History of Canada

• Early Settlement
  – Originally settled by Native Americans
  – First Europeans- Vikings- 1000 ad- not permanent
  – 1500s-1600s- French and Brits settled parts of Canada
    • French cities: Quebec, Montreal
    • New France- St. Lawrence River, Great Lakes- 230 years
History of Canada

– French got $$$ from trading beaver furs, not silver like the Spanish
– Fought English in 1600s and 1700s for territory
– 1707- England and Scotland unite- Great Britain- foundation for the British empire
– By 1760- Britain controlled most of French Canada
– Late 1700s- British and American settlers moved to Atlantic Coast of Canada to farm in large #s
– French-speaking Canadians stayed mostly in Quebec
History of Canada

• An Independent Nation
  – British colonies in Canada bickered over policies
  – Afraid of US takeover- 1867 united as Dominion of Canada
    • Dominion- has its own central government
    • GB still controlled Canada’s foreign relations
History of Canada

– Colonies later became provinces
  • First four- Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick
  • Other provinces were British controlled but changed to Canadian over next 100 yrs
  • Today- 10 provinces, 3 territories
  • Language/culture tension- English speaking minority- richer, ran the economy
  • 1900s- population increase with immigration
    – Fought with US and Brit in World Wars- led to independence
    – 1982- changed constitution without British approval
    – Quebec still mad
Governments of the United States and Canada

• US Democracy
  – Based on US Constitution- written late 1780s
    • Principle (rule) of separation of powers- national government divided into executive, legislative, judicial
    • Checks and balances- each branch has powers over the other- no branch too powerful
    • Federalism- certain powers given to states
      – Citizens of both state and nation- vote for both
      – Obey laws of both
Governments of the United States and Canada

– 1791- 10 amendments aka Bill of Rights
  • Prevent government from taken away people’s freedoms
  • 1<sup>st</sup> amendment- speech, religion, press, petition, assembly

– 27 amendments all together- add freedoms and equalities to all people
  • Ex- 1870- 16<sup>th</sup> amendment- African American voting rights
  • Ex2- 1920- 19<sup>th</sup> amendment- women voting rights
Governments of the United States and Canada

• Canadian Democracy
  – Parliamentary democracy- voters choose reps to lawmaking body called Parliament
  – Reps choose a Prime Minister- head of government
  – British monarch- queen/king of Canada
  – Canada has a federal system
  – Charter of Rights and Freedoms- similar to Bill of Rights