

TENDER HEART HIGH SCHOOL

Section 33B, Chandigarh

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Date: 15/7/24

Subject: Geography

Class: VI

North America

Location, Political Divisions and Physical Features

(1) Introduction:

- It is the 3rd Largest continent in the world.
- It appears roughly triangular in shape.
- It was discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1492.
- It has 6 Time Zones.
- It has temperate Grassland known as Prairies.

(2) Location:

- It lies in Western Hemisphere.
- It is surrounded by Arctic Ocean in North, Atlantic Ocean in East, Pacific Ocean in West and Caribbean Sea in South.
- Isthmus of Panama joins North America and South America.
- Bering Strait separates it from Asia.
- It lies in 5°N to 84°N Latitude and 45°W to 165°W Longitude.
- 100°W Meridian passes through the centre of North America.

(3) Political Division:

- Canada is the largest country of North America.
- U.S.A is the second followed by Mexico.
- These 3 countries cover 95% of the area.
- North America becomes narrower towards the South.
- The Central American countries are Nicaragua, Guatemala, Panama, Honduras, Costa Rica, Belize and El Salvador.

- West Indies or Caribbean Islands includes Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica etc.
- To the North of the continent lies the largest Island known as Greenland. Moreover, it comes under Denmark.
- The other Important Islands are Baffin Island, Victoria Island, Newfoundland, Aleution Islands.
- The continent has long and indented Coastline and has many large ports located on the coast.