

# Geographical position of the USA



# Plan

- ▶ 1. Geographical position and general characteristics
- ▶ 2. Climate
- ▶ 3. Mountains
- ▶ 4. Table lands, plains and lowlands

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- The background of the slide is a dark blue-grey color with a faint, light-colored topographic map overlay. In the bottom-left corner, there is a faint compass rose with a needle pointing towards the top-left. The map shows various landmasses and water bodies with contour lines.
- ▶ 5. Water resources
  - ▶ 6. Mineral resources
  - ▶ 7. National parks
  - ▶ 8. Administrative and regional division

- ▶ The USA is the fourth largest nation in the world. The United States of America is washed by the Atlantic ocean, the Pacific ocean, the Arctic ocean and the gulf of Mexico.
- ▶ The total area of the USA is 9.372.6140sq.km.

- ▶ The land in the United States of America varies from heavy forests covering 2,104 million hectares, to barren deserts, from high-peaked mountains, to deep canyons.
- ▶ **Death Valley** in California is 1.064 meters below sea level.

# Climate

- ▶ America is a land of physical contrasts, including the weather. The southern parts of **Florida, Texas, California, and the entire state of Hawaii**, have warm temperatures year around; most of the United States is in the temperate zone, with four distinct seasons and varying numbers of hot and cold day each season, while the northern tier of states and Alaska have extremely cold winters.

# Mountains

- ▶ The biggest mountains in the USA are *the Rocky Mountains, the Appalachian Mountains, the Cascade Mountains, the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the Coast Ranges.*
- ▶ *Rocky Mountains* are known as “the backbone of the continent” or the Continental Divide. *The Appalachians*, which run roughly parallel to the east coast, are old mountains with many coal-rich valleys between them.

- ▶ ***The Coast Ranges*** lie west of the Pacific valley at the edge of the Pacific Ocean. ***The Cascade Mountains*** extend from the Canadian border southward through Washington and Oregon. There are large gold deposits ***the Sierra Nevada Mountains.***



# Table lands, plains and lowlands

- ▶ Table lands, plains and lowlands are *the Central Lowlands, the Colorado Plateau, the Great Plains*. **The Central Lowlands** are the territory between the Appalachian Mountains and the Missouri. The great tableland, through which the Colorado River has carved deep canyons, is called **the Colorado Plateau**. The Great Plains are situated west of the Central Lowlands.

# Water resources

- ▶ The United States is also a land of bountiful rivers and lakes.
- ▶ **The biggest US rivers** are *the Mississippi, the Missouri, the Columbia, the Colorado* and *the Rio Grande*.
- ▶ **The great lakes** are *Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie and Lake Ontario*.

# Mineral resources

- ▶ Underground, a wealth of minerals provides a solid base for American industry. America`s yearly production of gold is far exceeded by the value of its petroleum, natural gas, clays, phosphates, lead and iron, even its output of sand, cement and stone for construction.

# National parks

- ▶ The frontier experience of moving westward and breaking new ground gave Americans several traditions.
- ▶ The first of these was the **Yosemite Park** in California. This consists of a beautiful valley surrounded by cliffs and pinnacles.
- ▶ Yosemite was made a national park in **1890**, but it wasn't the first. That honor went to **Yellowstone**, a 2.25 million-acre tract of wilderness land established as a national park in **1871**.

- ▶ More recently, agricultural researchers have developed a method of planting without plowing. Known as conservation tillage, it involves leaving the previous crop`s residue on the surface to lessen soil erosion. Then, instead of the soil with plow blades, rows of tiny holes are punched in the soil to accept the new seeds.

# Administrative and regional division

- ▶ One common grouping creates six regions.
- ▶ They are:
- ▶ **New England**, made up of the northernmost five states along the Atlantic seaboard plus Vermont and parts of New York.
- ▶ **The Middle Atlantic Region**, composed of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland.

- ▶ **The South**, which runs from Virginia south to Florida and then west as far as central Texas. The region also takes in West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana and large parts of Missouri and Oklahoma.

- ▶ **The Midwest**, a broad collection of states sweeping westward from Ohio to Nebraska and southward from North Dakota to Kansas, including eastern Colorado.
- ▶ **The Southwest**, made up of western Texas, portions of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and the southern interior area of California.



- ▶ **The West**, comprising Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Utah, California, Nevada, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii.