Exploring the Unlimited Opportunities in North America

SELBSTKORREKTURBOGEN

TOPIC 1: Spending a Year at an American High School

Task 1.
Welcome to America! Can you tick (☑) which is American English (AE) (as opposed to British English)?

☐ Ich habe die Formulierungen in amerikanischem Englisch richtig herausgefunden:

1. Starting a letter
☐ A. Dear Mr Eisele,
☑ B. Dear Mr. Eisele:

2. Spelling: ll and l
☐ A. traveling
☑ B. travelling

3. Those who go to school to learn
☑ A. students
☐ B. pupils

4. The word for somebody who is not yet 13 years old:
☐ A. child
☑ B. kid

5. A difference in spelling (o / ou)
☐ A. favorite
☑ B. favourite

6. Places in the city
☐ A. car park
☑ B. parking lot

7. Places where you can go (if there is no lockdown)
☐ A. cinema
☑ B. movie theater
Task 2
So many adventures along the way! Put Jonas’s adventures into the right order:

1. German airport
2. Airport in Charlotte, South Carolina
3. Airport in Charleston, South Carolina
4. Meeting host parents
5. Having pizza
6. Waking up too early
7. Making plans for Monday

☐ Ich habe Jonas’ Abenteuer in die richtige Reihenfolge gebracht:
Task 3. Answer the questions.

Ich habe alle Fragen richtig beantwortet:

1. How did Jonas get to Charleston?
   ⇒ Jonas got to Charleston by plane.

2. Who was waiting for Jonas at the airport?
   ⇒ The school counselor was waiting for Jonas at the airport.

3. Why did Jonas wake up so early?
   ⇒ Jonas woke up so early because he was excited and very nervous.

4. What do you know about his host family?
   ⇒ Jonas’s host family are young and have a six-year-old son, Tony.

5. Why is Jonas going to school on Monday?
   ⇒ He is going to school on Monday to get his timetable.

Task 4.
Think of at least five questions you would like to ask Jonas. Write them down:

Ich habe mindestens fünf eigene Fragen formuliert, z.B:

1. What are you most excited about?

2. Do you like your first stay in the USA?

3. How was your flight from Germany to Charleston?

4. How do you like your host school?

5. Do you like Tony?
Task 5.
Put the sentence parts into the correct order and learn about the American school system.

Ich habe alle 16 Sätze in die richtige Reihenfolge gebracht und aufgeschrieben:

1. students • pupils • in the USA • are called.
   ⇒ In the USA, pupils are called students.

2. kids • at the age of five • start school.
   ⇒ Kids start school at the age of five.

3. they • to elementary school • go • for the first six years.
   ⇒ They go to elementary school for the first six years.

4. then • pass on to • they • middle school.
   ⇒ Then they pass on to middle school.

5. middle school ages • from 10 • 14 • range.
   ⇒ The middle school ages range from 10 to 14.

6. after grade 8 • go • they • to high school.
   ⇒ After grade 8, they go to high school.

7. can • at high school • some of their courses • choose • the students.
   ⇒ At high school the students can choose some of their courses.

8. but all students • usually • English, History, Math • must • and P.E. (Physical Education) Sports • take.
   ⇒ But all students usually must take English, History, Math and P.E. Sports.
9. as • we know it • from Germany • no classes • there are.

 ⇒ There are no classes as we know it from Germany.

10. fixed classroom • them • for the lesson • teachers have their • and students

 visit

 ⇒ Teachers have their fixed classroom and students visit them for the lesson.

11. at • a dress code • school uniforms or • American schools • there • often • are.

 ⇒ At American schools there often are school uniforms or a dress code.

12. there • a dress code • for teachers • is• too!

 ⇒ There is a dress code for teachers too!

13. many students • often - to school • come • by car • already • as they can take • driving lessons • at the age of 15.

 ⇒ Many students often come to school by car, as they can take driving lessons already at the age of 15.

14. at 3:30 pm • at around 8:30 am • school • and finishes • starts.

 ⇒ School starts at around 8:30 am and finishes at 3:30 pm.

15. eight classes • usually • there are • a day.

 ⇒ Usually, there are eight classes a day.

16. after school • do • some students • extracurricular activities

 ⇒ After school, some students do extracurricular activities.
Task 6.
Complete the following sentences. Fill in the comparative or superlative form of the adjectives and adverbs in brackets and add “than”

☐ Ich habe alle 7 Sätze mit den richtigen Formen vervollständigt:

1. The Rocky Mountains are **the highest** mountains in the USA. (high)
2. In the USA, there are **more** big cities than in Germany. (many)
3. Death Valley is **hottest** and **driest** place in the USA. (hot, dry)
4. Flying from coast to coast is **faster** than traveling by train, but crossing the USA by train can be **more interesting**. (fast, interesting)
5. Most Native American and Afro African Americans still have to try **harder** than white people to get a good job. (hard)
6. The summers in California are **longer** than the summers in New York. (long)
7. Most immigrants who come to the USA learn English. Children often speak English **better** than their parents because they practice **more often** (good, often).

Task 7. Simple past or past perfect? Fill in the right form of the verb!

☐ Ich habe alle Sätze mit den richtigen Formen vervollständigt:

Last Friday I and my new friend Alex **went** (go) to Charleston to go shopping. I **needed** (need) new jeans and Alex **wanted** (want) to buy a T-shirt for himself. When we **arrived** (arrive) at the mall, the parking lot **was** (be) full. Alex, who does not like shopping, **began** (begin) to wish we **had stayed** (stay) at home. Finally, we **were able** (be able) to find a parking space. We **went** (go) first to a big department store.
But I was disappointed, I didn’t like any of the jeans in that store. After Alex had bought a T-shirt for himself we went to another store. We had never been in this store before. Thomas found cool jeans and took (take) two T-shirts, and a nice sweater. It was then one o’clock so Alex and I went to a hamburger place in the mall. After we had had lunch we decided to go to the movie theater.

**Task 9.** Complete the following sentences. Use “who”, “whose”, “which”, or a contact clause.

- Abraham Lincoln was the President of the USA **whose** aim was to abolish slavery.
- Memorial Day is the holiday **which** Americans use for the first picnics of the year.
- George Washington was the man **who** led the American army during the War of Independence.
- The War of Independence was a war **which** was fought between Britain and its American colonies.
- The Boston Tea party was the event **which** started the War of Independence.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. was a man **who** advanced civil rights through nonviolence.
- Thanksgiving is a national holiday in the USA **which** costs the lives of many turkeys.
8. On Halloween, kids who are dressed up, ring the doorbell and ask for treats gifts.

9. Neil Armstrong was the first person who walked on the moon.

**Task 10.** Scan the texts above again. They give you a lot of information on South Carolina. Complete the acrostic!

(An acrostic = a poem in which every line starts with the letter of the word.)

- Somewhere
- Only
- USA
- True
- High School

- Counselor
- America
- Really
- Original
- Love
- International
- New
- Amazing
TOPIC 2: Travelling to Canada

Task 1.
Which photo(s) do you like best? Choose at least two photos and describe them.

☐ Ich habe mir zwei Fotos ausgesucht und diese in jeweils mindestens 10 Sätzen beschrieben. (Bei Bedarf habe ich mir Hilfe aus den Formulierungsvorschlägen geholt und die Beispielbeschreibung durchgelesen.)

Task 2. Make a mindmap!

☐ Ich habe eine Mindmap gemacht und sie mit den Fakten aus der Infobox vervollständigt:

- Canada’s national winter sport is ice hockey.
- They have long winters in Canada, about 5 months.
- Canada has fewer inhabitants than Germany (about 33 m. Canadians compared with about 83 million Germans).
- Canada is big. It is the second largest country of the world. There are large forest areas & endless landscapes.
- About 50% of Canadians have French or British roots, but today it is a multicultural place.
- Canadians love to go camping, canoeing, hunting, snowshoeing, fishing...
**Task 3.** Read the following blog entry written by Andrea, who is from Germany and went to Canada. Unfortunately, the computer mixed up some of her verb forms. Put the verbs in brackets into the simple past.

- Ich habe alle Sätze mit der richtigen Form des simple past vervollständigt:

“Some years ago, I **spent** (spend) three months in beautiful Canada, a country where I had never been before. I **was** (be) lucky to get accepted for a school exchange programme. When representatives of the Ministry of Education **chose** (choose) me to participate in the exchange programme I **was** (be) so happy and very excited.

My guest host family has lived in Vernon for many years, British Columbia, which is on the west coast of Canada. I **wrote** (write) an email to them to present myself and ask for information about my exchange partner and host sister Taralynn.

Finally, at the end of August, my parents **took** (take) me to Frankfurt Airport where all German exchange students from Rhineland Palatinate **met** (meet). The plane **flew** (fly) to Vancouver (where we were supposed to meet our host families). We all **stayed** (stay) with host families in the province of British Columbia. But this province is so huge, it is as large as the combined area of Germany, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Austria. So, I **had** (have) to take a connecting flight to Kelowna where my host parents **picked** (pick) me up. Then we **drove** (drive) to the neighbouring city, Vernon. When we **arrived** (arrive), my host family **showed** (show)
me their house and my room for the next ten weeks. Besides my host sister I also had (have) a host brother called Justin. I very much liked (like) the house and my new family for the upcoming months.

Every weekend we went (go) to the mountains. Sometimes we just went (go) hiking. Other times we went (go) fishing and I tried (try) fly fishing and we ate (eat) the fish for supper. Or we had (have) barbecues on the veranda of the house in the evening. We also went (go) by boat on Okanagan Lake and Kalamalka lake. Here we also went (go) on a banana boat ride which was (be) a lot of fun.

There was (be) one mall in the city which we also visited (visit) from time to time to buy new hoodies and eat ice cream or burgers.

One weekend we went (go) up all the way north to Prince George, which was (be) about an eight-hour-drive, to visit the grandparents. Unfortunately, we saw (see) a dead bear on the road which had been hit by a car. That was (be) pretty sad.

At school, I had (have) four subjects: English, French, PE which stands for physical education, and Band, which means doing music with an orchestra I joined (join) with my flute. We played (play) movie themes of Star Wars, Jurassic Park and Lord of the Rings. That was (be) a lot of fun. And we gave (give) a concert on Remembrance Day in November in the big ice hockey stadium of the city and e.g. played (play) the Canadian National Anthem and. In PE we played (play) American football, baseball or soccby, which is a mixture of rugby and soccer. You use the foot when the ball is on the ground, but you can also catch the ball with your hands and run like you do in a rugby game. In English class we read (read) and analyzed (analyze) short stories,
e.g. by Ernest Hemingway and Edgar Allan Poe. That was (be) super interesting. My host mum helped (help) me when I had difficulties with vocabulary or understanding and analyzing the meaning of the stories. I really enjoyed (enjoy) this class. In French class it was (be) always funny because we tried (try) to learn vocabulary by doing pantomime.

I had (have) a great time in Canada and with my host family, and I was (be) sad to leave them in November and go back to Germany. But I came (come) back with a lot of very good, happy and exciting memories which I am very thankful for. Then, half a year later, I was able to (be able to) welcome my host sister in Germany and she stayed (stay) with my family and attended my school in Hermeskeil for three months as well. So far we are still in contact and I’m sure I will visit them again one day. I hope that more people can experience something like this as I could (can) during my time at school.

Task 4.
Try to use the following modals and their substitutes in your letter. Write at least 150 words.

☐ Ich habe einen Brief mit mindestens 150 Wörtern geschrieben, in dem ich mich einer kanadischen Gastfamilie vorstelle und über typische Fakten für deutsche Teenager berichte.

☐ Ich habe möglichst viele Modalverben und deren Ersatzformen aus den Tabellen in meinem Brief verwendet.
Task 5. Solve the crossword! You can scan the texts about the USA and Canada again for the right words.

- Ich habe das Kreuzworträtsel komplett gelöst:

- Ich habe die Lösungen mit der Musterlösung verglichen und einige Wörter ergänzt.