

CANADA

Before you read

1 How much do you know about Canada? Do the quiz below.

- a Who were the first Europeans to live in Canada?
1 The British 2 The French
- b What is the capital of Canada?
1 Toronto 2 Ottawa
- c Which of these three actors is not Canadian?
1 Jim Carey 2 Keanu Reeves 3 Harrison Ford
- d What is the official sport in Canada in the summer?
1 Football 2 Lacrosse

2 Read the fact file and find out the correct answers to the questions in 1.

- ★ The name *Canada* comes from an Indian word. It means 'big village'.
- ★ The French were the first Europeans to live in Canada. At one time Canada was called New France. The British arrived in 1610 and there was constant conflict between the British and the French. Finally the British beat the French and took control of the country, leaving the French with certain powers in Quebec.
- ★ The official languages of Canada are English and French, except in Quebec, where French is the only official language.
- ★ The capital of Canada is Ottawa, but the most important city for finance and business is Toronto. It's the fourth most important business centre in North America. Only New York, Chicago and Los Angeles are bigger.
- ★ The CN Tower in Toronto is one of the world's highest constructions. It's 554 metres high.
- ★ Many US TV series and films are made in Canada because it's cheaper to film in Canada than in the USA. The *X-Men* films and the *Smallville* and *The X-Files* series were all made in Canada.
- ★ There are many famous Canadian actors and singers: Keanu Reeves, Jim Carey, Mike Myers, Avril Lavigne, Alanis Morissette and Bryan Adams are all Canadian.
- ★ The official national sports of Canada are ice hockey in the winter and lacrosse in the summer.



After you read

3 Are the sentences true or false?

- a The name Canada comes from an English word which means 'big village'.
- b Canada, including Quebec, is officially bilingual.
- c Toronto is a bigger centre for business than Boston, Detroit or San Francisco.
- d *X-Men* was an American film but they filmed it in Canada.
- e Ice hockey is the official sport of Canada in the winter.

