

# Scaffolding Inference

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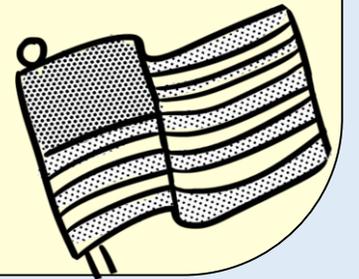
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# Geography

**Read this text and think about the question below.**

*What do you think of when you hear or read the word “America”? It is very possible that your first thought is about something to do with New York, Hollywood or the Stars and Stripes flag. In some ways you would be right but you would not be getting the full picture. America can mean a lot of things. For a start, there are the two large land masses of North America and South America. These are joined by a relatively narrow region known as Central America. Even if you just meant North America, that includes three countries: Canada, Mexico and the United States of America (USA). Calling the United States “North America” is a bit like an American calling Great Britain “England” – something no one should do if they want to avoid offending people from Wales and Scotland.*



**Question: Why is calling the USA “North America” like calling Great Britain “England”?**

# What we need to know first ...

## a. Vocabulary question (Click to check your answer.)

*These are joined by a relatively narrow region ... In this sentence, relatively means ...  
quite/rather/somewhat/when compared with others*

## b. Retrieval question (Click to check your answer.)

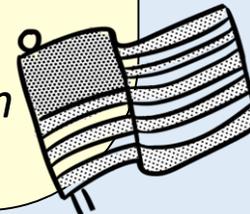
Which three countries make up North America?

*Canada, Mexico and the United States of America (USA)*

# Thinking about the question

**Question: Why is calling the USA “North America” like calling Great Britain “England”?**

*What do you think of when you hear or read the word “America”? It is very possible that your first thought is about something to do with New York, Hollywood or the Stars and Stripes flag. In some ways you would be right but you would not be getting the full picture. America can mean a lot of things. For a start, there are the two large land masses of North America and South America. These are joined by a relatively narrow region known as Central America. Even if you just meant North America, that includes three countries: Canada, Mexico and the United States of America (USA). Calling the United States “North America” is a bit like an American calling Great Britain “England” – something no one should do if they want to avoid offending people from Wales and Scotland.*



I need to look at what links Great Britain and America.

If the question asks “Why?”, I’m looking for a reason.

North America is made up of three countries.

Great Britain includes England, Wales and Scotland.

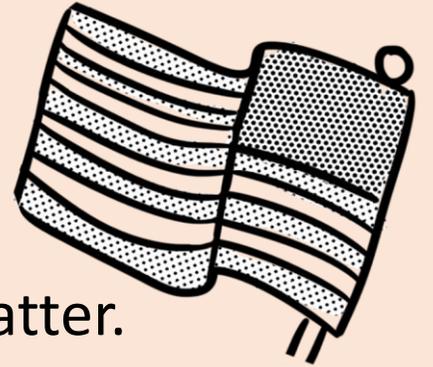
People get upset if their countries are overlooked.

# Answering the question

**Question: Why is calling the USA “North America” like calling Great Britain “England”?**

**Answer:** accept any of the following points:

- Both North America and Great Britain are made up of three countries, not just one.
- It's like saying Canada and Mexico or Scotland and Wales don't matter.
- It is not accurate to refer to a larger area by just mentioning one part of it.



**Note:** you will probably only need one or two pieces of evidence but it is useful to see a full range of possible answers.