Match the names below with their locations on the map by writing the correct letter in the blank.

Physical Features of Canada

1. Arctic Lowlands
2. Atlantic Coast
3. Great Lakes
4. Hudson Bay
5. Pacific Coast
6. Prairies
7. Rocky Mountains
Write each vocabulary word from the Word Bank next to the image it describes.
Then draw a line from the vocabulary word to its definition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary</th>
<th>Word Bank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ecumene  urban rural plural society</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. ![Image](image1.png)  
   ________________________
   a. found in or living in a city

2. ![Image](image2.png)  
   ________________________
   b. a society in which different cultural groups keep their own identity, beliefs, and traditions

3. ![Image](image3.png)  
   ________________________
   c. a geographic region that is well suited for permanent settlement by people. Areas not included in the region are generally too dry, too cold, or too rugged for permanent human settlement.

4. ![Image](image4.png)  
   ________________________
   d. found in or living in areas that are not close to cities
Canada’s Five Regions

Canada is divided into provinces and territories. There are ten provinces. Canada's provinces are similar to states in the United States. Each province has a provincial government. There are also local governments within provinces. Territories are areas that have too few people to be provinces.

Geographers often divide Canada into five regions. They are outlined in black on the map below. Each region has its own geography. Each also has its own history and way of life.

Physical Features of Canada

Atlantic Region  This region extends along the Atlantic coast of Canada. It includes the provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. Some of these provinces are islands in the Atlantic Ocean.

Core Region  This region stretches north of the Great Lakes. It includes the two large provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

Prairie Region  This region covers Canada’s central plains. It includes the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta.

Pacific Region  This region is on Canada’s Pacific coast. It is made up of the province of British Columbia.
Northern Region  This region lies to the north of the provinces. It reaches far into the Arctic Ocean. It includes Canada's three territories. These are the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

Settlement Patterns in Canada

Suppose that you could spread out Canada’s people evenly throughout the country. About eight people would live in every square mile. But Canada's people do not live like this. Outside of the large cities, an average of only two people live in every square mile.

The Atlantic Region  This was the first area where Europeans settled in Canada. They came because fishing was so good in the North Atlantic. Until recent years, most people here made a living by fishing. But the ocean has been overfished. The government now limits fishing to make sure there will be fish in the future. As a result, many people have moved away.

The Core Region  Most Canadians live in Canada's core region. This region has three of Canada's largest cities. They are Toronto, Montreal, and the capital city of Ottawa. In the past, people came to Ontario to work in its many factories. More recently, they have come for jobs in banks, computer companies, and other businesses.

The Prairie Region  About 6 million people live in the three prairie provinces. Farming was once the main activity here. Today the oil and gas business is booming in Alberta. As a result, Alberta is the fastest growing province in Canada. Its biggest cities are Edmonton and Calgary. Both are popular urban areas.

The Pacific Region  British Columbia is home to more than 4 million people. Most live around the cities of Vancouver and Victoria. People also live on the western slopes of the Rocky Mountains. Many people from Asia have moved to this region. This is because of its location on the Pacific Ocean. Many countries in Asia are located near the Pacific.

The Northern Region  This is the largest region in land area. But it has the fewest people. Only about 111,000 people live in all three territories. The region is costly to live in because it is so far from other places. There are so few roads that goods are often flown in by plane.
Language Patterns in Canada

If you walked around Toronto, you would hear people speaking many different languages. Of course, you would hear English and French. But many other cultural groups live there as well. Toronto has one of the most multicultural school districts in the world. More than half the students in the city speak a language other than English at home.

The Atlantic Region  Most people in this region speak English as their first language. Their families came from Great Britain to farm or fish many years ago. Some French speakers settled here as well. French remains their first language.

The Core Region  In Ontario, most people speak English. But in Quebec, most people speak French. Other languages spoken here include Chinese, Italian, and Portuguese. For many years, Canadians argued about which language their government should use. Now both French and English are its official languages. Some people in Quebec think their province should be a separate country. In 1995, the people of Quebec voted on this question. They decided to stay part of Canada, but it was a close vote.

The Prairie Region  European settlers first came to this region to farm. Now, oil in Alberta attracts newcomers. English is the first language for more than four out of five people in this region. But people who speak French, German, and Ukrainian have moved here too.

The Pacific Region  Here, English is the first language. But many people from Asia also live in this region. Chinese is the second most common language. Some people from India speak Punjabi. Some people from the Philippines speak Tagalog.

The Northern Region  Almost two thirds of the people in the north speak English as their first language. Many are English-speaking Canadians who moved here to work for the government. Most of the founding peoples, such as the Inuit, have kept their cultures. The Inuit continue to speak Inuktitut.

Climate Zones in Canada

Winters are long and summers are short in this northern country. Canadians have adjusted by finding ways to have fun in all seasons. In summer, for example, people in Ottawa use the Rideau Canal for boating. But in the winter the canal freezes. For a few months it becomes the longest skating rink in the world.

The Atlantic Region  This area has a fairly mild humid continental climate. Winters can be very wet. Halifax, for example, gets five inches of precipitation in January alone. Nova Scotia is said to be the birthplace of ice hockey. The story goes that Canadians were unhappy spending the long winter months indoors. They knew of a game that is like field hockey. Someone thought to play the game on ice, and ice hockey was born. Today ice hockey is popular in the United States, as well.
The Core Region  The southern part of this area has a humid continental climate. Toronto’s average temperature in July is a pleasant 63°F. Every February, the city of Ottawa celebrates Winterlude. People ice skate and ride sleighs along the Rideau Canal. There are races and figure-skating contests. You can learn how to make ice carvings. Or you can eat at a cafe carved from ice!

The Prairie Region  The southern part of this region has a semiarid to humid continental climate. The northern part has a subarctic climate. In Churchill, the average January temperature is a frosty –16°F. Churchill is called the “Polar Bear Capital of the World.” Once a year, more than 1,000 migrating polar bears pass through this town. People travel each year to Churchill to see this event.

The Pacific Region  The coast of British Columbia has a marine west coast climate. In Vancouver, January temperatures average 37°F. This is much warmer than most parts of Canada. Winter surfing is a popular sport off the Pacific coast. Large waves from winter storms challenge surfers there. Farther inland lie the Coast Mountains and the Rocky Mountains. The high altitudes here mean long, cold winters. You will find some of Canada’s best ski resorts in this region.

The Northern Region  Much of this area is treeless tundra. The most northern part has very few plants. The southern part has a subarctic climate. The temperature in the town of Whitehorse in July averages 57°F. The all-terrain vehicle has replaced the dog sled in the north. But people still love to compete in dog sled races. A long-distance race can cover 1,000 miles and take up to two weeks.

Building Patterns in Canada

Let’s say you are visiting the Museum of Civilization in Ottawa. You see houses of Canada’s native peoples. Later you look at a lumber camp. Then you walk past an oil derrick or a fishing village. You soon see how people's needs and traditions, as well as their locations, have led them to build different kinds of structures.

The Atlantic Region  Lighthouses dot the coast in this region. This is because of the importance of fishing. Lighthouses help sailors figure out their position on the ocean. They let ships know that land is near and warn of dangerous rocks. Canada still has several hundred lighthouses in operation.

The Core Region  Many buildings here combine British and French influences. The Parliament Buildings in Ottawa were built in the Gothic revival style. British and French settlers brought this style from Europe. These large stone buildings have tall, pointed windows and carved ornaments. Another example of this style is the Château Frontenac. This is a famous hotel in Quebec City.
The Prairie Region  Farms cover the southern part of this region. The typical farm sits on hundreds of acres. Beside the barn is a silo. This is a tall structure for storing grain. Farmers in this rural region usually grow spring wheat. This crop is planted in the spring and harvested in late summer. It grows well in climates with harsh winters.

The Pacific Region  British influence is strong here. Victoria was the first city in British Columbia. It is known as the most British of Canadian cities. Some buildings there look almost like castles.

The Northern Region  This region has long, cold winters. In the past, some Inuit made winter igloos from snow blocks. The word *igloo* means “house.” Igloos can also be made of other materials, such as sod, stone, or wood. Today, most Inuit have houses made from kits. Such a house is put together from sections made in factories. Inuit live in widely scattered villages along the Arctic Ocean or Hudson Bay.

Economic Activity in Canada

Canada is rich in natural resources. Furs and lumber were early exports. Today oil and minerals are important as well. Even so, most Canadians today work in service industries. These industries produce a service for people rather than goods. Examples include restaurants, dry cleaners, and banks.

The Atlantic Region  In the 1800s, this region had a strong economy. Good fishing in the Atlantic Ocean made it easy to make a living. But, as you read earlier, overfishing has led to limits on fishing. That, in turn, has put many people out of work. Coal mining and farming are also economic activities here. But poor soil limits farming to small patches of good land. Forestry is a growing industry. Forestry companies produce lumber and pulp for paper.

The Core Region  Most of Canada’s factories are located here. This region is also a strong farming center. More than a third of Canada’s farm products are grown here. Recently, the region has become a large producer of hydroelectric power. This is electricity generated from flowing rivers. Some power plants are located on rivers in northern Quebec. Others are found near Niagara Falls or along the St. Lawrence River.

The Prairie Region  This region produces about half of the country’s farm products. Its southern plains are good for raising grains. Mining is also important. Over half of Canada’s minerals are mined here. They include coal, nickel, copper, zinc, and uranium. Much oil is trapped in the oil sands of northern Alberta. This area is thought to contain more oil than the entire Middle East. It is expensive to separate oil from the sand. But because demand for oil is high, Alberta’s oil business is booming. The same is true in Edmonton, one of the fastest-growing cities in Canada.
The Pacific Region  Forestry and fishing are important in British Columbia. But now newer industries are growing faster. Both metals and coal are mined in this region. The shipping industry is growing as well. Shippers on the coast carry Canadian products to all parts of the world. Many rivers have been dammed to produce hydroelectric power. Much of the electricity generated in the region is sold to the United States.

The Northern Region  Some native peoples still follow the nomadic, or wandering, life of herders and hunters. But most have settled in small villages. Because there is little business in most villages, jobs are few. Canadians from the south sometimes come here to work for short periods. They find jobs with the government, churches, or mining companies. Many people in the territories believe that there are undiscovered precious minerals still to be found here.
How does where you live influence how you live? You can find out by creating a map that shows how your way of life is influenced by the place where you live. Follow these instructions:

1. In the space below, draw an outline map of your state.
2. Locate and label your community.
3. Then, on your map, draw and label three examples that show how location influences how you live. For example, if you live near mountains, you might ski or go snowboarding in the winter.