

What is unique about the USA?

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Dollar	The dollar is the official currency of the United States.
Cherokee	A member of an American indigenous people formerly inhabiting much of the southern US.
American state	The U.S. is a country of 50 states covering a vast swathe of North America.
national park	An area of countryside, or occasionally sea or fresh water, protected by the state for the enjoyment of the general public or the preservation of wildlife.
Great Basin Desert	The Great Basin Desert is the only "cold" desert in the USA, where most precipitation falls in the form of snow.
The Colorado Rockies	A professional American baseball team based in Denver and named after the nearby mountain range.
Statue of Liberty	The Statue of Liberty is a colossal neoclassical sculpture on Liberty Island in New York Harbour in New York City.
Yellowstone National Park	Yellowstone National Park is the world's first national park.
Time zone	A geographic region within which the same standard time is used.
Tropic of Cancer	The most northerly circle of latitude on Earth at which the Sun can be directly overhead.



Sticky Knowledge about USA

- There are 23 countries in North America.
- The United States of America is the world's third largest country in size. It is more than twice the size of the European Union
- Before the Europeans arrived, the indigenous and native Americans lived in the continent. Today, only about 2% of US Americans consider themselves as descendants from native Americans.
- The lowest point in the country is in Death Valley which is at -282 feet (-86 meters) and the highest peak is Denali (Mt. McKinley) at 20,320 feet (6,198 meters).
- The Missouri River is the longest in North America and flows through seven US states. Denali is the highest mountain in North America.
- Lake Superior, which borders Canada and the US, is the third largest lake in the world and the largest North American lake.

Exciting Books



Geographical skills:

- Using online and offline maps, identify the position of the USA and how its latitude and longitude affect climate and time zones.
- Compare and contrast a US region to a UK region.
- Identify environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities.
- Research the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals & water.
- Use six-figure grid references, OS symbols and keys to identify different features.

