History

The first inhabitants were the Indians. America was colonized by Great-Britain. There were soon thirteen British colonies: Virginia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maryland, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Delaware, North Carolina, South Carolina, New Jersey, New-York, Pennsylvania and Georgia.

When the colonies rebelled, they declared their independence, united and founded the United States of America.

In the 19th century, the war between the South and the North was called the American Civil War. The North's victory put an end to legal slavery.

Throughout the years a lot of immigrants decided to come and live in the US. Although English is the official language, a lot of languages are spoken. The different languages are

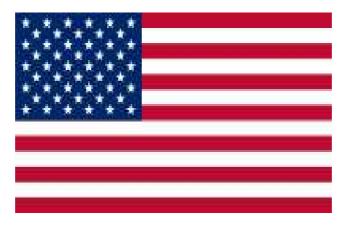
-Spanish, -Chinese -French -Tagalog (Philippines) -Vietnamese -German

The meaning of the American flag

The <u>flag</u> of the United States of America (more commonly known simply as the American Flag) consists of thirteen equal horizontal stripes of <u>red</u> alternating with <u>white</u>, with a <u>blue</u> rectangle bearing fifty small, white, <u>five-pointed stars</u>. The fifty stars on the flag represent the <u>fifty American</u> states and the thirteen stripes represent the original <u>thirteen colonies</u> that rebelled against the <u>British</u> <u>Crown</u> and became the first states in the Union.

Nicknames for the flag include the Stars and Stripes, The Old Glory, and The Star-Spangled Banner (also the name of the <u>national anthem</u>). There have been 27 versions of the flag, the first version of the flag of the United States was adopted on June 14 th, 1777 and counted only 13 states. The flag is perceived as a symbol of democracy and freedom,

Freedom is very important in the US, the most famous monument is the Statue of Liberty.



The government of the USA

The Government of the United States was established by the Constitution, it is a Federal Republic of sovereign States. The right of the United States is defined by resolutions of the Congress, decrees and the law.



The Capital of the United States

Washington (District of Columbia) written Washington D.C, is the federal capital of the United States . It is the seat of numerous American institutions, like the White House, the official residence of the president, the Capitol, the Congress, as well as the seat of the Supreme Court and other federal institutions, like the Federal Reserve of the United States.

The City of Washington is situated in the East of the United States .



The American currency is the dollar: \$.

THE CULTURE OF THE USA:

The American culture is a mixture of the cultures brought in by the various immigrants. It is partly based on the British, and European cultures as well as on the Black culture.

The descendants of African slaves contributed much to the music (jazz).

Every year, there are nearly 1000 festivals in the country.

The most famous Summer festival, is New-York's Shakespeare Festival which takes place in Central Park.

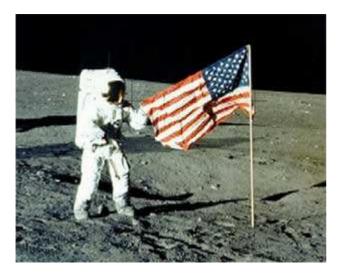
Inventions

Some family games come from this country: The scrabble, bowling and the monopoly were invented in there.

In the USA, we can find comics, a lot of men and women love them. It's a new world mixing fantasy and reality. The US invented supernatural heroes like Batman or Spiderman.

American cities have a lot of skyscrapers. That's were the first skyscrapers were built.

The first man who walked on the Moon in 1969 was American. His name was Neil Armstrong.



The bike path on Venice Beach, in Los Angeles symbolizes a civilisation of leisure. Hollywood is the symbol of the film industry.



Some sports are famous in the USA : American's football, baseball, ice-hockey and American catch.

Harvard university is a symbol of excellence.