



UNIT

# 2

# The United States and Canada



*The Statue of Liberty  
Liberty Island, New York*

*Chapter* **7** *Natural Environments of North America*

*Chapter* **8** *The United States*

*Chapter* **9** *Canada*



# CONNECTING TO *Literature*

## **“LOO-WIT”\*** by Wendy Rose

**Wendy Rose**

(1948– ) is a poet and an artist. Rose’s poems reflect her Hopi heritage and focus on environmental themes. Before she began writing, she made up songs to express herself. Rose notes that “it has always been a tradition of my people [the Hopi of Arizona] to celebrate everything in life with song. For all occasions, both happy and sad, I sang my feelings.”



The way they do  
this old woman  
no longer cares  
what we think  
but spits her black tobacco  
any which way  
stretching full length  
from her bumpy bed.  
Finally up  
she sprinkles ash on the snow,  
cold and rocky buttes  
that promise nothing  
but winter is going at last.  
Centuries of cedar  
have bound her to earth,  
huckleberry ropes  
lay prickly about her neck. . . .  
Around her  
machinery growls,  
snarls and ploughs  
great patches of her skin.  
She crouches  
in the north,  
the source  
of her trembling-  
dawn appearing  
with the shudder  
of her slopes.

Blackberries unravel,  
stones dislodge;  
it’s not as if  
they weren’t warned.



She was sleeping  
but she heard the boot scrape,  
the creaking floor;  
felt the pull of the blanket  
from her thin shoulder.  
With one free hand  
she finds her weapons  
and raises them high;  
clearing the twigs from her throat  
she sings, she sings,  
shaking the sky like a blanket  
about her  
Loo-wit sings and sings and sings!

\* Loo-Wit is a name that the Cowlitz tribe gave to Mount St. Helens, a volcano in Washington State. Mount St. Helens erupted violently in 1980 after being inactive for more than 120 years.

### Analyzing the Primary Source

- 1. Supporting a Point of View** Why is this image of an elderly woman awakening from her sleep appropriate for a volcano such as Mount St. Helens?
- 2. Analyzing** How does Loo-Wit warn of the impending eruption? Which of Loo-Wit’s actions represents the eruption itself?



# The World in Spatial Terms

## The United States and Canada: Political

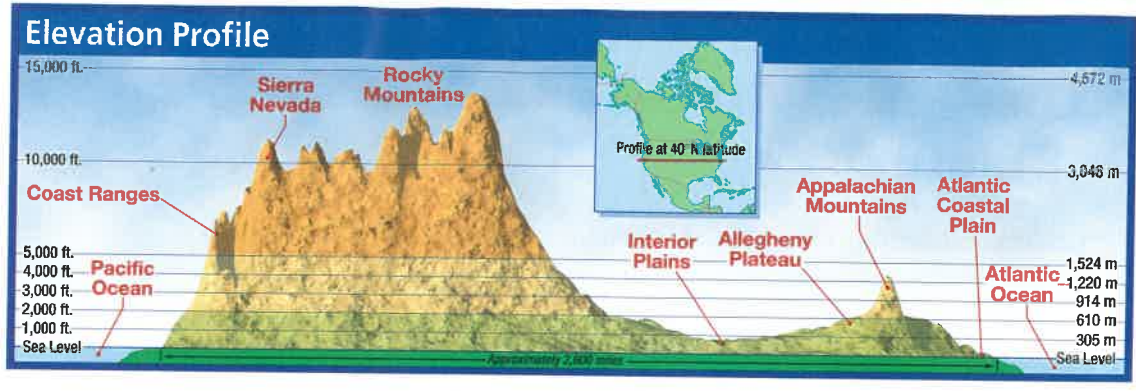
- Places and Regions** Which U.S. states share a border with Mexico?
- Environment and Society** Compare this map to the physical map. In which provinces is the Canadian Shield found?

### Critical Thinking

- Comparing** How do the size of states in the eastern United States compare with those in the west? Why do you think this is?







## The United States and Canada: Physical



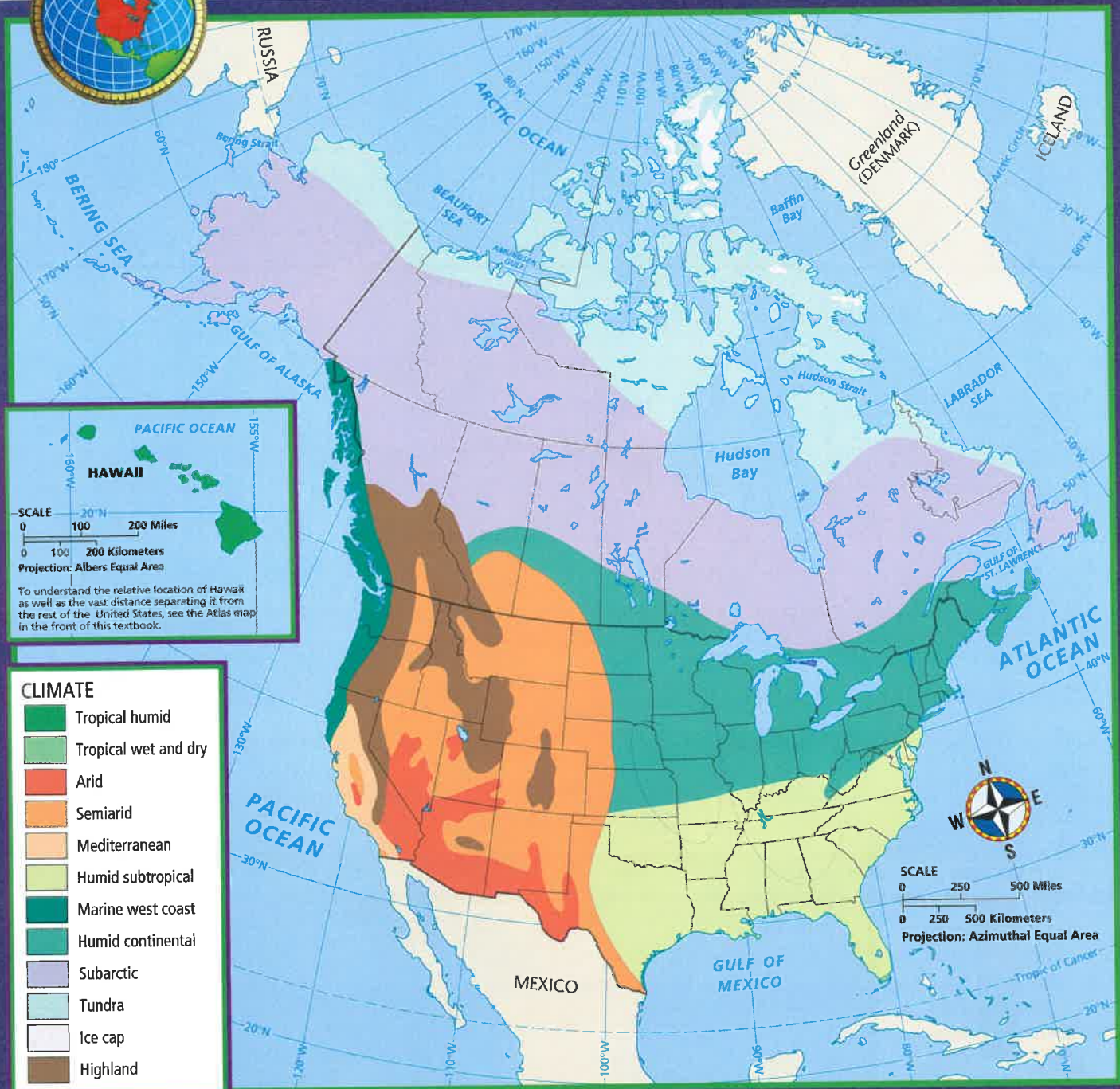


# The United States and Canada: Climate

- Physical Systems** Compare this map to the physical map. Which major mountain ranges appear to influence the distribution of highland climate areas?
- Physical Systems** How do you think latitude influences the distribution of climates in Canada?

## Critical Thinking

- Analyzing** Compare this map to the population map. How do you think climate has influenced the distribution of Canada's population?





# The United States and Canada: Precipitation

- Physical Systems** Compare this map to the climate map. Which two climate regions receive the most precipitation?
- Places and Regions** Which region in the United States receives the lowest amount of precipitation?

## Critical Thinking

- Making Generalizations** Compare this map to the climate map. How much precipitation falls in tundra climates? Why do you think these high-latitude climates have such low precipitation?



**HAWAII**

SCALE  
0 100 200 Miles  
0 100 200 Kilometers  
Projection: Albers Equal Area

To understand the relative location of Hawaii as well as the vast distance separating it from the rest of the United States, see the Atlas map in the front of this textbook.

**ANNUAL PRECIPITATION**

Centimeters	Inches
Under 25	Under 10
25–50	10–20
50–100	20–40
100–150	40–60
150–200	60–80
Over 200	Over 80

SCALE  
0 250 500 Miles  
0 250 500 Kilometers  
Projection: Azimuthal Equal Area

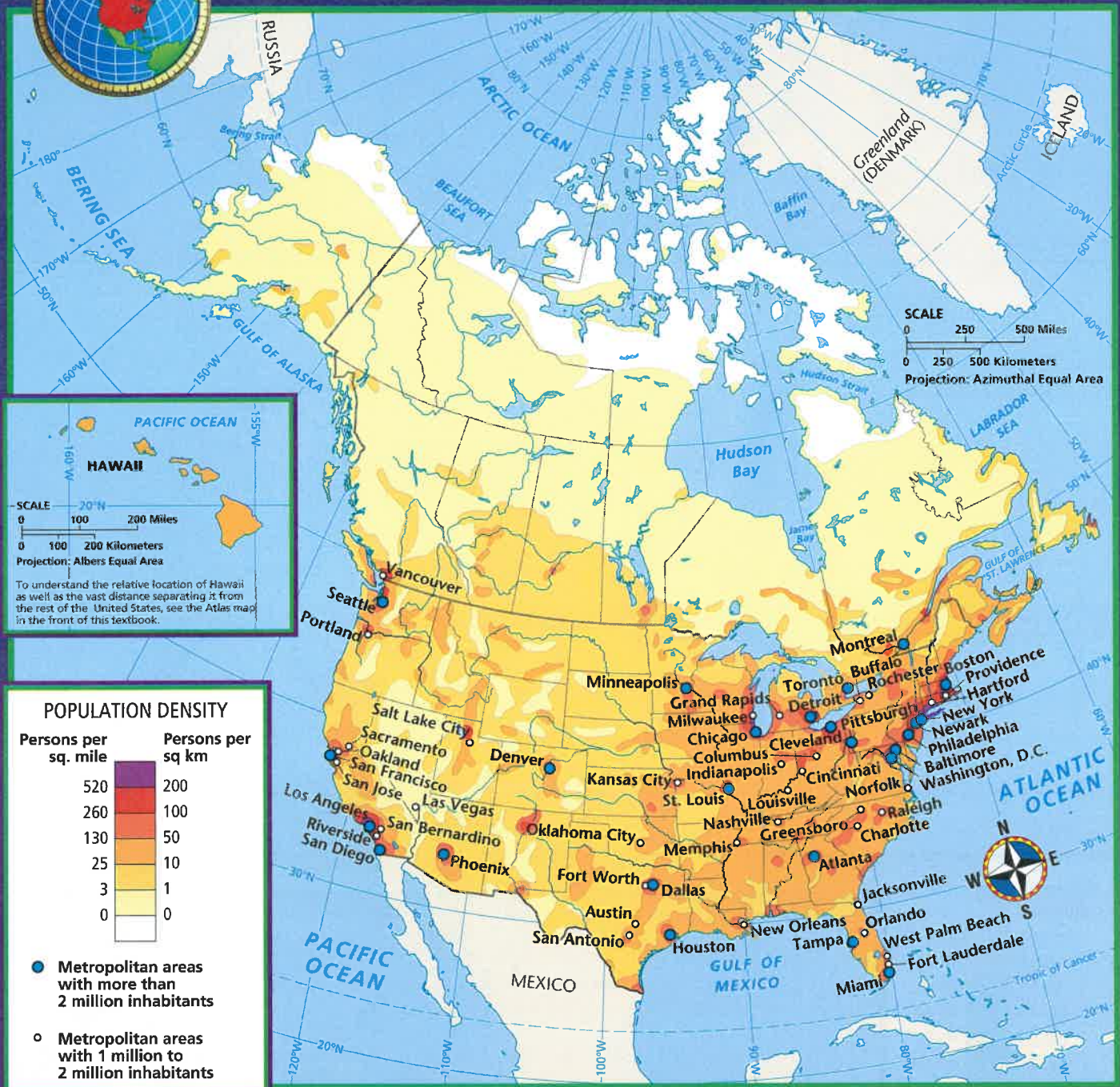


# The United States and Canada: Population

- Human Systems** How are the population patterns of Canada and the United States different?
- Places and Regions** What are Canada's largest cities?

## Critical Thinking

- Analyzing** Why do you think so many large U.S. cities are located on the coast?





# The United States and Canada: Land Use and Resources

- Environment and Society** Compare this map to the climate map. In which climates is timber production found?
- Places and Regions** Where in North America is dairy production an important economic activity?

## Critical Thinking

- Analyzing** Compare this map to the physical map. In what physical environments is commercial farming found? Why do you think this is?



**LAND USE**

	Livestock raising
	Commercial farming
	Forestry
	Manufacturing
	Fishing
	Limited economic activity
	Major manufacturing and trade centers

**RESOURCES**

	Coal
	Natural gas
	Oil
	Nuclear power
	Hydroelectric power
	Gold
	Silver
	Uranium
	Other minerals



# Time Line: The United States and Canada



**1500s–1700s**  
Europeans establish colonies in North America.



**1763**  
Britain takes control of French Canada.

**1800s**  
Americans and Canadians migrate westward.



**1867**  
The British government creates the self-governing Dominion of Canada.

**1914–18**  
Canada fights in World War I. The United States enters the war in 1917.

**2001**  
On September 11, terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

1500

1700

1800

1900

2000

**1776**  
The 13 American colonies declare independence.



**1848**  
Gold is discovered in California.



**1869**  
The first transcontinental railroad is completed in the United States.

**1939–45**  
Canada fights in World War II. The United States joins the war in 1941.

**1991**  
The Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union ends.

**1861–65**  
The Civil War takes place in the United States.



## Comparing Standard of Living

### The United States and Canada

### Comparing Sizes



COUNTRY	LIFE EXPECTANCY MALE (at birth, 2006)	LIFE EXPECTANCY FEMALE (at birth, 2006)	INFANT MORTALITY (per 1,000 births)	LITERACY RATE	DAILY CALORIC INTAKE (per person)
Canada	76.9	83.7	4.69	99%	3,605
United States	75	80.8	6.43	99%	3,754

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, *CIA World Factbook*, *Food and Agriculture Organization*



Rainbow Bridge, Lake Powell, Utah

### internet connect



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KEYWORD: SW3 Almanac



FOR: Additional information and reference sources





# Fast Facts: The United States and Canada



FLAG	COUNTRY	POPULATION	POPULATION DENSITY (per sq. mi.)	PER CAPITA GDP	ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION (kilowatt hours per person)	TELEPHONE LINES (per 100 people)
	Canada	33,098,932	9.3	\$32,900	15,738	64.3
	United States	298,444,215	84.4	\$42,000	12,252	60.6

Sources:  
 Population: Census Bureau  
 Per Capita GDP: CIA Factbook  
 Electricity: Energy Information Admin.  
 Telephones: Int'l Telecommunication Union

*The Grand Canyon National Park from the South Rim.*

