

G. Canada and the Anglosphere

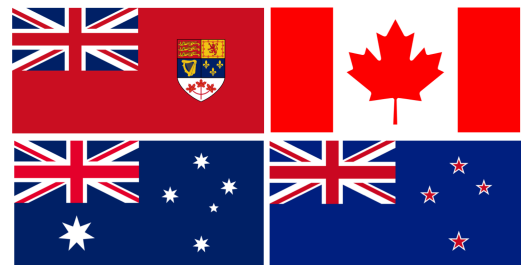
1. Although it was Cabot sailing for England who first discovered *North America* it was France that started to build Canada. Samuel de Champlain was the French colonizer who established Quebec in **1608**.
2. French Canada great all the way to Louisiana (named after Louis XIV of France) while the thirteen colonies that would eventually form the United States grew on the east coast.
3. Eventually English and French colonists started competing over the same land, which led to wars between them.
4. The **Seven Years' War (1756-63)** settled the contest. England defeated France and took over Canada.
5. French Canadians chose not to join Americans in their revolution soon after. They had better chances for trade and better protections of their rights in the British empire than the French empire, so Canada and the United States started to go their separate ways.
6. If Canada did *not* have a revolution in its history, how did it become an independent country? The answer is: gradually.
7. The first step in the process of Canadian independence was the creation of the "Dominion of Canada" on July 1st, 1867, by the British government. (The term "dominion" shows us that Canada was not just a colony, but on the other hand not completely an independent country either.)
8. We can see that Canada was not completely independent in **World War I (1914-19)**, because when Britain declared war on Germany, Canada was *required* to join.
9. As a reward for helping, the British government passed a new law called the Statute of Westminster in **1931**, which gave Canada the power to decide whether or not to go to war in the future.
10. Canada did decide to join **World War II (1939-45)** to help its mother country, even though it did not literally have to do it.

H. Post-Imperial Culture

11. Once the war was over, Canadians settled in to a new pattern of life where they didn't want to be part of an empire, because of the many wars between empires in British history.
12. Canada joined NATO in **1949** to help resist the imperialism of communist Russia after the war.
13. Canada also helped to create a United Nations peace-keeping force as a different way for peaceful countries to stop empires.
14. Canadians eventually decided that they didn't like having an imperial flag, with the "Union Jack" inside of its design. In **1965**, they chose the "Maple Leaf," instead, which is a unique and now famous design.
15. The main challenge for Post-Imperial Canada has been how to combined its French and English cultures into one. This became a very serious problem when the French people of Quebec almost decided to *secede* (remember, this idea is a part of American history

before the Civil War!) and there was even terrorist attacks against the Canadian government by a group called the *Front for the Liberation of Quebec*.

16. Canada decided to become a “bilingual” country, which means that English and French are both “official” languages.
17. Canada also stands for an idea called “multiculturalism.” This idea says all cultures should be treated as equal, so even though British culture is the most important one in Canada, people from anywhere in the world should be welcome in Canada.
18. If we mark the *World Wars* on our timelines as two tick-marks, and add the modern cultures of America (as the world police power) and Europe (as a *supranational* union—see page 11 for a reminder) then our complete diagram of Western civilization can be labeled as seen below.



In 1965, Canada adopted a *post-imperial* flag (top right) to symbolize its new culture instead of its prior symbol (top left). Australia (bottom left) and New Zealand have both had post-imperial flag debates, but they chose not to change their flags.

