

# Student of the month

## 1 Before you read: Canada quiz

a) *What do you know about Canada? Think about people, films, places, languages, ... . Write some notes.*

b) *Look at the photos and find the right answer. You can use the Internet to help you.*

1. What are the police in Canada called?

- The Red Jackets
- The Mounties
- The Horse Patrol



2. The mountains in the west of Canada are called ...

- the Medicine Mountains.
- the Columbian Rocks.
- the Canadian Rockies.



3. Which of these is the Canadian national flag?

a.



b.



c.



c) *Look at the map of Canada at the back of your book. Collect the names of the provinces<sup>1</sup> and territories and write them in alphabetical order.*

d) *Look at the map again. Try to remember where the provinces and territories are (north, south, east, west, in the middle, on the US border) and which others they are next to.*

e) *Write 20 quiz questions on Canada and test them on a partner or on another group. The person with the most points in the end wins. Start like this:*

You: First question: Where's Manitoba?

Partner: It's in the ... of Canada between ... and ...

You: Yes, that's right. You get one point./No, that's wrong. It's ...

You: Second question: Name the mountains ...

<sup>1</sup>province ['prɒvɪns] – Provinz, Bundesland

## 2 An interview with the student of the month

a) Read this interview.

Sean Martin, 16, has moved around a lot in Canada. Now he lives in Vancouver and goes to the Seaview Secondary school there. Every month his school chooses a 'student of the month'. Sean is this month's winner. He has an interesting hobby. Wai King interviewed him about it.

**Wai** Hi, Sean<sup>1</sup>. Or should I say 'Jean'?

**Sean** I don't mind. Sean's my real name. It's Irish. But my mum calls me 'Jean' – she thinks it sounds better, but that's because she's half French.

**Wai** Oh, so it's the same in both languages – that's great! French-Irish? Does that mean you're from Quebec?

**Sean** No, Mum is French, not French-Canadian, and my dad is Irish. We emigrated when I was six.

**Wai** So you must be bilingual, right? Have you been able to use both languages in Canada?

**Sean** Yeah! In Ireland we usually spoke English at home, but I had to speak French at school in Montreal. Then we had to move again when I was ten, because Dad got a job in Medicine Hat, Alberta. My elementary school and the high school in Medicine Hat were both special French-language schools: all the lessons were in French.

**Wai** You started your hobby in Medicine Hat, didn't you? How did that happen?

**Sean** Well, I've always loved comics, especially mangas<sup>2</sup>, the Japanese comics. And I like drawing. I used to copy the pictures when I was younger. But that got boring, so I started to do my own manga characters and stories.

**Wai** Did you join the school Art Club there?

**Sean** No, they weren't into mangas, so I joined an animé<sup>3</sup> internet forum.

**Wai** Did that give you the idea for an animé club at this school?



Sean Martin's poster

**Sean** No. It was the Vancouver artist Mei Yu – I worked with one of her animé art instruction books. That gave me the 'club' idea.

**Wai** And did you set one up in Medicine Hat?

**Sean** No. We moved again before I was able to do anything. We came here to British Columbia and I decided to start one here.

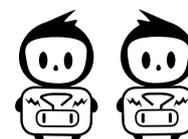
**Wai** How did you start?

**Sean** I made a poster for the club and put it on our school website with a link to my old art forum. It was amazing! So many kids were interested. Now we've got 120 members.

**Wai** And you all go to the school club?

**Sean** No. We send our work and ideas to each other online. But about 15-20 come to the club session each week.

**Wai** Well, thanks for the interview, Sean. Let's see lots more animé!



<sup>1</sup>Sean [ʃo:n] <sup>2</sup>manga ['mɒŋgə] – Comic <sup>3</sup>animé ['xɪmeɪ] – Zeichentrickfilm

b) Look at the map of Canada again and find the places where Sean has lived.

c) Think of someone you know who has moved around a lot like Sean. What problems do you think they had? Why?

d) Do you read mangas or watch animé? Tell the class about them. If you don't, explain why.

## Lösungen

### Lösungsvorschläge Seite 1

Ex. 1

- a) *Individuelle Schülerlösungen*
- b) 1. b, 2. c, 3. a (3. b = Inuit flag, c = Canadian armed forces flag)
- c) Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut Territory, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Yukon Territory
- d) + e) *Individuelle Schülerlösungen*

### Lösungsvorschläge Seite 2

Ex. 2

- a) + b) *Individuelle Schülerlösungen*
- c) A boy in our class has moved around a lot. He was born in Africa and he has lived in three different countries already. I think he had problems in school because he had to leave his friends and find new ones. He also found school difficult because he had different subjects and teachers in each school.
- d) I read lots of mangas and I watch animé sometimes. I really like the monthly manga Daisuki (girls). It tells you all about lifestyle in Japan. /I read the boys' manga Shonen Jump. The stories are really exciting. OR I don't like mangas or animé. I like real stories about real people. I don't like the drawings of kids with huge eyes.

# Schools in Canada

## 1 The same or different?

- a) Read this text about the Canadian school system. Draw a table to show which type of school children go to at different ages.

In most of Canada children go to a Kindergarten when they are about five but Kindergarten is not compulsory. Elementary school is, and they start when they are six or seven. Each state or territory is responsible<sup>1</sup> for its own education system and there are small differences between them.



After elementary school children go on to a Junior High School at about 12. They have to stay there until they are 15 or 16. Then they have the option: they can either leave school or go on to Senior High School for Grades 10–12.

Most Canadians stay at school until they are 18. Senior high schools offer courses of one semester (half-year courses) or quarter-year courses.

High schools are mostly mixed and offer training for trade and industry as well as preparing pupils for university. An example of this is the 'Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program'.

It enables students in Grades 11 and 12 to complete their high school diploma while starting their apprenticeship training. There are also co-operative education programs. They integrate<sup>2</sup> classroom learning with practical experience in the workplace. Through this program students are better prepared to go on from high school to work, apprenticeship programs, college and/or university.

- b) How does this school system compare with the German system? What is the same or different?
- c) What about the US or the British school systems? Choose one and explain the difference between it and the Canadian system to a partner.
- d) Which of the school systems that you know do you think is best and why? Prepare a short talk for your class.

<sup>1</sup> responsible [rɪ'spɒnsəbl] – verantwortlich; <sup>2</sup> to integrate ['ɪntɪɡreɪt] – integrieren

## Lösungen

Lösungsvorschläge Seite 1

Ex. 1

a)

Age	Grade	Type of school
from 5	K	Kindergarten
5/6 - 12	1 - 6	Elementary School
12 - 15/16	7 - 9/10	Junior High School
15/16 - 18	10/11 - 12	Senior High School

- b) In Canada all the children in an area go to the same school after elementary school. This is like a German *Gesamtschule*. They don't have different types of schools like the *Haupt-* and *Realschule* and the *Gymnasium*. But they have to go to another school after Junior High. In Germany you can usually stay at the same school if you want to do *Abitur*.
- c) The Canadian school system is more like the US system or some parts of the British system. 1. US system: the children from one area all go to the same elementary school and the junior and senior high schools, so it is the same as Canada. 2. In Britain most children go from a primary school to a comprehensive school in their area and stay there if they want to until they are 17 or 18.
- d) *Individuelle Schülerlösungen*