Study guide for Quiz2 on Chapter 1: North America

Box 1-1 Major Geographic Features of North America

- North America encompasses two of the world’s biggest states territorially (Canada is the second-largest in size; the United States is third).
- Both Canada and the United States are federal states. Canada’s is divided into ten provinces and three territories. The United States consists of 50 States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and a number of island territories under U.S. jurisdiction in the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean.
- Both Canada and the United States are plural societies. Canada’s pluralism is most strongly expressed in regional bilingualism. In the United States, divisions occur largely along ethnic, racial, and income lines.
- North America’s population, not large by international standards, is one of the world’s most highly urbanized and mobile, its enduring growth largely propelled by continuing waves of immigration.
- By world standards, this is a rich realm where high incomes and high rates of consumption prevail. North America possesses a highly diversified resource base, but nonrenewable fuel and mineral deposits are consumed prodigiously.
- North America has long been home to one of the world’s great manufacturing complexes that generated an intricately connected, mature urban system. Over the past few decades, North America has come to rely increasingly on a highly advanced information economy and high-technology industries.
- The two countries heavily depend on each other for supplies of critical raw materials (e.g., Canada is a leading source of U.S. energy imports) and have long been each other’s primary trading partners.
- The U.S.-Mexico border separates the North American realm from Middle America; it is a sharp boundary in some respects but in other ways a broadening transition zone.
- Continued immigration and high transnational mobility make for an exceptionally diverse multicultural realm—but increasingly, immigration is politically contested.

1. What is the name often given to the French-speaking Canadians living in New Brunswick?
Section Reference: Regions: Regions of North America

2. Which region of North America contains the most important agricultural area?
Section Reference: Regions: Regions of North America

3. What is the largest minority group in the United States?
Section Reference: Regionalism and Ethnicity in the United States

4. Which U.S. State contains the largest number of Asian Americans?
Section Reference: Regionalism and Ethnicity in the United States

5. Which North American Region has the largest cluster of Hispanic Americans?
Section Reference: Regionalism and Ethnicity in the United States

6. Which Canadian province has sometimes challenged the federal system and even the national unity of Canada?
Section Reference: Regionalism in Canada: Divisive Forces

7. In which part of Canada most Canadians live?
Section Reference: Regionalism in Canada: Divisive Forces

8. Which US Atlantic port city is most likely to be impacted by the enlarging of the Panama Canal?

Section Reference: Urbanization and The Spatial Economy

9. What are the four ‘corner’ cities of the American Manufacturing Belt?

Section Reference: Regions: Regions of North America

10. Which US state is a major natural-gas producer?

Section Reference: The Federal Map of North America; The Distribution of Natural Resources

11. Which two European powers fought over control of the territory that became Canada?

Section Reference: Native Americans and European Settlement; Cultural Foundations

12. In Canada, what is the name commonly given to the the indigenous/native peoples of Canada?

Section Reference: Regions: Regions of North America

13. Which North American physiographic region has the highest elevation?

Section Reference: North America’s Physical Geography

14. What is the the Great Lakes' main outlet to the sea?

Section Reference: The Federal Map of North America; The Distribution of Natural Resources

15. What are the two leading languages spoken in Canada?

Section Reference: Defining the North American Realm and Its Population Clusters

**Points to ponder**

- Whereas more than 70 percent of Canada’s population resides within 200 kilometers (125 mi) of the northern U.S. border, only about 12 percent of the Mexican population lives that close to the southern U.S. border.
- The United States does not have an official language. Should it?
- Thanks to the Pacific Rim trade, California’s ports are among the busiest in the United States. How will they be affected by the newly enlarged Panama Canal that opened in 2016?

**Current issues**

United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM, [https://www.northcom.mil/](https://www.northcom.mil/))

Electoral vote and Senate maps - Updated daily with state polls, [https://www.electoral-vote.com/](https://www.electoral-vote.com/)


Major General Qassem Soleimani, the commander of the Quds [Jerusalem] Force of Iran’s Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the second-in-command of Iraq’s Popular Mobilization Units (PMU), have been killed in US airstrikes in the Iraqi capital Baghdad, media reports say, VT, 1/3/2020, https://www.veteranstoday.com/2020/01/02/breaking-us-assassinates-top-iran-military-leader-war-with-iran-is-on/


Full text of Hillary Clinton’s speech to AIPAC: Democratic presidential front-runner vows to combat BDS, says US ‘can’t ever be neutral when it comes to Israel’s survival’, Times of Israel, 3/22/2016, http://www.timesofisrael.com/hillary-clintons-full-speech-to-aipac


Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations: "The proven and effective voice of organized American Jewry for more than half a century, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations Fund advances the interests of the American Jewish community, sustains broad-based support for Israel and addresses the critical concerns facing world Jewry. The Conference is at the forefront mobilizing support to halt Iran’s nuclear
program and to counter the global campaign to delegitimize Israel and the Jewish people." Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, http://www.conferenceofpresidents.org/

Supreme Court strikes down aggregate campaign donation caps (Reuters) - The U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday struck down a key pillar of campaign finance law by allowing wealthy donors to give money to as many political candidates, parties and committees as they wish. On a 5-4 vote, the court struck down the overall limits on how much individuals can donate during the federal two-year election cycle. Before the ruling, donors could not exceed a $123,200 overall limit during the two-year period. The ruling allows donors to contribute nearly $6 million in the same period, according to public advocacy groups. Reuters, 4/2/2014, http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/04/02/us-usa-court-election-idUSBREA3116V20140402

Lindsey Graham Questions Chuck Hagel at the Senate Confirmation Hearing - January 31, 2013 : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FF8q2iEc__8


Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to his foreign Minister Shimon Peres' "every time we do something you tell me Americans will do this and will do that. I want to tell you something very clear, don't worry about American pressure on Israel, we, the Jewish people control America, and the Americans know it," The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, 10/3/2001, https://www.wrmea.org/old-html/sharon-to-peres-don-t-worry-about-american-pressure-we-control-america.html


Find out the names, states, and political parties of the top TWO US House candidates and the top TWO US Senate candidates who received more pro-Israel money in post-1989 election cycles, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, https://www.opensecrets.org/industries/indus.php?cycle=2018&ind=Q05

Military Plan To Overthrow 7 Countries In 5 Years: U.S. General Wesley Clark revealed a "policy coup" in which "some hard-nosed people [the pro-Israel neoconservatives] took over the direction of American policy and they never bothered to inform the rest of us." WATCH the 2mn:40s video clip: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hss1xDQPooo