UNIT 4 THE STATES

A national park service worker at Mt. Rushmore, South Dakota

ACADEMIC Read and understand maps; categorize nouns, find supporting details; write a report; prepare a presentation; make observations

AT WORK Work in groups; listen to and give a presentation

CIVICS Identify land features in a map of the United States; learn about Montana, California, and the Death Valley National Park

canyon

waterfall

river

Palouse Falls State Park, Washington

A Check the words you see in the photo. Look up the words you don't know.

B Give an example of each of these geographical features in the United States: a lake, a river, a mountain range, a seaport, an island, and a canyon.

C Circle *True* or *False* about your city.

1.	We can see mountains from our school.	True	False
2.	This city / town is on a river.	True	False
3.	If I drive for an hour, I can see the Atlantic or the Pacific Ocean.	True	False
4.	This city is the capital of the state.	True	False
5.	There is a desert near here.	True	False
6.	This city / town is near a lake.	True	False
7.	There is a large forest near here.	True	False
8.	This city / town is also a seaport.	True	False

ACTIVE GRAMMAR   Count Nouns: Singulars and Plurals

Count nouns are people, places, or things that we can count individually (one by one). Count nouns can be singular or plural.
Expressions with *one of the*, *every*, and *each* before the noun take a singular verb.
   Every state **has** a capitol building.
Expressions with *a few of the*, *some of the*, *many of the*, *all of the*, etc., take a plural verb.
   **All of the** states **have** capitol buildings.

A Write *S* next to the nouns that take a singular verb, and *P* next to the nouns that take a plural verb.

1.	_S_ a desert	6.	___ one of the cities	11.	___ each of the farms
2.	_P_ mountains	7.	___ a mountain range	12.	___ all of the states
3.	___ a forest	8.	___ a few of the parks	13.	___ millions of tourists
4.	___ rivers	9.	___ every national park	14.	___ every state
5.	___ seaports	10.	___ many of the people	15.	___ several of the islands

B Circle the correct forms of the verbs.

1. A plain **is** / **are** a large area of flat land.
2. A range **is** / **are** a group of mountains.
3. Canyons **is** / **are** long, deep cracks in the earth's surface.
4. Glaciers **is** / **are** large rivers of slow-moving ice.
5. Every major city **has** / **have** a lot of traffic.
6. Many of the rivers **begins** / **begin** in the mountains.
7. Millions of tourists **visits** / **visit** the national parks every summer.
8. Every dairy farm **produces** / **produce** milk.
9. Every state **has** / **have** interesting places to visit.
10. All the states **has** / **have** interesting places to visit.
11. Each farm **grows** / **grow** many kinds of vegetables.
12. All road maps **shows** / **show** cities and highways.
13. Most cities **has** / **have** skyscrapers.

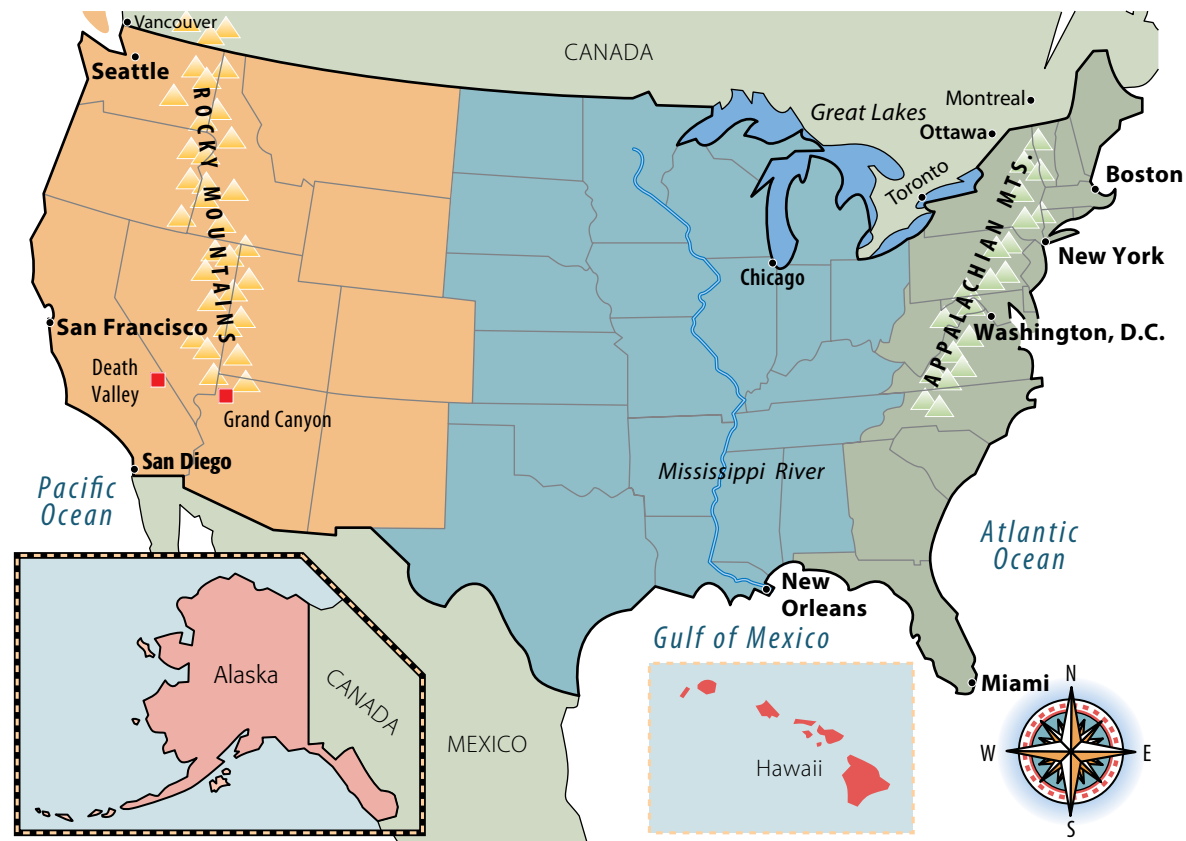**One World Trade Center is a skyscraper in New York City.**
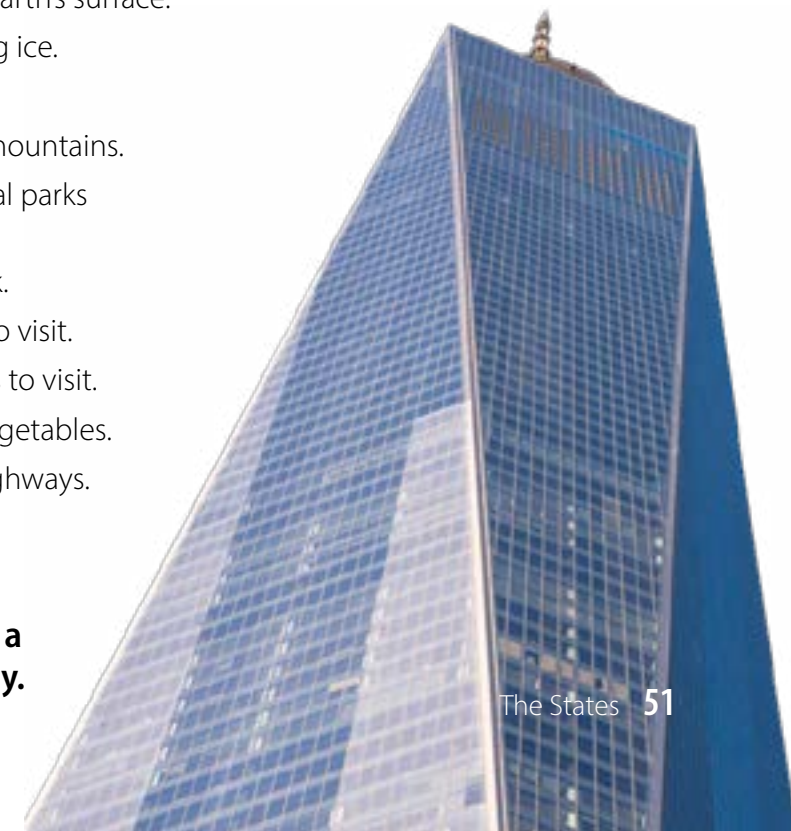
C **Pronunciation: Syllables and stress** Listen and repeat. 🎧11

1. the At·lán·tic Ó·cean
2. the Ap·pa·lá·chian Móun·tains
3. the Mis·sis·síp·pi Rí·ver

D Listen and mark the stress. 🎧12

1. Ca·na·da
2. Mex·i·co
3. the U·ni·ted States
4. the Rocky Moun·tains
5. the Grand Can·yon
6. A·las·ka
7. Ha·wai·i
8. the Pa·ci·fic O·cean
9. Death Val·ley

E Listen and point to each location on the map of the United States. 🎧13

ACTIVE GRAMMAR — Quantifiers with Count Nouns

There	is isn't	a	seaport desert	on the coast.
				in the North.
	are	a few several many a lot of	seaports mountains rivers forests	in the South. in the East. in the West.
	aren't	any	farms	in the central part of the country.

A **CIVICS** Make sentences about the map on the previous page.

> There are many seaports on the coast.

> There is a high mountain range in the West.

1. countries
2. major cities
3. seaports
4. mountain ranges
5. large lakes
6. farms
7. major river
8. deserts
9. national parks

B **LET'S TALK.** With a partner, plan the perfect island. On the blank map, draw the features you would like, such as mountains, a river, a lake, and farms. Then, describe your island to another group.

> There is a small seaport town in the east. To the north of the seaport is a plain; there are a few farms there.
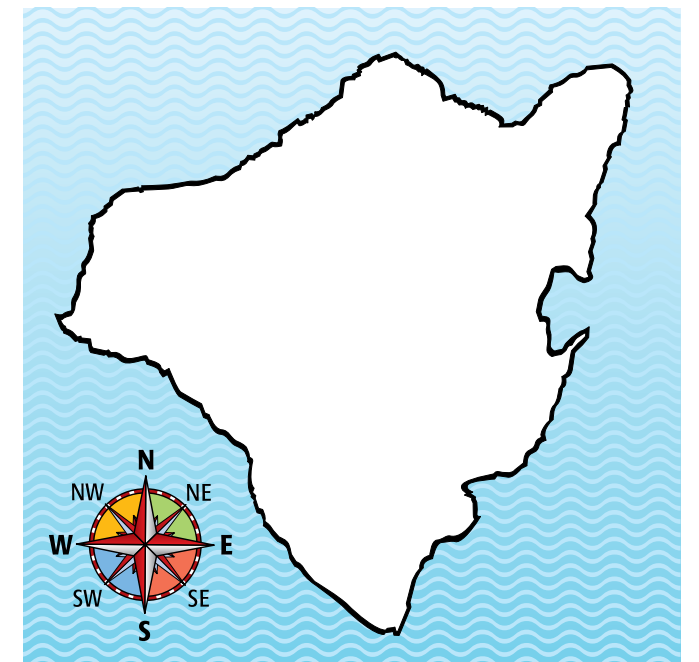
Count nouns are items that we can count individually (one by one): lake—lakes. They can be singular or plural.

Non-count nouns cannot be counted. They are always singular.

1. Liquids or gases: water, oil, oxygen, rain

2. Items that are too small or too numerous to count: sand, corn, rice

3. General categories: traffic, scenery, music, tourism

4. Ideas: information, beauty, work

Note: Some words can be both count and non-count: crime—crimes, industry—industries.

A   **ACADEMIC**   Write the words under the correct column in the chart.

country	mountain	ranch	tourism
crime	museum	river	tourist
factory	noise	seaport	traffic
farm	pollution	skyscraper	unemployment
industry	rain	snow	university

Count Nouns	Non-count Nouns
industry	industry
mountain	pollution
tourist	unemployment

WORD PARTNERSHIPS

air	
water	pollution
noise	

There	is	**no** **a little** **a lot of**	traffic pollution rain crime industry	in this city. in my country. in the United States.
	isn't	**any** **much**		

A   Complete the sentences about the city. Use *there is*, *there isn't*, *there are*, or *there aren't*.

1. _____There are_____ a lot of factories in the city, so _____there is_____ a lot of pollution.

2. _____ a lot of traffic in the city, so _____ a lot of noise.

3. _____ a lot of large companies in the city, so _____ much unemployment.

4. _____ a large seaport near the city, so _____ a lot of traffic in the bay.

5. _____ many museums, restaurants, and shows, so _____ a lot of tourism.

6. _____ many police officers, so _____ much crime.

B   Talk about the city or town that your school is in.

> There are a few colleges and universities near here.

> There is a lot of tourism in this city.

1. colleges and universities   **7.** traffic

2. tourism   **8.** nightclubs

3. factories   **9.** unemployment

4. crime   **10.** fast-food restaurants

5. museums   **11.** noise

6. ethnic restaurants   **12.** hospitals

How many	museums parks	are		there	in your city? in your country?
How much	snow traffic	is			

A **LET'S TALK.** Complete the questions. Use *How much* or *How many*. Then, in small groups, talk about the countries you come from. If possible, each student should be from a different country.

1. What country are you from?
2. _____How many_____ skyscrapers are there in your country?
3. _____ tourism is there in your country?
4. _____ traffic is there in your country?
5. _____ immigrants are there in your country?
6. _____ farms are there in your country?
7. _____ snow is there in your country?
8. _____ mountain ranges are there in your country?
9. _____ crime is there in your country?
10. _____ universities are there in your country?

> I'm from Japan. There are many skyscrapers in my country.

B **STUDENT TO STUDENT.** Ask and answer questions about Canada and Mexico. Use *How much* and *How many*.

Student 1: Turn to Appendix C. Ask your partner about Canada. Complete the chart.

Student 2: Ask your partner about Mexico. Complete the chart below.

	Mexico	Canada
Tourism		a lot
Deserts		one
Mountains		many
National parks		42
Snow		a lot
Ski resorts		many
Official languages		two

> How much tourism is there in Mexico?

> There is a lot of tourism in Mexico.

There	is	**too much** **not enough**	rain. industry.
	are	**too many** **not enough**	fast-food restaurants. parks.

We often use *not enough* and *too many / too much* to talk about problems or to complain.

not enough = less than you want or need
> There are**n't enough** farms in that country. There is**n't enough** food.

too many, too much = more than you want or need
> There are **too many** cars on the road. There is **too much** traffic.

A Listen to the complaints about world problems. Complete the sentences. Use the words in the box. 🎧 14

aren't enough	are too many	isn't enough	is too much

1. There ____isn't enough____ rain.
2. There _____ jobs.
3. There _____ homeless people.
4. There _____ food for everyone
5. There _____ snow.
6. There _____ traffic.
7. There _____ public transportation
8. There _____ plastic bottles.

B **ACADEMIC** **LET'S TALK.** In a group, make a list of five things you like and five things you don't like about the area where you live.

> There are lots of good restaurants.

> There is too much crime.

Things we like	Things we don't like
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.

THE BIG PICTURE   Montana

A **CIVICS** Discuss the map of Montana.

1. What are Montana's borders?
2. What is the capital?
3. What geographical features do you see on this map?

B **ACADEMIC** Look at the map and listen. As you listen, point to each location on the map. Then, make statements. Use the words in the box. 🎧15

GENERAL AND SPECIFIC STATEMENTS

General statements:
    There is a large national park in Montana.
Specific statements:
    Glacier National Park is in Montana.
Do not say: There is Glacier National Park in Montana.

Canada	Helena	national park	rain	the Missouri River
Fort Peck Lake	horse ranches	Native American reservations	rivers	the Rocky Mountains
Glacier National Park	lakes	Native Americans	snow	tourism

C Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. What is to the north of Montana?
   a. Wyoming **b.** Canada **c.** Glacier National Park
2. What is the weather like in the western part of Montana?
   a. It's cold and wet. **b.** It's cold and dry. **c.** It's hot and wet.
3. What is the weather like in the eastern part of Montana?
   a. It's cold and wet. **b.** It's cold and dry. **c.** It's hot and dry.
4. Why is the eastern part of Montana dry?
   a. Because it is so far north. **b.** Because the mountains stop the clouds.
5. Where are there many horse ranches?
   a. in the eastern part of the state **b.** in the western part of the state
6. What is one of Montana's major industries?
   a. fishing **b.** manufacturing **c.** tourism

D Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the verb.

1. The Missouri River (begin) _____*begins*_____ in Montana.
2. The western part of Montana (receive) _____ a lot of snow.
3. Montana (have) _____ very cold winters.
4. Thousands of tourists (visit) _____ Montana each year.
5. The Rocky Mountains (stop) _____ the rain clouds.
6. Many of the Native Americans (live) _____ on reservations.
7. Snow (cover) _____ the mountains.

E Listen and write the questions you hear. Then, ask and answer the questions with a partner. 🎧16

1. How many _____
2. How many _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

DEATH VALLEY

Death Valley National Park is the largest national park in the continental United States. This 3.3 million-acre park in southern California is the lowest, hottest, and driest place in North America. The lowest point is 282 feet (86 meters) below **sea level**. In the summer, the average temperature is 115° (46° Celsius), and the highest temperature ever recorded here was 134° (56.6° Celsius). There are some summers when Death Valley receives no rain, and the average yearly **precipitation** is less than two inches.

The first visitors to this desert area were different tribes of Native Americans. They walked through this area but did not stay.

In 1849, people heard about the discovery of gold in California. Thousands of people began the long trip to the West. This large desert area was so difficult to cross that it received the name Death Valley.

Today, tourists from all over the United States travel to Death Valley to enjoy its natural beauty. There are over one thousand **varieties** of plants in this desert, including many kinds of cactuses and flowers. Cactuses, with their interesting and unusual shapes, need very little rain. Their **roots** are close to the surface of the ground so they can quickly collect any rainfall. A few days after the first rain in the spring, thousands of wildflowers cover the desert.

There are also many animals that have learned to **adapt** to this hot climate. Most are active at night, sleeping during the day to **avoid** the hot desert sun. Some animals live their entire lives without drinking any water, getting water from the food they eat.

If you are planning a trip to Death Valley, winter is the best time to visit. The main visitor area has nature **exhibits**, a museum, and a bookstore. Be sure to watch the informative videos on desert life. After that, you can explore the desert by car, by bike, or on foot. Park rangers offer programs on desert life, the history of Death Valley, and the desert sky at night. If you are planning a trip to Death Valley, don't forget these four essentials: a sun hat, sun block, a lot of water, and a camera. 🎧17

A What do you know about deserts? Circle *True* or *False*.

1. A desert receives very little rain.   True   False
2. The only plants in the desert are different kinds of cactuses.   True   False
3. Animals cannot live in the desert.   True   False
4. Summer is the best time to visit the desert.   True   False

B ▶ WATCH Watch the video. Check your answers in Exercise A.

C Match.

___f___ **1.** sea level
_____ **2.** precipitation
_____ **3.** varieties
_____ **4.** roots
_____ **5.** adapt
_____ **6.** avoid
_____ **7.** exhibit

a. a show or display of art, plants, or animals
b. to change or adjust to new conditions
c. rain or snow
d. the part of the plant that grows into the earth and brings in water
e. to stay away from
f. at the same height as the sea or ocean
g. kinds or types

READING NOTE
Supporting Details When an article makes a statement, it usually gives specific information to support the statement.

D ACADEMIC Write a detail from the reading to support each fact.

Statement	Supporting Detail
1. Death Valley is the largest park in the continental United States.	**1.** It is a 3.3 million-acre park.
2. It is the lowest place in North America.	**2.**
3. It is the hottest place in North America.	**3.**
4. It is the driest place in North America.	**4.**

E Match the two parts of each sentence.

___c___ **1.** Visitors need to bring sun block
_____ **2.** Native Americans didn't stay in Death Valley
_____ **3.** Desert animals are active at night
_____ **4.** Cactus roots are near the surface
_____ **5.** This area was named Death Valley
_____ **6.** After the first spring rain,

a. because it is cooler at this time.
b. because it was very difficult to cross.
c. to protect their skin from the sun.
d. millions of wildflowers cover the desert.
e. because there was not enough water to survive.
f. to quickly collect rainwater.

WRITING OUR STORIES — My State

A CIVICS Read the student report about California.

A beach in La Jolla, California.

California is on the west coast of the United States and it's the third largest state. It has borders with Oregon to the north, Nevada and Arizona to the east, Mexico to the south, and the Pacific Ocean to the west. Sacramento is its capital. The population is over forty million.

California is a beautiful state. Its coast has hundreds of miles of beautiful beaches. There are two mountain ranges in California, the Sierra Nevada in the east and the Coast Ranges along the Pacific. There are several deserts in the southeast.

Two of the major cities are San Francisco and Los Angeles. San Francisco is on the hills over San Francisco Bay. Tourists visit Chinatown and ride up and down the hills on the cable cars. Los Angeles is in southern California. It is the home of Hollywood and the movie industry.

For most of the year, the weather along the coast is sunny and mild. In the winter, there is snow in the mountains. In the south, the weather is hot and dry.

Agriculture and tourism are two of the major industries. California grows more than half of the nation's fruits and vegetables. Also, many Californians work in the tourist industry in the cities, parks, and resorts.

B ACADEMIC Write a report.

1. Choose a state in the United States. Each student should choose a different state.
2. Draw a map of the state. Show the borders, the capital, and major geographical features.
3. Complete the chart below. Look up information online.
4. Write a short report. You will use this information later for a class presentation.

State	
Location	
Borders	
Capital	
Population	
Geography	
Two major cities	
Weather	
Industries	

WRITING NOTE

Capital Letters
Use capital letters for the names of specific locations and geographical features:

Country names: the **U**nited **S**tates, **M**exico

State names: **A**laska, **N**ew **Y**ork

City names: **C**hicago, **S**an **D**iego

Bodies of water: the **P**acific **O**cean

Mountain ranges: the **R**ocky **M**ountains

Parks: **G**rand **C**anyon **N**ational **P**ark

Tourist attractions: the **S**tatue of **L**iberty

C Edit the paragraph.

Florida is the most popular tourist destination in the united states. During the winter, visitors enjoy a break from the cold and snow. Florida offers hundreds of miles of beaches along the atlantic ocean and the gulf of mexico. Families enjoy tourist attractions such as disney world, universal studios, and sea world. Cities in Florida such as miami, tampa, and fort lauderdale offer great restaurants and exciting night life. Florida's most popular park is everglades national park, where visitors can birdwatch, fish or take boat tours, and see alligators and crocodiles.

ENGLISH IN ACTION / Giving a Class Presentation

A | **ACADEMIC** Read the steps for giving a successful class presentation about the state you researched.

1. Prepare your materials: large map, notes, two or three photos from the internet.
2. Practice your presentation at home.
3. Stand in front of the class and look at your classmates.
4. Use your notes, but do not read directly from them.
5. Speak loudly, clearly, and slowly.
6. Show the map to the class. Tell your classmates the name of the state and explain the location.
7. Point to the capital. Spell the capital. Tell the class the population of the state.
8. Point to two places of interest on the map. Tell the class one or two things that people can enjoy at each location as you show the class your photos.

B | Listen to one student's report. Discuss the questions. 🎧18

1. How did this student prepare?
2. How large was the map? Could the students see the words on the map?
3. How many times did the student repeat the population?
4. What two places of interest did the student talk about?
5. How long was the presentation?
6. How do you feel when you stand in front of a group?
7. How can you best prepare to talk in front of the class?

C | **AT WORK** Give a classroom presentation about the state you researched. As you listen to your classmates' presentations, take notes about each state:

State: _____

Capital: _____

Population: _____

An interesting fact: _____

> I researched Ohio. Ohio has a population of…

> Here's the capital of…