



# About America

## Warm up

A Label the pictures with the words in the box.

			
1 _____	2 _____	3 _____	4 _____
foggy	hula	palm trees	crooked

B Which cities do the pictures show?

- 1 San Francisco
- 2 Honolulu
- 3 Honolulu
- 4 San Francisco

C Label the definitions with the words in the box.

- 1 Hot and humid.  a luau
- 2 The long-term prevalent weather conditions of an area.  b treasures
- 3 A feast of Hawaiian food, usually outdoors and with entertainment.  c tropical
- 4 Valuable or special possessions of any kind.  d climate
- 5 The place to which a person or thing travels or is sent.  e destination

## Reading

D Read the text and answer the question.

### Cities of contrast

There are so many interesting cities to visit in the USA. If you want to learn how to surf in warm water or hula dance, you will enjoy Honolulu. It is located on the island of Oahu, and is the state capital of Hawaii. Tourists love the tropical weather, beautiful Waikiki Beach, big hotels, museums and outdoor activities. While you are there, you can go to a luau to eat delicious, traditional Hawaiian food, and celebrate their unique culture with music and dance. Don't forget: when you are in Honolulu and you want to greet someone or bid farewell, simply say, "Aloha".

For a cooler climate and modern city life, San Francisco, California is the perfect destination. Many people like walking across the Golden Gate Bridge and taking a lot of photos of the bay. But take your jacket because it can suddenly become foggy and windy. Of course, you should see the famous Lombard Street. It is San Francisco's most crooked street, with eight sharp turns in one block. Riding a cable car up and down the steep hills is a real thrill and is great way to see the sights as well. These include the tallest building in the city, the Transamerica Pyramid. Lastly, if shopping is one of your favourite things to do, you will stay busy in San Francisco. Just make sure you have enough space in your suitcase to take your treasures home.

Which city mentioned is a State Capital? What's the capital of the state you are in? Honolulu, capital of Hawaii. Answers will vary.




E Read the article again. Circle the correct answer.

- 1 San Francisco is known to be ...
  - a hot and humid
  - b very rainy
  - c foggy
- 2 The famous red bridge in San Francisco is called ...
  - a the Brooklyn Bridge
  - b the Golden Gate Bridge
  - c the Bay Bridge
- 3 Lombard Street is ...
  - a the most famous street in the world.
  - b the most crooked street in San Francisco.
  - c the longest street in Honolulu.
- 4 The Transamerica Pyramid is ...
  - a the tallest building in San Francisco
  - b the tallest building in the USA
  - c the tallest building in the world
- 5 Honolulu is ...
  - a the smallest city in Hawaii
  - b in the state of California
  - c on the island of Oahu

G Label the cities with the Key Words.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ lake Chicago
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ theaters New York City
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ celebrities Los Angeles
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ oil wells Houston
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ historical buildings Philadelphia

	<b>Key Words</b>	
theaters	historical buildings	
lake	celebrities	
oil wells		

F Read the article again and answer the questions.

- 1 Which city is warmer all year round? Why?  
Honolulu because it has the warm ocean, and tropical weather.
- 2 Of all the activities listed as options for Honolulu and San Francisco, which ones do you enjoy the most?  
Answers will vary.
- 3 From what you have learned of the two different American cities, where do you think you would have the most relaxing vacation?  
Honolulu as you can lay on the beach in the warm weather.

H Work in pairs answer the questions.

- 1 The cities in Exercise G are the five largest cities in the USA. Put them in order of size.  
New York City (NY), Los Angeles (CA), Chicago (IL), Houston (TX), Philadelphia (PA)
- 2 What are the next five biggest cities in the USA?  
Phoenix (AZ), San Antonio (TX), San Diego (CA), Dallas (TX), San Jose (CA)

## Extension

I Discuss the questions in pairs. Then share your ideas with the class.

- 1 There is a famous saying: "The coldest winter I ever spent was a summer in San Francisco." What do you think the speaker is trying to tell us about San Francisco?
- 2 What climate do you prefer when you are on vacation? Why?
- 3 What climate is your favorite for where you are living? Why?

J Write a text similar to the one in Exercise D describing three different cities from your country.



Over to you!

Listening

**A** Discuss the questions in pairs.

Look at the photo. What does it make you think of? Suggested answers: films, actors, glamor, award ceremonies etc.



**B** **Track 10** Discuss the questions in pairs. Then listen to check your answers.

1910. You are going to listen to Brad and Frank talking about Hollywood and the film industry. When do you think movies started being made in Hollywood?



**C** **Track 10** Listen again. Circle T (true) or F (false).

- 1 **T/F** Brad is probably a famous Hollywood actor.
- 2 **T/F** Best Friends Go to Mars was a huge success.
- 3 **T/F** The speaker decided he likes directing movies.
- 4 **T/F** The first Hollywood movie was made by D.W. Griffith.
- 5 **T/F** Film-makers moved to California because it was cheaper.
- 6 **T/F** Paramount was the first studio.

Task

**D** Work in small groups to plan a Hollywood movie set in the town you are in. The story should be something that could only happen there. What kind of movie is it: drama, action, science fiction, comedy, horror? What is the story exactly? Which actors would you cast in it? Make a poster for your movie. Write the name of your movie on the poster.

Report to the class.



**E** Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

- 1 What different jobs do people do in the movie industry? Suggested answers: actor, director, producer, writer, cameraman, stunt actor, music director, set design, costume design, make-up artist, graphic artist.
- 2 If you were making your movie, what job would you like to do and why? Answers will vary.

Extension

**F** Ask your host family about other cities they have been to. What did they think of them? Make a list of other cities you would like to visit and why. Which cities would you recommend them to visit in your country?



Passport Link

Now you have finished this unit you are ready to get out and find out more about cities in the USA. List three more things you would like to know about.

---



---



---

If you are visiting a city at the weekend, there are some questions to help you on pages 34 and 35 of your EF Passport to Learn. Don't forget to fill it in and share your findings with your classmates.