

XIV MIĘDZYSZKOLNY KONKURS JĘZYKA ANGIELSKIEGO

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

LOCATION: North America, bordering both North Atlantic Ocean and the North Pacific Ocean, between Canada and Mexico

CAPITAL (stolica): WASHINGTON D.C. (District of Columbia) (Waszyngton)

COAT OF ARMS: (godło)- Eagle and The Great Seal (the second represents the motto “Out of Many One”)

FLAG: *the Stars and Stripes* (Gwiazdy i Paski) (There are 50 stars on the US flag –one for each state, and 13 stripes- stripes represent the thirteen British colonies that declared independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain)

MOTTO: *In God We Trust* (Bogu ufamy)

ANTHEM (hymn): *The Star-Spangled Banner* (Gwieździsty Sztandar) written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE : The United States has no official language, but English is the most widely spoken language

Most common languages

- **English** only – 239 million.
- **Spanish** – 41 million.
- **Chinese** (including **Mandarin**, **Cantonese** and Hokkien) – 3.5 million.
- **Tagalog** (including Filipino) – 1.7 million.
- **Vietnamese** – 1.5 million.
- Arabic – 1.2 million.
- French – 1.2 million.
- Korean – 1.1 million.

CURRENCY (waluta): U.S. dollar (\$) 1\$=100 cents cent/penny

5cents - nickel; 10 cents - dime; 25cents - quarter

(It costs about 4 cents to produce a one-dollar note. We sometimes call the one-dollar note a *greenback* because the back of the dollar is green)

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS : 50 states and 1 district (District of Columbia)

THE BIGGEST STATE :

Alaska it is the largest state by land but the least densely populated

Texas is the second largest state by area

California ranks as the third largest state by area and largest by population.

THE SMALLEST STATE: Rhode Island

THE BIGGEST CITY: New York City

THE LONGEST RIVER: Missouri (3,768 km)

THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN PEAK: Mount McKinley (6,194m) (Alaska)

THE LOWEST POINT : *Death Valley* (86 m) (Mojave Desert, California)

Death Valley National Park is the driest and hottest national park in the U.S.

HEAD OF THE COUNTRY: President –**Joe Biden /Joseph Robinette Biden Jr/** 46 prezydent USA
(głowa państwa: prezydent)

Vice president: **Kamala Harris**

HEAD OF STATE: Governor- (głowa stanu: gubernator)

Major Parties (główne partie polityczne) :



the Democratic Party (Partia Demokratyczna)



the Republican Party (Partia Republikańska)

Capitol Building in Washington D.C. : meeting place of the Congress (budynek Kapitolu w Waszyngtonie- miejsce spotkań Kongresu)

The White House: the official home of the President, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington D.C. (Biały Dom- oficjalny adres zamieszkania prezydenta)

Pentagon – the headquarters of the US Department of Defence in Arlington County, Virginia

NEW YORK is often called '**The Big Apple**'. New York City was established in **1625**.

New York is divided into **5 boroughs** (dzielnice):

1. **The Bronx** (Yankee Stadium, New York Botanical Garden, Wave Hill-famous public garden)
2. **Manhattan** (famous places: Chinatown, Little Italy, Central Park, Greenwich Village)
3. **Brooklyn** (Coney Island: New York Aquarium, amusement parks, Coney Island Beach)
4. **Queens**
5. **Staten Island**

Places to see in New York:

Madison Square Garden: a large building in New York City where major sports events are held (duży budynek w Nowym Jorku, w którym odbywają się główne imprezy sportowe)

Empire State Building: an office building in Manhattan which has 102 floors (biurowiec na Manhatanie, który ma 102 piętra)

The Statue of Liberty: the statue which has become the symbol of freedom and was given to the US people by France in 1884 (Statua Wolności-statua, która stała się symbolem wolności a została подарowana Amerykanom przez Francję w 1884 roku)

Wall Street: the street which is the centre of the financial district and where the famous New York Stock Exchange is situated (Wall Street-ulica, która jest centrum finansowej dzielnicy I gdzie znajduje się słynna giełda nowojorska)

Broadway: the name of the street in Manhattan which is closely associated with the theatre as there are 36 of them there (nazwa ulicy, która ściśle wiąże się z teatrem jako, że jest ich tam aż 36)

Fifth Avenue : the street famous for expensive clothes and department stores (Piąta Aleja –ulica znana z drogich sklepów i domów towarowych)

The Museum of Modern Art: the largest museum of modern art and photography in the world (największe na świecie muzeum sztuki współczesnej i fotografii)

the Mets and the Yankees- two famous baseball teams in New York
New York Yankees play at *Yankee Stadium in the Bronx*.

New York Mets play at *Citi Field in Queens*.

New York Knicks (Knickerbockers) –NBA basketball team (they play at Madison Square Garden (Manhattan))

New York Rangers- National Hockey League team (they play at Madison Square Garden)

Facts and Figures:

The first president of the USA - George Washington. (1789)

The USA bought Alaska from Russia for \$7,200,000 in 1867.

The first college ‘Harvard’ started in 1636. It is the oldest higher education institution in the United States. Harvard is located in **Cambridge, Massachusetts, in the United States of America** but also has facilities such as the Harvard Medical School based in Boston.

The first American Bank opened in 1782.

The first skyscraper in the USA was built in Chicago in 1885.

The first underground metropolitan train system (subway) started in Boston in 1897.

The biggest island in the USA is Hawaii.

The highest waterfall in the USA is Yosemite Falls in California (the water falls more than 700 metres)

There are more than 14,000 airports in the USA.

Coca-cola was first made in 1886 by an American called John Pemberton.

Niagara Falls, between Lakes Ontario and Erie, is 51 metres high

Mart Twain’s real name was Samuel Clemens.

The Black Hills of Dakota are famous for Mount Rushmore, where the faces of four American presidents: Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt were cut in the rock (1927-1941)

Yellowstone – U.S. National Park in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming, the first and oldest in the world (it’s famous for the hot water geyser that shoots up into the air, up to 115 metres high)

Salt Lake City, the chief city of Utah, is next to a lake that is much saltier than the sea

INDEPENDENCE DAY : 4th July (Declaration of Independence (from GB): 4th July 1776)

THE US CONSTITUTION: 17th September 1787

CIVIL WAR (wojna secesyjna) 1861-1865

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY(zniesienie niewolnictwa) – 1865

1849- gold was discovered in California

History of the USA:

1620 – The Pilgrims arrive in Virginia on Mayflower.

1776 – The Declaration of Independence is signed in Philadelphia.

1861 – The Civil War breaks out between the North and the South.

1941 – Japanese attacks Pearl Harbour.

1965 – Johnson decides to send troops to Vietnam.

Różnice pomiędzy British English (BE) i American English (AE)

Przykłady:

rachunek – bill (BE),	check (AE)
metro-underground (BE)	subway (AE)
parking – car park (BE)	parking lot (AE)
frytki- chips (BE)	french fries (AE),
benzyna-petrol (BE)	gas (AE),
ciężarówka – lorry – (BE)	truck – (AE)
winda-lift – (BE)	elevator – (AE),
buty sportowe (adidasy) – trainers – (BE)	sneakers – (AE)