

Exploring North America: A Geographical Report

Learning objective: To write a non-chronological report about the physical and human geography of North America.

Use this writing frame to help Finn the dolphin map out your report. Follow the headings to ensure you cover key geographical features, climate zones, and major landmarks.

North America is a vast and diverse continent, stretching from the frozen Arctic Circle in the north down to the tropical forests of the Isthmus of Panama.

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · in addition to · vast · diverse · mountainous · spanning · significantly · on the other hand · predominantly

1. Introduction: Define North America's location and size. Start by writing: 'The continent of North America is situated within the Northern and Western Hemispheres, making it the third-largest continent globally. It is bordered by...' (2 marks)

2. Physical Geography: Describe the key landscapes. Start by writing: 'The physical geography of North America is incredibly varied, featuring dramatic landforms such as...' (3 marks)

3. Climate Zones: Explain how the climate changes across the continent. Start by writing: 'Due to its enormous size, North America experiences a wide range of climates, ranging from...' (3 marks)

4. Human Geography: Discuss the countries and major cities. Start by writing: 'North America comprises several nations, including Canada, the USA, and Mexico. The largest cities are...' (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise what makes North America unique. Start by writing: 'In conclusion, North America is a continent of fascinating contrasts, where natural wonders meet...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a specific North American landmark (e.g., the Rocky Mountains or the Great Lakes) and write a detailed paragraph explaining how it was formed or why it is important to the local ecosystem.