

Example: – *I missed you in Washington, DC. You should have come along with me. We could have had a wonderful time together.*

– *Well, I was in New York at that time. You ought to have booked tickets there, too. But, you must have seen it already, right?*

LESSON 6. Canada at a glance

Communicative area: giving general information about Canada, comparing

Active vocabulary: enormous, majestic, vast, to dominate

1. a) Read the list of words and numbers. How is each of them related to Canada?

France	13 US states	42 percent	6
Russia	33 years	third place	

b) Read the information about the country. Check your guesses.

Canada is a country of **enormous** [ɪ'nɔ:məs] distances and stretches across six time zones. It occupies an area of almost 10 mln km², making it the largest country in the Western Hemisphere. Canada is slightly larger than the US, but 18 times the size of France. The national motto, "From Sea to Sea," reflects the size of the nation, as the country quite literally stretches from the Pacific Ocean on its western coast to the Atlantic Ocean in its east. Some people have even suggested adding a third "to Sea" to the phrases to show that the country touches the Arctic Ocean in the north as well. Of all its provinces and territories, only two are landlocked while the others directly border one of the oceans. In fact, Canada has the longest coastline – 243,042 km. At a pace of about 20 km a day, it would take a person 33 years to walk its shorelines.

Canada borders Alaska in the west and shares nearly 9,000 km of land border with twelve states of the continental US in the south. That's the longest binational border in the world! It also

has **maritime** ['mæri,taim] borders with Greenland and some islands belonging to France.

Canada's diverse landscape features **majestic** [mə'dʒestɪk] western mountains, **rolling** central plains, forested eastern valleys, and more than 2 million lakes. Would you believe it has just under 1 mln km² of fresh water? That's why by total area, Canada is the second largest country in the world (after Russia) but by land area alone it ranks fourth.

The country is divided into several geographical regions. The largest one is the Canadian Shield, a hilly region of lakes and swamps, which covers half the country. It is known for its **vast** mineral resources and is also called the country's mineral house. 42 percent of the land area of Canada is covered by forests. In a recent World Health Organisation study, the country ranked third among the countries with the cleanest air on the planet. The south-eastern region of Canada is **dominated** by lowlands. Western Canada has a lot of volcanoes and is part of the Pacific Ring of Fire. The country's Far North lies above the Arctic Circle and is synonymous with ice, snow and glaciers. It is also known as the land of the midnight sun and Northern Lights.

c) What do the words in bold mean? Choose the right meaning.

- Enormous** – a) very small in size; b) very large in size;
Maritime – a) connected with land; b) connected with the sea;
Majestic – a) low and almost destroyed; b) big, beautiful, and impressive;
Rolling – a) gently rising or falling; b) narrow;
Vast – a) extremely large; b) extremely small;
Dominates – a) to be the smallest part of smth; b) to be the largest, the most important, or noticeable part of smth.

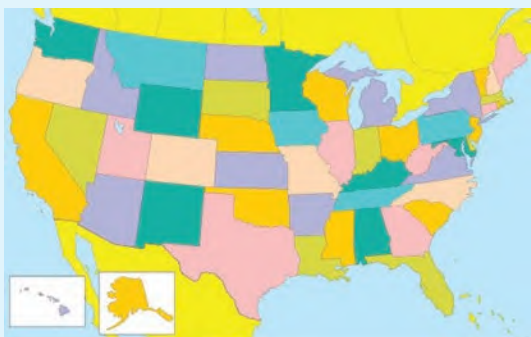
2. a) Read the information again and answer the questions.

1. What is the national motto of the country? How does it describe Canada? 2. Do all Canada's provinces have access to the sea? 3. How many and what countries does Canada border? 4. How many lakes are there in Canada? What's the difference between Canada's total area and land area? 5. What are the main landscape features of the country? 6. What is the Canadian Shield? 7. What dominates Canada's Far North?

b) Work in pairs. Name as many *superlative* facts about Canada as you remember. Who is the winner?

3. Work in pairs. Look at the notes with general facts about the US and compare the country with Canada. Can you name more differences or similarities?

Fact file: USA



Total area: 9.5 mln km²

Total land area: third in the world

Neighbouring countries: Canada, Mexico

Coastline: 19,920 km

Time zones: 9 (4 in 48 states, 1 in Alaska, 1 in Hawaii, 3 in 3 US territories)

Landscape: a larger collection of different landscapes than any other country on the planet: glaciers (Alaska), volcanoes (Hawaii), majestic mountains and canyons, deserts, sandy beaches, forests, vast plains, white sand dunes (New Mexico), waterfalls, geysers, hot springs, lakes, rivers, rolling prairies and grasslands

4. a) Read the list of words in the box. Which of them refer to Canada and which to the US? Some of the words can be used to describe both countries, some – neither of them.

A constitutional monarchy, a constitutional republic, a parliamentary democracy, a federation, the monarch, the President, the Prime Minister, the Governor General, the Parliament, the Congress, the Senate, the House of Commons, the House of Lords, the House of Representatives, provinces, territories, states.

b)   Listen to a Canadian comparing the two countries and check yourself.

5. Which facts from the lesson have you known before? Which facts surprised you? Share your ideas with your partner.

LESSON 7. A mosaic of many peoples

Communicative area: discussing the history and population of Canada

Active vocabulary: ethnic, liveable, a refugee

1. Read the quotes about Canada. What image of the country does it give you?

Canada has always been there for people who need it.

Justin Trudeau

Diversity is Canada's strength.

Justin Trudeau

Canada is the homeland of equality, justice, and tolerance.

Kim Campbell

2. a) Do the quiz about the history of the country.

1. The official name of the country is ...
 - a) the Federation of Canada;
 - b) Canada;
 - c) the Dominion of Canada.
2. The name "Canada" comes from the word "kanata" meaning ...
 - a) a settlement, village;
 - b) it is snowing;
 - c) canals.