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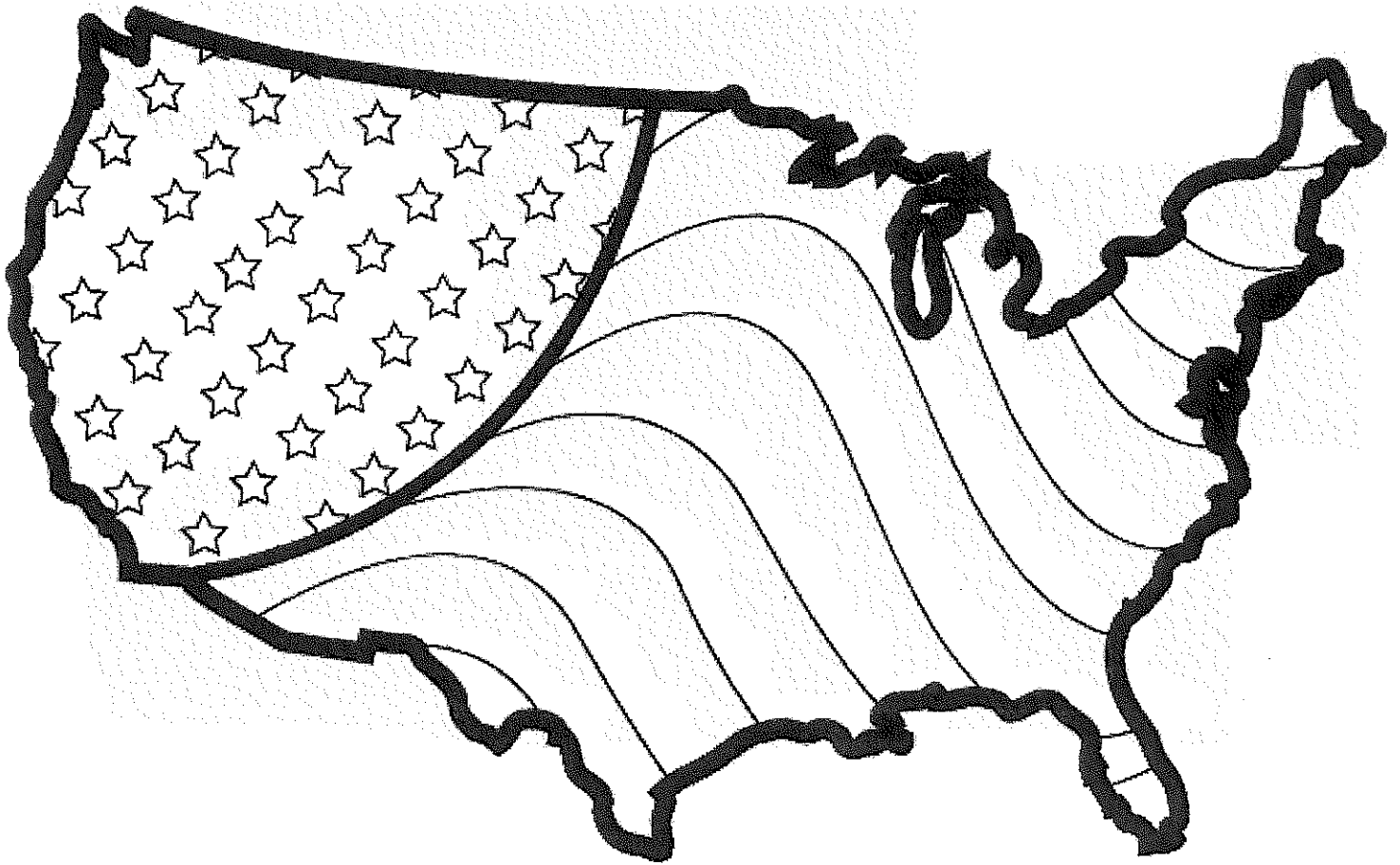
NOTES



**Overview of Social Studies:**

# AMERICAN PEOPLE, AMERICAN LAND

## NOTES



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Overview: American People, American Land

# NOTES

## Overview: American People, American Land

### Lesson 1: The American People

#### Vocabulary

**culture** way of life of a group of people

**ideals** important beliefs

**ethnic group** a group of people who share the same customs and language

**census** official count of all the people in the United States

**immigrants** people who leave one country to go live in another

#### Out of Many, One

1. The United States has a motto, or saying. It is E Pluribus Unum. This is Latin for Out of Many, One. This is a good motto for the United States because many different types of people form one Country.
2. Our country has a mix of many different cultures. All these different people are able to form one country because they share many ideals, or beliefs.
3. These ideals include freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and freedom to live and work where we choose.
4. Americans also believe in equal rights for all people.

#### Our Varied Population

5. Many ethnic groups are found in the United States. Ethnic groups are made up of people who share the same language and customs. The families may have come to the United States from the same part of the World. People of different ethnic groups can be Americans.

## NOTES

6. Every 10 years the government counts all the people in the United States. This count is called a census.

### Where We Came From

7. Immigrants have come to the United States from all over the World. They brought many different customs with them.
8. Native Americans lived on this land before it became the United States.
9. Europeans came to the area looking for land and freedom.
10. People from Africa were brought as slaves.
11. Many immigrants still come to the United States. Many are looking for work and freedom.

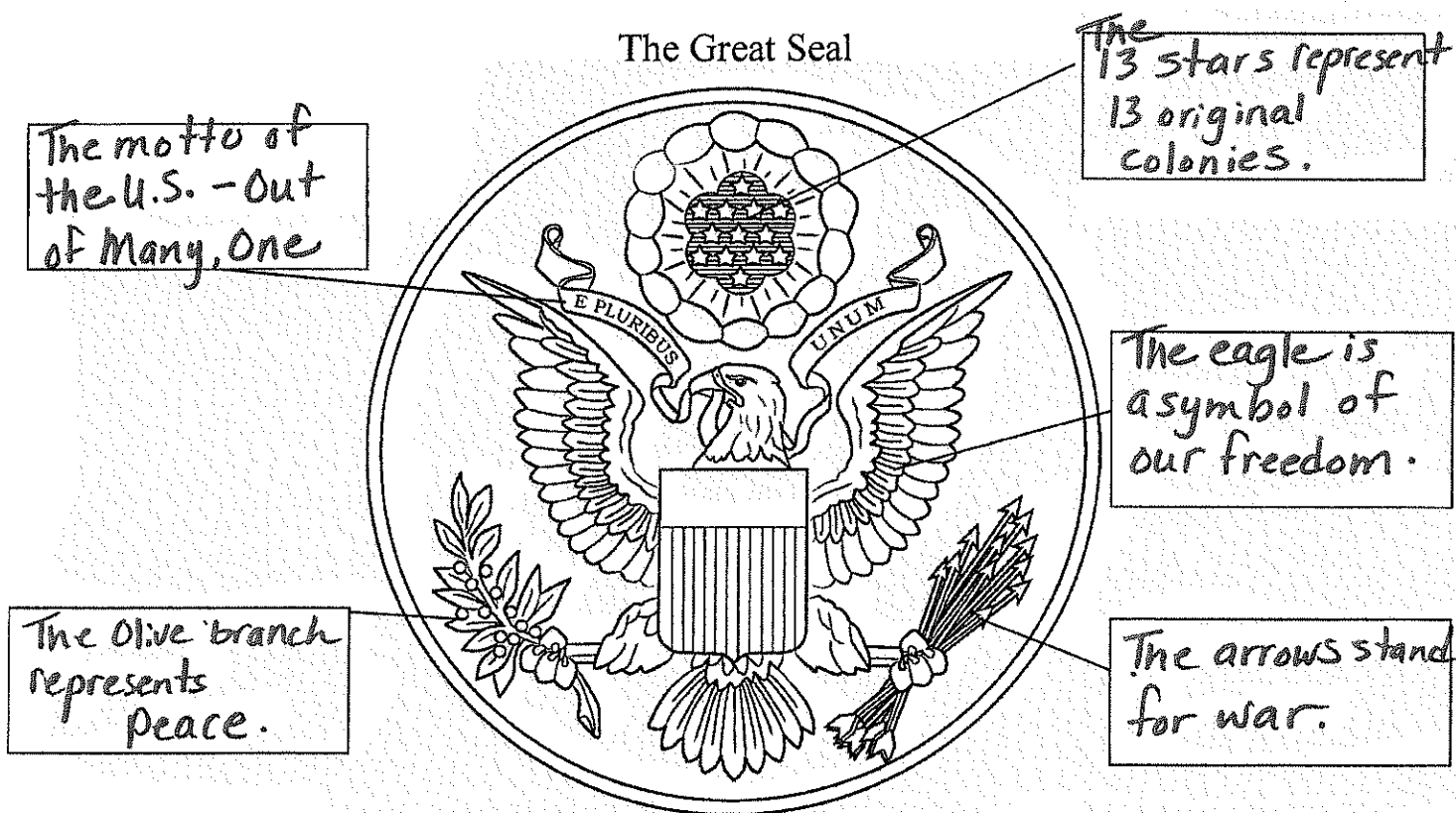
### One Nation

12. The Pledge of Allegiance is important to the United States. It helps bring together the many different people who live in the country. The Pledge of Allegiance says that Americans believe in the ideals of freedom and fairness for all people.
13. To pledge means to promise loyalty.
14. The flag is the symbol of our country.
15. A republic is a country where the citizens elect people to represent the people for the good of everyone.
16. A nation is another word for our country.
17. Under God means the people who live in the country believe a supreme being watches over them.

## NOTES

18. Indivisible means our country cannot be divided into parts.
19. Liberty means freedom and justice means fairness.
20. All means everyone in our country.

### Symbols of Our Country



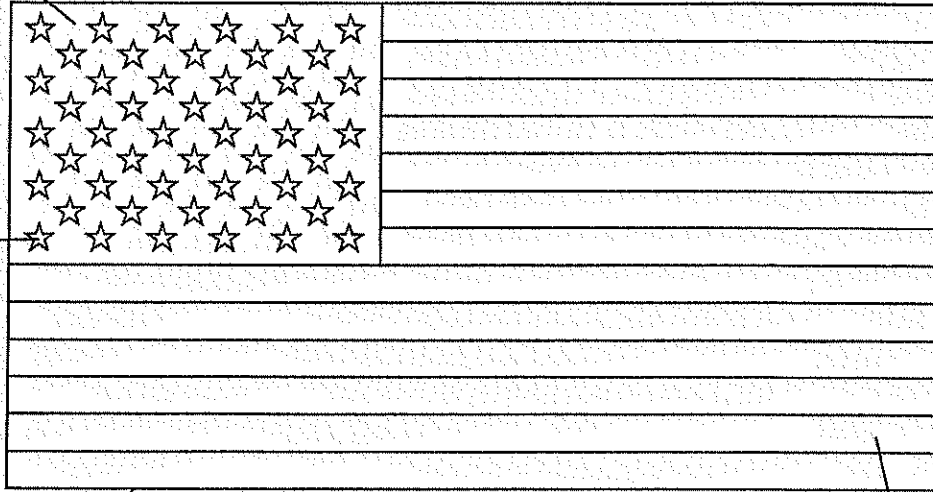
21. The Great Seal is found on official documents and money. It was originally a stamp used to be pressed into wax to seal official documents. Today, it is printed onto paper.

## NOTES

Blue represents the new constellation born when the U.S. became a country

There is a star for each state and a stripe for each of the original 13 colonies.

The American Flag



Stars are the highest things we know and see - they are what we aspire toward.

Red stands for valor (bravery)

White stands for purity

22. The American Flag is the most well-known symbol of the United States. It is flown in times of war and peace. We Pledge Allegiance or promise loyalty to the flag and the freedom it represents. American flags should be treated with respect.

# NOTES

## Overview: American People, American Land

### Lesson 2: Government by the People

#### Vocabulary

**democracy** a government that is run by the people

**republic** a form of government; in a republic, the people elect other people to make laws and run the government

**constitution** a written plan for government

**citizen** a member of a country

#### Life in a Republic

1. It is the role of government to set rules and laws and make sure people follow them.
2. Rules and laws protect us and make it possible to run a school, city, or country.
3. The United States is a democracy. In a democracy, the people have the power to make laws ~~about~~ government.
4. The United States is set up as a representative democracy or republic. In a republic, the people elect other people to make laws and run the government.
5. Our republic is based upon the United States Constitution. A constitution is a written plan of government.

#### The Role of Citizens

6. Citizens are members of a country. They play the most important part of the U.S. government.
7. People born in the United States are called citizens. People not born in the United States can become U.S. citizens.

## NOTES

8. Citizens have several basic rights. These rights are listed in the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights, known collectively as the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution. Their rights include Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Religion, Freedom of the Press and Freedom of Petition and Assembly.
9. Freedom of Speech means people can freely say what they want about the government without fear they will be punished or get into trouble.
10. Freedom of Religion means people can Worship the way they want and not the way the government tells them they must.
11. Freedom of the Press means people can publish their feelings and beliefs about what goes on in the country in newspapers, magazines, on radio and T.V. and on the internet without fear the government will punish them. Today, we could call this Freedom of the Media.
12. Freedom of Petition and Assembly means citizens can gather in a group to support or protest laws they think are fair/unfair and try to petition or request the government to change the law. They can do this without fear of punishment by the government.
13. Citizens also have the right to a fair trial.
14. All citizens who are at least 18 have the right to vote. Voting is the number one responsibility of a citizen.
15. Other responsibilities of citizens are to obey the laws, go to school, and respect other citizens and their rights.

# NOTES

## We the People

16. The first paragraph of the U.S. Constitution is called the Preamble. It starts out with the words We the People. The Preamble tells us what our government's responsibilities are to its Citizens.

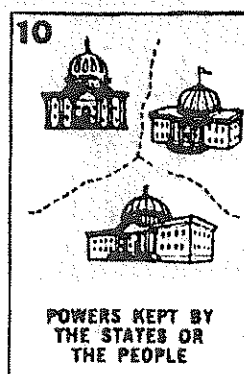
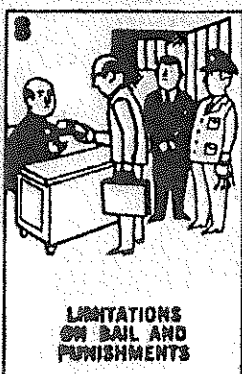
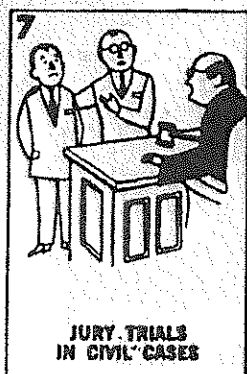
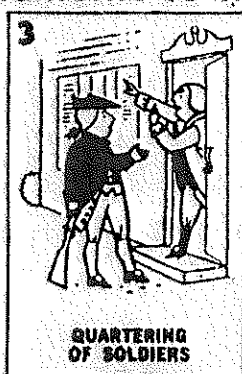
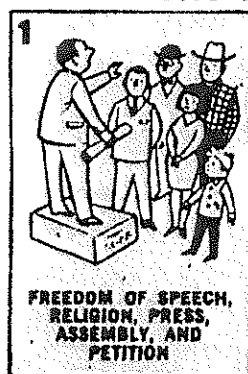
17. Our government is run by the people. It is based on the ideals of freedom, democracy, and equal rights for all.

18. The government has not always treated all people fairly. Sometimes even today people seem to not be treated the same as others.

19. Democracy is not perfect, but we can change laws to protect all people if we feel they are treated unfairly.

## THE BILL OF RIGHTS

### The First Ten Amendments to the U.S. Constitution





# NOTES

## Overview: American People, American Land

### Lesson 3: Free Enterprise

#### Vocabulary

**private property** something owned by individual people or groups  
**economy** system for making and distributing goods and services  
**free enterprise** an economic system in which people are free to start their own businesses and own their own property  
**profit** the money a business has left after it has paid all its costs  
**supply** the amount of a product that is available  
**demand** the amount of a product that people are willing to buy  
**export** a good that one country sells to another country  
**import** a good that one country buys from another country  
**consumer** a person who buys or uses goods and services  
**entrepreneur** a person who starts a new business, hoping to make a profit

#### How Free Enterprise Works

1. The U.S. economy is based on a system called free enterprise. Free enterprise lets Americans start their own businesses and also allows us to own private property, such as cars.
2. Under this system, business owners may choose what they want to sell and how much to sell it for.
3. Business owners generally want to make a profit.
4. Prices for goods are based on supply and demand. Prices go up when something is in high.

## NOTES

demand and the supply is low. Prices go down when demand is low and supply is high. This happens when few people want to buy something that is easy to get.

5. People must consider the opportunity costs the value of the next best choice, when making a decision to produce or buy something.
6. The United States trades many goods with other countries. The United States imports goods such as motor vehicles, electrical machinery, clothing, computers, and office machinery.
7. The United States exports goods such as farm products and cotton.
8. Having different resources available allows for specialization and means countries need to trade with each other.

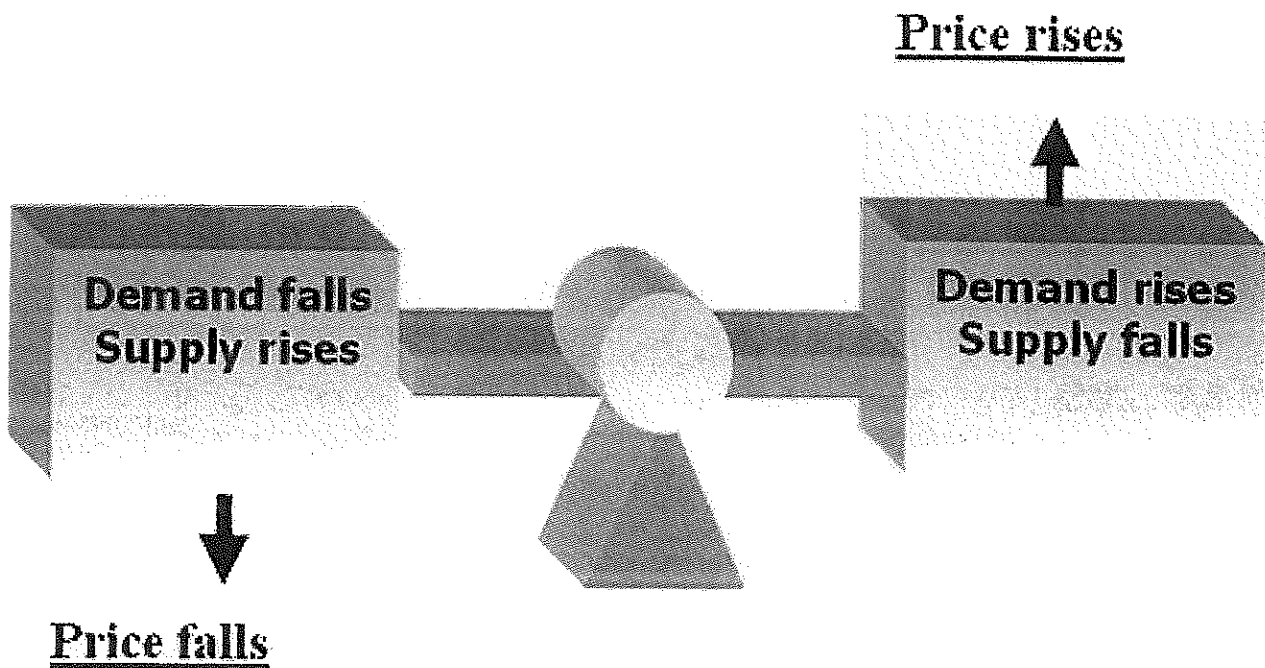
### Benefits of Free Enterprise

9. Consumers can choose between many different products and decide how to spend their money.
10. Free Enterprise also gives consumers certain certain rights, such as expecting producers to supply safe, quality goods, and to be honest in their ads.

## NOTES

11. Free Enterprise also protects inventors.  
If inventors make something people want to buy, the inventors can make money.
12. Entrepreneurs are also helped through free enterprise to start businesses and make a profit.

### Law of Supply and Demand



# NOTES

## Overview: American People, American Land

### Lesson 4: Land and Regions

#### Vocabulary

**region** a large area of land with common features  
**geography** the study of Earth and how people use it  
**agriculture** the business of growing crops and raising animals  
**irrigation** a way of bringing water to dry land  
**climate** the weather in an area over a long period of time  
**precipitation** the amount of water that falls to Earth; rain, snow, or sleet  
**interdependent** depending on one another

#### Regions of the United States

1. The United States has 5 regions: the Northeast                     , Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, and West. Dividing the U.S. into these regions makes it easier to study the country's geography.
2. The Northeast states are Maine (ME), Vermont (VT), New Hampshire (NH), Massachusetts (MA), Connecticut (CT), Rhode Island (RI), New York (NY), New Jersey (NJ), Pennsylvania (PA), Delaware (DE) and Maryland (MD).
3. The Southeast states are Virginia (VA), West Virginia (WV), Kentucky (KY), Tennessee (TN), North Carolina (NC), South Carolina (SC), Georgia (GA), Alabama (AL), Mississippi (MS), Florida (FL), Louisiana (LA), and Arkansas (AR).
4. The Midwest states are Missouri (MO), Ohio (OH), Kansas (KS), Illinois (IL), Michigan (MI), Wisconsin (WI), Indiana (IN), Nebraska (NE), South Dakota (SD), North Dakota, Minnesota (MN), and Iowa (IA).                     (CND)

## NOTES

5. The Southwest States are Arizona (AZ), New Mexico (NM), Oklahoma (OK), and Texas (TX).

6. The states of the West are Washington (WA) Utah (UT), Oregon (OR), Montana (MT) Wyoming (WY), Colorado (CO), Idaho (ID), Nevada (NV) California (CA), Alaska (AK), and Hawaii (HI).

### People and the Land

7. Landforms, such as mountains or plains, affect how people use the land. Flat land is usually the best land to use for agriculture. Agriculture is a word that means farming. Irrigation allows people to grow crops in areas where it was once too dry to farm.

8. The country's largest cities were built near bodies of water.

9. For example, in Kentucky the city of Louisville was built along the Ohio River and the city of Paducah was built along the Mississippi River.

10. Both cities remain two of the largest cities in our state today. Our capitol, Frankfort, was built along the Kentucky River. Rivers were once the only way to travel and transport goods. Before there were cars or airplanes, or even trains, people used the water to move goods and to travel.

### **Bold** → Check the Weather

11. Different areas of the country have different climates. Temperature is part of an area's climate.

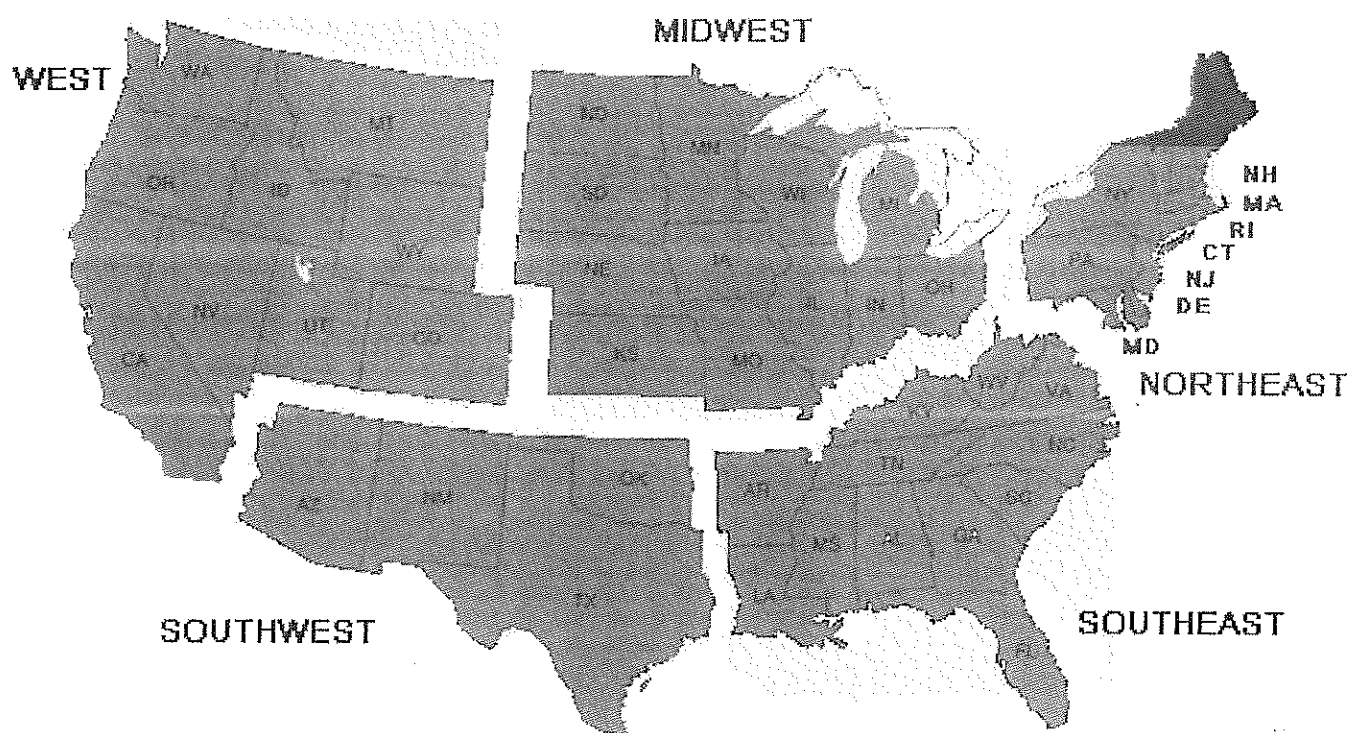
12. The amount of precipitation an area gets is also part of its climate. Climates in the U.S.

## NOTES

get cooler as you move north. The eastern half of the state is mostly humid. It gets more precipitation than the western half. The West is mostly dry.

### Regions Work Together

13. The country's regions are interdependent, meaning they need each other. Different materials are often found in different regions. Regions therefore must work together to make a product. Links between regions are getting stronger because of computers and technology.



# NOTES

## Overview: American People, American Land Lesson 5: Resources and the Environment

### Vocabulary

**natural resource** something found in nature that people can use  
**mineral** something found on Earth that is neither an animal nor a plant  
**fossil fuel** fuel formed from the remains of plants and animals that lived thousands of years ago  
**renewable resource** a resource that can be replaced  
**nonrenewable resource** a resource that cannot be easily replaced  
**conservation** preserving and protecting resources  
**environment** all the things that surround us; for example, land, air, and water  
**pollution** the addition of harmful things to the air, water, or soil

### A Land Rich in Resources

1. The United States has many natural resources. Farmers use the land to grow crops. Wood from trees is used to build homes and make paper.
2. Fossil fuels like coal, oil, and natural gas are used for energy. Fossil fuels are formed in the earth from the remains of plants and animals that lived long ago.
3. People also use minerals such as gold, salt, and aluminum. Minerals are neither animal nor plant.

### Resources and People

4. Natural Resources are very important to the U.S. But the country does not have enough natural resources to last forever. Renewable Resources such as trees can be replaced. Non-Renewable Resources such as oil, are harder to replace.

## NOTES

5. We must protect and use each type of resource carefully. Protecting resources and using them carefully is called conservation.
6. Natural resources are part of the environment. The environment includes all the things that surround us. Protecting our natural resources will help protect our environment.

### Our National Parks

7. National parks are areas of land protected by the U.S. government. There are more than 50 national parks. They are set up all over the country.
8. Yellowstone National Park was created in 1872. The Grand Canyon and parts of the Everglades are also national parks. National parks help protect our environment. Many types of plants and animals live in the parks.

### Protecting the Environment

9. Pollution is the addition of harmful things to the air, water, or soil. Pollution is a problem in our environment.
10. People can lessen pollution by recycling or reusing things.
11. Protecting the environment is important. We need natural resources for food and electricity. We also need clean air and water in order to be healthy.