

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

WORLD STUDIES

Year 8 Geography

United States of America – Part 2

Name:

Class Teacher:



ENQUIRY QUESTIONS

Big Q 13: What are the great lakes and why are they important?

Big Q 14: Where do people live in the USA today?

Big Q15 and 16: Why do people try to cross the US border illegally?

Big Q17: Should Donald Trump have built his wall?

Big Q18: Is the USA the World's leading superpower?

Big Q19: How did 9/11 affect the USA?

Big Q 20 and 21: Where is Alaska and why is it so important?









Big Q 22: What issues does Alaska face due to extraction of resources?

HOMework

Big Question	Task	Due Date
13	Read through the KO and answer the questions on page 6. Check your answers using a green pen.	
17	Read through the KO and answer the questions on page 11. Check your answers using a green pen.	
18	Read through the KO and answer the questions on page 14. Check your answers using a green pen.	
21	Read through the KO and answer the questions on page 18. Check your answers using a green pen.	
	Revise for mid unit assessment	

Key terms found in the glossary on pages 4 will be tested throughout the unit

GLOSSARY

Key term	Icon	Definition
Geography		The study of the physical features of the earth and its atmosphere, and of human activity as it affects and is affected by these.
Globalisation		The increasing interconnection between countries around the world by flows of money, goods, culture etc.
Migration		Movement of people from one place to another
Refugee		A person who has escaped from their own country for political, religious, or economic reasons or because of a war
Social		Relating to society and living together in an organized way
Superpower		A country that has very great political and military power
Tertiary Industry		Providing a service
Transnational Corporation (TNC):		Businesses which operate in more than one country

BIG Q 13: WHAT ARE THE GREAT LAKES AND WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?



The Rust Belt

The Rust Belt refers to an area of the northern United States. The area is mostly the states near the Great Lakes. This area was once known for steel production and heavy industry.

That industry has greatly decreased since the middle of the 20th century. Much of this decrease is because of the United States using manufacturers from other countries.

Most Rust Belt cities, for example, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Youngstown, Ohio, have had very large decrease in population since the 1950s and 1960s.

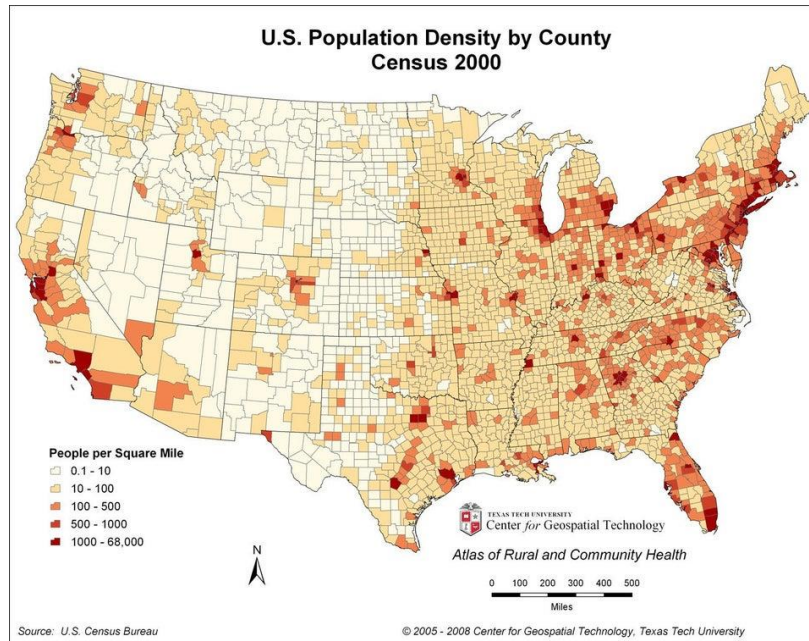
USA HOMEWORK 1: ANSWER THE FOLLOWING

What is the minimum temperature needed for Hurricanes to form?	
Do air particles move from areas of <u>low</u> to <u>high</u> pressure or from areas of <u>high</u> to <u>low</u> pressure to create winds?	
What is the name of the winds which blow from the equator and start to spin the Hurricane?	
When the clouds stretch over such a large distance they are effected by the rotation of the earth this is known as the _____ effect?	
What is the name given to the centre of a Hurricane?	
What is the word given to describe the spinning high winds and heavy rainstorms?	
In which Ocean do Hurricanes form?	
What direction do hurricanes travel?	
What happens to a Hurricanes energy when it reaches land?	
What scale is used to measure the strength of a Hurricane?	
Name the two types of crust	
What is the area of semi-molten rock in the mantle called?	
How many major tectonic plates are there?	
	<div>Total:</div> <div>6</div>

USA HOMEWORK 1: CHECK YOUR ANSWERS

What is the minimum temperature needed for Hurricanes to form?	27 degrees
Do air particles move from areas of <u>low</u> to <u>high</u> pressure or from areas of <u>high</u> to <u>low</u> pressure to create winds?	High to low pressure
What is the name of the winds which blow from the equator and start to spin the Hurricane?	Trade winds
When the clouds stretch over such a large distance they are effected by the rotation of the earth this is known as the _____ effect?	Coriolis effect
What is the name given to the centre of a Hurricane?	Eye
What is the word given to describe the spinning high winds and heavy rainstorms?	Tropical storm
In which Ocean do Hurricanes form?	Atlantic Ocean
What direction do hurricanes travel?	West then North
What happens to a Hurricanes energy when it reaches land?	Loses energy
What scale is used to measure the strength of a Hurricane?	Saffir-Simpson
Name the two types of crust	Continental and Oceanic
What is the area of semi-molten rock in the mantle called?	Magma
How many major tectonic plates are there?	7
	Total:











LESSON 14 BIG QUESTION: WHERE DO PEOPLE LIVE IN THE USA?



Population Distribution: The pattern of where people live. Places which are sparsely populated contain few people. Places which are densely populated contain many people.

Population Density: Measurement of the number of people in an area. This can be calculated by dividing the number of people by the area in question.

$$\text{Population density} = \text{total population} \div \text{total land area in km}^2$$

Rank	State	Population	Percent of total U.S. pop.
1	 California	39,538,223	11.80%
2	 Texas	29,145,505	8.70%
3	 Florida	21,538,187	6.43%
4	 New York	20,201,249	6.03%
5	 Pennsylvania	13,002,700	3.88%
6	 Illinois	12,812,508	3.82%
7	 Ohio	11,799,448	3.52%
8	 Georgia	10,711,908	3.20%
9	 North Carolina	10,439,388	3.12%
10	 Michigan	10,077,331	3.01%

LESSON 15 AND 16 BIG QUESTION: WHY DO PEOPLE TRY TO CROSS THE US BORDER ILLEGALLY?



The American Immigration Policy

There are many reasons why migrants want to go to live in America. Legally they have to apply for a visa to live and work in the USA. Visas are time limited – you can only live and work there for a certain length of time. There are only a certain number of visas allowed each year.

What are the impacts on the USA

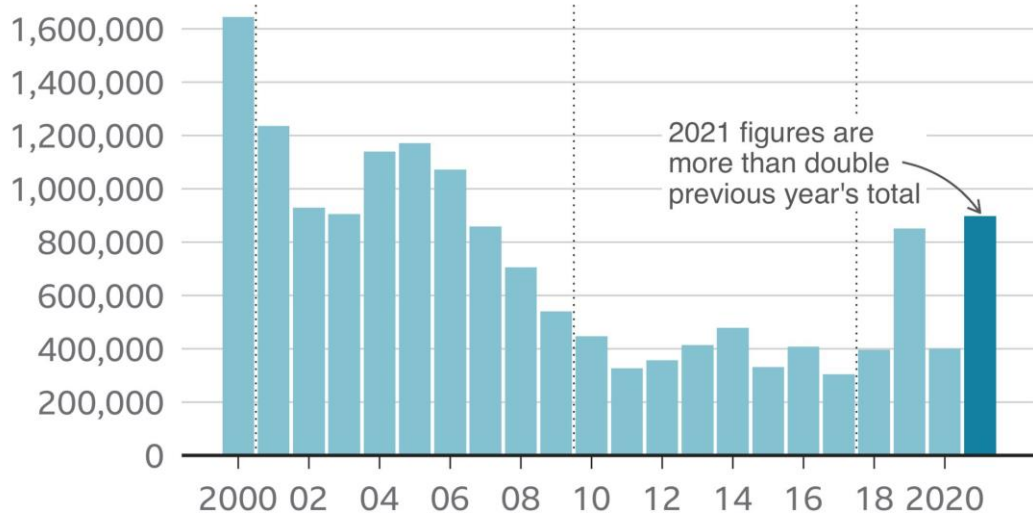
- ☐ Illegal migration costs the USA millions of dollars for border patrols and prisons
- ☐ Mexicans are seen as a drain on the USA economy
- ☐ Migrant workers keep wages low which affects Americans
- ☐ They cause problems in cities due cultural and racial issues
- ☐ Mexican migrants benefit the US economy by working for low wages
- ☐ Mexican culture has enriched the US border states with food, language and music
- ☐ The incidents of TB has been increasing greatly due to the increased migration

LESSON 17 BIG QUESTION: SHOULD DONALD TRUMP HAVE BUILT HIS WALL?

Before Donald Trump took office, there were 654 miles (just over 1,000km) of barrier along the southern border - made up of 354 miles of barriers to stop pedestrians and 300 miles of anti-vehicle fencing. In the run-up to his election victory, Mr Trump promised to build a wall along the border's entire 2,000-mile length. He later clarified that it would only cover half of that - with nature, such as mountains and rivers, helping to take care of the rest.

Migrants detained on the US-Mexico border

Total number of people by US financial year, 2000-2021*



Note: 2021 figures are for Oct 2020-May 2021

Source: US Customs and Border Protection agency

BBC

Mr Biden campaigned on the promise of a more humane immigration agenda. Since coming into office, the Democratic president has ended construction of the border wall and repealed Mr Trump's Remain in Mexico policy, which required US asylum seekers to wait in Mexico while their applications were processed

USA HOMEWORK 2: ANSWER THE FOLLOWING

Define the term 'migration'	
Define the term 'refugee'	
Name three reasons why crossing the border is dangerous?	
What is a visa and what does it do?	
Who is the current President of the USA?	
Which city in the US has the largest population?	
Which city in the US has the lowest population?	
How much fresh water do the Great Lakes hold?	
Which US state has the largest population?	
Which US state has the smallest population?	
Why did African American communities migrate to Detroit?	
	Total:

USA HOMEWORK 2: CHECK YOUR ANSWERS

Define the term 'migration'	Movement from one place to another
Define the term 'refugee'	A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster
Name three reasons why crossing the border is dangerous?	Dangerous conditions/exploitation is common/costs lots of money/may not be accepted
What is a visa and what does it do?	A legal document that allows people to enter a country
Who is the current President of the USA?	Joe Biden
Which city in the US has the largest population?	New York City
Which city in the US has the lowest population?	Akhiok, Alaska
How much fresh water do the Great Lakes hold?	5,400 cubic miles
Which US state has the largest population?	California
Which US state has the smallest population?	Wyoming
Why did African American communities migrate to Detroit?	Attracted by the promise of jobs in the booming automotive industry
Total:	

LESSON 18 BIG QUESTION: IS THE USA THE WORLD'S LEADING SUPERPOWER?

Soft power is the ability to attract and co-opt, rather than coerce (contrast hard power). In other words, soft power involves shaping the preferences of others through appeal and attraction.

Military, economy and political influence. These are all hard power strategies used to influence the behaviour or interests of other political bodies/countries.



Economy

- ☐ The USA's economy is the largest in the world – GDP per capita is \$56,084 in 2017.
- ☐ It produces more wealth than any other country in the world.
- ☐ The US \$ is the main currency in International trade



Military

- ☐ The world spends over \$1200 billion a year on armies, warships, fighter planes and weapons.
- ☐ The USA spends the most with \$615 billion in 2017.



Politics and power

The US government is one of the largest, wealthiest and strongest governments in the world, so have a lot of influence on other countries.

- ☐ It gives aid to LEDCs
- ☐ It often uses force or threatens to use force which can create enemies.



Cultural influence

- ☐ American culture travels all over the World
- ☐ Much of the influence is due to the spread of American companies like Hollister and Nike.
- ☐ Out of the 10 best known brands – 7 are American.



Population

- ☐ The USA has the 3rd largest population in the world

USA HOMEWORK 3: ANSWER THE FOLLOWING

What is the Rust Belt?	
Name one city found in the Rust Belt	
Define the term 'population distribution'	
Define the term 'population density'	
Which US state has the largest population?	
Which US state has the smallest population?	

Label the following states on the map:

1. New York
2. Pennsylvania
3. Ohio
4. Indiana
5. Illinois
6. Wisconsin
7. Minnesota

Label the following Great Lakes:

1. Lake Superior
2. Lake Michigan
3. Lake Ontario
4. Lake Erie
5. Lake Huron



USA HOMEWORK 3: CHECK YOUR ANSWERS

What is the Rust Belt?	A region of the United States that experienced industrial decline starting in the 1950s.
Name one city found in the Rust Belt	Pennsylvania
Define the term 'population distribution'	The pattern of where people live
Define the term 'population density'	Measurement of population per unit land area
Which US state has the largest population?	California
Which US state has the smallest population?	Wyoming



LESSON 19 BIG QUESTION: HOW DID 9/11 AFFECT THE USA?

On **September 11th 2001**, 4 planes were hijacked resulting in the deaths of around 3,000 innocent people, from more than 90 different countries and of all races and religions.

The terrorists chose to attack America because it's so powerful. Its influence can be felt across the planet and many people don't like it. American films, TV shows and music can be seen and heard everywhere, spreading American values. American companies such as McDonalds, Starbucks and Coca Cola can be found in most countries, bringing with them a taste of the American lifestyle. American soldiers have been involved in conflicts all over the world, and most recently in the Middle East where most people are Muslim.

The people who planned and carried out the attacks were terrorists from a worldwide organisation called Al Qaeda. Al Qaeda means "The Base" in Arabic and it was set up by a man called Osama bin Laden in 1988. A terrorist is someone who uses violence and threats in an attempt to force societies to change, and there are three main changes that Al Qaeda want:

- ❑ First of all they want to get rid of western influences from Muslim countries. This means getting rid of everything from foreign soldiers and global companies, to pop music and skinny jeans. Which means they want to ban anything that does not fit in with their view of Islam.
- ❑ Secondly, they want to fight governments that they think are corrupt. Which means any government that does not agree with their view of Islam.
- ❑ Thirdly, they want to unite all Muslims under one worldwide leader. Which means all Muslims who agree with Al Qaeda's view of Islam under the leadership of someone Al Qaeda would choose. They are against any Muslim who does not agree with them. Which is most of them.

A total of 2,996 people were killed in the 9/11 attacks including the 19 terrorist hijackers aboard the four airplanes. Citizens from 78 countries died in New York, Washington D.C and Pennsylvania.



LESSON 20 AND 21: BIG QUESTION: WHERE IS ALASKA AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

Alaska Fact file

Population: 738,432 (2015 Est)

Capital: Juneau

Bordering Areas: Yukon Territory and British Columbia Canada

Area: 663,268 square miles (1,717,854 sq. km)

Highest Point: Denali or Mt. McKinley at 20,320 feet (6,193 m)

Location

Alaska is a state in the United States that is located in the far northwest of North America. It is bordered by Canada to the east, the Arctic Ocean to the north and the Pacific Ocean to the south and west. Alaska is the largest state in the U.S. and it was the 49th state to be admitted into the Union. Alaska joined the U.S. on January 3, 1959. Alaska is known for its largely undeveloped land, mountains, glaciers, harsh climate and biodiversity.

Alaska is the largest state based on area in the U.S., and it has an extremely varied topography. The state has numerous islands like the Aleutian Islands which extend west from the Alaska Peninsula. Many of these islands are volcanic. The state is also home to 3.5 million lakes and has extensive areas of marshland and wetland permafrost. Glaciers cover 16,000 square miles (41,000 sq. km) of land and the state has rugged mountain ranges like the Alaska and Wrangell Ranges as well as flat tundra landscapes.



USA HOMEWORK 4: ANSWER THE FOLLOWING

Name three types of plate boundary	
What is the name of the Plateau found in China which is the highest in the world?	
Name three distinct climatic zones found in China	
In what year did Britain lose control of the 13 colonies?	
Why does temperature decrease as altitude increases?	
Which mountain range is the longest in the USA?	
How many national parks are there in the USA?	
Which number state is Alaska?	
How much money did the USA pay to get Alaska from the Russian government?	
Name three factors that affect climate	
Name one ocean current affecting Alaska	
What country is found to the east of Alaska?	
Name two water bodies surrounding Alaska	
Name two mountain regions in Alaska	
What line of latitude runs through Alaska?	
	Total:

USA HOMEWORK 4: CHECK YOUR ANSWERS

Name three types of plate boundary	Destructive, constructive and conservative
What is the name of the Plateau found in China which is the highest in the world?	Tibetan
Name three distinct climatic zones found in China	Temperate grassland, deciduous woodland and desert
In what year did Britain lose control of the 13 colonies?	1783
Why does temperature decrease as altitude increases?	Air becomes less dense
Which mountain range is the longest in the USA?	Rocky Mountains
How many national parks are there in the USA?	63
Which number state is Alaska?	49
How much money did the USA pay to get Alaska from the Russian government?	\$7,2 million
Name three factors that affect climate	Latitude/distance from the sea/altitude/ocean currents
Name one ocean current affecting Alaska	West wind drift
What country is found to the east of Alaska?	Canada
Name two water bodies surrounding Alaska	Arctic Ocean/Pacific Ocean/Beaufort Sea
Name two mountain regions in Alaska	Brooks Range, Alaska Range, and Aleutian Rang
What line of latitude runs through Alaska?	66.16
	Total:

LESSON 22: BIG QUESTION: WHAT ISSUES DOES ALASKA FACE DUE TO EXTRACTION OF RESOURCES?

Alaska's resources

The United States owned 99 percent of the land within the Territory of Alaska. The statehood act provided for deeding to the state, within 25 years, up to 103,350,000 acres (41,824,000 hectares)—more than a quarter of Alaska's total area. (Alaska selected the lands for takeover.) Lands taken over by the state could be sold to individuals or corporations for farms, home sites, or factory sites. Ownership did not include mineral rights, which could be leased by the state. Producing oil wells were required to pay royalties to the state.

Alaska is responsible for the management of fisheries and wildlife resources on all but federally owned lands. The state constitution provides that replenish able resources belonging to the state—fish, wildlife, forests, and grasslands—be utilized on the “sustained yield” principle. According to this principle of conservation, only the annual surplus or increase of the resources should ever be used so as not to decrease the basic stock of animals or the supply of trees and grasslands. Millions of waterfowl summer on Alaska's rocky islands and expansive wetlands. Birds of prey include bald and golden eagles, owls, hawks, and falcons. The willow ptarmigan (Arctic grouse), seen in flocks of several hundred, is the state bird. Fur seals breed on the Pribilof Islands. Sea otters, once hunted almost to extinction, are now carefully protected.

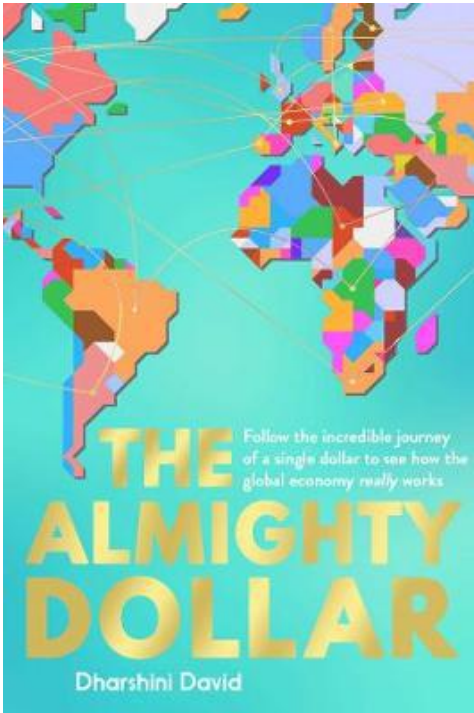
The finest big-game hunting and fishing in the United States is available in Alaska. Among the many types of brown bears found in the state is the famous Kodiak—a type of grizzly bear that is the largest of all living carnivorous land mammals, weighing up to 1,700 pounds (770 kilograms). Other native species are the black and polar bears. Alaskan wildlife also includes caribou (reindeer), moose, elk, bison, Sitka black-tailed deer, the Dall sheep, and the mountain goat. Reindeer, or domesticated caribou, are herded in parts of western Alaska. The state's waterpower resources are enormous, but they have not yet been fully exploited. Still, hydroelectric plants are Alaska's leading source of renewable energy. Most existing hydroelectric projects serve the southeast and south-central parts of the state. Snettisham, near Juneau, Eklutna, near Anchorage, and Bradley Lake on the Kenai Peninsula, are the largest.



WIDER READING



Wider reading is a vital skill in geography in order to extend your knowledge. For each book listed here that you read, write a book report outlining your thoughts and you will **receive 30 house points**.



The Almighty Dollar

Dharshini David

Follows \$1 from a shopping trip in Texas, via China's central bank, Nigerian railroads, the oilfields of Iraq and beyond to reveal the complex relationships of our new globalised world.

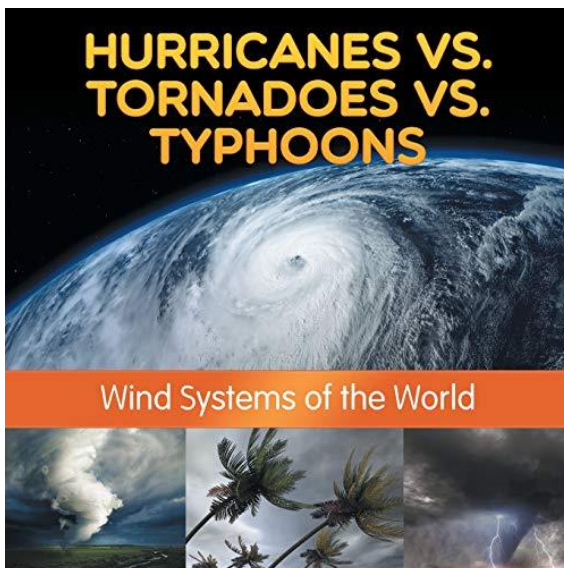
Plate Tectonics



Iain Stewart



A Ladybird Expert Book



HURRICANES VS. TORNADOES VS. TYPHOONS

Wind Systems of the World

guided READING



For each guided reading completed with questions, you will receive **10 house points**.