

CHAPTER 11: THE ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES.

X. Leggi il testo.

English is spoken all over the world and is the language of the European Union, the United Nations, technology, music, business, the internet and cinema.

English is the official language not only of Great Britain and the USA but also Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand and South Africa.

WELCOME TO CANADA

The word Canada means *village*.

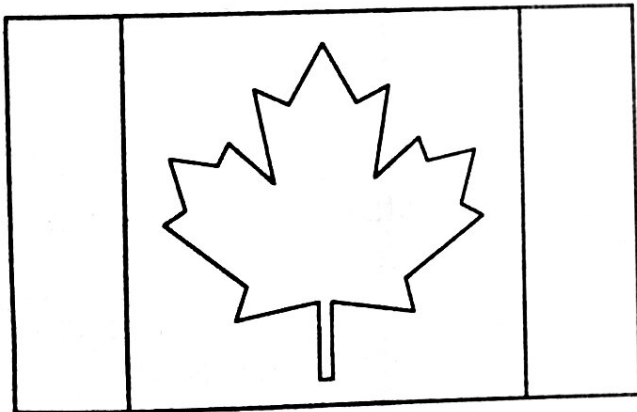
Canada was both a British and a French colony. After the Seven Years' War between the British and the French it was ruled by Britain from 1713.

On 1st July 1867 Canada became independent.

Canada is a Federal State with a Constitutional Monarchy. The Head of State is Queen Elizabeth II but the Prime Minister governs the country. It is a country of the British Commonwealth.

Flag

Leggi e colora la bandiera del Canada.



The name of the Canadian flag is *Maple Leaf*. The maple leaf is red and its background is white in the centre and red on the two sides.

Maple syrup is a symbol of Canada. It's made by boiling the tree sap that is collected by farmers in early spring.

Niagara Falls

In Canada you can tour the Niagara River by boat and see the spectacular Niagara Falls. They are three waterfalls, 52m high, between Canada and the USA.



1. Segna con una X la risposta corretta.

1. What does the word Canada mean?
 - a) Town.
 - b) Village.
2. When was Canada ruled by Britain?
 - a) After the Six Years' War between the British and the French.
 - b) After the Seven Years' War between the British and the French.
3. When did Canada become independent?
 - a) In 1867.
 - b) In 1786.
4. What colour is the Canadian flag?
 - a) Red and blue.
 - b) Red and white.

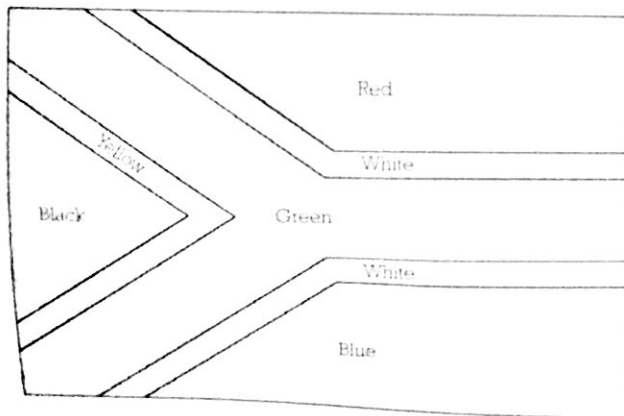
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WELCOME TO SOUTH AFRICA

At the end of the 17th century South Africa became a British colony. There were a lot of wars between the Boers and the English between the 19th and 20th centuries under Queen Victoria.

After the II World War the country became a dominion of the British Commonwealth and the National party began the racial segregation known as *apartheid*. Nelson Mandela, a great African statesman, fought against apartheid. South Africa is a *Parliamentary Constitutional Republic*. It is a member of the *British Commonwealth*.

It has a population of about 55 million.



Flag. Leggi e colora la bandiera del Sud Africa.

The *flag* of South Africa is black, green, red, blue, yellow and white. Black is the colour of the majority of people in the country, green is the symbol of large fields, yellow and white are the colours of gold and diamonds of which

South Africa is rich, red is the symbol of the blood shed in wars and blue represents the colour of its oceans. This flag was adopted in 1994.

