

Workshop: Reading Comprehension

Levels: A1-A2

Topic: English Speaking Countries

Objective: To improve sts vocabulary

Materials: Handouts

Procedure:

1. Introduce yourself to the sts and let them do the same.
2. Hand out the passage and go through difficult vocabulary with the sts.
3. Read the passage and ask the sts if they have understood the content of the text.
4. Hand out the question sheets; sts have to answer the questions
5. Go through correction
6. Thank sts for coming to the lesson.

ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES

New York is the largest city in the United States of America. The total population of the USA is over 400 million.

American English is rather different from British English.

Some consider it as an independent language but we would rather say that they are only two variations of the same language.

The United States of America are a federation of 50 states and one federal district, the District of Columbia.

The total area of the US is 33 times the size of Great Britain; the capital is Washington D.C.: it was the first city in the world planned to be a national capital. The President lives there, in a building called the "White House".

The main towns are: New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, Los Angeles and San Francisco. New York is the largest of them. It lies on the Hudson River and is the biggest port in the country.

The flag of the USA is called "the Stars and the Stripes". The 13 stripes stand for the 13 original states; the 50 stars stand for the present states of the Union.

Canada covers an area larger than that of the USA. It is a federal union of 10 provinces and a self-governing Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations. Ottawa is the capital city. Thirty million people live in Canada; 30% of them are French.

In 1770 Captain James Cook claimed possession of **Australia** for Great Britain. The 6 colonies that were established there became States of the Australian Federation in 1901. The capital City is Canberra. The total population of Australia is 16 million.

New Zealand consists of two main islands and a number of smaller islands that have about the same area as Italy.

It was annexed to Britain in 1840 and was granted self- government in 1852. The capital city is Wellington.

Bombay is the largest city of the Indian Republic.

India (population 700 million people) is a Member Nation of the British Commonwealth and has a parliamentary type of government.

Hindi is the official language but English is spoken throughout the country.

Question sheet n.1

Complete after the passage

1. The USA is a federation
of.....
.....
2. The population of the USA
is.....
.....
3. Washington was the first
city.....
.....
4. The President lives.....
5. New York lies on.....
6. "The Stars and the
Stripes".....
.....
7. The 50 stars stand
for.....
.....

Question Sheet n.2

Answer the following questions:

1. What is New York?
2. What is the total population of the USA?
3. What is Canada?
4. What is the capital of the country?
5. How many French people live in Canada?
6. What is the population of Australia?
7. How many are the States of the Australian Federation?
8. What is the capital city?
9. What is the area of New Zealand?
10. When was it granted self- government?
11. Is India a monarchy or a republic?
12. What is Bombay?
13. What is the official language in India?