

Regions of the USA

Welcome to Talk Time!

How are you? How was your week?

Play a group game: Talk to your classmates, and line-up in order of how long you have lived in Washington State. After three minutes, your facilitator will check to see if you are in the correct order.

Let's get started

1) **Make a list as a group.** What do you like about living in Washington State?



We like...

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2) **Discuss the following questions; then, read the information below with your group.**

- What is a region? Look at the map below. Can you name and label each region of the USA?
- In what region of the USA is Washington State?
- Have you visited other regions of the USA? Describe your experiences.

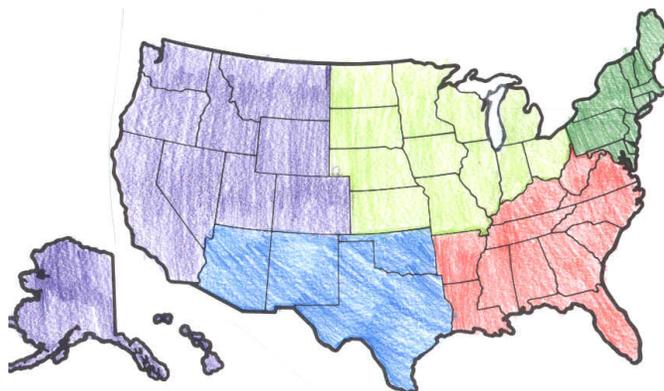
Regions of the USA

There are five main regions of the USA: the **Northeast**, **South**, **Midwest**, **Southwest**, and **West**. These regions are grouped by history, traditions, economy, climate, and geography. Each region has its own unique culture. Things such as fashion, language, and food are different in each region.

The **Northeast** includes the oldest American states. This region is known for its excellent theaters, museums, and universities. The Statue of Liberty in New York is a famous landmark.

The **South** has a very important history. The Civil Rights movement started here. Foods that are popular in the South include BBQ, cornbread, grits, jambalaya, gumbo, and rice.

The **Midwest** is home to the Great Lakes and the Great Plains. Meat, potatoes, corn, and dairy products are popular foods. The Midwest has very hot summers and extremely cold winters.



The **Southwest** includes many deserts. The weather is very hot and dry. The magnificent Grand Canyon is located here. Many American Indian tribes live in the Southwest.

The **West** has many mountains and beautiful National Parks such as Mount Rainier National Park and Yellowstone National Park. The West has a very diverse population of people. People enjoy many different foods from people of various cultures.

3) Talk in pairs; then, share your answers with the group: Which region or state would you like to visit? Why?

Conversation skills

As we discuss, let's ask each other questions using the words *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how*. Let's also use the phrase "Tell me more." The best questions are the questions YOU ask!



Discussion

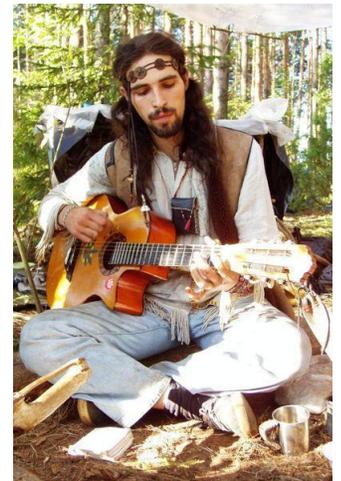
Is your native country divided up into regions? Describe each region (think about history, traditions, economy, climate, geography, language, food, etc.)

What region of your native country are you from? What is unique about your region?

Is it easy to travel between each region in your native country? What is the best way of transportation? The easiest? The cheapest? The most expensive?

People who live in different regions often stereotype each other. Here are some popular stereotypes in the USA.

- People from the **West** are Hippies, do yoga, and lack family values.
- People from the **South** are uneducated, poor, and racist.
- People from the **Northeast** are rude and always in a hurry.
- People from the **Midwest** are all farmers who wear overalls.



What are some stereotypes of your region? Of your native country?

Are stereotypes accurate? Explain.

Why do you think people stereotype? Do you stereotype people?

How can stereotypes be damaging?



Group Reflection

What did you learn today? What do you want to talk about next week?