

Adjectives: An Introduction to Canada

**READING
TEXT**

CANADA is the second largest country in the world. It has a population of just over thirty-two million people. Canada is located north of the United States, between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. This is how the country got its motto: “Ad Mari usque ad Mare”, “From Sea to Sea”. Most of the population is situated close to the American border because as one goes farther north it becomes colder. The larger industrial centers are close to the border.

The country is divided into ten provinces and three territories. Each province has its own capital and its own government. The largest of these provinces in area is Quebec. The province with the greatest population, however, is Ontario, which is the second largest in area. The capital of Canada is Ottawa. The largest city in Canada is Toronto. Both cities are in the province of Ontario. The smallest province in both area and population is Prince Edward Island.

A large percent of Canada’s economy is based on natural resources. Canada is the world’s largest producer of nickel and has large reserves of oil and minerals. It is also a large producer of wheat and lumber. But Canada also has a strong high technology sector.

In 1867, Upper and Lower Canada united to become a Confederation. Canada is much younger than the United States. In 1967 the country celebrated its 100th birthday or Centennial. The Canadian flag was only adopted in 1965 after the government held a competition for the best flag design. Before 1965 Canada used the British flag. Today, however, Canada’s red maple leaf flag is one of the most well-known flags in the world.

Underline the COMPARATIVES and SUPERLATIVES in the passage.

Find each of these words in the passage above. See if you can guess the meaning.

situated	province	minerals	adopted
motto	capital	wheat	united
industrial	nickel	lumber	celebrated
divided	reserves	natural resources	well-known
territory	oil	centennial	design

Answer the following questions.

1. What is the second largest country in the world? _____
2. What is the population of Canada? _____
3. What is the name of the country that is south of Canada? _____
4. Where is most of the population situated? _____
5. Name two oceans that Canada borders on. _____
6. How many provinces are there in Canada? _____
7. Which province is the largest in population? _____
8. What is the capital city of Canada? _____
9. Is Quebec the smallest province? _____
10. Canada is the world's largest producer of what metal? _____
11. Name two other things Canada produces? _____
12. How old was Canada in 1967? _____