

Exploring the Wonders of North America

Learning objective: To describe the physical and human geographical features of North America using precise vocabulary and structured paragraphs.

Use this writing scaffold to help Finn the dolphin map out a report on North America. Ensure you include facts about landforms, climate zones, and human landmarks. Use the word bank to link your ideas together.

North America is a magnificent continent that stretches from the frozen Arctic in the north to the tropical lands of Panama in the south.

Word bank: furthermore · in contrast · consequently · vast · topography · inhabited · mountainous · diverse · significantly · situated

1. Physical Geography: Describe the major landforms of North America, such as the Rocky Mountains or the Great Plains. Start your paragraph by saying: 'The landscape of North America is incredibly diverse, featuring...' (3 marks)

2. Climate Zones: Explain how the climate changes across the continent. Start your paragraph by saying: 'Due to its enormous size, North America experiences a range of climates, for example...' (3 marks)

3. Human Geography: Identify one major city or human-made landmark and explain its significance. Start your paragraph by saying: 'In terms of human geography, one notable location is...' (3 marks)

4. Critical Thinking: Compare and contrast two different regions of North America. Explain why you think the physical geography affects how people live in those areas. (4 marks)

5. Justification: If you were planning an expedition across the continent, which biome would be the most challenging to traverse and why? (4 marks)

6. Creative Synthesis: What might happen to the environment of the Great Plains if the climate were to become significantly drier over the next century? (5 marks)

Extension challenge: Design a travel brochure for a specific region within North America. Justify your choice of destination by describing its unique physical and human geographical features, and explain how the local climate influences the activities tourists can enjoy there.