

THE USA

In the USA there are **50 states**. Some of them are Nebraska, Colorado, Georgia

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The symbols of the Usa are: **the statue of Liberty** in New York Harbour.

American flag is called stars and stripes: it has got 13 stripes and 50 stars, stars represent the 50 states and stripes represent the 13 original states.

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When Christopher Columbus landed on the eastern coast of the country he met people who already lived there and he called them Indians because he thought he was in India. Today we call them **Native Americans**.

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After Columbus a lot of Europeans left their country and went to America. **The first** Europeans who settled there **were British**. They settled on the east coast. Europeans believed in the "**American dream**" the idea to become rich and find better conditions. Some people escaped from war, persecution and poverty in their own country.

When immigrants arrived in the Usa they stopped on **Ellis Island** a small island in New York harbour where they asked permission to stay in the USA. It was considered a **check point**. It was closed in 1954. Now it's a museum and all Americans can find there their origins.

On the west coast landed people from other places. A lot of them were **Chinese**. They settled in California in the 19th century. They often **worked** on the **railways and mines**.

In the **18th and 19th** century people captured **Africans** and brought them to America to **work as slaves** on cotton plantations in states such as Virginia and Louisiana. At the end of Civil war (1864-1865) **slavery was abolished**.

Since **20th century** most of **immigrants** have come **from Latin America**. A lot of them try to get to the USA illegally through Mexican-Californian border. Every day and night hundreds of them risk their lives or die, to escape from poor economic conditions in their countries.

In my village there are some immigrants. Most of them are from

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They work in