

Year 8

USA

- unit

Name: _____



Ellen Malcolm

Introduction

Welcome to the unit on the USA!

In this unit, we will embark on an exciting journey across the United States, exploring its history, culture, and influence on the world.

The United States is often described as a "melting pot" of cultures, where people from all over the globe have come together to create a unique and vibrant society.

Through a variety of reading, listening, speaking, and writing activities, you will gain a deeper understanding of what makes the USA so fascinating.

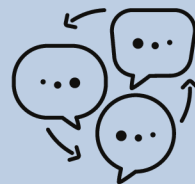
Goals

- Build a deeper understanding of American society.
- Recognize and describe major American cultural traditions and holidays.
- Improve grammar, reading and listening comprehension skills through texts and audio materials.
- Use vocabulary and grammar learned in class to express your thoughts and feelings effectively.
- Gain confidence in expressing yourself in English through writing and speaking.



Starting discussions:

USA



1. What do you know about the USA?

2. What American foods do you know?

3. Can you name any American states?

4. What sports are popular in the USA?

5. Do you know any American holidays?

6. Can you think of any famous American people?

7. What do you think life is like for children in the USA?

8. What are some differences between the USA and Sweden?

9. How are schools in the USA different from schools in Sweden do you think?

10. What holidays do people celebrate in the USA that are different from Swedish holidays?



Reading comprehension:

History of the USA

President George Washington



Translate the words to Swedish

Indigenous _____ Rapidly _____
Settlers _____ Abolish _____
Colonies _____ Influence _____
Independence _____ Acquiring _____
Expansion _____ Movement _____



The United States of America (USA) has a rich and complex history. The story of the USA begins with the arrival of Native Americans, who lived on the land thousands of years before Europeans arrived. These indigenous people had their own cultures, languages, and societies.

In 1492, Christopher Columbus, an Italian explorer, arrived in the Americas. This event led to the arrival of many European settlers, especially from Spain, France, and England. These settlers established colonies along the eastern coast of what is now the United States. Over time, the British colonies became the most powerful.

In 1776, the 13 British colonies declared their independence from Britain. This was the beginning of the United States of America. The leader of this movement was George Washington, who later became the first president of the USA. The war for independence, known as the American Revolutionary War, lasted until 1783, when the colonies won their freedom.

After independence, the USA began to grow rapidly. The country expanded westward, acquiring new territories and states. This period of expansion was not always peaceful. There were conflicts with Native Americans and wars with other countries, such as the War of 1812 against Britain.

One of the darkest periods in American history was the Civil War, which took place from 1861 to 1865. The war was mainly between the northern states (the Union) and the southern states (the Confederacy). The main issue was slavery, which the southern states wanted to keep, while the northern states wanted to abolish. The Union, led by President Abraham Lincoln, won the war, and slavery was officially ended in the USA.

After the Civil War, the USA continued to grow in power and influence. By the 20th century, it had become one of the most powerful countries in the world. The USA played a major role in both World War I and World War II, helping to shape the modern world.



CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

1. Who were the first people to live in what is now the United States?

- ☐ a) Europeans
- ☐ b) Native Americans
- ☐ c) British colonists
- ☐ d) Spanish explorers

2. Christopher Columbus was the first European to establish a colony in what is now the United States.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

3. What year did the 13 British colonies declare their independence from Britain?

4. Who became the first president of the United States after its independence?

- ☐ a) Thomas Jefferson
- ☐ b) Abraham Lincoln
- ☐ c) George Washington
- ☐ d) John Adams

5. The main cause of the American Civil War was the conflict over western expansion.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

6. What were the two sides in the American Civil War called?

7. Which century saw the USA become one of the most powerful countries in the world?

- ☐ a) 17th century
- ☐ b) 18th century
- ☐ c) 19th century
- ☐ d) 20th century





Summarize a text: Native Americans



The Native Americans were the first people to live in what is now the United States. They lived on the land for thousands of years before any Europeans arrived. Native Americans had many different cultures, languages, and ways of life. They lived in different regions, such as forests, plains, deserts, and mountains, and they adapted to their environments in unique ways.

For example, some Native American tribes, like the Iroquois in the Northeast, built longhouses made of wood and bark. They grew crops such as corn, beans, and squash. In the Great Plains, tribes like the Sioux hunted buffalo and lived in teepees, which were easy to move as they followed the herds. In the Southwest, the Hopi and Navajo tribes built homes from clay and grew crops in the desert.

Native Americans had rich traditions and spiritual beliefs. They believed in a close connection to nature and often held ceremonies to honor the earth, the sun, and the animals. Storytelling was also important, as it helped pass down history and traditions from one generation to the next.

When Europeans arrived in the Americas, many Native American tribes welcomed them and helped them survive in the new land. However, as more settlers came, conflicts began. The settlers wanted more land, and this led to many wars and battles between Native Americans and European settlers.

What is a summary?

A summary is a short version of a text. It tells the main ideas in a few sentences.

Steps to summarize a text:

1. Read the text:

- Read the text carefully.
- Make sure you understand it.

2. Find the main ideas:

- Look for the most important points.
- Ignore details that are not important.

3. Write the summary:

- Use your own words.
- Keep it short and clear.
- Include only the main ideas.

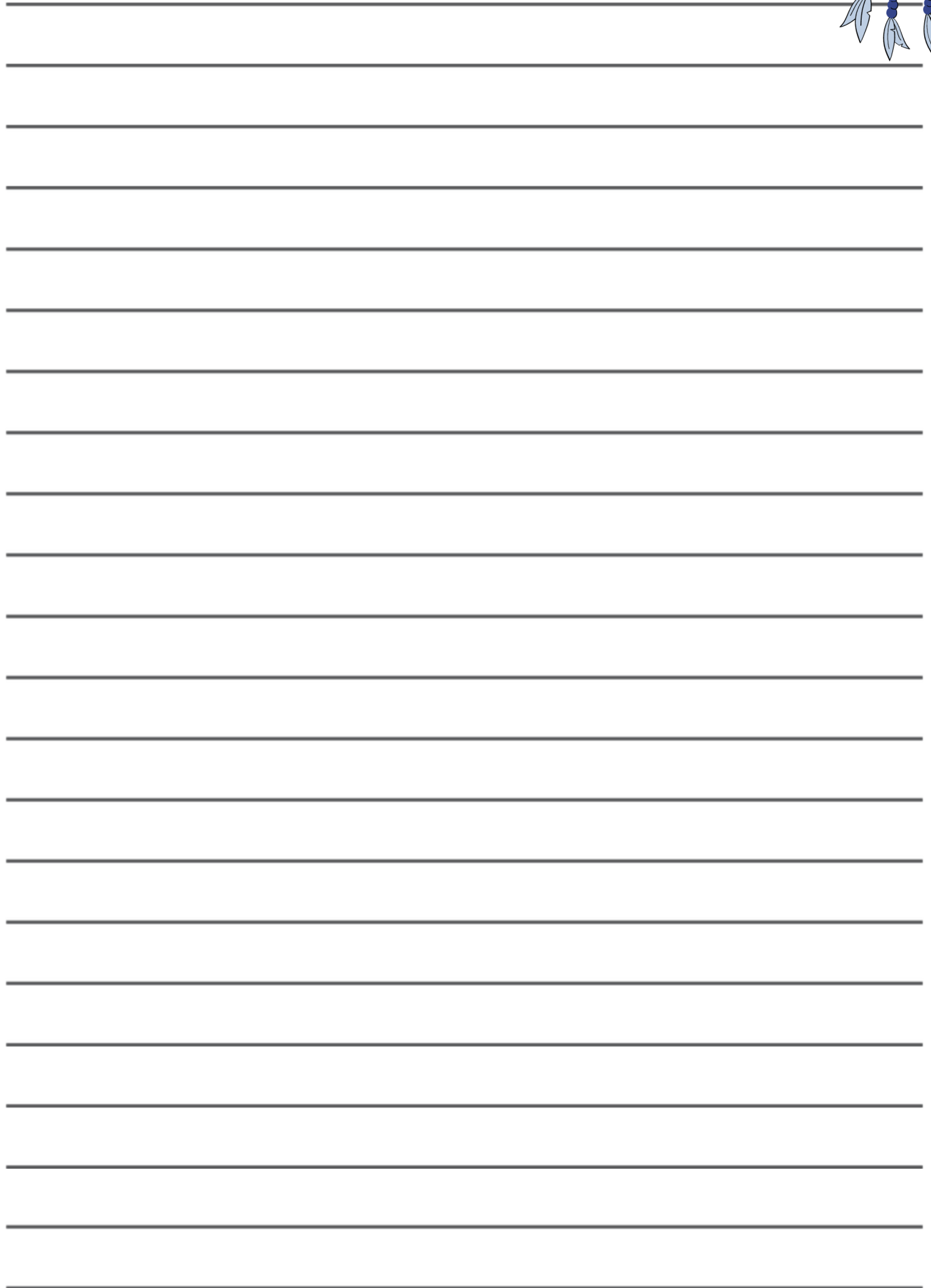
Over time, Native Americans faced many injustices. The settlers and the U.S. government forced Native Americans off their land. They signed treaties, or agreements, with the Native Americans, but these treaties were often broken. Native Americans were pushed to move to reservations, which are areas of land set aside by the government. These reservations were usually far from their original homes and on land that was not as good for farming or hunting. This was very difficult for them, as they lost their homes, traditions, and way of life.

One of the most tragic events in Native American history is the ***Trail of Tears***. In the 1830s, the U.S. government forced the Cherokee and other tribes to leave their land in the Southeast and move to present-day Oklahoma. Thousands of Native Americans died during this long and difficult journey due to hunger, disease, and harsh conditions.

In addition to losing their land, Native Americans were also forced to change their culture. Children were taken away from their families and sent to boarding schools where they were not allowed to speak their native languages or practice their traditions. The goal was to make them more like the European settlers, but this caused great harm to their communities and heritage.

Today, Native Americans continue to live in the United States. Many work to preserve their culture, language, and traditions, despite the challenges they have faced. They are an important part of American history and continue to contribute to the country's rich diversity. However, the injustices they experienced have had lasting effects, and many Native American communities still face difficulties today, such as poverty and limited access to healthcare and education. Efforts are being made to address these issues and to recognize the rights and contributions of Native Americans.







Reading: States in the USA



Translate the words to Swedish

Vast _____ Scenery _____
Declared _____ Joined _____
Union _____ Urban _____
Blend _____ Residents _____
Fabric _____ Annexed _____



The United States is a vast country divided into **50** unique states, each with its own character and charm. These states have their own stories about how they came to be, reflecting the country's rich history.

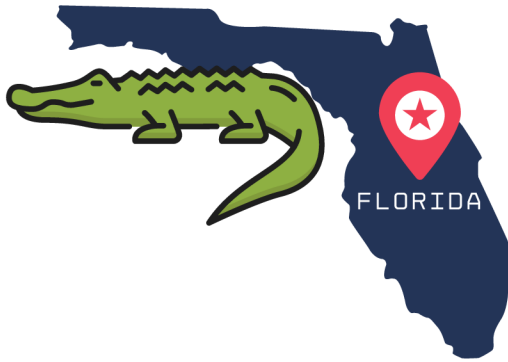
The idea of the USA began with the **13 original colonies** on the East Coast. These colonies declared independence from Britain in 1776, forming the United States. As the country expanded westward, more states joined the union. For example, California became a state in 1850, shortly after the Gold Rush brought many settlers to the region.

Texas has a particularly interesting history. It was an independent republic before joining the USA in 1845. Known for its large size and even larger personalities, Texas has a unique blend of cultures and traditions.



New York was one of the original colonies and played a key role in the early history of the United States. Today, New York City is one of the most famous cities in the world, and the state itself offers a mix of urban excitement and natural beauty.





Florida was acquired from Spain in 1821. Known for its warm weather and sunny beaches, it quickly became a popular destination for tourists and residents alike.

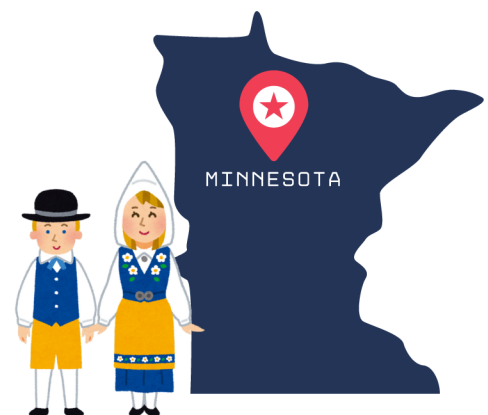
Alaska, the largest state by land area, was purchased from Russia in 1867. It's known for its stunning natural beauty, including glaciers and wildlife, making it a favorite for outdoor enthusiasts.



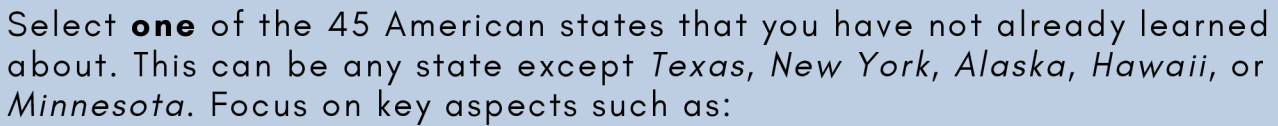
Hawaii became the 50th state in 1959. Its tropical islands were once an independent kingdom before being annexed by the United States in 1898. Today, Hawaii is celebrated for its unique culture, beautiful landscapes, and diverse marine life.



Minnesota has a special connection to Sweden. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, many Swedish immigrants settled in Minnesota, contributing to the state's cultural fabric. This influence is still evident today, with Swedish festivals, traditional foods, and historic sites. Minnesota is known for its friendly people and beautiful natural scenery, including lakes, forests, and rolling hills.



As new states joined the union, they each brought their own history, culture, and traditions to the country. From the snowy peaks of Alaska to the sunny beaches of Florida, each state offers something special and reflects a piece of America's diverse story. Whether you're interested in big cities, natural beauty, or cultural experiences, there's something in the USA for everyone to enjoy.



- Write a short paragraph (about 100-150 words) summarizing what you have learned about the state. Use your own words.

[illegible]



Listening comprehension: Swede Hollow



Translate the words to Swedish

Neighborhood_____ Flooded_____

Poor_____ Sanitation_____

Crowded_____ Unfairly_____

Surrounded_____ Struggles_____



1. Where was Swede Hollow located?

- ☐ a) In New York City
- ☐ b) On the coast of California
- ☐ c) In the Rocky Mountains
- ☐ d) By the Mississippi River



2. What was Swede Hollow known for in the early 1900s?

- ☐ a) It was a wealthy neighborhood
- ☐ b) It was a neighborhood where many immigrants lived
- ☐ c) It was famous for its large, strong houses
- ☐ d) It was a center of business and trade

3. What were some of the problems that Swede Hollow faced?

- ☐ a) Too many parks
- ☐ b) Frequent flooding and poor sanitation
- ☐ c) Too much sunshine
- ☐ d) Large, expensive homes

4. What was one unfair thing people said about Swedes?

- ☐ a) That they smelled bad, like fish
- ☐ b) That they spoke English perfectly
- ☐ c) That they were very wealthy
- ☐ d) That they had the best houses

5. What does the history of Swede Hollow show us?

- ☐ a) The challenges immigrants faced
- ☐ b) How easy life was for immigrants
- ☐ c) That Swede Hollow was not important to St. Paul's history
- ☐ d) How immigrants were always treated equally



Grammar exercise: American food



Complete the sentences using the correct **past tense form** of the **verbs** in parentheses.

American food is famous all over the world. It has a rich history and many different influences from other countries. Let's explore some popular American dishes.

One of the most famous American foods is the hamburger. The story goes that the first hamburger was _____1 (make) in the early 1900s. Since then, it has _____2 (become) a symbol of American fast food. People all over the world have _____3 (eat) hamburgers, and they continue to be a favorite today.

Another popular dish is fried chicken. It _____4 (begin) in the southern United States, where it _____5 (grow) into a beloved meal. Many people have _____6 (try) to make their own fried chicken at home, but the original southern recipe is still the most famous.

American food is not just about fast food. Apple pie is a classic American dessert that_____7(come) from Europe, but it_____8 (take) on a special meaning in the USA. It_____9(become) a symbol of American culture, and the phrase "as American as apple pie"_____10(stick) in people's minds.

In recent years, American cuisine has_____11(go) through many changes. Chefs have_____ 12(bring) new ideas and ingredients to traditional recipes, creating modern American dishes. Food trucks, for example,_____13(spread) across the country, offering a mix of old and new flavors.

Many people have_____14(visit) the USA and_____15(taste) the unique foods that the country has to offer. Whether you prefer sweet desserts or savory meals, American food has something for everyone.



Reading comprehension: Famous people from USA



Translate the words to Swedish

Significant _____ Defiance _____
Contributions _____ Inventing _____
Fought _____ Successful _____
Assassinated _____ Influential _____
Equality _____ Democracy _____



The United States has been home to many influential people who have made significant contributions to various fields such as politics, science, entertainment, and civil rights.

One of the most famous American leaders is Martin Luther King Jr., a civil rights activist. He fought for equal rights for African Americans during the 1950s and 1960s. His famous "I Have a Dream" speech, given in 1963, inspired millions of people. Sadly, he was assassinated in 1968, but his legacy continues to inspire the fight for equality today.



Another key figure in the civil rights movement is Rosa Parks. In 1955, she refused to give up her seat to a white man on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama. This act of defiance sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott, a major event in the fight for equal rights. Parks became known as "the mother of the civil rights movement" and continued her work for equality throughout her life.

In the world of science, Thomas Edison is one of the most well-known American inventors. He is best known for inventing the lightbulb, but he also worked on many other important inventions, like the phonograph and the motion picture camera. Edison held more than 1,000 patents during his lifetime.



Another famous figure is Oprah Winfrey, one of the most successful television personalities in the world. She became famous as the host of The Oprah Winfrey Show, which ran for 25 years. Oprah is also known for her work in charity and for promoting books and education. She is one of the most influential women in the world today.

In sports, Michael Jordan is a legendary basketball player. He played most of his career for the Chicago Bulls and is often considered the greatest basketball player of all time. Jordan won six NBA championships and became an international icon not only for his sports achievements but also for his business success.



Lastly, George Washington, the first President of the United States, played a key role in the country's history. He led the American colonies to victory in the Revolutionary War and helped create the foundation for American democracy. Washington's leadership set a strong example for future presidents.



CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING



1.What did Rosa Parks do to become famous?

- ☐ a) Refuse to give up her seat on a bus
- ☐ b) Invent the phonograph
- ☐ c) Become a basketball star
- ☐ d) Write a famous book

2.Thomas Edison invented over 1,000 things.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

3.What is Martin Luther King Jr. most famous for?

- ☐ a) Inventing the lightbulb
- ☐ b) Hosting a television show
- ☐ c) Fighting for civil rights
- ☐ d) Being a basketball player

4.Oprah Winfrey is best known for her work as a scientist.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

5.Who was the first President of the United States?

- ☐ a) George Washington
- ☐ b) Thomas Edison
- ☐ c) Martin Luther King Jr.
- ☐ d) Michael Jordan

6.Martin Luther King Jr. gave his "I Have a Dream" speech in 1968.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

7.Which invention is Thomas Edison not credited with?

- ☐ a) Phonograph
- ☐ b) Airplane
- ☐ c) Lightbulb
- ☐ d) Motion picture camera

8. What is one of Oprah Winfrey's contributions outside of television?

- ☐ a) Inventing civil rights
- ☐ b) Inventing the phonograph
- ☐ c) Playing basketball
- ☐ d) Promoting education

9.Rosa Parks' act of defiance started the Montgomery Bus Boycott.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False





Listening comprehension: "The American Dream"



Translate the words to Swedish

Successful_____ Comfortably_____

Freedom_____ Education_____

Opportunities_____ Career_____



1. What is the American Dream?

- ☐ a) Traveling the world
- ☐ b) The idea that everyone should have the chance to be happy and successful
- ☐ c) Becoming rich without working
- ☐ d) Going to school for free



2. What did people from other countries hope to find in America?

- ☐ a) Free houses
- ☐ b) A better job and a safe place to live
- ☐ c) A free education
- ☐ d) Land to build farms

3. What did the American Dream focus on in the past?

- ☐ a) Owning land and farming
- ☐ b) Traveling to space
- ☐ c) Becoming famous
- ☐ d) Building skyscrapers

4. The American Dream today means the same thing to everyone.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

5. What are some examples of what the American Dream means today?



Summarize a text: American holidays



Some of the most celebrated holidays in the USA are Thanksgiving, Halloween, and the Fourth of July.

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November each year. It is one of the most important family holidays in the United States, and its history dates back to 1621. The holiday originates from a feast shared between the Pilgrims, who were early settlers in North America, and the Wampanoag Native Americans. The feast was a way to give thanks for the successful harvest and the help the Native Americans had provided.

Today, Thanksgiving is mainly about spending time with family and reflecting on the things we are grateful for. Families gather for a large meal, with the centerpiece being a roasted turkey. Other traditional dishes include mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie. It's also common to watch American football games or parades, such as the famous Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. Despite its historical roots, Thanksgiving has become a time to appreciate what we have and to connect with loved ones.

What is a summary?

A summary is a short version of a text. It tells the main ideas in a few sentences.

Steps to summarize a text:

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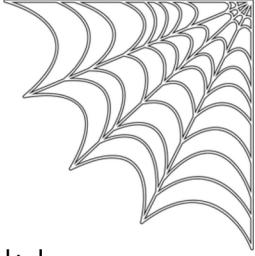
- Look for the most important points.
- Ignore details that are not important.

3. Write the summary:

- Use your own words.
- Keep it short and clear.
- Include only the main ideas.



Halloween



Halloween, celebrated on October 31st, is one of the most exciting holidays for children and adults alike. It has roots in the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, a time when people believed that the boundary between the living and the dead was blurred. Over time, Halloween evolved into a more secular holiday filled with fun traditions.

One of the most popular Halloween activities is trick-or-treating, where children dress up in costumes and go from house to house asking for candy. Costumes can range from cute to spooky, with popular choices including witches, ghosts, superheroes, and animals. Pumpkin carving is another well-loved tradition, where people carve jack-o'-lanterns with funny or frightening faces and place them on their doorsteps.

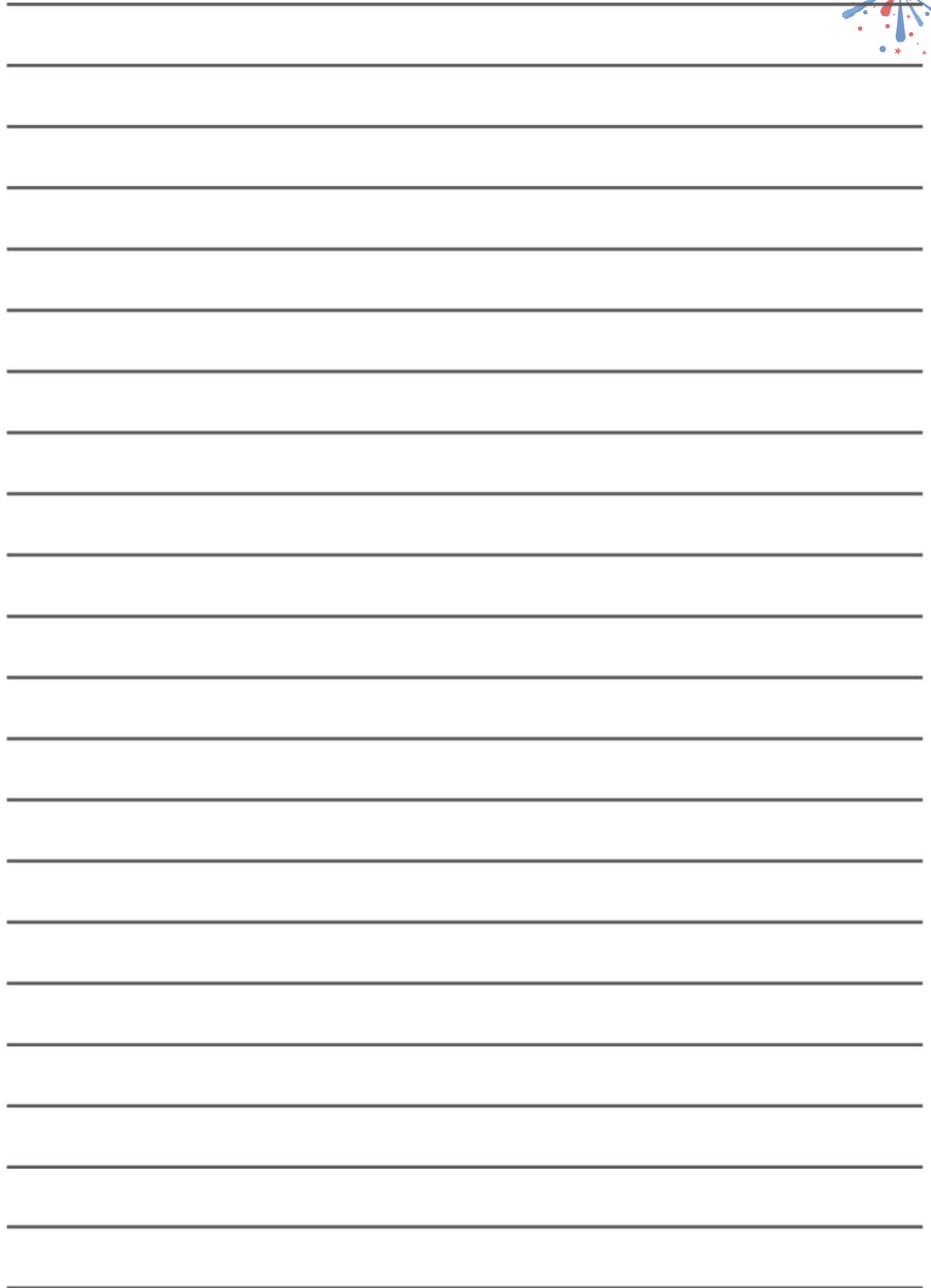
Halloween is also known for its haunted houses, parties, and scary movies. Many people decorate their homes with spooky themes like cobwebs, skeletons, and ghosts. While it originally had ties to the supernatural, Halloween is now mostly about having fun, dressing up, and indulging in sweets.



The Fourth of July

The Fourth of July, also called Independence Day, is a national holiday celebrating the United States' independence from Britain. On July 4, 1776, the **Declaration of Independence** was signed, marking the birth of the nation. Fourth of July celebrations are celebrated with fireworks, parades, and barbecues. Many cities hold large firework displays, with people gathering in parks or backyards to watch the night sky light up in bright colors. Patriotic music, such as the national anthem and "**America the Beautiful**," often accompanies these events.

Barbecues are a key part of the holiday, with families and friends grilling hot dogs, hamburgers, and corn on the cob. People also decorate their homes with red, white, and blue, the colors of the American flag. Parades are common during the day, often featuring marching bands, floats, and people dressed in colonial costumes.





Grammar exercise:

Route 66



In this text there are 10 words missing. Read the text and decide what words should fill the gaps. You **MUST** write a word in each gap, but only **ONE** word per gap.

Route 66 is one of the most _____ (1) roads in the United States, often called the "Main Street of America." It _____ (2) from Chicago to Los Angeles, covering a total of 2,448 miles. This historic _____ (3) was officially established in 1926 and became a _____ (4) of freedom and exploration for many Americans. The route helped to _____ (5) small towns and big cities, bringing economic growth to many rural areas. Along the way, _____ (6) would encounter a diverse _____ (7) that includes deserts, mountains, and plains. Route 66 is not just a road, but also a journey full of history, _____ (8) charm, and classic American culture.

Many travelers today still take the road for an _____ (9), stopping at iconic roadside _____ (10) like old diners, motels, and gas stations. While much of the original route has been replaced by modern highways, Route 66 remains a beloved part of American history.

word bank

☐ adventure
☐ famous
☐ connect

☐ travelers
☐ stretches

☐ symbol
☐ nostalgic

☐ attractions
☐ landscape
☐ highway



Reading comprehension:

The Bald Eagle



Translate the words to Swedish

Recognizable _____ Agreed _____
Emblem _____ Opposed _____
Gained _____ Preferred _____
Bird of _____ Endangered _____
prey _____ Reinforcing _____
Sacred _____



The bald eagle is one of the most recognizable symbols of the United States. It became the national bird and emblem in 1782, shortly after the country gained its independence. But why was the bald eagle chosen, and what does it represent?

When the Founding Fathers were deciding on a national symbol, they wanted something that would represent strength, courage, freedom, and independence—values they believed reflected the new nation. The bald eagle, native to North America, was seen as the perfect choice. It is a powerful bird of prey that flies high above the landscape, symbolizing the strength and freedom of the United States.

The bald eagle also has important connections to the environment and nature. It was chosen, in part, because it is unique to North America and represents the beauty and wildlife of the continent. For centuries, Native Americans also saw the bald eagle as a sacred bird, believing it had spiritual powers.

However, not everyone agreed with this choice. Benjamin Franklin, one of the Founding Fathers, famously opposed the bald eagle.

He thought the bird had "bad moral character" because it sometimes stole food from other animals. Franklin preferred the wild turkey, which he believed was more honest and hardworking. Despite his opinion, the bald eagle became the official symbol and has represented the country ever since.

Over the years, the bald eagle has appeared on American money, official documents, and even military insignia. While it was once endangered, conservation efforts have helped its population recover, further reinforcing its place as a symbol of American resilience and strength.



CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

1. When did the bald eagle become the national bird of the United States?

- ☐ a) 1800
- ☐ b) 1782
- ☐ c) 1865
- ☐ d) 1607

2. What did Benjamin Franklin prefer as a national bird?

- ☐ a) The bald eagle
- ☐ b) The pigeon
- ☐ c) The owl
- ☐ d) The wild turkey

3. The bald eagle is native to North America.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

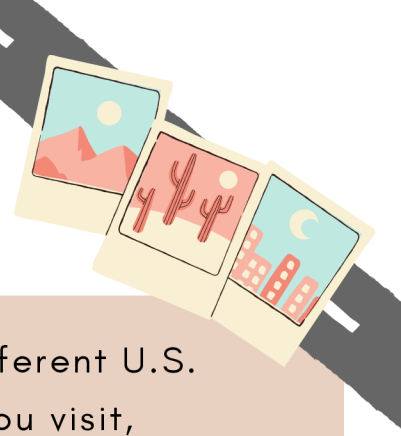


4. Why did Native Americans consider the bald eagle a sacred bird?

5. What values did the bald eagle symbolize for the new nation?



Final assignment writing: An American road trip



Write a diary of a road trip where you travel through **5** different U.S. states. You will write **5** diary entries, one for each state you visit, describing your experiences, the places you visit, and anything else you notice about the state. Each entry should describe at least **3** attractions or places of interest within that state.



Instructions



I. Plan your road trip

- Choose **5** U.S. states that you will visit during your road trip.
- Research at least **3** attractions or places of interest for each state.

These could be:

- National parks
- Famous cities or towns
- Landmarks
- Cultural or natural sites
- Festivals or local events
- Popular restaurants or food spots



2. Diary entries

- Write **5** separate diary entries (one for each state).
- Each entry should be 200–300 words.
- Describe your personal experiences with each attraction (even though they are fictional, write from a first-person perspective as if you are actually visiting).

Include

- How you feel about the place.
- What you saw, heard, tasted, and did.
- The atmosphere and people you meet.
- Any challenges or surprises during your trip.
- Your thoughts about the state in general (e.g., culture, landscape, weather).



Things to think about

- **Geography and Landscape:** Mention different types of landscapes in each state (like mountains, deserts, coasts, forests, etc.).
- **Local Culture:** Talk about any local traditions, people's accents, or things that are typical of that state.
- **Food and Cuisine:** If possible, describe typical foods or restaurants that you try in each state.
- **Weather:** How does the weather affect your experience? Is it hot, rainy, snowy, or perfect for sightseeing?
- **Wildlife and Nature:** What animals or nature do you notice? Some states are famous for specific wildlife.

Research

- You are allowed to research your chosen states before you write. Use maps, travel blogs, or official websites to learn about popular attractions and unique characteristics of each state.



Additional ideas to include

Meeting people

- Include interactions with locals. Maybe you meet a park ranger, a shop owner, or another traveler. How do these encounters affect your trip?

Challenges on the road

- Did your car break down? Did you get lost? Write about any problems that happen during the journey and how you solve them.

Cultural differences:

- How are the different states you visit unique from each other? For example, the culture of Texas is very different from that of California. Mention anything you notice that feels "different" from state to state.

Reflection:

- At the end of each diary entry, include a short reflection. Would you visit this state again? What was your favorite part? How did this state compare to others on your trip?

Example Entry (State: California)



Day 4: Driving through California

Today was incredible! I woke up early in San Francisco and drove across the Golden Gate Bridge. The view was breathtaking, and I could see Alcatraz Island in the distance. The weather was perfect—blue skies and a slight breeze. After visiting the bridge, I walked around Fisherman's Wharf and tried the famous clam chowder in a sourdough bread bowl. Delicious!

In the afternoon, I made my way down the coast on the Pacific Coast Highway. The road was narrow and winding, but the ocean views were absolutely worth it. I stopped at Big Sur to take some pictures of the cliffs and watch the waves crash against the rocks. By evening, I reached Los Angeles and took a walk down Hollywood Boulevard. I couldn't believe how many stars I recognized on the Walk of Fame!

Overall, California has so much variety—from the bustling city streets of San Francisco to the peaceful beauty of the coast. I can't wait to see more tomorrow as I continue south to San Diego!

Checklist: An American roadtrip



1. Plan your trip:

- ☐ I have picked **5** U.S. states to visit.
- ☐ I have found **3** interesting places in each state (like parks, cities, or famous spots).

2. Write 5 diary entries:

- ☐ I have written one entry for each state (200–300 words).
- ☐ **In each entry, I have included:**
 - What I did and how I felt about the places.
 - What I saw, heard, and tasted.
 - Information about the people and the atmosphere.
 - Any surprises or problems during my trip.
 - How I traveled (roads, scenery).
 - My opinion about the state (culture, landscape, weather).

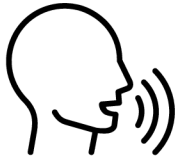
3. Details

- ☐ I have mentioned the landscape (mountains, beaches, forests).
- ☐ I have talked about the local culture (traditions, accents).
- ☐ I have described the food I ate, especially if it's special to the state.
- ☐ I have explained how the weather affected my trip.
- ☐ I have talked about my road trip experience (driving, scenery).
- ☐ I have mentioned any animals or nature I saw.



Checklista för engelsk textproduktion

- ☐ Jag har med alla delar av uppgiftsbeskrivningen
- ☐ Jag har läst igenom texten högt för mig själv för att höra att den flyter på bra
- ☐ Jag har läst igenom texten för att kolla efter stavfel
- ☐ Jag har skrivit stort "I" på alla ord som är "jag"
- ☐ Jag har använt stor bokstav på namn och efter punkt
- ☐ Jag har markerat sammandragna former av engelska ord med apostrof – t.ex. do not = "don't" – I am = I'm osv.
- ☐ Jag har använt "A" och "An" på rätt sätt. A används innan ord med konsonantljud (A Dog) och AN används innan ord med vokalljud (AN Elephant)
- ☐ Jag har använt "is" och "are" på rätt sätt. Kortfattat kan man säga att man använder "is" när det rör sig om EN sak/person: "she is", och "are" när det rör sig om FLERA: "they are"
- ☐ Jag har varierat mitt språk med t.ex. sambandsmarkörer



Final assignment speaking: Oral presentation about an American state



Prepare an engaging oral presentation about an American state. Use online resources to gather information and make your presentation interesting for the audience. Include at least one “hook” to capture the attention of your audience.

Aim for 5-7 minutes, allowing time for questions and discussion. Speak confidently and clearly. Make eye contact with your audience and use gestures to emphasize key points.

You can use the points below to plan your presentation:

- How many people live there?
- What kind of animals can you find there?
- Places to visit?
- What kind of weather do they have?
- What is the state capital called?
- What does their state mark/flag look like?
- What is the state famous for in particular?
- How big is the area of the state?
- Fun or interesting facts about the state. What strange/mysterious/creepy happened in the state?
- Celebrities from the state?



Hooks in oral presentations

A "hook" is something that you say or do in an oral presentation to catch the audience's attention. It's like a fishing hook that grabs fish—an effective hook grabs the audience's interest and makes them want to keep listening. Here are some different types of hooks you can use, with examples:

Ask a question

Start with a question that makes the audience think or relate to the topic.

Example: "Have you ever wondered why we dream at night?"

Tell a story

Begin with a short story or personal experience that connects to your topic.

Example: "When I was 10 years old, I got lost in the woods. It was the scariest moment of my life, but I learned something important that day."

Use a surprising fact

Share a fact that might surprise or amaze the audience.

Example: "The human brain has about 86 billion neurons, which is more than the number of stars in the Milky Way galaxy!"

Quote

Start with a famous or meaningful quote that relates to your topic.

Example: "As Mahatma Gandhi said, 'Be the change you wish to see in the world.'"

Make a bold statement

Begin with a strong opinion or statement to grab attention.

Example: "Climate change is the biggest threat to our planet, and we are running out of time to stop it."

Use an interesting statistic

Present a statistic that makes the audience think about your topic.

Example: "Nearly 1 in 5 people in the world speak English, making it one of the most spoken languages on the planet."

Use an interesting photo

Show a powerful or thought-provoking image that connects with your topic.

Example: Show a picture of a melting iceberg when discussing climate change. "This is what's happening in the Arctic as we speak."



50 STATES OF AMERICA

1. Alabama
2. Alaska
3. Arizona
4. Arkansas
5. California
6. Colorado
7. Connecticut
8. Delaware
9. Florida
10. Georgia
11. Hawaii
12. Idaho
13. Illinois
14. Indiana
15. Iowa
16. Kansas
17. Kentucky
18. Louisiana
19. Maine
20. Maryland
21. Massachusetts
22. Michigan
23. Minnesota
24. Mississippi
25. Missouri
26. Montana
27. Nebraska
28. Nevada
29. New Hampshire
30. New Jersey
31. New Mexico
32. New York
33. North Carolina
34. North Dakota
35. Ohio
36. Oklahoma
37. Oregon
38. Pennsylvania
39. Rhode Island
40. South Carolina
41. South Dakota
42. Tennessee
43. Texas
44. Utah
45. Vermont
46. Virginia
47. Washington
48. West Virginia
49. Wisconsin
50. Wyoming

Vocabulary



Vocabulary 1

1. **Explorer** – Upptäcktsresande
2. **Settlers** – Bosättare
3. **Colonies** – Kolonier
4. **Independence** – Självständighet
5. **Abolish** – Avskaffa
6. **Influence** – Inflytande
7. **Heritage** – Arv
8. **Diversity** – Mångfald
9. **Rapidly** – Snabbt

Vocabulary 2

1. **Acquiring** – Förvärva
2. **Vast** – Omfattande
3. **Declared** – Förkunnade
4. **Blend** – Blandning
5. **Fabric** – Tyg
6. **Joined** – Gick med
7. **Residents** – Invånare
8. **Neighborhood** – Grannskap

Vocabulary 3

1. **Poor** – Fattig
2. **Crowded** – Fullt
3. **Surrounded** – Omgiven
4. **Flooded** – Översvämmad
5. **Unfairly** – Orättvist
6. **Struggles** – Kamp
7. **Significant** – Betydande
8. **Contributions** – Bidrag
9. **Fought** – Kämpade

Vocabulary 4

1. **Equality** – Jämlikhet
2. **Defiance** – Trotsa
3. **Invention** – Uppfinning
4. **Successful** – Framgångsrik
5. **Influential** – Inflytelserik
6. **Democracy** – Demokrati
7. **Feast** – Festmåltid
8. **Harvest** – Skörd
9. **Grateful** – Tacksam

Vocabulary 5

1. **Roots** – Rötter
2. **Fireworks** – Fyrverkerier
3. **Barbecue** – Grilla
4. **Recognizable** – Igenkännbar
5. **Bird of prey** – Rovfågel
6. **Sacred** – Helig
7. **Agreed** – Överenskommet
8. **Preferred** – Föredragen
9. **Endangered** – Utrotningshotad

