



Y4 Geography Knowledge Organiser - North America

Assessment Question: What is the human and physical geography of North America?

North America is made up of 23 different countries.

Key vocabulary

- **Biomes**- A large geographical area which is home to certain plants and animals, specially adapted to suit the environment.
- **Climate zone**- An area with a similar climate.
- **Weather**- The specific atmospheric conditions on a given day including temperature and rainfall.
- **Vegetation belt**- Plant life (flora) as a whole within a certain area. An area of the planet characterised by certain flora.
- **Human geography**- Features of an environment that have been shaped by people.
- **Physical geography**- The natural features of a place or environment.
- **Continent** - one of the main masses of land in the world.
- **Country** - the land occupied by a nation.

Countries in North America



Climate Groups

The Köppen System is a **climate** classification system. It is split into five main groups which each consist of a range of **climate** types:

- Temperate - hot dry summers, and cooler wetter winters, Mediterranean e.g. United Kingdom
- Continental - long, cold winters and short, hot summers, inland areas e.g parts of Turkey
- Polar - long periods of extreme cold, tundra, ice cap e.g. Antarctica
- Tropical - hot and humid, wet, rainforest e.g. Brazil
- Dry - arid, desert e.g. Saudi Arabia

The four main **climate** zones, determined by **latitude**.

Polar 60° - 90°
Temperate 40° - 60°
Sub-tropics 23.5° - 40°
Tropical 0 - 23.5°
Sub-tropics 23.5° - 40°
Temperate 40° - 60°
Polar 60° - 90°