

CULTURE 1 Sport in the USA

Background information:

The four most popular **sports in the USA** are *baseball, basketball, American football* and *ice hockey*. Events like the World Series (baseball) and the Superbowl (American football) are major national events in the USA.

1a football **1** horseback riding **3** rodeo **4**
soccer **2** track (and field) **5**

1b cross-country running ✓
field hockey ✓
football ✓
horseback riding
ice hockey
soccer ✓
swimming ✓
tennis
track (and field) ✓
volleyball
wrestling ✓

1c **1** a **2** c **3** a

2 **1** Surfing, skateboarding, rodeo, ice hockey
2 Three **3** Surfing and beach volleyball
4 In the 1950s **5** Yes, he does
6 Northern USA and Canada **7** Six

3 *Students' own answers.*

CULTURE 2 Multicultural Australia

Background information:

Australia is a constitutional monarchy with the British Queen Elizabeth II as the Queen of Australia. It has strong cultural links to the UK, as well as Asian countries, particularly China. The capital of the country is Canberra.

Perth is the capital of the state of Western Australia. It is on the Swan River, and the city is the fourth largest in Australia.

Adelaide is the capital of the state of South Australia. It is the fifth largest city in Australia. The Adelaide Festival of Arts is one of Australia's great cultural festivals.

Sydney is the largest city in Australia. It is the capital of the state of New South Wales, in south-east Australia. Sydney is one of the cultural capitals of Australia and hosted the Olympics in 2000. It is also famous for its New Year celebrations.

Melbourne is the capital of the state of Victoria, in the south-east of the country. The popular sport of Australian rules football was first officially organised there.

Brisbane is the capital of Queensland in the north-east of Australia. The city hosted the Commonwealth Games in 1982 and the World Expo in 1988.

1 **1** Perth **2** Adelaide **3** Sydney
4 Melbourne **5** Brisbane

Background information:

The **Aborigines** are the original inhabitants of Australia. The word comes from the Latin *ab origine* meaning 'from the beginning'.

Cricket is one of the most popular sports in Australia. The Australian cricket team is one of the most successful in the sport. It has won the Cricket World Cup four times since the tournament began in 1975. The most famous competition in cricket is the Ashes, a series of games between Australia and England which has taken place since 1882.

The **didgeridoo** is a long wooden tube which produces a very deep sound. It is an important part of ceremonial Aboriginal culture.

A **boomerang** is a curved tool usually made from a flat piece of wood. It can be thrown so that it will return to the thrower and was used by the Aboriginal Australians as a hunting instrument.

2 **a** **b** ✓ **c** ✓ **d** ✓

3a **1** One million **2** Willem Janszoon
3 He took a scientific expedition to complete the map of Australia and made it a British colony. **4** 160,000 prisoners
5 In 1790 **6** 400,000 **7** 22 million

3b **1** The Multicultural Teens in Australia forum is about the experiences of teenagers from different cultures.

- 2 Yes, she does, because her family is from Pakistan.
- 3 Sam started to learn about Aboriginal culture when she was 12.
- 4 John feels more Australian than Italian because he and his parents were born in Australia, and because he likes rugby and cricket.

4 *Students' own answers.*

CULTURE 3 American Indians

Background information:

American Indians is one of the different terms to describe the indigenous peoples of the American continent. Their cultures and languages were almost destroyed by European colonisation, which began in 1492 with the voyages of Christopher Columbus to 'the New World'.

- 1 1 There are three million American Indians in the USA today.
- 2 The Navajo Nation is the biggest American Indian reservation.
- 3 No, many American Indians live in cities from Los Angeles to New York City.
- 4 The US government recognised the reservations as places where tribes can live by their own rules, have their own government and practise their traditional religions.
- 5 The National American Indian Museum is in Washington DC.
- 2 1 American Indians, First Nation people, or individual tribe's names.
- 2 They celebrate their culture with music, dance, song and food.
- 3 There are about 150 native languages in the United States and Canada, and about 700 in Mexico and South America.
- 4 Originally people put them over their babies' cribs to catch nightmares. Now they are a good luck charm used everywhere for protection.

3a coyote 2 raccoon 4 mountain lion 3 deer 1

3b 1 F – The Monster ate all the animals except Coyote. 2 F – Coyote climbed the Wallowa Mountains. 3 T 4 F – All the animals were safe and alive. 5 T

4 *Students' own answers.*

CULTURE 4 Canada

1 1 13 2 In the south-east 3 Ontario 4 Two – the USA and Greenland (Denmark) 5 Greenland is part of Denmark, not Canada.

- 2 1 The city of Iqualuit is in Nunavut, near the Arctic Circle.
- 2 The Inuit are the native people of Nunavut and other Arctic Circle areas.
- 3 An arctic summer day lasts around 21 hours.
- 4 The best way to get around Algonquin Park is by canoe.
- 5 The beaver.
- 6 The best time to visit Vancouver is between July and October.
- 7 You can see the most fabulous collection of Indian art in Vancouver's Museum of Anthropology.

Background information:

The largest cities in **Quebec** are Montreal and the capital, Quebec City. In 1980 and 1995, referenda on independence from Canada took place. On both occasions, the independence movement was narrowly defeated.

3 1 F – Winter temperatures are below zero. In Montreal in January it was 10 or 15 degrees below zero. 2 F – Sally spent a lot of her time on outdoor rinks. 3 T 4 T 5 F – Most people in Montreal speak French as their first language but they also speak English.

4 *Students' own answers.*