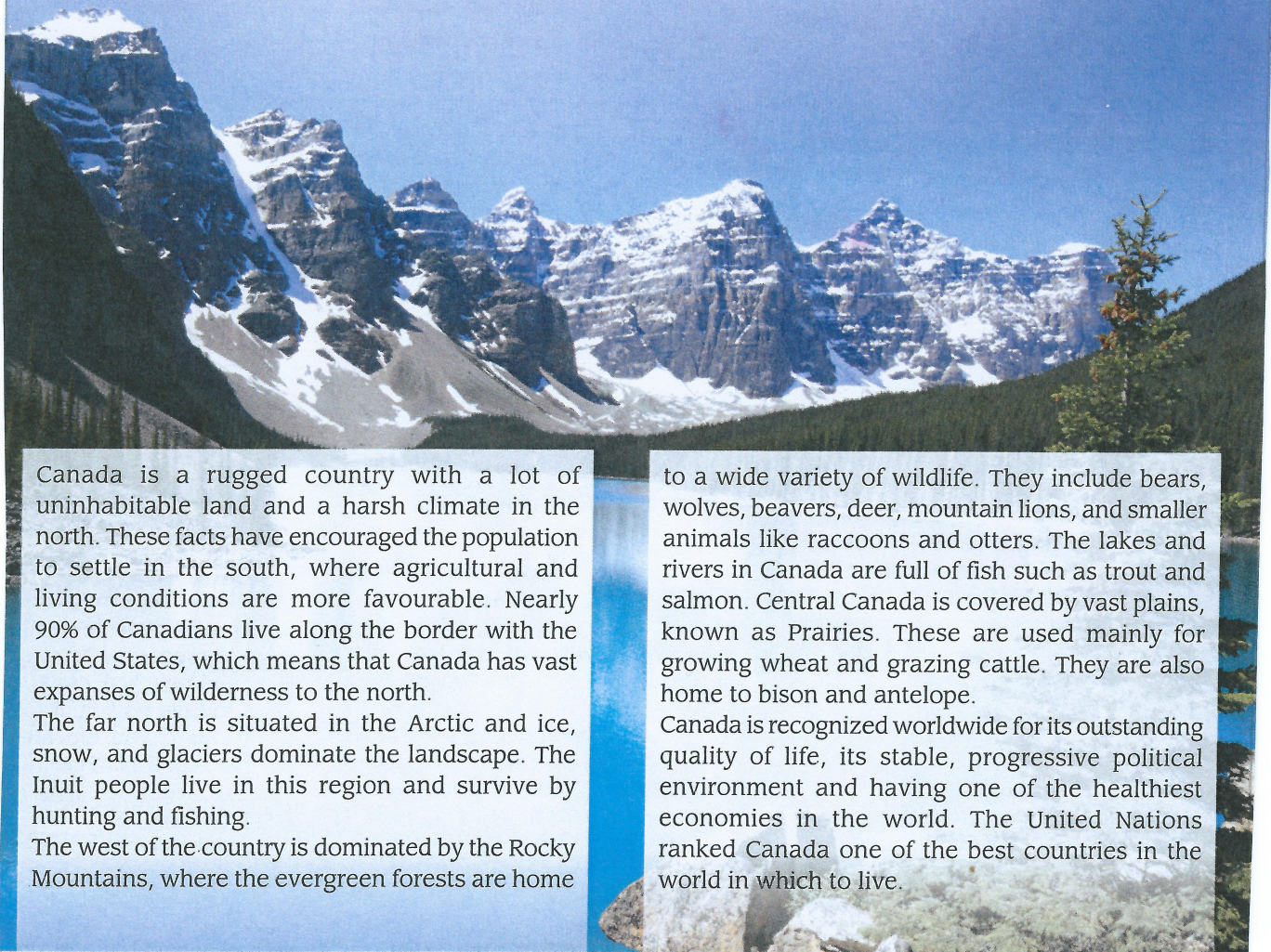


# Canada

*Canada is an enormous country covering almost the entire northern half of the North American continent. It has many different landscapes: mountains, prairies, deserts, arctic tundra, glaciers, valleys, hills, waterfalls, rivers and lakes.*



Canada is a rugged country with a lot of uninhabitable land and a harsh climate in the north. These facts have encouraged the population to settle in the south, where agricultural and living conditions are more favourable. Nearly 90% of Canadians live along the border with the United States, which means that Canada has vast expanses of wilderness to the north.

The far north is situated in the Arctic and ice, snow, and glaciers dominate the landscape. The Inuit people live in this region and survive by hunting and fishing.

The west of the country is dominated by the Rocky Mountains, where the evergreen forests are home

to a wide variety of wildlife. They include bears, wolves, beavers, deer, mountain lions, and smaller animals like raccoons and otters. The lakes and rivers in Canada are full of fish such as trout and salmon. Central Canada is covered by vast plains, known as Prairies. These are used mainly for growing wheat and grazing cattle. They are also home to bison and antelope.

Canada is recognized worldwide for its outstanding quality of life, its stable, progressive political environment and having one of the healthiest economies in the world. The United Nations ranked Canada one of the best countries in the world in which to live.

## Warm up

**1a** What do you know about the geography of Canada? Decide if the facts below are true (T) or false (F).

- |   |                            |                            |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Canada borders the Atlantic and the Indian Ocean.           | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| 2 The climate in Canada is arctic.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| 3 The largest mountain ranges are in the west of the country. | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |

**1b** Check your answers on p. 138.

## Reading

**2** Read these pages and find:

- 1 ten features of the Canadian landscape
- 2 the percentage of the population that doesn't live along the border with the USA
- 3 a kind of tree which is common in Canada
- 4 a place of natural beauty not far from Toronto
- 5 the river which flows through Quebec City
- 6 the name and date of a battle between the French and the British.