Army. Slowly, more victories followed. In the last 100 days of the war, Canadians fought in the battles of Amiens, Arras, Canal du Nord, Cambrai and Mons. The commander of the Canadian Corps, **General Sir Arthur Currie**, has been called Canada’s greatest soldier. The war ended with the Armistice on the **November 11, 1918** (on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month - **Remembrance Day**). 60,000 Canadians had been killed and 170,000 had been wounded, but the war made Canada stronger, prouder and more respected as a nation. (On Remembrance Day, many Canadians wear red poppies and go to special ceremonies to honour all of our fallen soldiers.)

Back at home in Canada, things were changing. At the time of Confederation, and for many years after that, the only people who could vote were white men who owned property. Women felt they should also have the right to vote, and they worked hard to get it. The women’s suffrage movement in Canada was founded by **Dr. Emily Stowe**. Women got the right to vote in federal elections in 1917, starting with nurses on the battlefield. By 1918, most Canadian women were voting in federal elections, along with the men. In the provinces, it was different. Manitoba was the first province to give women the right to vote in provincial elections in 1916, and Quebec was the last province to give women the right to vote in 1940. In 1921, **Agnes Macphail** became the first woman Member of Parliament.

Between the Wars:

After the war, the British Empire began to change. More British colonies, like Australia and New Zealand, became self-governing. As former colonies became independent, they joined together in the **Commonwealth of Nations**. The Commonwealth is still an important association of former British colonies.

The “**Roaring Twenties**” were a time of great prosperity in Canada. New businesses opened, agriculture was increasing, and immigration was high. Then, the stock market crashed in 1929 which started the **Great Depression**. People lost their jobs and businesses failed. Farms in Western Canada experienced a terrible drought and low grain prices. Many farms on the Prairies were just abandoned. Another name for this time is the “Dirty Thirties” because of the great dust storms that happened when the wind blew the dry soil away.

Because the times were so hard, Canadians demanded that the government help with social programs. Minimum wage, a standard work week, and unemployment insurance were introduced in the Thirties. Old Age Security had been introduced in 1927. The Bank of Canada was created in 1934 to help stabilize the financial system, and it still operates today. Immigration dropped off, and refugees were turned away, including Jewish refugees that were fleeing Nazi Germany.

World War II:

In 1939, Adolph Hitler and the Nazis invaded Poland and then conquered other parts of Europe. This time, Canada made its own decision to go to war as a completely independent country. More than 1 million people (both men and women) from Canada and Newfoundland served in World War II. The population of Canada was only about 11.5 million people at that time, so a large percentage of Canadians left Canada to fight in Europe and in the Pacific. More than 44,000 were killed.

Just like in World War I, Canadians fought bravely and suffered huge losses. These losses mainly happened while defending Hong Kong in 1941, on the beaches of Dieppe, France in 1942, and in the liberation of Italy in 1943-1944. The Royal Canadian Air Force fought in the **Battle of Britain**, defending England from Nazi bombers, and in missions all over Europe. Many pilots from other allied countries trained in Canada. The Royal Canadian Navy protected merchant ships travelling between Canada and Britain (**the Battle of the**

Atlantic). The Canadian Military was also part of the invasion of Normandy, in northern France, on July 6, 1944. Then, Canadians liberated the Netherlands in 1944 and 1945. At home, Canadians built many airplanes, ships and other war essentials for Britain and her allies. They also sent food and clothing to help the British people. For a country with such a small population, Canada's contribution to World War II was huge.

The Pacific war came to Canada when Japan invaded the Aleutian Islands, attacked a lighthouse on Vancouver Island, and launched fire balloons over B.C. and the Prairies. Because of the war, Japanese Canadians were not trusted. They were forced into relocation camps far away from their homes on the Pacific coast. Their property was sold, and they were not compensated. (They did not get any money from the sale of their homes and businesses.) The Government of Canada apologized in 1988, and it compensated the victims of this government policy.

The war in Europe ended with the surrender of Germany in May, 1945. The war in the Pacific was over when Japan surrendered in August, 1945.

Questions:

1. How many Canadian soldiers fought in World War I? How many were killed?
2. What was the Battle of Vimy Ridge and why was it important to Canada?
3. What is Remembrance Day?
4. Who is considered to be Canada's greatest soldier?
5. What was the women's suffrage movement?
6. What was the first province to give voting rights to women? What was the last?

7. When did Canada's economy and industry experience a boom? What was this decade called?
8. What happened after the famous stock market crash of 1929?
9. What were the "Dirty Thirties"?
10. When did World War II begin in Europe?
11. How many Canadians served in World War II?
12. What did Canadians do at home to help the war effort?
13. When did World War II end?
14. Why did the Canadian government apologize to Japanese-Canadians in 1988?

CANADA SINCE 1945

Part I

Trade and Economic Growth:

During the 1930s, life was difficult in Canada and in many other countries around the world. This was the time of the **Great Depression**. All across the world, businesses failed and many people lost their jobs. They were not able to support themselves or their families. Many governments tried to make conditions better for their citizens by restricting trade with other countries. However, this made things worse. After World War II (1939-1945), countries began to trade more freely with each other. They made trade agreements like the **General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)** which has been replaced by the **World Trade Organization (WTO)**. The loosening of trade barriers helped many countries become richer, including Canada. Also, oil was discovered in Alberta in 1947. The discovery



Important Words:

Great Depression

tariffs

trader barriers

natural resources

standard of living

Social Assistance programs

communism

dictator

Cold War

nuclear arms race

peacekeeping

Quiet Revolution

bilingualism

biculturalism

Official Languages Act

referendum

patriated

multiculturalism

insulin

Canadarm

astronauts

of oil made Canada an important energy producer. Oil, natural gas, agriculture and other natural resources have helped make Canada a wealthy country with a high standard of living.

Between 1945 and 1970, Canada traded more and more with the United States and with other countries around the world. Today, the United States is still our most important trading partner, but Canada is always working hard to develop stronger trade relationships with other countries.

As Canada became richer, our governments were able to support many important social assistance programs. The **Canada Health Act** gives all Canadians good quality health care in every province and territory. Unemployment insurance, now called **Employment Insurance (EI)**, was introduced by the federal government in 1940. Pension and Old Age Security plans were introduced in 1927, and the **Canada Pension Plan (CPP)** was fully implemented in 1965. (Quebec has its own pension plan.) Free **public education** is provided by the provinces and territories.

Canada and the World:

Canada gained full independence from Great Britain, slowly and gradually. Canada participated in World War I (1914-1918), but Canada was automatically at war with Germany when England declared war. This was because Canada did not have full control of its own foreign affairs. By 1939, when World War II began, Canada did have full control and was not automatically at war along with Great Britain. In fact, Canada declared war on Germany one week after England and France did.

After World War II, the map of the world changed. Germany, Japan and Italy were defeated, but there was a new threat. This threat was **communism**. Under the dictator, **Joseph Stalin**, the Soviet Union moved into Eastern Europe. Western democratic countries were worried about the spread of communism. They were also worried

about another world war. The period from 1945-1989 is called the **Cold War**. Western democracies, especially the United States, tried to contain the Soviet Union and stop the spread of communism across the world. They fought smaller wars like the **Korean War** (Canada participated in this war) and the **Viet Nam War** (Canada did not fight in this one). They were also involved in a nuclear arms race with the Soviet Union. Canada joined with the United States and other western democratic countries in Europe to form the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)**, a military alliance to defend against the Soviet Union. Canada also joined with the United States to create the **North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD)** to protect North America from a Soviet attack from the air. Canada is a member of the **United Nations (UN)** and has been since the UN began in 1945. Canada participated in the UN operation to defend South Korea during the Korean War (1950-1953). In 1956, **Lester Pearson**, a future Prime Minister of Canada, introduced the idea of a **United Nations Peacekeeping Force** during a crisis in the Middle East. He won the **Nobel Peace Prize** for his work. Since then, Canada has taken part in many UN peacekeeping missions around the world. Canada has also participated UN-sanctioned armed conflicts in countries like the former Yugoslavia and Afghanistan.

Canada and Quebec:

After World War II, French-Canadian society and culture flourished in Quebec. Quebec experienced a period of great change and progress during the 1960s. Before the 1960s, Quebec had been a province that was controlled by a powerful Premier and the Roman Catholic Church. The Quebec Premier and the Church wanted the people to keep their traditional values and their unique culture. They did not encourage education or interaction with the rest of Canada. In the 1960s, Quebec modernized and became a confident and prosperous province. Quebec began to challenge the rest of Canada. This movement is called the **Quiet Revolution**. Some Quebecers wanted to separate from Canada. They wanted to create an independent, French-speaking country where Quebecers could

be “Masters in our own house!” They did not feel that English-speaking Canadians respected their culture or their important place in the founding of Canada. The federal government wanted to make French Quebecers (the **Quebecois**) feel more at home in Canada. In 1963, the federal government created the **Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism**. This led to the **Official Languages Act** of 1969 which guarantees services in French and English in all federal government offices across Canada. In 1970, Canada helped found **La Francophonie**, an international association of French-speaking countries. Quebec and New Brunswick are members of La Francophonie. In 2006, the Government of Canada declared that “the Quebecois form a nation within a United Canada”. (Aboriginal Canadians also feel that they should be given recognition as “nations.” So far, this has not happened.)

The movement for Quebec sovereignty grew during the 1970s. There was a referendum (vote) by the people of Quebec in 1980 to decide whether Quebec would remain part of Canada or become a sovereign nation. The people of Quebec said “No.” There was another referendum in 1995, and, once again, the people said “No” to independence. Both votes were very close, so Quebec’s place in Canada is still a passionate topic of discussion for all Canadians.

Another important event happened in the 1980s. In 1982, the Constitution of Canada was **patriated**. (“Patriated” means that our Constitution is in Canada, and we have full control over our own Constitution.) Since 1867, Canada had been governed by the **British North America Act (BNA)**, an act of the British Parliament. The original Act did not give Canada total control of its own affairs. Some things still had to be approved by the British Parliament. One example was the right to declare war independently (World War I). Many changes were made over the years as the country became more independent, but Canada still did not have the right to make changes to its own Constitution. Finally, in 1982, the government decided it was time to bring the Constitution home and to become fully independent as a nation. The **Constitution Act of 1982** also saw the addition of the

Charter of Rights and Freedoms which protects the fundamental rights of all Canadians.

However, there were problems with the negotiations for the new Constitution and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. At the time, Quebec had a separatist provincial government. Because the government of Quebec was interested in moving Quebec towards independence from Canada, it did not want to sign on to a new Canadian Constitution that would bind Quebec closer to Canada. No agreement was reached with Quebec, and Quebec still refuses to sign on.

A Changing Society:

Since the 1960s, Canadian society has become more flexible and open. In part, this is because Canadians have become better educated. In the 1960s, colleges and universities were built all over the country, and many Canadians took advantage of new educational opportunities. Today, most Canadians have postsecondary qualifications (university, college or trades). Also, more and more women entered the workforce in the 1960s and 70s. This also led to changes in society because the role of women changed. Old prejudices were breaking down. In the past, some groups, including women and Canadians of Asian and Aboriginal descent, were not allowed to vote in federal and provincial elections. Today, every Canadian citizen over the age of 18 is encouraged to vote.

Another factor that changed Canadian society was a change in the immigration policy. It is often said that Canada is a “country of immigrants.” Before the 1960s, however, most immigrants came from Europe. More recently, Canada has welcomed immigrants and refugees from all over the world, and Canada has embraced **multiculturalism**. Multiculturalism means we welcome immigrants of many cultures and value the cultural contributions of all citizens. At least one-third of Canadians can trace their origins to countries other than Great Britain and France. Today, this rich diversity of cultures is most evident in our cities.

Questions:

1. Why is trade important between countries?
2. What important discovery was made in 1947 that helped make Canada a wealthy country?
3. Who is our most important trading partner?
4. Name some social assistance programs that Canada introduced to help people.
5. What is NATO and why is it important?
6. In what United Nations operation did Canada participate between 1950-1953?
7. What is important about Prime Minister Lester Pearson?
8. What was the Quiet Revolution?
9. What did the Official Languages Act in 1969 guarantee?
10. Why was there a referendum in Quebec in 1980 and 1995? What were the results?
11. What does it mean that the Constitution was “patriated” in 1982. Did every province agree?
12. How has immigration to Canada changed since the 1960s? What is multiculturalism?

Part 2

Arts and Culture:

Many Canadian artists, writers, poets, historians, educators and musicians have achieved greatness at home and around the world. Lists of important artists, writers, poets, musicians and filmmakers can be found in the ***Discover Canada*** study guide (page 25).

Sports are also important in Canada. Every province and territory has produced star athletes and Olympic medal winners. Canadians play on many professional teams in Canada, the United States and in other countries. In ice hockey, Canada's official winter sport, Canadian players and teams are some of the best in the world. **Wayne Gretzky** has been called one of the greatest hockey players of all time. Professional hockey teams from Canada and the United States compete for the **Stanley Cup**. In football, another popular sport, Canadian teams compete for the **Grey Cup**. Lacrosse, an ancient Aboriginal game, is Canada's official summer sport. Here is an interesting sports fact: a Canadian, **James Naismith**, invented the game of basketball which is very popular in the United States.

Other important Canadian sports figures are listed in ***Discover Canada*** (page 26).

Other Important Canadians:

In 1980, **Terry Fox** began a cross-Canada run called the **Marathon of Hope** to raise money for cancer research. He had lost a leg to cancer when he was 18. He was not able to finish his run because the cancer returned, and he died. Every year, Canadians across the country organize marathons to remember Terry Fox and raise money for cancer research.

In 1985, **Rick Hanson** circled the world in his wheelchair to raise money for spinal cord research. His world tour was called the **Man in Motion**.

Canadians have also made big contributions to science and technology, including medical research and telecommunications. In medicine, **Sir Frederick Banting** and **Charles Best** discovered **insulin**. This hormone is used to treat diabetes, and it has saved millions of lives around the world. **Dr. Wilder Penfield** was a pioneer brain surgeon. At the time, Dr. Penfield was known as the “greatest living Canadian.” **Dr. John Hopps** invented the cardiac pacemaker.

Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone, and **Mike Lazaridis** and **Jim Balsillie** of **Research in Motion** invented the Blackberry phone. **Joseph-Armand Bombardier** invented the snowmobile and today, his company is important in transportation and aerospace production and research.

Canadian astronauts participate in space exploration often using the Canadian designed and built, **Canadarm**. SPAR Aerospace and the National Research Council invented the Canadarm which is a robotic arm used in space. Rebecca Bondar, Chris Hadfield and our new Governor General, Julie Payette, are all Canadian astronauts.

Questions:

1. What was the “Marathon of Hope” and why is Terry Fox still important today?
2. What is important about hockey in Canada? Who is considered to be one of the greatest hockey players of all time?
3. Who discovered insulin and why was this discovery important?
4. Who are some famous astronauts?
5. Name some other important Canadians and explain why they were important.

5 The Government of Canada

Canada's government is a combination of three different types of government. It is a **federal state**, a **parliamentary democracy** and a **constitutional monarchy**. Our form of government was established at the time of Confederation in the **British North America Act of 1867 (BNA Act)**. Before Confederation, Canada was a group of different colonies, each with a different government. The BNA Act united the colonies into a new country with a constitution and a set of written laws. In 1982, the constitution was **patriated** to Canada and the **Charter of Rights and Freedoms** was added.



Important Words:

federal state

parliamentary democracy

constitutional monarchy

BNA Act

federal government

provincial government

territorial government

municipal government

Ottawa

**Royal Canadian Mounted
Police (RCMP)**

Federal State:

Canada is a federal state. A federal state is a state or country that has a central government. The country is also divided into smaller provinces, states or regions. Usually, the federal government makes decisions that affect the whole country. Provincial, state or regional governments make local decisions. Canada is a big country (the second largest in the world). Different parts of the country have very different needs. For this reason, Canada is divided into provinces and territories to make it easier to govern.

In Canada, there are three levels of government: **federal, provincial or territorial**, and **municipal** (town or city). The capital of the whole country is Ottawa. The Parliament buildings for the federal government are located in Ottawa. Our **federal government** takes care of things that are important for the whole country, nationally and internationally. These are things that need to be the same for all provinces and territories. Some of federal responsibilities include: defense, foreign policy, currency, trade and communications, criminal law and citizenship.

Needs may be different from province to province, depending on resources. For example, Alberta doesn't have the same needs as Nova Scotia, and Quebec doesn't have the same needs as British Columbia. The **provincial and territorial governments** take care of what is important for the people of just their region. They make policies that work in their region but may not work in another. Some provincial responsibilities include: natural resources, education, health care, property and civil rights, highways, and rules for municipal governments. Each province and territory has its own elected Legislative Assembly located in its own capital city.

Some things are **shared** between the federal and provincial governments. Agriculture, environment, and immigration and citizenship are shared responsibilities. Policing is also shared in many provinces and territories. Ontario and Quebec have their own provincial police forces. The rest of Canada uses the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

Municipal governments look after what is important in towns, cities and municipal regions. They are responsible for local planning, streets and roads, sanitation (garbage removal), recreation, public transit, and emergency services like firefighting and ambulances. Larger cities have their own police forces. Smaller towns rely on the RCMP. Municipal government consists of a mayor or reeve and aldermen or councilors who pass by-laws for their community.

First Nations communities also have local governments with responsibilities that are similar to the responsibilities of municipal governments. They also take care of housing and schools on the reserves. They have band chiefs and councilors. There are regional and national Aboriginal organizations that represent First Nations, Métis and Inuit people when they need to work with the federal or provincial governments.

Elections for all levels of government are by secret ballot, but the rules can be different from place to place. It is important to know the rules before you vote.

Parliamentary Democracy:

In a democracy, people vote for representatives who will govern the country for them.

Canada is a **Parliamentary Democracy**. Citizens elect representatives to go to **Parliament**. These representatives are called **Members of Parliament** (or **MPs**). They are responsible for passing laws, watching government expenses, and keeping the government accountable for its decisions. MPs need to be able to explain to the people who elected them (their constituents) why they made certain decisions.

The Members of Parliament usually belong to a **political party**, a group of people who feel the same way about how the country should be governed. After an election, the party that has the most representatives is **in power**. The **Prime Minister (PM)** is the leader of the party in power. He (or she) appoints people to help him (or her) look after departments or “portfolios” like Finance, Agriculture and Foreign Affairs. These people form the **Cabinet**.

The Cabinet helps the Prime Minister because the PM can't know everything about every department. **Cabinet Ministers** report the issues or problems in their portfolios and make suggestions about how to deal with them.

Parliament has three parts:

1. The **Sovereign**: This is the Queen (or King). The Sovereign is the **Head of State**. Because the Head of State doesn't live in Canada, she (or he) is represented by the Governor-General of Canada and the Lieutenant-Governors of the provinces. The Sovereign's position is hereditary.
2. The **Senate**: This is a group of people who have been selected and appointed by the Prime Minister. **Senators** are then approved by the Governor-General. (Senators can stay in the Senate until they are 75, even after the Prime Minister and Governor-General change.) The Senate looks at bills (proposals for new laws) that the House of Commons wants to pass. The Senate may make suggestions about how to improve the bills. Senators do not make

Important Words and People:

Parliament

Prime Minister

Cabinet

Sovereign

Head of State

Senate

Senator

bill

House of Commons

Premier

Commissioner

Monarch

Head of Government

Legislature

consensus

bills, but they must pass a bill for it to become a law. They also look at other issues they think are important.

3. The **House of Commons**: These are the Members of Parliament (MPs). They are the representatives elected by the people. The Prime Minister is the **Head of Government** and is the leader of the party in power. Members of Parliament decide on bills they want to make into laws. Often, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet write the bills, and the rest of the Parliament reviews and passes them (or not). However, any Member of Parliament can suggest bills. A bill must be passed by the House of Commons and the Senate and then receive **royal assent** to become a law. Royal assent is just a formality because the Sovereign (Head of State) always gives royal assent to laws made by the government.

Turning a bill into a law is a long process. Once a bill is proposed, there is a **first** reading. The bill is read in the House of Commons, and it is printed so everyone can study it. At the **second** reading, all the MPs debate the bill. Then, the bill goes to the **committee stage** where members of the committee study it very carefully and can suggest changes. They **report** what they have learned to the House of Commons where other changes can be made. The final bill is given a **third** reading and voted on.

The governments in the provinces and territories work the same way as the federal government, just with different names. Also, there is no Senate. The elected representatives go to their Provincial or Territorial Legislatures. Their job is to make new laws. They are also members of political parties. The political party with the most representatives is in power. The representatives in different provinces have different names. In **Alberta**, they are called **Members of the Legislative Assembly** or **MLAs**. In other provinces, they can be called members of the National Assembly (MNAs), members of the Provincial Parliament (MPPs) or members of the House of Assembly (MHAs). The leader of the party in power is the **Premier**.

The Yukon Territory has a Legislative Assembly and a party system like the provinces. The Northwest Territories and Nunavut do not. They govern by **consensus** which means that everyone must agree to a bill before it can become a law. In all three Territories, the head of the government is the **Commissioner**.

Constitutional Monarchy:

A constitutional monarchy is a system where there is a title and position (like Queen or King) that is inherited, but the Monarch has to rule according to the country's constitution. The constitution will tell the Monarch what her/his duties and responsibilities are. Canada is a constitutional monarchy. Our **Head of State** (or Sovereign) is Queen Elizabeth II. She cannot change our laws or freedoms, but she can help make sure laws are respected and maintained. The Queen is important because she doesn't belong to any political party. She represents all Canadians.

The Sovereign is also the **Head of the Commonwealth**. The Commonwealth is a group of 54 nations that were once British colonies. They cooperate economically, socially and culturally. These countries can be different in many ways, but the Queen keeps them all together.

Important fact:

The **Head of State** is the **Sovereign** who rules according to the constitution. The Head of State does not change unless the sovereign dies or abdicates (gives up the throne). **The Head of Government** is the **Prime Minister** who does the actual governing of the country. The Prime Minister changes when the party in power loses an election or when the party decides they want a new leader.

Canada's System of Government:

Canada's system of government has 3 branches. They all try to work together.

1. The **executive branch** is where the final decisions are made. It includes the Governor-General, the Prime Minister, and the Cabinet (the members of parliament that help the Prime Minister).
2. The **legislative branch** creates the laws. It includes the Governor-General, the House of Commons (the representatives elected by Canadians), and the Senate (the appointed people who must approve the bills to turn them into laws.)
3. The **judicial branch** makes sure that justice is done, that laws are obeyed, and that people are protected. It includes the judges, the courts, and the police. There are provincial courts, federal courts and the Supreme Court of Canada.

There is a good picture of Canada's system of government in ***Discover Canada*** (page 29).

Important Words:

executive

legislative

judicial

Questions:

1. Canada's government is three different things? What are they?
2. What is a **federal state**?
3. What are the three levels of government? What are the responsibilities of each level?
4. What is Canada's system of government called? What does this mean?
5. What are the three parts of Parliament?

6. What is the difference between the House of Commons and the Senate?
7. What is a bill? What are the steps that must be followed for a bill to become a law?
8. What is a **constitutional monarchy**?
9. What is the difference between the **head of state** and the **head of government**?
10. Who is Canada's Head of State? Who is Canada's Head of Government?
11. What is the Queen's representative in Canada called? What is her representative in the provinces called?
12. What is a Prime Minister? What is a Premier? What is a Commissioner?
13. What are the three branches of government? What does each branch do?
14. How are First Nations reserves governed?

6 Elections in Canada

Canadians vote for people to represent them in the Parliament and in the Legislatures (and in municipal governments.) By law, the federal government must hold an election every four years. It can be sooner than that, but it cannot be any longer. Federal elections are held on the third Monday in October, four years after the last election.

Canada is divided into electoral districts. Electoral districts are geographical areas that are represented by one Member of Parliament. They are also called **ridings** or **constituencies**. The elected representatives represent all the people in their constituency, not just the people who voted for them. They are also supposed to do what is best for all Canadians. There are 338 federal ridings



Important Words:

constituency

polling station

secret ballot

majority government

minority government

opposition parties

Official Opposition

in Canada, so there are 338 elected MPs. This number changes when the population of Canada grows, and new electoral districts are added.

Candidates are the people who are “running” to be elected. A candidate must be a Canadian citizen, and he or she must be 18 years or older. Usually, there is more than one candidate running in each electoral district. People in each district vote for the candidate they like or for the political party they like. Voters should pay attention to what the person and his/ her party think is important (the issues) before they make their decision. The person with the most votes becomes the Member of Parliament for his/her electoral district.

Members of the legislative assemblies in the provinces are also elected this way. Provincial electoral districts and the candidates are different, but the process is the same.

Voting:

The right to vote is a privilege for Canadian citizens. In order to vote, you must be a Canadian citizen, be 18 or older, and be on the voters’ list. The names on the voters’ list come from the **National Register of Electors** produced by **Elections Canada**. If you were born in Canada, your name should automatically be on the voters’ list. When you become a citizen, your name should be added, unless you don’t want it to be.

A federal election is called, and an election date is set. Elections Canada then mails out cards to everyone on the voters’ list. It tells you when and where you can vote. If you don’t get a voter information card, you can call Elections Canada to make sure you are on the list. If you are not on the list, your name can be added at the **polling station**, as long as you have proof of citizenship. The place where you vote is called the **polling station**. There are also **advance polls** where you can vote before Election Day. The voter information card will tell you where and when to vote. It also gives you a phone number to call if you need help.

On Election Day, you go to the polling station. You must bring the voter information card and proof of your identity and address. An election official will give you a ballot (where you mark your choice) and explain how to fold it. You go behind a screen or someplace private to mark your ballot. You mark an “X” next to the person you choose. Then, you fold the ballot and give it back to an election official. The official will tear off the piece that has the ballot number on it and give you back the ballot. You put your ballot into the box yourself. After the polls close, the election officials count all the ballots, and the results are made public.

No one can tell you how to vote. It is your own decision. Someone may give you advice, but it is always your choice. Voting is by **secret ballot**. No one can watch you vote, and no one can see how you voted. Your ballot does not have your name on it. After you have voted, you do not have to tell anyone who you voted for, unless you want to.

After an Election:

The Governor-General asks the leader of the party that got the most votes to form the government. The leader of that party is now the Prime Minister and his (or her) party is in power. They will run the government as long as they have the support of most of the MPs (the **Confidence of the House**) or until their four-year term is up. Most of the time, Members of Parliament vote the way their party wants them to vote. However, there are votes about important things, like the budget, which are called **confidence** votes. If the majority of the MPs in Parliament vote against the bill, the government has lost the Confidence of the House, and it is defeated. The Prime Minister then asks the Governor-General to call an election. The Prime Minister could do it himself, but it is a tradition that the Governor-General forms the government and dissolves it.

There are more than two political parties in Canada. Right now, there are three major political parties: the Liberals, the Conservatives and the New Democratic Party or NDP. There are also smaller parties like the Green Party and the Bloc Quebecois.

A **majority government** is when the party in power has at least half of the seats (the MPs). That's why it's hard to defeat a majority government. A **minority government** is when the party in power holds less than half the seats. Members of two or more different parties may work together to form a majority. It is much easier to defeat the government (the party in power) when there is a minority government.

The parties that are not in power are called **opposition parties**. The opposition party with the most representatives is the **Official Opposition**. Their job is to oppose and try to improve government proposals in a peaceful way.

A fun fact:

In the House of Commons, there are seats on both sides of a centre aisle, facing each other. The aisle is wide enough that if two swords were held out, they couldn't touch. The Opposition Parties sit on the opposite side of the aisle from the party in power. Parties are not supposed to cross the aisle, so they don't get into physical fights.

How much do you know about your Government? There is an excellent exercise on page 34 of *Discover Canada*. You should take the time to do it because you may need to know some of this information for the Citizenship test.



Questions:

1. Who do people vote for in a federal election?
2. According to the Constitution, when do elections have to be held?

3. What is an electoral district? How many are there in Canada?
4. Who do Members of Parliament represent?
5. Who has the right to vote in a federal election?
6. Who can run as a candidate in a federal election?
7. What is a political party? What do they do?
8. What is a voter information card? What do you do if you don't get one?
9. What is a ballot? What is written on the ballot? What do you mark on the ballot when you vote?
10. What does "secret ballot" mean?
11. What are the steps you follow when you go to vote?
12. After an election, how is the government formed?
13. What does "party in power" mean?
14. How is the Prime Minister chosen?
15. What is a majority government? What is a minority government?
16. What are opposition parties and what is their role?
17. Which party becomes the Official Opposition?
18. How are Senators chosen?
19. What happens if the federal government loses a confidence vote?
20. What are the names of some of the political parties in Canada?

7 Our Justice System

The Canadian justice system is founded on the belief that everyone is innocent until they are proven to be guilty (**presumption of innocence**.) Everyone is guaranteed **due process under the law**. This means that anyone who is charged with a crime can go to court and have a judge and/or a jury decide whether or not they are guilty based on evidence. The government must respect the legal rights of every person. In front of a courthouse, there is often a statue of a blindfolded lady holding a set of scales. This is **Lady Justice**, and the blindfold shows that the law is blind to everything but the facts. Innocence or guilt is weighed by the facts, not by how important you are or how rich you are.



Important Words:

presumption of innocence

due process under the law

Lady Justice

courts

police

legal aid

Canada has a set of written laws that were made by elected representatives in the past. New laws are also being written. The law applies to everyone including judges, the Queen, politicians and the police, as well as to people who are not citizens. Our laws are meant to keep peace and order and to give people a peaceful way to settle arguments and other disputes. Our laws express Canadian values and beliefs.

The **courts** are there to settle disputes. There are federal courts and provincial courts. The **Supreme Court of Canada** is the highest court. The Supreme Court consists of 9 judges that are appointed by the Governor-General. Below the Supreme Court are federal courts and provincial courts. The federal courts deal with issues or matters that have to do with the federal government. Other issues or matters are dealt with by the provincial courts. There are trial courts (sometimes called the Court of Queen's Bench) for criminal and civil matters, family courts, traffic courts, and small claims courts. There are also appeal courts where people can go if they don't like what the first court decided.

The **police** are there to help people, to enforce the law, and to keep people safe. They also have to obey the law. Ontario and Quebec have provincial police forces, but in the rest of Canada, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) is the provincial police, and, sometimes, the municipal police. The RCMP also enforces federal laws. Larger municipalities (towns and cities) may have their own police forces. You can question the police about what they are doing if you think you need to. You have the right to make a complaint if you think the police have abused their power.

If you have a legal problem, you are allowed to have a lawyer. If you don't know a lawyer or can't afford to pay for one, **legal aid** services can help you for free or for a small cost.

Questions:

1. What does “presumption of innocence” mean?
2. What is “due process of law”?
3. What does the blindfolded Lady Justice symbolize?
4. What is the role of the courts? What is the role of the police?
5. What is the highest court in Canada called?
6. How many judges are on the Supreme Court and who appoints them?
7. What is a trial court sometimes called?
8. What is a jury?
9. What can you do if you can’t afford a lawyer?
10. Are you allowed to ask the police questions?

8 Important Symbols of Canada

Canada has many symbols that help explain what it means to be a Canadian. They express our national identity. These symbols include objects, special events and people. Here are some important Canadian symbols.

The Maple Leaf:

The **maple leaf** is the best-known symbol of Canada. Maple trees grow in eastern and central Canada where



the first European colonists settled and put down roots. The maple leaf was first used as a symbol by French-Canadians in the 1700s.



Important Words:

symbols
national identity
Coat of Arms
independence
uniforms
headstones
veterans
official
colony
historic relationship
constitution
Confederation
royalty
motto
anthem
sovereign
Armed Forces
minority/minorities

Maple leaves are a part of many other Canadian symbols, including the flag of Canada and our Coat of Arms. The Canadian Armed Forces use the maple leaf on military uniforms and badges. The symbol is also carved into the headstones of fallen soldiers buried overseas and veterans buried in Canada.



The Canadian Crown:

The crown has been an important symbol of Canada for over 400 years. This is because Canada is a constitutional monarchy with strong connections to Great Britain. The Canadian Crown is a symbol of government (Parliament, Legislatures), courts, police services and the Canadian Armed Forces.



Flags of Canada:

The flag of Canada is a red maple leaf on a white background. The outside borders are red. The flag was adopted as our official flag in 1965. Red and white have been the national colours of Canada since 1921. They were chosen because they symbolize our relationship with France and England. The **Union Jack**, the flag of Great Britain, is our official royal flag. The **Canadian Red Ensign** was the official flag of Canada from 1867 to 1965. All the provinces and territories, and some cities, have their own flags.





Fleur-De-Lys:

Fleur-de-lys means lily flower in English. It was the symbol of French royalty for more than 1,000 years, including in the colony of New France. The fleur-de-lys was included in the Canadian Red Ensign flag and is an important part of the flag of Quebec.



The Beaver:

The beaver is an important symbol of Canada because it represents people who work hard. First, it was a symbol of the **Hudson's Bay Company**, a British fur-trading company that explored much of Canada searching for beaver and other furs to sell in England. This symbol is found on the five-cent coin (the nickel), on the Coat of Arms of Saskatchewan and Alberta, and on the Coat of Arms of cities like Toronto and Montreal.

Coat of Arms and Motto:

After World War I (1914-1918), Canada adopted an official Coat of Arms and a national motto. Canadian soldiers had fought bravely in the war and helped Great Britain defeat Germany. Canada was becoming more confident and proud as a nation. A new Coat of Arms would help make Canada distinct from Great Britain.

The Canadian Coat of Arms contains symbols of Great Britain and France, two of our founding nations, but it also has maple leaves. The national motto is “a mari usque ad mare” which means “from sea to sea”. The Coat of Arms and the motto are on the cover of the Canadian passport.

Parliament Buildings:

The architecture of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa honours Canada's French, English and Aboriginal traditions. The first parliament buildings were completed in the 1860s. The **Centre Block** was destroyed by fire in 1916 and rebuilt in 1922. Today, the **Library** is the only part of the original building that remains. The **Peace Tower** was built in 1927 to remember the sacrifices of Canadian soldiers in World War I. The names of all soldiers, sailors and airmen who have died serving Canada in all wars and conflicts are written in the **Books of Remembrance**. The Books of Remembrance are kept in the **Memorial Chamber**, a room in the Peace Tower.

Canada's Honours:

All countries have ways to honour special citizens who have done work for their country. At first, Canada used British honours. In 1967, the 100th birthday of Confederation, Canadians created the **Order of Canada**, our own system of orders, decorations and medals. The **Order of Canada** is the highest Canadian honour that can be given to a Canadian who is not in the armed forces. The highest honour a Canadian can receive is the **Victoria Cross** which is a military award for bravery, self-sacrifice and devotion to duty in the presence of the enemy. Ninety-six Canadians have received this award since 1854. Some recipients are Alexander Roberts Dunn (1854), William Hall (1857), Filip Konowal (1917), Billy Bishop (WW I), Paul Triquet and Robert Hampton Gray (WW II).

Popular Sports:

Ice hockey is Canada's most popular sport and is considered our national winter sport. Hockey was invented in Canada in the 1800s. Today, professional hockey teams from Canada and the United States play for the championship **Stanley Cup** in the National Hockey League (NHL). The **Stanley Cup** was donated by Lord Stanley, the Governor



General of Canada in 1892. The **Clarkson Cup**, donated by Governor General Adrienne Clarkson in 2005, is awarded for women's hockey. Almost every community in Canada has an indoor or outdoor ice rink where children and adults play hockey and skate for fun. Children also play street hockey on quiet streets in winter.



Canadian football is the second most popular sport.

Professional Canadian football teams compete for the

Grey Cup which is held in a different Canadian city every

November. **Curling** is also a popular winter sport. Curling

is an ice game that was introduced to Canada by Scottish

immigrants. **Lacrosse** is an ancient sport invented by

First Nations Peoples. It is the official summer sport of Canada. Soccer is also growing in popularity across Canada.

Canada's Official Languages:

English and **French** are the two official languages of Canada. They are important symbols of identity. English speakers (Anglophones) and French speakers (Francophones) have lived together in partnership for more than 300 years. The relationship between English and French speakers is sometimes difficult, but, so far, we have been able to work out our problems so we can stay together as one nation.

In 1969, Parliament passed the **Official Languages Act** to recognize the importance of the French language in Canada. The law has three main goals:

- To make the French language and the English languages **equal** in Parliament, **equal** in the Government of Canada and **equal** in institutions governed by this

law. This means that you can use either language to communicate with the federal government and in federal courts.

- To protect and encourage official language minority communities in Canada. This means that French speaking communities outside of Quebec can get federal government help to keep the French language alive in those communities.
- To promote the **equality** of French and English in Canadian society

Anthems:

Our **National Anthem** is “**O Canada**”. It was originally a French-Canadian anthem written in 1880, and it became the official national anthem of Canada in 1980. The French and English words are slightly different. The **Royal Anthem** is “**God Save the Queen (King)**”. This is the national anthem of Great Britain. It is played or sung in Canada when Canadians want to honour the Sovereign (the Queen). The words to “O Canada” and “God Save the Queen” are printed in **Discover Canada** on page 40. National public holidays and important dates can be found on page 41 of the guide.

Questions:

1. What symbol of Canada is the best-known around the world? Where might you see it?
2. Why is the Crown a symbol of Canada? How long has it been important?
3. What does the Canadian flag look like? When did Canada begin using the flag? What flag did they use before?
4. What flag is the official royal flag and when is it used?

5. Why is the fleur-de-lys an important symbol in Canada? Where will you find it used?
6. What animal is an official symbol of Canada? Why? Who first used it? Where will you see this symbol used?
7. What symbols are on the Coat of Arms? What do they represent? Where will you see the Coat of Arms used?
8. What does “**a mari usque ad mare**” mean? Why is it a good motto for Canada?
9. Where are the Parliament buildings located? What will you find in the Peace Tower?
10. What is the highest honour a Canadian can receive? When did Canada get its own system of honours?
11. What sport is Canada’s official winter sport? What sport is Canada’s official summer sport? What are other popular sports?
12. What are Canada’s two official languages? What is the **Official Languages Act**?
13. What is Canada’s national anthem? What are the first two lines?
14. When do Canadians sing “God Save the Queen”?
15. When is Canada Day? What are we celebrating?

9 The Economy of Canada

Canada is an **industrialized** nation. It has one of the ten largest economies in the world. We are members of the **G8** and **G20**. Canada is a trading nation. In order for our economy to be strong and grow, we need to trade with other countries. Our biggest trading partner is, and always has been, the United States. Over 75% of our exports go to the United States. In 1988, Canada made a free trade agreement with the United States, and Mexico became a partner in 1994. This partnership is called **NAFTA (the North America Free Trade Agreement)**. Canada has also made trade agreements with other countries. Every year, we export billions of dollars' worth of agricultural and natural resource products, forestry products, energy, and other products and consumer goods.



Important Words:

industrialized nation

G8 and G20

exports

NAFTA

service industries

manufacturing industries

natural resource industries

Canada's economies include all of the three main industry types:

- **Service industries:** these are jobs where people help other people in some way. They include jobs in areas like health care, construction, transportation, education, banking, retail services, tourism and government. More than 75% of Canadians work in the service industry.
- **Manufacturing industries:** these are jobs where workers make products to sell in Canada and around the world. Some products that Canadians manufacture are food, clothing, automobiles, machinery, pulp and paper, technology equipment and aerospace technology.
- **Natural resource industries** include agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining and energy. These industries were the first industries to be developed in Canada (and everywhere else). We still depend on our natural resources, and they are a large part of our exports.

Questions:

1. How large is Canada's economy?
2. Why is a large economy important?
3. What is NAFTA?
4. What country is Canada's largest trading partner?
5. What are the three main types of industry in Canada? Give some examples of jobs in each type of industry.
6. In what industry do most Canadians work?

10 The Geography of Canada

Canada is a very large country. It is the second-largest country in the world. It is so large that it has **6 different time zones**. It is surrounded on three sides by water: the **Atlantic Ocean** in the east, the **Pacific Ocean** in the west, and the **Arctic Ocean** in the north. Our southern border with the United States is 6,400 kilometres long (292 kilometres is through the water of the Great Lakes). Our western border with the United States, which separates the Yukon and the northern part of British Columbia from Alaska, is 2,500 kilometres long. At a total of 8,900 kilometres, Canada and the U. S. have **the longest undefended border in the world**.



Important Words:

Atlantic Ocean

Pacific Ocean

Arctic Ocean

Atlantic Provinces

Central Canada

Prairie Provinces

West Coast

Northern Territories

Canadian Shield

Great Lakes



There are about **34 million** people living in Canada. Most live in cities, and most of the cities are in the southern part of the country. Many of the largest cities are near the border with the United States.

The capital of Canada is **Ottawa**, Ontario. This is where the federal government has its Parliament Buildings and its offices. Ottawa is the 4th largest city in Canada. The area surrounding Ottawa is called the National Capital Region. Across the Ottawa River is Hull, Quebec which is part of the National Capital Region.

There are ten provinces and three territories. Each province and territory has its own capital city and its own provincial/territorial government. The provinces and territories, with their capital cities, are listed on page 45 of the *Discover Canada* guide. You should know them.

Canada has many geographical areas. **There are five distinct regions: the Atlantic Provinces, Central Canada, the Prairies Provinces, the West Coast and the Northern Territories.** The Atlantic Provinces have a different climate and geography than the West coast; the Prairie Provinces are different from Central Canada. Some parts of the country are rocky and may have poor soil. Some are covered in trees, and some are almost treeless. Some parts are so cold, it is difficult for even small bushes to grow. Other parts are covered in forests that are hundreds of years old. Some areas have good soil for growing crops, while other places are only suitable for grazing animals. How people make a living depends on the nature of the region in which they live.

There are two important features of Canada's geography that affect life in Canada. One is **water**, and the other is a geographical feature called the **Canadian Shield**.

We know that Canada is surrounded on three sides by salt water oceans, but Canada also has a lot of freshwater. There are many large lakes and river systems. Four of the five Great Lakes (**Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Ontario** and **Lake Erie**) are shared by Canada and the United States. The other Great Lake, **Lake Michigan**, is in the United States. Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake in the world, and the other four Great Lakes are in the top 20 of the largest fresh-water lakes in the world. Four other lakes in Canada (Great Bear Lake, Great Slave Lake, Lake Winnipeg and Lake Athabasca) are also in the top 20.

There are many large and small rivers and many smaller lakes. One of the largest river systems is the Mackenzie River system. It is about 1,700 km long, and it empties into the Arctic Ocean. Other rivers empty into the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean and Hudson's Bay.

It is actually possible to travel by water from the Atlantic Ocean all the way to the Rocky Mountains. You can understand why lakes and rivers were very important to Aboriginal peoples and to the fur traders in Canada's early history.

The **Canadian Shield** is an important geographic area in Canada. **It stretches across most of northern Canada and covers over half of Canada.** Only British Columbia and the Atlantic provinces (not including Labrador) do not have areas of Canadian Shield. Thousands of years ago, this land was covered by glaciers. When the glaciers melted, they left a landscape of thin soil, lakes, bogs, rocks and forests. It is also an area that is rich in minerals like nickel, gold, silver, zinc, iron and copper. Any province or territory that has some Canadian Shield will have some mining industries, but the largest areas of Canadian Shield are in Ontario and Quebec. Mining is one of the main reasons that these two provinces have more manufacturing industries than other provinces.

Questions:

1. What oceans are on Canada's borders?
2. How many people live in Canada?
3. What is the capital of Canada? What province is it in?
4. How many provinces and territories are there? Name them and their capital cities.
5. Name the Great Lakes.
6. What is the Canadian Shield?

Atlantic Region

Atlantic Canada consists of four provinces that are either bordered by the Atlantic Ocean or surrounded by it. Each province is a little different, but the main industries of fishing, farming, forestry and mining all involve natural resources. Winters are generally cool, but

not as cold as some other regions. Summers can be cooler and more humid (wet) than other parts of Canada. These provinces are important to Canada because they were some of the first areas to be settled.



Newfoundland and Labrador:

Newfoundland and Labrador is the most easterly province in Canada. Newfoundland is an island and Labrador is part of the mainland. It has a small population. Only about 500,000 people live in the province. However, Newfoundland and Labrador has a rich history linked to the sea. The British and French built fishing villages there more than 400 years ago and Newfoundland was the oldest colony in the British Empire.

Newfoundland is also known as “**The Rock**” because it is so rocky. Some say that the province is the “wettest, windiest, foggiest, cloudiest and snowiest” region in Canada. The soil is shallow, so growing food is difficult. Most people make a living in jobs related to fishing, but off-shore oil and gas extraction has become an important industry, along with hydro-electricity. **St. John’s** is the capital of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Labrador is separated from Newfoundland by the Strait of Belle Isle. Labrador is more rugged, barren and even colder than Newfoundland. In the north, it is treeless. In the south, there are spruce forests, bogs and more rocky land. Fishing villages dot the coast. Giant icebergs float down Iceberg Alley in the summer, and whale watching is a favourite tourist attraction.

Prince Edward Island:

Prince Edward Island (PEI) is the smallest province in Canada, both in population and in size. Just over 140,000 people live there. The climate is mild and the soil is extremely good. The main industry is agriculture, especially potatoes. Tourism is also important. The novel, “Anne of Green Gables,” written by Lucy Maude Montgomery, was set in Prince Edward Island. Many of the tourist attractions are centered around places and events from the “Anne” novels. The beaches are also attractive to tourists.

PEI is connected to the mainland of Canada by the Confederation Bridge which was completed in 1997. It is almost 13 kilometers long, and it is the longest bridge over ice-covered water in the world. It takes 12 minutes to drive over it by car.

Charlottetown is the capital of Prince Edward Island. Charlottetown is often called the “birthplace of Confederation” even though PEI didn’t join Canada until 1873, six years after Canada became a country.

Nova Scotia:

Nova Scotia is almost entirely surrounded by water. It consists of a peninsula jutting out from the mainland of North America plus Cape Breton Island at the northern tip of the peninsula. It has a mild climate in the winter, but it is cool in the summer. The Uplands are hilly and forested. Some of this land is still unsuitable for settlement. The Lowlands have some good soil, but only about 10% of the province has good farmland. The **Bay of Fundy**, located on the west side of Nova Scotia, is famous for having the world's highest tides.

Nova Scotia has been called the **Atlantic Gateway to Canada** because it has good ports that are important for trade with Europe. Ship-building and shipping are important industries in Nova Scotia. **Halifax**, the capital of Nova Scotia, is Canada's largest east coast seaport. This ice-free, deep-water port has the largest naval base in Canada. The port is important for both trade and defense. Other industries are coal-mining, forestry, agriculture and off-shore oil and gas.

Nova Scotia was first colonized by the French, but after the deportation of the Acadians, many new settlers came from Scotland. The name, "Nova Scotia," means New Scotland. The province celebrates its Scottish traditions with over 700 festivals a year.

New Brunswick:

Ninety percent of New Brunswick is still covered by forests. Twenty-five percent of goods produced in New Brunswick are related to the forestry industry. The rest of its industry is related to farming, fishing and mining, food processing, and tourism.

The Appalachian Mountains are in the west. The Central Highlands are rocky and covered in forests. The Southern Highlands have large sandstone rocks carved out by high ocean tides. The coast has rich farmland and a humid climate.

New Brunswick borders the United States in the south and the province of Quebec in the northwest. The province was founded by **United Empire Loyalists** who moved north during the American Revolution. The capital is **Fredericton**. Although Canada is a bilingual country, New Brunswick is the only bilingual province. One third of the people speak French as their first language. New Brunswick celebrates its Loyalist (English) and Acadian (French) cultures with traditional music and street festivals.

Questions:

1. Name the Atlantic provinces and their capital cities.
2. What industries do each of them have?
3. Which province is the only bilingual province?
4. Which ocean is closest to Newfoundland and Labrador?
5. Where is Canada's largest naval base located?
6. What province is the smallest in Canada?
7. What is another name for Newfoundland?
8. What is the Confederation Bridge?
9. Why is the Bay of Fundy famous?

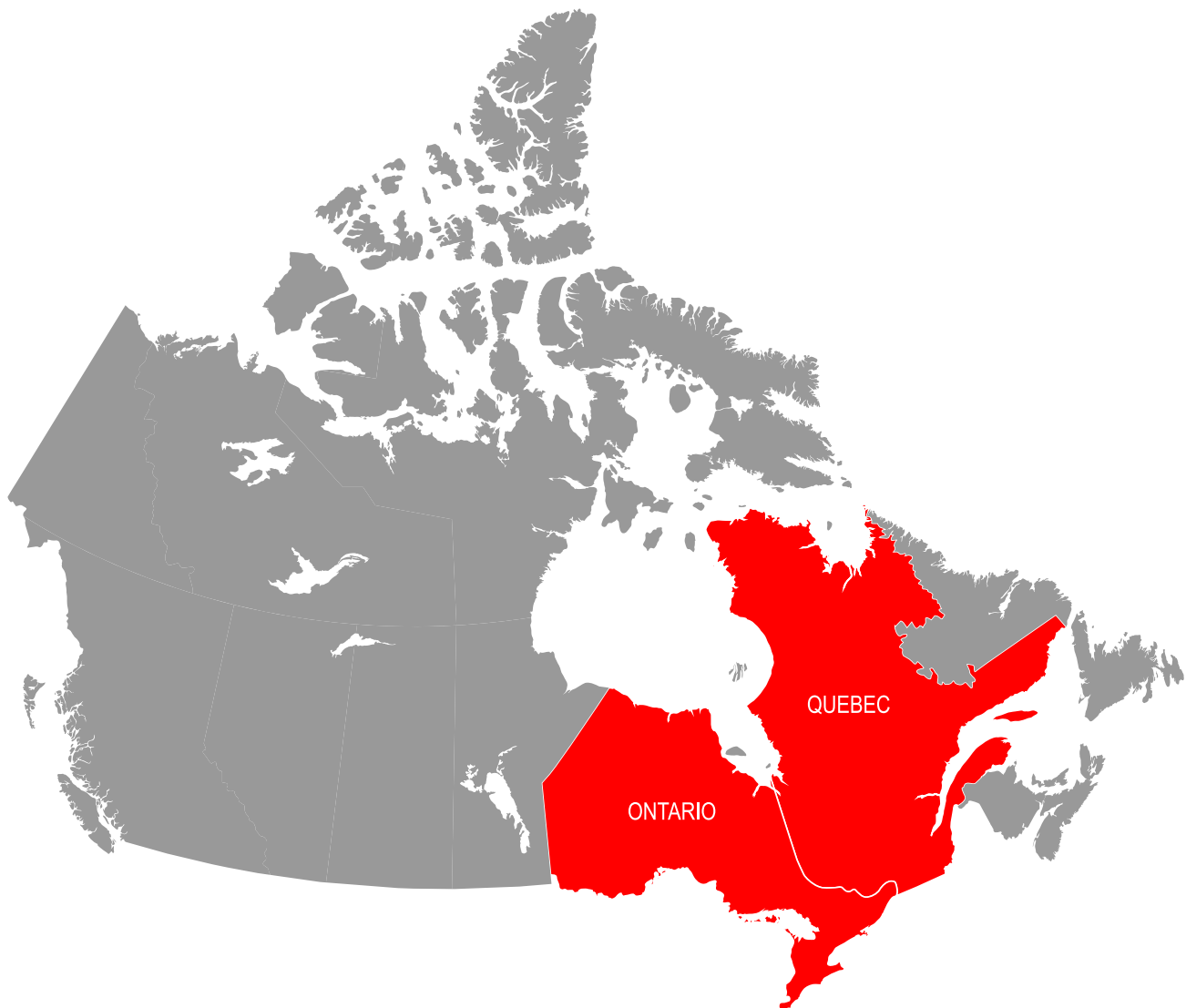
Central Canada

Central Canada has two provinces (Quebec and Ontario). It is not actually in the center of the country, but there are four provinces on the east side and four provinces on the west

side. More than half of the population of Canada lives in either Ontario or Quebec. Most live in the south, near the Great Lakes and near the St. Lawrence River.

The Canadian Shield is in the north. The main industries in the north are forestry and mining. The area is rich in minerals like nickel, gold, silver and copper.

In the south, the soil is much better for farming. The Great Lakes provide freshwater and are used to transport products. Ships from all over the world come down the St. Lawrence River to the Great Lakes and across Lake Superior to Thunder Bay. Most manufacturing and industrial centers are in the south. This area produces 75% of Canadian manufactured goods.



Quebec:

Quebec is the largest and second most populated province in Canada. About 8 million people live in Quebec. Most of them live near the St Lawrence River because 90% of Quebec is either in the Arctic, or it is Canadian Shield. Most of the people speak French as their first language.

The Gaspé Peninsula is south of the St. Lawrence. It stretches east towards the Atlantic Ocean, and it is bordered on the south by New Brunswick and the United States. The Appalachian Mountains also reach into this area. Industry and farming on the Gaspé are similar to New Brunswick.

Most of Quebec is north of the St. Lawrence River. There are low round mountains (the Laurentians) north of the river. The Laurentians get lots of snow in the winter, so the skiing is good. There are many ski resorts near Quebec City. Almost half (40%) of the agriculture in Quebec is in the St. Lawrence Lowlands. Quebec has a large dairy industry that includes cheese making. There are also many maple trees, and much of Canada's maple syrup comes from Quebec. Further north is Shield country. Important industries in northern Quebec include forestry, mining and hydro-electricity. Quebec is the biggest producer of pulp and paper in Canada. It is also the biggest producer of hydro-electricity as there are so many lakes and rivers. Quebec power plants make almost half of the hydro-electricity in Canada. Quebec also exports power to the United States.

Quebec City is the capital. It was one of the first places in Canada to be settled by the French. Many of the old buildings have been preserved, and they are tourist attractions. Montreal is the largest city in Quebec. It is one of the biggest manufacturing centers in Canada. It is also the second largest French-speaking city in the world. Only Paris is bigger. Pharmaceuticals and aeronautics are important industries in the province, and Quebec's music, film, literature and food are known around the world. Quebec is

an important member of the La Francophonie, an international association of French-speaking nations.

Ontario:

Ontario is the most populated province in Canada with 12 million people. It has the second-largest French-speaking population in Canada. Almost 1/3 of Canadians live in Ontario. Most live in the south, near the Great Lakes.

Northern Ontario is similar to Quebec. A large part of Northern Ontario is Canadian Shield with forests, rocks, swamps and wilderness. There are plenty of minerals for mining, and forestry and logging are also important. Rivers and lakes make it easy to transport northern resources to the south for manufacturing. Thunder Bay is an important city at the top of Lake Superior because it is a big grain depot. The grain comes from the Prairie Provinces by railroad. It is loaded on to large ships which take it through the Great Lakes and out through the St Lawrence River to markets around the world.

The southern part of Ontario was originally settled by the **United Empire Loyalists** after the American Revolution. Southern Ontario is warmer and more fertile than the North. The land is level and good for agriculture. Farmers in the province raise beef and dairy cattle, chickens and other animals. They grow fruit, vegetables and grain. The Niagara region is well-known for its vineyards and winemaking. Manufacturing is also important in Southern Ontario, especially automobiles and steel. Ontario makes 50% of Canada's manufactured goods because it has everything that industry needs: raw materials, cheap transportation and large cities for markets and workers.

Toronto is the capital of Ontario. Toronto is also the largest city in Canada, and it is the financial centre of Canada. Many immigrants have settled in Toronto, so it is culturally diverse. Ottawa, the capital of Canada, is also located in Ontario. Niagara Falls, a world famous tourist attraction, is in Ontario.

Questions:

1. Name the provinces in Central Canada and their capital cities.
2. Which province has the largest population?
3. What portion of Canada's population lives in Central Canada?
4. Which province is the largest?
5. One third of Canadians live in which province?
6. Where do most French-speaking Canadians live?
7. Which province is Canada's largest producer of hydroelectricity?
8. Which province is the biggest producer of minerals?
9. What is the major river in Quebec?
10. What is important about Montreal?
11. What is a major tourist attraction in Ontario?
12. Why is Thunder Bay an important city?

Prairie Provinces

There are three Prairie Provinces: Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Although there are some areas of Canadian Shield in all three provinces, most of the land is fairly flat and fertile which makes it ideal for agriculture. Each province has different weather patterns, moisture and landscapes, but they tend to be drier than the rest of the country. The Prairies are hot in the summer and cold in the winter.



Manitoba:

Manitoba is actually the geographical centre of Canada. Most of the province is covered by forests and the Canadian Shield. In the south, there is a region of prairie that has good soil for farming.

Because there are so many large and small lakes and rivers in the province, Manitoba has been called the Land of 100,000 Lakes. Lake Winnipeg is the largest, but Lake Manitoba, Lake Winnipegosis and Cedar Lake are also big. Much of the space in the centre of Manitoba is filled by these lakes.

Agriculture is the most important industry, but there is also mining, hydro-electricity and some manufacturing. Manitoba is very windy, and wind is becoming a good source of energy.

Manitoba is a large province, but it has a small population, less than 1.5 million people. 60% of the population lives in **Winnipeg**, the capital city. “Portage and Main,” in downtown Winnipeg, is one of Canada’s most famous street corners. People joke that it is the coldest and windiest street corner in Canada. St. Boniface, a part of Winnipeg, is the largest Francophone community west of Ontario. Manitoba has the largest Aboriginal population in Canada. 15% of the Aboriginal people of Canada live in Manitoba. 14% of Manitobans are descended from families that came from the Ukraine.

Saskatchewan:

Saskatchewan, “**Canada’s Bread Basket**,” was once called “the bread basket of the world.” It has 40% of the best farmland in Canada. Most of Saskatchewan is very flat, and the most important industry is agriculture. Saskatchewan is the largest producer of grains and oilseeds in the country.

In the north, there is an area of Canadian Shield where there is mining and forestry. Saskatchewan is also a large producer of potash, uranium, oil and natural gas. Like Manitoba and Alberta, winters can be very cold, and summers can be very hot.

The capital of Saskatchewan is **Regina**. The training academy for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) is located in Regina. Saskatoon, another city in Saskatchewan, is larger than Regina, and it is the headquarters for the mining industry. The University of Saskatchewan, located in Saskatoon, is an important education, research and technology centre.

Alberta:

Alberta has the largest population of all the Prairie Provinces. Almost 4 million people live in Alberta. The land is different from the other two provinces. There is a small area of Canadian Shield in the north-east corner, but most of the rest of the province is a flat plain with small rolling hills. In the north, the plain is covered in forests. The farther west you go, the hillier it becomes. The **Rocky Mountains** are in the west.

Because moist air from the Pacific Ocean has a hard time getting over the Rocky Mountains, the winds that come from the west are dry. They create almost desert-like conditions. The southern half of the province is especially dry, so drought is a problem. In the winter, the same winds can bring Chinooks. These are warm winds that can raise the temperature 25 degrees or more.

Alberta has always been an agriculture province. Because it is drier and hillier than Saskatchewan, more people raise beef cattle. In the northern forests, there is some logging. Alberta is also an energy province and has been since the discovery of oil in Leduc in 1947. Oil and gas can be found in all parts of the province, but the biggest oil sands fields are located in the north, near Fort McMurray and in the Peace River region.

Tourism is another major industry in Alberta. There are five national parks: Banff, Jasper, Waterton, Elk Island and Wood Buffalo. The Badlands, near Drumheller and Brooks are famous for dinosaur and other prehistoric fossils. The **Royal Tyrell Museum** is located just outside of Drumheller. It is a world famous tourist attraction.

The capital of Alberta is **Edmonton**. **Calgary** is the headquarters for most of the energy companies.

Questions:

1. Name the Prairies Provinces and their capital cities.
2. Where are the Canadian Rockies?
3. Which province is Canada's major producer of oil and gas?
4. Which province is one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world and a leading wheat producer?
5. What is the capital city of Alberta?
6. Which province is known as the "Land of 100,000 Lakes"?
7. In which province is Banff National Park located?
8. What is the largest lake in Manitoba?
9. What is a Chinook?

The West Coast

British Columbia:

The West Coast Region has only one province, British Columbia. British Columbia (B.C.) is different from all the other provinces because of its location and geography. The mountains are higher, and the Pacific Ocean is warmer than the Atlantic waters off the east coast of Canada. Much of the province is covered by huge mountain ranges. The most famous are the **Rocky Mountains**, which are also in Alberta. The Coast Mountains extend along the entire Pacific coast. The Pacific Maritime region is the part of B.C that is right on the coast. Because of the warm air from the ocean, the coast is warmer and wetter than



the rest of Canada, and there is little snow. There are tall cedar trees and old forests. There is even a northern rain forest.

The Interior Plain is in between the mountains ranges. The Interior Plain is a flatter area, so it is good for farming and ranching. In the southern Okanagan Valley, they grow fruit and vegetables and make wine. Farther north, there is good grassland for cattle.

Two-thirds of the province is covered in forests. Forestry is the most important industry in British Columbia. B.C. provides 60% of Canada's lumber. It also exports lumber to the United States and to countries in Asia. Lumber, newsprint, and pulp and paper are very important. You may remember that Quebec produces most of the pulp and paper in

Canada, but B.C. has the largest forestry industry. Mining, fishing, and agriculture (fruit and wine) are also important industries. Of course, tourism is very important to British Columbia as the scenery is spectacular. There are 600 provincial parks. The mountains are great for skiing and hiking, and sport fishing is popular all over B.C., especially on the coast. Whale watching is another popular tourist attraction.

About four million people live in British Columbia. **Victoria**, located on Vancouver Island, is the capital. It is a popular tourist destination, and it is also the headquarters of the Pacific Fleet of Canada's Navy. Vancouver, located on the mainland, is an excellent, deep-water seaport. It is called **Canada's Pacific Gateway** because it is the gateway to Asia and the Pacific. Vancouver is the largest city in the province. It has a large Asian community. After English, Chinese and Punjabi are the most-spoken languages in Vancouver.

Questions:

1. Which mountain range is on the border between Alberta and British Columbia?
2. What province(s) or territories are in the West Coast region?
3. Why is British Columbia known as Canada's Pacific Gateway?
4. What is the capital of B.C.?
5. What is the most important industry in B.C.?

The North

The Northern Territories cover more than 1/3 of Canada's land area, but the population is very small. Only about 100, 000 people live in the Northern Territories which is about the

same as the population of Red Deer, Alberta. In the far north, there are no large trees, just shrubs, grass, lichens, and moss. This type of land is called **tundra**. The soil is always frozen. This is called **permafrost**, and it is very difficult to grow anything. South of the tundra, is an area called the Taiga that has spruce and pine trees. The winters are long and cold, and the summers are short and dry. The North is called the “**Land of the Midnight Sun.**” In the middle of summer, there can be 24 hours of daylight. In mid-winter, however, it is still dark in the middle of the day. Although some of the Aboriginal people in the north still hunt, fish and trap like their ancestors did, most people work in the mining industry (gold, lead, copper, diamonds and zinc) or in the oil and gas industry. Some Inuit artists create and sell their work to art collectors in Canada and around the world.



Yukon:

The Yukon borders on British Columbia and Alaska (USA). It is very mountainous. The highest mountain in Canada, Mount Logan, is in the Yukon. It was named after Sir William Logan, a great Canadian scientist. Like the other territories, there is permafrost in the north and trees in the south. The coldest temperature ever recorded in Canada was recorded in the Yukon (-63 degrees C).

In the 1890s, during the **Yukon Gold Rush**, people came from all over the world to look for gold. Not many people found it, but a few people became very rich. Most of the people returned home, but some stayed. Mining is still a very important industry in the Yukon.

Whitehorse is the capital of the Yukon. In 1900, the White Pass and Yukon Railways were built to link Skagway, Alaska with Whitehorse. Today, this is a spectacular train trip for tourists.

Northwest Territories:

The Northwest Territories are in the middle of the three territories. If you travel north from Saskatchewan, Alberta and western British Columbia, you will be in the Northwest Territories. The Mackenzie River system, the second largest river system in North America, empties into the Arctic Ocean. Great Bear Lake is the largest lake that is entirely in Canada, and Great Slave Lake is the deepest lake in North America. Almost half the territory has no trees.

More than half of the population of the Northwest Territories is Aboriginal (Dene, Métis and Inuit). Half of the population of the Northwest Territories lives in **Yellowknife**, the capital. Yellowknife is called “the diamond capital of the world” because mining diamonds, as well as gold, is an important industry. Other people work at government jobs or make Aboriginal arts and crafts.

The government of the Northwest Territories is different from governments of the Yukon and the provinces. The Legislative Assembly operates by **consensus**. Everyone has to agree in order for laws to be passed.

Nunavut:

Nunavut is the newest of the territories. Until 1999, it was part of the Northwest Territories. Nunavut means “our land” in Inuktitut. Inuktitut is one of the official languages of Nunavut. There are few trees, and the ocean is frozen most of the year. Most people make a living by traditional means such as hunting and fishing and selling Inuit carvings and art. The capital is **Iqaluit** which is located on the southeast coast of Baffin Island in the Arctic Ocean.

The Canadian Rangers, a division of the Canadian Forces Reserves, police the north from Resolute to the magnetic North Pole. Their presence shows that Canada has sovereignty over the far north.

Questions:

1. What region covers more than 1/3 of Canada?
2. Name the Northern territories and their capital cities?
3. What region is called the “Land of the Midnight Sun”?
4. What is the name of Canada’s highest mountain? Where is it?
5. What is the “diamond capital of the world”?
6. What language is an official language of Nunavut?

11 Useful Websites for Practice Tests

1. www.canadiancitizenshiptestkit.com/canadian-citizenship-test
2. www.v-soul.com/onlinetest
3. www.toptipsclub.com/Citizenship_Test.asp
4. www.citizenshiptests.ca
5. www.citizenshipcounts.ca/quiz
6. www.apnatoronto.com/canadian-citizenship-test-practice
(this has some questions specific to Ontario)
7. www.yourlibrary.ca/citizenship
(this has some questions specific to British Columbia)

