

Check your knowledge of the United States

How much do you know about America?

This test should help you to evaluate your level.

1. How many states make up the United States of America?
a. 48 b. 49 c. 50 d. 51
2. How many stripes are there on the American flag?
a. fifty b. eleven c. thirteen d. fifteen
3. How many stars are there on the American flag?
a. fifty b. eleven c. thirteen d. fifteen
4. The Stars and Stripes, the American flag, is also referred to as:
a. Old Glory b. Old Faithful
c. Old Courage d. Old Union Jack
5. What term best describes the American economic system?
a. capitalist economy b. free market economy
c. market economy d. liberal economy
6. What is a greenback?
a. an undocumented immigrant b. a dollar bill
c. a vachero in the South d. a football player
7. The Pilgrim Fathers:
a. drafted the US Constitution
b. arrived in America on the *Mayflower*
c. were the founders of Pennsylvania
d. fought with the Confederates in the Civil War
8. Independence Day takes place on:
a. the last Monday in November
b. December 7
c. July 4
d. February 21
9. Who was the second president of the United States?
a. James Madison b. George Washington
c. Thomas Jefferson d. John Adams

10. Who was known to his soldiers as Old Hickory?
 - a. Stonewall Jackson
 - b. Andrew Jackson
 - c. Andrew Johnson
 - d. Thomas Jefferson
11. Who died while defending Fort Alamo?
 - a. Kit Carson
 - b. Davy Crockett
 - c. Daniel Boone
 - d. William Cody
12. What was the color of the Union Army uniform during the American Civil War (1861-1865)?
 - a. green
 - b. grey
 - c. blue
 - d. red
13. In which country was George Washington born?
 - a. a British colony
 - b. England
 - c. Ireland
 - d. the United States
14. Who assassinated Abraham Lincoln?
 - a. John Wilkes Bush
 - b. John Wilson Boothes
 - c. John Wilkes Booth
 - d. John William Boothing
15. Who was the first president to be involved in an impeachment proceedings?
 - a. Richard Nixon
 - b. Andrew Johnson
 - c. William Clinton
 - d. Ulysses S. Grant
16. How much did the USA pay for the purchase of Louisiana from Napoleon, in 1803?
 - a. 10 million dollars
 - b. 100 million dollars
 - c. 15 million dollars
 - d. 50 million dollars
17. What do Americans eat at Thanksgiving?
 - a. hen and pecan pie
 - b. turkey and pumpkin pie
 - c. chicken and apple pie
 - d. capon and strawberry pie
18. When is Thanksgiving day?
 - a. the first Thursday in December
 - b. the second Wednesday in October
 - c. the third Tuesday in January
 - d. the fourth Thursday in November
19. Which state does not have a part of Yellowstone National Park in it?
 - a. Idaho
 - b. Montana
 - c. California
 - d. Wyoming
20. The president of the US Senate is:
 - a. the speaker
 - b. the leader of the majority
 - c. the vice-president
 - d. a senator elected by his peers

21. Health care for the elderly is called:
 - a. Medicare
 - b. Medihelp
 - c. Medicaid
 - d. Medical Insurance
22. The South of the USA is sometimes referred to as:
 - a. Pixie
 - b. Dixie
 - c. The Corn Belt
 - d. Confederacy
23. Where are the Hamptons situated?
 - a. New Jersey
 - b. Long Island
 - c. Rhode Island
 - d. Connecticut
24. What is the largest state capital in population in the United States?
 - a. Phoenix, Arizona
 - b. Denver, Colorado
 - c. Richmond, Virginia
 - d. Sacramento, California
25. Which state is known as the Golden State?
 - a. Alaska
 - b. California
 - c. Florida
 - d. Texas
26. Which river flows through Washington, DC?
 - a. the Hudson
 - b. the Missouri
 - c. the Potomac
 - d. the Shenandoah
27. Which river borders Manhattan on the west side?
 - a. the Hudson River
 - b. the Harlem River
 - c. the Bronx
 - d. the Amsterdam River
28. Which letter in the alphabet does not appear in the name of any state of the United States?
 - a. W
 - b. Q
 - c. Y
 - d. Z
29. What is the smallest U.S. state in area, west of the Mississippi River?
 - a. Nevada
 - b. Hawaii
 - c. Arizona
 - d. Alaska
30. How many amendments to the Constitution are there?
 - a. 10
 - b. 17
 - c. 20
 - d. 27
31. How many US Senators are there?
 - a. 50
 - b. 100
 - c. 200
 - d. the figure varies
32. How many voting members are there in the U.S. House of Representatives?
 - a. 100
 - b. 235
 - c. 335
 - d. 435
33. How long is a senator's term?
 - a. 2 years
 - b. 4 years
 - c. 6 years
 - d. 8 years

34. Who or what decides each state's number of U.S. Representatives?
- a. the President of the United States
 - b. the Speaker of the House
 - c. the state's population
 - d. the Constitution
35. What is the age requirement to be elected President of the United States?
- a. at least 25
 - b. at least 35
 - c. at least 40
 - d. at least 45

Regions, mountains, rivers and lakes

The United States is composed of 50 states, 48 of which lie between Canada and Mexico, with Alaska in the North and Hawaii in the Pacific Ocean. The total area is 9,629,091 km². The border with Mexico along the Rio Grande River is 3,326 km, and the one with Canada is 8,893 km. The U.S. is bounded by the Pacific Ocean to the west, the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Gulf of Mexico to the South. The Bering Strait separates Alaska from Russia. As of October 2009, the total population of the United States was 304 million people.

The continental U.S. is often subdivided into several major cultural regions:

- New England, where the first European immigrants settled,
- the mid-Atlantic States (which lie between New York and Washington, D.C.),
- the South, the first region settled by Europeans in North America, with the founding of St Augustine in Florida, on August 28 1565 by the Spanish,
- the Midwest, settled in the 18th and 19th centuries,
- the Southwest, settled by the Spanish in the 1600s,
- the Rocky Mountains, stretching from New Mexico into Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and Montana,
- the Pacific Northwest, including Alaska, Washington and Oregon,
- the West Coast, first populated by the Spanish and annexed by the United States in the 1840s,
- Hawaii, on the Tropic of Cancer.

<i>Region</i>	<i>Mountain</i>	<i>River</i>	<i>Lake</i>

3. Quiz. Circle the right answer.

- Which river forms the border with Mexico?
a. the Red River b. the Rio Grande c. the Rio Bravo
- Which river is named after a reptile?
a. Alligator River b. Snake River c. Lizard River
- Which river can be found in Alaska?
a. the Yukon b. the Delaware c. the Potomac
- The first pioneers had to go through the Cumberland Gap (1,700 feet high) in order to reach the Plains. Which range of mountains did they go over?
a. the Appalachians b. the Alleghenies c. the Rockies
- Which is the longest river in the USA?
a. the Mississippi b. the Ohio c. the Missouri
- General Custer met his death at Little Big Horn. In which range of mountains is Mount Big Horn?
a. the Red Hills b. the Black Hills c. the Green Hills
- Which great lake gave its name to a state?
a. Pennsylvania b. Ohio c. Michigan
- Which two rivers flow on either side of Manhattan?
a. the Potomac and the Delaware
b. the Hudson and the East River
c. the West River and the Harlem River
- Which lake is also a city and home to the Mormons?
a. Pepper Lake b. Vinegar Lake c. Salt Lake
- In which region is the Corn Belt?
a. the Northwest b. the Midwest c. the Southwest

11. In which state do we find the Everglades?
 a. Louisiana b. Florida c. Alabama
12. In which state do we find the bayous?
 a. Florida b. Texas c. Louisiana
13. In which state is Chesapeake Bay?
 a. Virginia
 b. Maryland
 c. both Virginia and Maryland

4. Right or Wrong? Tick the right box.

<i>Questions</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>W</i>
1. The United States is slightly bigger than Canada.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The United States is almost 40 times the size of the United Kingdom.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The United States is the same size as Russia.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The United States is 14 times the size of France.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The largest state in the United States is Alaska.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Mount McKinley in Alaska is the highest point in North America.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Mount Whitney is the highest mountain in continental America (48 states).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. The Central Valley is in Nevada.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. The lowest point in the United States is Death Valley.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>