

Geography of the world

North America

American continent

- Stretching from the frozen Arctic through equatorial climatic zone to the cold Antarctica =>
- the longest of all the continents
 - i.e. continent with the longest coastline
- involves *all the climatic zones*
 - i.e. from the equatorial to polar

North America

- Surroundings:
- Oceans:
- Seas:
- Bays:
- Mountains:
- Rivers:
- Highest point:
- Lowest point:

USA

- = the richest (wealthiest) country in the world
- URB => 75%. Population: 280 mil. (2003)
- *Raw materials reserves:*
 - oil + natural gas
 - coal, minerals
- *Agriculture:*
 - California (grapes, strawberries, citrus fruits)
 - Great plains (horses, cattle, wheat, soya, barley, corn)
 - Alabama + Georgia + South Carolina (cotton)
- *Industries:*
 - iron and steel industry
 - timber and paper products (Washington, Oregon)
 - electronic equipment
 - car (Detroit) and aircraft (Seattle) industry => *many job opportunities*

- Business centres = NYC, Chicago, LA, San Francisco
- = 3rd largest crude oil producer (Texas, Louisiana)

Canada

- = world's largest producer of uranium, nickel, zinc
- *Raw materials reserves:*
 - gold, copper, silver (Rocky mts.)
 - oil + natural gas (Edmonton + Calgary in Alberta)
- *Agriculture:*
 - wheat, sunflowers and cattle farming (prairies of Manitoba, Saskatchewan) of Manitoba, Saskatchewan
 - Wheat = the most important Canadian crop
 - 75% of total *maple syrup* production located in CAN
- *Industries:*
 - important ports (Vancouver)
 - leading industrial city of Toronto (the safest city of NA)
 - region of the “*Golden Horseshoe*” (Lake Ontario SW coastline) =>
 - car and aircraft assembly, steelworks, shipbuilding, financial center

Mexico

- Mexico City = 1 of the largest cities in the world (20 mil. inhabitants)
- *Raw material reserves:*
 - oil, iron, zinc, copper
- = largest producer of *silver*
- famous *gastronomy*: food, drinks
- traditional *crafts*: highly decorated carpets, clothes (made by native Indians)
- land of contrasts ⇔ from northern *deserts* through *mountains* (Sierra Madre) to tropical *rainforests* in the south