**The U.S.A. – geography**

50 states : 48 continental, Alaska, Hawaii

Area : 9,372,607 kmsq

Borders: Canada – 48th paralel, Great Lakes region, the St.Lawrence River

 Mexico - the Rio Grande river

 The Pacific and Atlantic oceans

**Topography**:

 **Plains**: Atlantic, Mississippi, Florida, Central Lowlands, Great Plains

 **Mountains**: the Appalachian Mts. in the east

the Cordilleras in the west – the Rocky Mts, the Basin and Plateau Region, the Cascade Range, the Coast Range, the Sierra Nevada – Mt. Whitney - 4,419m, Death Valley -85m

The Alaskan Range – Denali (Mt. Mc Kinley) 6,194m

Hawaii – volcanoes (Mauna Kea 4,205m)

**Rivers**: the Mississippi (6,400km) and tributaries (the Missouri, Arkansas, Red River from the right, the Ohio and Tennesse from the left)

 the Rio Grande (3,200km), the Yukon (3,000km)

 to the Atlantic: The Connecticut, Hudson, Delaware, Pototmac, St.Lawrence

 to the Pacific: the Colorado (Grand Canyon), Sacramento, Columbia (hydro-electric power)

**Lakes**: Great Lakes – Superior, Huron, Michigan, Erie, Ontario (Niagara Falls)

 Great Salt Lake

**Climate**:, from arctic in Alaska to subtropical in Florida and tropical in Hawaii

extreme variations in temperatures and precipitation

milder in the west than in the east

 rain shadow in the plains

most of the country has humid, continental climate

huricanes, tornadoes, floods, blizzards and other extremes

**Ten biggest cities:** New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston (Tx), Phoenix (Ari), Philadelphia, San Antonio (Tx), San Diego (Cal), Dallas (Tx), San Jose (Cal)

**Regions:** *New England* – history, agriculture

 *Mid-Atlantic States* – culture, finance, banking, industry

 *South* – tobacco, rice, sugar cane, cotton,

 chemical industry, textile, high-tech industries

 *Middle East* – the most industrial part – steel, iron, machinery, aircraft, cars,

 transport of goods

 *Great Plain Area* – corn, weat, livestock, dairy farming

 *HIgh West* – wonderful countryside, wildlife, forestry

 *Far West* – industry (LA, SF..), fruit, film industry

 *Alaska –* mining, hydro power plants, wildlife

 *Hawaii* - tourism