Year 6 Geography Assessment: Discovering North America

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the physical and human geography of the North American continent.

Read each question carefully. Use your geographical knowledge to provide accurate answers. Ensure your spelling and grammar are clear.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the coastal waters of North America. From the frozen northern islands to the tropical southern peninsulas, he has observed a vast range of environments. Max the monkey has been busy calculating the distances between the bustling cities and the remote mountain ranges, noting how the land use changes as people move from rural areas to major urban centres.

Word bank: Arctic · Tundra · Time zones · Precipitation · Urbanisation · Physical geography · Human geography · Continent · Mountain range · Climate

1. Name two countries located on the North American continent. (2 marks)

2. Identify one major mountain range found in North America and describe its location. (2 marks)

3. Explain why North America experiences a wide variety of climates, ranging from arctic conditions in the north to tropical conditions in the south. (3 marks)

4. How does the size of the North American continent affect the way people measure time across different regions? (3 marks)

5. Give one example of human geography in North America and explain how it has changed the landscape. (4 marks)

6. Finn the dolphin is observing the impact of human activity on coastal environments. Write a paragraph explaining how human activity, such as tourism or industry, can impact the physical geography of a North American coastline. Consider both positive and negative effects. (5 marks)

7. List two major bodies of water that border North America. (2 marks)

8. Define the term 'urbanisation' in the context of North American human geography. (2 marks)

Draw: Sketch a map of North America. Label one mountain range, one major ocean bordering the continent, and one large river.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Research task: If you were planning a trip from the northernmost point of Canada to the southernmost point of Mexico, what changes in vegetation and land use would you expect to see? Write a short travel journal entry (100 words) describing the journey.