A U.S. naturalization ceremony takes place in Freedom Park in Arlington, Virginia.

CHAPTER
CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY OF
The United States and Canada

Why It Matters
When people talk about the culture of a nation, they are referring to the history, beliefs, traditions, and behavior patterns of a particular region. Studying the cultural geography of the United States and Canada will introduce the peoples of this region—their history, how and where they live, and the reasons behind their choices.

Big Ideas

Section 1: The United States
Certain processes, patterns, and functions help determine where people settle. The cultural geography of the United States has been influenced by Native Americans, European settlement, and modern industrialization.

Section 2: Canada
Certain processes, patterns, and functions help determine where people settle. Canada’s cultural geography has been shaped by European immigration and physical geography.

Geography ONLINE
Chapter Overview Visit the World Geography and Cultures Web site at glencoe.com and click on Chapter Overviews—Chapter 6 to preview information about the cultural geography of the United States and Canada.
Organizing Information  Make a Folded Chart to help you organize information about the cultural geography of the United States and Canada.

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Reading and Writing  As you read this chapter, make notes about the population patterns, history and government, and culture of the two nations. Write the information in the correct squares of the chart.
The United States may have a wider range of ethnic and cultural groups than most other countries in the world. The Mohawk people, a Native American group, are one of many groups that help define the population of the United States and add to the country’s unique cultural landscape.

Voices Around the World

“I was on a train clattering south along the Hudson River, heading toward . . . New York City. . . . New York today is home to more than 85,000 Native Americans. About 85 percent of Indians in the United States now live off the reservation, and every large city in the U.S. has its own Indian community. . . . Brad Bonaparte is one of these urban Indians, a 42-year-old Mohawk artist and ironworker whose father and grandfather walked the high steel with wrenches and welding torches, making the city’s skyline. Every workday he puts on a brown hard hat bearing the insignia of an eagle feather, a potent symbol of blessing and protection worn by many Mohawk ironworkers.”

The United States is a country shaped by immigration, with a continually shifting population and densely populated urban areas.

**GEOGRAPHY AND YOU** How would you describe your community’s population? Read to learn about population patterns in the United States.

The population of the United States is among the world’s most diverse. This diversity reflects the influence of immigration, the movement of people into one country from another.

**The People**

There are nearly 300 million people in the United States today, many of whom are immigrants or descendants of immigrants. Some arrived only recently. Others belong to families whose ancestors came to the region centuries ago. It is believed that the first peoples moved into the region from Asia about 20,000 years ago. Today their descendants, known as Native Americans, number about 2.5 million in the United States. Other peoples—Europeans, Asians, Africans, and Latin Americans—came later.

Some immigrants came to the United States to seek political and religious freedom and to find better economic opportunities. Others fled wars or natural disasters. Rich natural resources and the region’s rapid industrial and economic development made the United States an attractive destination. Some immigrants faced discrimination at first, but they offered hard work, talent, enthusiasm, and diverse cultural practices.

Today many immigrants arrive seeking jobs and educational and career opportunities or refuge from difficult political situations. In 2004, 11.7 percent of the total U.S. population was foreign born. In recent years, more than half of the foreign-born population has been from Latin America.

**Density and Distribution**

The population density of the United States is about 80 people per square mile (31 people per sq. km). Outside of large urban areas, however, the population is widely distributed. The Northeast and Great Lakes regions are densely populated because they are the historic centers of American commerce and industry. The Pacific coast attracts people looking for a mild climate and economic opportunities, resulting in a population cluster there. The least densely populated areas of the country include the subarctic region of Alaska, the parched Great Basin, and parts of the arid and semi-arid Great Plains.

Since the 1970s the American South and Southwest, including California, Arizona, and New Mexico, have become some of the country’s fastest-growing areas. Nicknamed the Sunbelt for its mild climate, this area draws people to its growing manufacturing, service, and tourism industries. The area’s proximity to Mexico and the Caribbean also draws immigrants from these regions.

**Map Study**

1. **Regions** What is the most densely populated area of the United States?
2. **Human-Environment Interaction** How has access to water affected the development of cities in the United States?
Over the years the United States has experienced urbanization, the movement of people from rural areas to cities. Cities grew as mechanized agriculture required fewer workers and people moved to cities in search of work. Today most people in the United States live in metropolitan areas. A metropolitan area includes a city with a population of at least 50,000 people and outlying communities called suburbs. As metropolitan areas become crowded, they lead to the further spread of people and suburban development, known as urban sprawl.

Many U.S. population clusters lie in coastal areas where strong economies are linked to world trade and can support large economies. Along the Atlantic coast, for example, a chain of closely linked metropolitan areas forms the Boswash megalopolis. Pacific coast cities also provide important links to the rest of the world, especially to the growing Asian economies. The growth of inland cities has been fueled by their proximity to rivers and lakes.

Why are many U.S. population clusters located near a coast?
In the 1760s, the British government angered the colonists by imposing new taxes and limiting their freedoms. The thirteen colonies eventually fought for independence from Great Britain in the American Revolution (1775–1783). The outcome was an independent United States of America.

The U.S. government is a federal republic. The national government shares power with the states. The Constitution created a strong national government while preserving the rights of citizens. Amendments, or changes to the Constitution, have been made to meet the country’s changing needs. The first 10 amendments—the Bill of Rights—guarantee the basic rights of citizens.

The national government has three separate but equal branches. The executive branch—president, vice president, and administrative departments—carries out law. Congress, the legislative branch, enacts law. The Supreme Court and federal courts are the judicial branch, which interprets law.

Growth, Division, and Unity

The map below shows that during the 1800s, the United States more than doubled its size and gained valuable land and natural resources. For Native Americans, however, westward expansion of settlers signaled the steady loss of lands and restrictions on traditional ways of life.

Industrialization transformed the United States in the 1800s. The first factories arose along the fall line in the Northeast, which had many waterfalls whose power could run machines. Later, large supplies of coal in the Midwest were used to fuel steam engines, making steam power cheap and manufacturing profitable. As a result, the Midwest became a leading center of industry.

MAP STUDY

1. Movement In which direction did U.S. expansion advance?
2. Regions What impact did the Louisiana Purchase have on the size of the United States?
The growing textile industry made cotton a major cash crop in the South. Land was cleared for more plantations, and the labor of enslaved African Americans became ever more important. However, some people worked to end slavery by helping enslaved people escape. Many made their way north through the Underground Railroad, an informal network of safe houses.

Tensions between the industrialized North and the agricultural South mounted steadily until they erupted in the American Civil War in 1861. After four bloody years the North triumphed. After the war, slavery was abolished and formerly enslaved African Americans were given citizenship, equal protection under the law, and the right to vote. Reunited, the country set about rebuilding itself.

**Technological Change**

In the late 1800s, the U.S. government encouraged settlement of the Great Plains to ease crowding in Eastern cities. The government also needed people to farm the area to provide more food for cities. Due to dry conditions on the Great Plains, settlers developed **dry farming**, a method of cultivating land to catch and hold rainwater. Steel plows and steam tractors made planting and harvesting large areas easier.

Chinese, Irish, Mexican, and other immigrants helped build railroads in the United States, including the transcontinental lines. This network of railways transported manufactured goods from east to west and food products from west to east.

Two world wars during the 1900s spurred U.S. economic growth. Assembly lines cut the cost and time needed to make products and improved the standard of living. The population became more mobile and urbanized. By the 1990s, many manufacturing activities were less important than rising high-tech industries.

Social changes had also taken place. Immigration from Latin America and Asia increased. Minority groups began to participate in business and politics. Native Americans negotiated with the government over land claims.

**Modern Challenges**

Terrorism became a major concern of many Americans after September 11, 2001, when terrorists hijacked four passenger planes, crashing them into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and a Pennsylvania field. After such devastation and loss, the United States launched a war on terrorism.

With other countries, the United States invaded Afghanistan in October 2001. Its rulers, known as the Taliban, had harbored Osama bin Laden and his terrorist network, al-Qaeda, which had carried out the September 11, 2001 attacks. By December, the Taliban had been forced from power.

The next target was Iraq, suspected of manufacturing weapons of mass destruction. However, the Iraqi government denied this. After attempts at a peaceful solution failed, a coalition of the United States, Great Britain, and other countries invaded Iraq on March 20, 2003. By April 9, the Iraqi regime fell and U.S. forces occupied Baghdad. A new government was formed in May 2006.

**Reading Check**  
Why did the Midwest become a center of industry?
Culture

**MAIN Idea** Immigration has influenced the diversity and culture of the United States.

**GEOGRAPHY AND YOU** What words and phrases come to mind when you think about culture in the United States? Read to learn about the country’s unique cultural characteristics.

The immigrant roots of the United States give it a respect for diversity. Its varied cultures blend into new patterns and yet manage to maintain their individual qualities.

Language and Religion

English is the main language in the United States. Because of immigration from around the world, however, people also speak or use words and phrases from other languages. Some people are bilingual and learn to speak English in addition to their native language. The growing Latino population has made Spanish the second most commonly spoken language today.

Many religions flourish throughout the country. Most people who are members of an organized religion are Christians. Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism are among other religions practiced in the country.

Education and Health Care

Education is built on a network of public and private schools. Attending school is required until the age of 16. The literacy rate, the percentage of people who can read and write, is 97 percent.

A highly developed economy enables the United States to devote substantial resources to health care. Still, many people are unable to buy health insurance, and others cannot afford health care even with insurance. The role of government in providing health care for all citizens is under debate.

The Arts

The arts go back to the first Americans, who integrated art, music, and storytelling into daily life. After European settlement, the arts were dominated by European traditions. By the mid-1800s, however, people in the United States began to create art forms that reflected their own lives and cultures. For example, jazz, which blends African rhythms with European harmonies, developed in African American communities. Writers began writing about life and culture in different parts of the country.

U.S. cultural influence on the rest of the world is strongest in the area of popular entertainment. Hollywood, a Los Angeles district, is synonymous with the movie business. Broadway, a street in New York City, is identified with theater.

Architecture

Fallingwater, one of architect Frank Lloyd Wright’s most acclaimed works, is integrated into the surrounding natural environment in western Pennsylvania.

- **A** Anchored in the rocks next to the falls, each of the house’s floors or “trays” mimics the natural pattern of the rock ledges.
- **B** Wright used the color tan to imitate the autumn color of dying plants that surround the house, connecting it to the change of seasons.
Family Life

As citizens of one of the wealthiest countries in the world, many people in the United States enjoy a high standard of living. Their socioeconomic status means having the advantage of many personal choices and opportunities. Because the nation has an agricultural surplus, foods are relatively inexpensive. The choice of housing varies to suit the needs of individuals and families, whether it be high-rise apartments, multifamily row houses, or suburban houses in a variety of sizes and styles.

Married-couple families make up about 50 percent of all households in the United States, with 44 percent of these families having children under the age of 18. The nation’s households are smaller today than in the past. In 2004, 60 percent of households had only one or two people, compared with 46 percent in 1970. As shown in the population pyramid, the U.S. population is aging. The average age was 36 years in 2004, compared to 28 in 1970.

**Reading Check** Place How did the arts in the United States change after the mid-1800s?

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**Vocabulary**

1. Explain the significance of: immigration, Sunbelt, urbanization, metropolitan area, suburb, urban sprawl, megalopolis, Underground Railroad, dry farming, bilingual, literacy rate, jazz.

**Main Ideas**

2. List examples of a continually shifting population and densely populated urban areas that have shaped U.S. population patterns.

3. Describe the ways in which physical geography and a spirit of independence influenced U.S. history and government.

4. On a sheet of paper, fill in a web diagram like the one below. List examples of U.S. culture that has been influenced by immigration.

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**Critical Thinking**

5. Explain the ways in which the cultural geography of the United States has been shaped by immigration.

6. Analyzing Information In what ways did the physical environment both challenge and help people in the development of the new nation?

7. Making Inferences Describe some of the advantages and disadvantages of living in a megalopolis.

8. Analyzing Visuals Study the U.S. population density map on page 149. How many cities with populations over 5,000,000 are located along waterways? What does this pattern of urban development mean?

**Writing About Geography**

9. Descriptive Writing Suppose that you are an immigrant writing a letter to relatives about your new home in the United States. Explain your reasons for settling where you live.

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**GRAPH STUDY**

1. Place Which age group for both males and females represents the largest percentage of the population?

2. Place Which group, male or female, has the largest percentage of people in the oldest segment of the population?
Canada is a highly developed nation with bustling cities. It also shelters sparsely populated areas of beautiful, pristine wilderness. These rugged natural areas, which attract researchers from all over the world, sometimes have difficulty supporting communities. But they are as much a part of the nation’s cultural identity as are its busy metropolitan areas.

Voices Around the World

“Keith Pittman . . . [l]ike many fishermen from Great Harbour Deep . . . is pragmatic about life’s choices. But last spring in the referendum on whether to shut down the town . . . Pittman voted to leave, he says, because of his children. Great Harbour Deep had long sent its teens away to less remote towns for high school . . . But after graduation most returned home.

That changed with the collapse of the cod industry in the early 1990s . . . After that, when children left Great Harbour Deep for high school, it was for good. [Pittman says:] ‘I guess we voted for it. We didn’t really want to . . . but you don’t want to get rid of your youngsters that fast.’”

Karen E. Lange, “They Can’t Go Home Again” in “Geographica,” National Geographic, March 2003

A Canadian fisher examining his nets

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Population Patterns

**MAIN Idea** Canada has a diverse mixture of ethnic groups, densely populated urban areas, and vast expanses of rugged terrain.

**GEOGRAPHY AND YOU** What makes your community a good place to live? Read to learn about the people of Canada and where they have settled.

Many Canadians can trace their roots back to countries from around the world. Some are descendants of Native Americans.

### The People

Immigrants to Canada came in search of political and religious freedom, economic and educational opportunities, and refuge from wars. For example, Loyalists, or colonists who wished to remain loyal to the British government, fled to Canada after the American Revolution. They settled in the Maritime Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. A province is a political unit similar to a state.

Some immigrant groups settled in areas that let them keep their familiar ways of life. The mix of ethnic origins thus varies from province to province. For example, Quebec’s people are mostly of French descent.

Today, more than one-third of Canadians identify themselves as being of mixed ethnic origins. In addition, about 1 million people identify themselves as Native American, Inuit (Arctic native peoples of North America), or of mixed European and Native American ancestry.

### Density and Distribution

Since rugged terrain and a bitterly cold climate make much of Canada inhospitable to human settlement, about 90 percent of the population lives along the U.S.-Canada border. Average population density is about 8 people per square mile (3 people per sq. km). More densely populated areas are clustered near waterways and in places that support agriculture.

Over the past 100 years, most internal migration has been west to the Prairie Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. This move was due in part to the discovery of oil and natural gas in the 1960s.

### Urban Areas

Most of Canada’s population lives in urban areas. As Canada’s largest city, Toronto is an industrial and financial center. Montreal is an industrial and shipping center. Ships reach these inland cities through the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers and the Great Lakes. Vancouver handles nearly all of the trade between Canada and Asia. Edmonton grew with the development of the petroleum industry.

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**MAP STUDY**

1. **Human-Environment Interaction** Why might Canada’s interior areas have a low population density?

2. **Regions** How does Canada’s population density compare to that of the United States?
Canada’s history has been influenced by its French and English roots, a drive for independence, and by immigration.

**GEOGRAPHY AND YOU** Do you know what influenced the growth of your community? Read to learn about the development of Canada.

Great Britain, France, the United States, Native American cultures, and immigrants from around the world have played a role in Canada’s history.

**Early Inhabitants and Settlers**

About 200,000 native peoples were living in what is now Canada when Europeans arrived in the 1400s. Over the next 200 years the native populations declined as Europeans claimed their lands and diseases they brought spread. Some native groups took sides in the conflicts between the British and the French and came under the control of European powers.

As shown on the map of Canadian explorations, explorers John Cabot and Jacques Cartier helped establish European claims to Canada. Territorial rivalry between Great Britain and France began in 1670, when the British chartered the Hudson Bay Company to seek a northwest passage to the Pacific Ocean. A clash of French and British interests along the Atlantic coast, where both nations had established settlements, led to wars. The British eventually drove the French from the Hudson Bay area, capturing Quebec in 1759 and winning control of New France in 1763. The Quebec Act, passed by the British in 1774, gave French settlers the right to

**MAP STUDY**

1. **Regions** Describe the size and extent of the colony of New France.

2. **Movement** Which explorer traveled inland among Native American settlements?

- **Native American settlement**
- **Viking settlement**
- **French settlement**
- **New France, circa 1740**

From 1534–1536, Jacques Cartier explored the St. Lawrence as far south as Montreal and claimed its shores for France.

Samuel de Champlain founds first permanent European settlement in Canada at Quebec in 1608.

The French established Montreal in 1642 and in 1663 organized their settlements in the region to form the colony of New France.

It is believed that Vikings, a seafaring Scandinavian people, were the first European settlers to reach Canada around A.D. 1000.

Under a commission from the English king, John Cabot set out in 1497 to search for a shorter route to Asia.
keep their language, religion, and system of laws. The act also extended Canadian territory south to the Ohio River, angering American colonists and bringing them closer to war with the British.

**A United Government**

During the early 1800s, English- and French-speaking communities feuded about colonial government policies, but fears of a U.S. takeover forced them to work together. In 1867 the colonies of Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick united as provinces of the Dominion of Canada, a new country within the British Empire. Manitoba, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland became provinces over the next 100 years.

Canada was created as a **dominion**, a partially self-governing country with close ties to Great Britain. It gained full independence in 1931, but the British government kept the right to approve changes to Canada’s constitution. This legislative link to Great Britain finally ended in 1982 with passage of the Constitution Act. Today, Canada is a constitutional monarchy.

The executive part of Canada’s federal government includes the governor-general, the prime minister, and the cabinet. The British monarch still serves as the head of state, appointing a governor-general to act in his or her place. The national legislature, or **Parliament**, includes the Senate and the House of Commons. Canada’s prime minister is the actual head of government. Nine judges sit on the Supreme Court of Canada, the country’s highest court.

**Expansion and Diversity**

In the 1800s, Canada acquired lands stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Arctic to the U.S. border. The British government encouraged immigration to Canada, and between 1815 and 1855 one million people from Great Britain arrived in the country. This influx made French-speaking citizens a minority population for the first time and fueled French nationalism among Quebecois (kay•beh•KWAH), Quebec’s French-speaking inhabitants. These feelings of nationalism would continue to grow and surface throughout Canada’s history.

Widespread immigration from other parts of the world began in the late 1800s with the Klondike Gold Rush. The fertile soil of the Prairie Provinces attracted immigrants from Germany, Scandinavia, Ukraine, Japan, and China. In the 1800s Canada also began sheltering enslaved people who had escaped from the United States. Canada never practiced slavery and refused to honor U.S. laws that punished escapees.

Westward expansion in Canada came at a price, however, as immigrants pushed Native Americans off their lands. This reality was formally recognized in 1998, when the Canadian government apologized to native peoples for their mistreatment. The government established a “healing fund” to make reparations. In 1999 the Inuit won the right to their own territory, **Nunavut**, which means “Our Land.”

In the 1900s, Canada became a highly industrialized urban country. Mineral resources were utilized, and hydroelectric projects and transportation systems were developed. World War II stimulated Canada’s economy, making it an important military and industrial power. After the war, Canada sought to improve federal financial assistance to its citizens through pensions, unemployment insurance, and medical care.

**Modern Challenges**

Trade between Canada and the United States is thriving. The United States–Canada Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and the **North American Free Trade Agreement** (NAFTA) have eliminated tariffs and other trade barriers. Although the open border and a history of cooperation have benefited both nations, some Canadians dislike the effect free trade with the United States has had on their culture. Canadians struggle to maintain a separate identity while being bombarded by U.S. culture.

Conflicts continue as French-speaking Canadians in Quebec and other provinces seek greater protection for their language and culture. Many desire Quebec’s independence and strongly support **separatism**—the breaking away of one part of a country to create a separate, independent country.

**READING Check**

**Movement** How did westward expansion affect Native Americans in Canada?

**Geography ONLINE**

**Student Web Activity** Visit the World Geography and Cultures Web site at glencoe.com and click on Student Web Activities—Chapter 6 for an activity about immigration in the United States and Canada.
Culture

**MAIN Idea** European, Asian, and Native American cultures have influenced Canada’s cultural diversity.

**GEOGRAPHY AND YOU** Are languages other than English spoken in your community? Read to learn about the diverse cultural characteristics of Canada.

Canada has developed a truly multicultural society where people of many different talents, skills, and cultural backgrounds can thrive.

**Language and Religion**
Canada has two official languages—English and French—which reflect the history of power struggles between British and French settlers and their descendants. Immigrants from Great Britain brought the English language to most of Canada. In the province of Quebec, however, French is the dominant language. Other languages spoken include German, Italian, and Chinese. Native languages include Cree and Inuktitut, the language of the Inuit.

Christians make up the largest religious group in Canada. Other religions practiced in Canada—which include Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, and Sikhism—reflect the nation’s diverse immigrant populations.

**Education and Health Care**
Canada, with a literacy rate of 97 percent, has a network of public and private schools. Attending school is required for children ages 6 to 16. Each province is responsible for organizing and administering public education.

The Canadian government helps pay for health care for its citizens. Canada’s public health-care system was built on the idea that everyone should have access to high-quality medical treatment. The federal government sets standards with each province responsible for financing and managing its own system. Because Canadians are living longer, costs for delivering health care have increased. In some cases, this has created a need to limit benefits or raise taxes.

**The Arts**
The arts in Canada have been influenced primarily by British, French, American, and native cultures. The large immigrant population has also added distinctive features to literature, the visual arts, theater, and music. Since the early 1950s, the Canadian government has been committed to making sure the country’s mass media encouraged locally produced cultural products.

In the twentieth century, museums and scholars began to appreciate works of art by native peoples. Canadian painters, influenced by European styles, excelled in painting Canadian landscapes. A group of painters called the Group of Seven showed the rugged landscape of Canada’s far north in bright colors.

French explorers, missionaries, and settlers wrote the earliest Canadian literature, which had strong historical and religious themes. Important Canadian writers of the twentieth century include Hugh MacLennan, who critiqued contemporary Canadian life, and Margaret Laurence, who focused on the prairies of central Canada.

Toronto is highly regarded in the areas of theater and music. It is the third-largest production center in the English-speaking world, after London and New York City. The world-renowned Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the top-ranked National Ballet of Canada call Toronto home.
Family Life

Canada is one of the wealthiest countries in the world. Many Canadians enjoy a high standard of living. For example, nearly everyone owns telephones and color televisions, while about 65 percent of the population own a car.

Characteristics of family and age structure in Canada are similar to those in the United States. Married-couple families account for about 70 percent of all households in Canada, with nearly 60 percent of these families having children in the home. Families are also smaller than ever before, with 43 percent of families with children having only one child, 39 percent having two children, and 18 percent having three or more children. The population pyramid shows that Canada has an aging population. Fewer than 1 in 10 Canadians was age 65 or older in the 1970s. By the start of the twenty-first century, however, 1 in 6 Canadians was 65 or older. Life expectancy in Canada, which averages about 80 years, is among the world’s highest.

Vocabulary
1. Explain the significance of: Loyalist, province, Inuit, dominion, Parliament, Quebecois, North American Free Trade Agreement, separatism.

Main Ideas
2. Explain how Canada’s history has been influenced by its French and English roots, a drive for independence, and by immigration.
3. How have European, Asian, and Native American cultures influenced Canada’s cultural diversity? Give examples using language and religion, the arts, and family life.
4. On a sheet of paper, fill in a chart like the one below. List examples of how Canada’s diverse mixture of ethnic groups, densely populated urban areas, and vast expanses of rugged terrain have shaped the country’s population.

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<td>Vast areas</td>
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<td>Rugged terrain</td>
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Critical Thinking
5. Decide What role have natural resources played in immigration and the development of Canadian culture?
6. Making Inferences Identify historical and current factors that have likely contributed to making French Canadians protective of their culture.
7. Analyzing Visuals Study the population pyramid above. Why might the Canadian government be concerned about the large percentage of people in the 40–49 and 50–59 age groups?

Writing About Geography
8. Summary Writing Think about the different provinces of Canada, how the population is distributed, and the different ethnic groups that live there. Write a paragraph summarizing some of the main features that characterize Canada as diverse.

Geography ONLINE

Study Central™ To review this section, go to glencoe.com and click on Study Central.
**EARLY HISTORY**

- Native Americans are the region’s earliest people.
- Europeans established colonies in the region.
- Many Native American cultures were destroyed and people were displaced by European colonization.
- The thirteen colonies won their independence from Britain in 1776 and created the United States of America.
- The Dominion of Canada was formed in 1867. Canada became independent from Britain in 1931.

**POPULATION AND CULTURE**

- The United States and Canada include various groups of native peoples and descendants of immigrants.
- The immigrant roots of the United States and Canada contribute to their diversity.
- The region’s culture has been influenced by Native Americans and immigrants from around the world.
- Population density and distribution in the region is influenced by physical geography.

**INDUSTRIALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

- Cities in the region developed along waterways.
- Proximity to natural resources and transportation routes fueled industrialization in the region.
- Industrialization and technology enabled westward expansion and spurred social change in the region.
- Prosperous economies have allowed people in the United States and Canada to enjoy high standards of living.
Reviewing Vocabulary

Directions: Choose the word or words that best complete the sentence.

1. The string of cities along the coast in the northeastern United States is called _______.
   - A urban sprawl
   - B suburbs
   - C megalopolis
   - D immigration

2. Enslaved persons escaped from the South through a series of safe houses known as the _______.
   - A Underground Railroad
   - B metropolitan area
   - C urban sprawl
   - D immigration

3. _______ moved from the newly independent United States to Canada after the American Revolution.
   - A Inuit
   - B Loyalists
   - C Quebecois
   - D First Nations

4. A partially self-governing country with close ties to Great Britain is a _______.
   - A territory
   - B Loyalist
   - C Parliament
   - D dominion

Reviewing Main Ideas

Directions: Choose the best answers to the following questions.

Section 1 (pp. 148–154)

5. Why is the United States one of the most ethnically diverse countries in the world?
   - A The land over which European settlers spread contained powerful kingdoms of many nationalities.
   - B Immigrants came to the United States from many countries.
   - C Ancestors of Native Americans probably arrived about 20,000 years ago.
   - D Most people in the United States speak English.

6. Compared with 1970, what has happened to the number of single- or two-person households in the United States?
   - A It has increased.
   - B It has decreased.
   - C It has stayed about the same.
   - D It increased and then decreased.

Section 2 (pp. 155–160)

7. What are Canada’s two official languages?
   - A French and Spanish
   - B French and English
   - C English and Spanish
   - D English and Inuktitut

8. What is Nunavut?
   - A the capital of Northwest Territories
   - B a mountain in western Canada
   - C a favorite food of Canadians
   - D a political territory for the Inuit, created in 1999
Critical Thinking

Directions: Choose the best answers to the following questions.

9. How does Canada contrast with the United States?
   A Canada had almost no settlers from Great Britain, while the United States had many.
   B Canada has two official languages, while the United States does not.
   C Canada has more people than the United States.
   D The United States is a parliamentary democracy, while Canada is a federal republic.

Base your answer to question 10 on the map and on your knowledge of Chapter 6.

Document-Based Questions

Directions: Analyze the document and answer the short-answer questions that follow the document.

In 1867 Canadians persuaded the British Parliament to pass the British North America Act, now called the Constitution Act, to form a united dominion of Canada. The province that the act calls “Canada” was divided into Ontario and Quebec, and the entire dominion was called Canada. The following is the preamble to the Constitution Act.

WHEREAS the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick have expressed their Desire to be federally united into One Dominion under the crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, with a Constitution similar in Principle to that of the United Kingdom:

And whereas such a Union would conduce to the Welfare of the Provinces and promote the Interests of the British Empire:

And whereas on the Establishment of the Union by the Authority of Parliament it is expedient, not only that the Constitution of the Legislative Authority in the Dominion be provided for, but also that the Nature of the Executive Government therein be declared:

And whereas it is expedient that Provision be made for the eventual Admission into the Union of other Parts of British North America: . . .

—Constitution Act, 1867

11. Why did the provinces of British North America desire to unite into a dominion under the British government?

12. What was the basic plan for government in the dominion?

Extended Response

13. Describe how climate and terrain have had an effect upon the settlement of Canada.