



The name 'Canada' began as 'kanata' which meant 'village' in a local language. French Explorer Jacques Cartier began using the word to refer to the land around his camp, which is present day Quebec City. The meaning further evolved to refer to 'New France' which was the territory claimed by France during the 18th century. When the British took control of the region the name was used more broadly until it eventually came to mean all the land north of the United States except Alaska.

The oldest golf club in North America is the Royal Montreal Golf Club.

The oldest brewery in North America is Molson, established in 1786.

The first YMCA started in 1851 in Montreal.

The first recorded baseball game took place in Beachville, Ontario, in 1838.

Cirque du Soleil was founded in Quebec in 1984.

Hawaiian (Tropical) pizza was invented by Canadian "Sam" Panopoulos.

Canadian Sir Fredrick Banting developed Insulin.

More than 75% of the world's maple syrup is from Quebec.

Canada has more doughnut shops per capita than anywhere else.

Canada is the largest exporter and producer of blueberries.

Canada has one of the world's largest economies, is a G7 nation, and contributes to the world and culture in many ways. From Justin Bieber, Jim Carrey, and Keanu Reeves to Winnie-the-Pooh, Anne of Green Gables, and Peanut butter – from insulin to canola oil - Canada has contributed in some part to most people's lives.

► Vocabulary

Housecoat (bathrobe)

Grandpa got a housecoat for Christmas.

Parkade (parking garage)

I can't remember where in the parkade my car is.

Serviette (paper napkin)

Grab some serviettes on your way to the table.

Tuque (warm knit cap)

Don't forget your tuque!

Pop (soda)

I like the pop at the movie theatre.

Drop the gloves (begin to fight)

Be quiet or it'll be time to drop the gloves.

Skookum (strong/powerful)

This is a pretty skookum truck Doug.

Runners (running shoes)

I want to get new runners for school.

► Example Sentences

Make your own sentences about yourself:

1. (My mom) loves (grape) soda. - _____ loves _____ soda.
2. (Dick) was (tough) and liked to drop the gloves. - _____ was _____ and liked to drop the gloves.
3. (My father) (built) us a skookum (tree house). - _____ _____ us a skookum _____.