

Grade 3 Geography Assessment: Exploring North America

Learning objective: To assess understanding of North American physical and human geography, including countries, climates, and biomes.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of continents, countries, and environmental regions to provide detailed answers. Use full sentences where required.

Finn the dolphin has been exploring the coastlines of North America, from the icy waters of the far north to the warm, tropical seas in the south. He has mapped the massive Rocky Mountains and seen the vast prairies where the land stretches as far as the eye can see. Finn has noted that the way people live in the frozen north is very different from the busy cities in the southern parts of the continent.

Word bank: Arctic · Equator · Biome · Tundra · Human Geography · Physical Geography · Mountain Range · Climate · Precipitation

1. Name the three largest countries that make up the majority of the North American continent. (3 marks) (3 marks)

2. Define the difference between 'Physical Geography' and 'Human Geography' using an example from North America for each. (4 marks) (4 marks)

3. Explain why the climate in the northern part of North America is significantly colder than the climate near the Gulf of Mexico. (3 marks) (3 marks)

4. Identify one major mountain range found in North America and describe one way it impacts the landscape or the people living nearby. (3 marks) (3 marks)

5. If you were planning a trip from the Tundra biome to a desert biome in North America, what changes would you need to make to your clothing and supplies? Justify your answer. (4 marks) (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing: Imagine you are an explorer like Finn. Write a short paragraph describing a journey from the west coast of North America to the east coast. Include mention of the varied landscapes and at least one human-made feature you might encounter. (5 marks) (5 marks)

7. Bonus: If a flight from Toronto to Vancouver costs £350, and a family of four travels together, what is the total cost? (3 marks) (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of North America. Label the Arctic Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, and the location of one major mountain range.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast the lifestyle of someone living in a remote Arctic settlement with someone living in a large city like New York. What might happen if the climate in the Arctic continues to change rapidly? Total: /25