## The United States

## Exercise 1

Fill the gaps by choosing the correct word from the box below. There are fifteen words but only twelve gaps.

| rich | write | singers | astronaut | sea |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| dessert | use | species | has | million |
| mammal | higher | area | independent | cities |

The United States became an (1) $\qquad$ country in the eighteenth century.

More than 400 (2) $\qquad$ of (3) $\qquad$ live in the United States.

The population of the United States in 1900 was approximately 76 (4) $\qquad$ , which is less than $30 \%$ of what it is now.

The United States is the third biggest country in the world - only Russia and Canada cover a larger (5) $\qquad$ _.

Life expectancy in the United States is (6) $\qquad$ than in most other countries.

New York has the biggest population of all the (7) $\qquad$ in the United States.

Apple pie and baseball are not just a (8) $\qquad$ and a sport: they are symbols of the United States.

Most adults in the United States (9) $\qquad$ the internet, and at least fifteen million of them (10) $\qquad$ an internet blog.

Neil Armstrong, a famous American (11) $\qquad$ , was the first person to set foot on the moon.

Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson and Madonna are just three of the famous pop (12) $\qquad$ who were born in the United States.

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## Exercise 2

Can you match the numbers in the first column of the table with the items in the second column?

| $\mathbf{7 0}$ | The year the United States became independent from Britain. | (A) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{7 8}$ | The approximate number of species of bird that live in the United <br> States. | (B) |
| $\mathbf{3 0 1 , 0 0 0 , 0 0 0}$ | The approximate area of the United States, in square kilometres. | (C) |
| $\mathbf{1 9 9 4}$ | The percentage of people living in the United States who were <br> born outside the country. | (D) |
| $\mathbf{1 7 7 6}$ | The approximate population of the United States. | (E) |
| $\mathbf{9 9 6 0 0 , 0 0 0}$ | The year the football World Cup took place in the United States. | (F) |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | The year President George W Bush was born. | (G) |
| $\mathbf{1 1}$ | The year the United States entered the Second World War. | (H) |
| $\mathbf{1 9 4 6}$ | Average life expectancy in the United States. | (I) |
| $\mathbf{7 0 0}$ | The number of cities in the United States with a population of <br> more than 2 million. | (K) |
| $\mathbf{1 9 4 1}$ | The year Neil Armstrong became the first man to set foot on the <br> moon. | (L) |

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## Exercise 3

Decide if the following statements about the United States are true (T) or false (F), then bet a minimum of 10 points up to a maximum of 50 on your choice.

|  |  | T/F | Points <br> bet | Points <br> lost | Points <br> won |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | Los Angeles has the second biggest population <br> of all the cities in the United States. |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | A British person could write the words <br> 'colour' and 'centre', but an American would <br> spell both of them differently. |  |  |  |  |
| 3 | Average life expectancy in the United States is <br> now about 30 years more than it was in 1900. |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | George W. Bush became president of the <br> United States in 2003. |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | San Francisco, Toronto, Miami and Houston <br> are all cities in the United States. |  |  |  |  |
| 6 | There are three different colours on the flag of <br> the United States: red, white and blue. |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | The list of famous singers from the United <br> States includes Madonna, Elvis Presley, Frank <br> Sinatra, Bob Dylan and Kurt Cobain. |  |  |  |  |
| 8 | There are approximately 500 species of insect <br> in the United States. |  |  |  |  |
| 9 | The New York Yankees are an American <br> baseball team. |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | The expression 'OK' came from the United <br> States. |  |  |  |  |
|  | Final total (subtract total points lost from total points won) |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

