

## Michele Luck's Social Studies & Other Teacher Resources

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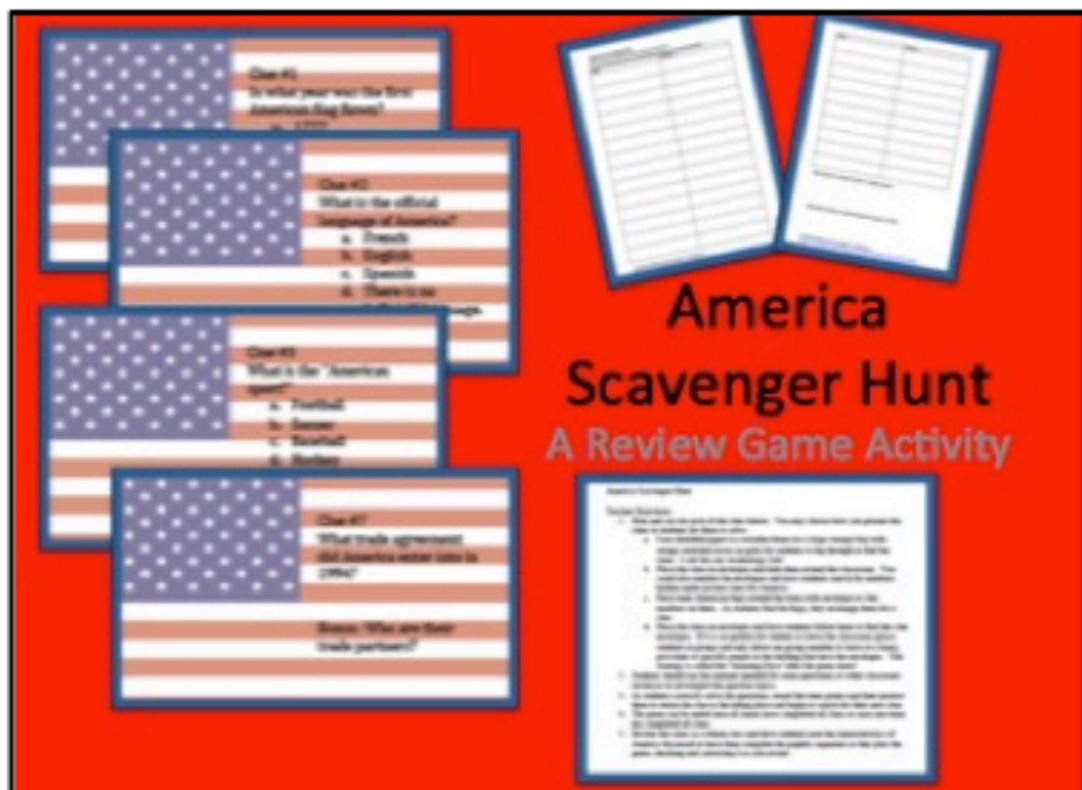
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The background of the entire page is a stylized American flag. It features a blue canton in the upper left corner containing white stars, and the rest of the field is filled with horizontal stripes of red and white. The text is centered over the flag.

# United States of America Scavenger Hunt

A Game Card Set

Another Creation by Michele Luck! Available at:

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Michele-Lucks-Social-Studies>

# Teacher Directions & Game Options

- Print and cut out each of the clue cards. You may choose how you present the clues to students for them to solve. (Print multiple cards to a page for smaller sets)
  - I use shredded paper in a wooden frame (or a large storage bin) with strings stretched across in grids for students to dig through to find the clues. I call this my Archeology Site!
  - Place the clues in envelopes and hide them around the classroom. You could also number the envelopes and have students search for numbers hidden under picture clues for the country.
  - Place Country symbols around the room with envelope or clue numbers on them. As students find the symbols, they exchange them for a clue card.
  - Place the clue cards in envelopes and have students follow hints to find the clue envelopes. If it is acceptable for students to leave the classroom (place students in groups and only allow one group member to leave at a time), give hints to specific people in the building that have the envelopes. This strategy is called the “Amazing Race” after the game show!
  - Use the cards as bellringers for students each day of the unit. Allow students time to research the question and encourage them to further investigate the topic for class opening discussion.
- Students should use the internet (needed for some questions) or other classroom resources to investigate the question topics.
- As students correctly solve the questions, award the team points and then instruct them to return the clue to the hiding place and begin to search for their next clue.
- The game can be ended once all teams have completed all clues or once one team has completed all clues.
- Review the clues as a whole class and have students note the characteristics of the country discussed or have them complete the graphic organizer as they play the game, checking and correcting it as you review.

Other countries also available in my TpT Store!

The background of the image is a stylized American flag with a blue canton containing white stars and red and white horizontal stripes. The text is overlaid on the right side of the flag.

## Clue #1

In what year was the first  
American flag flown?

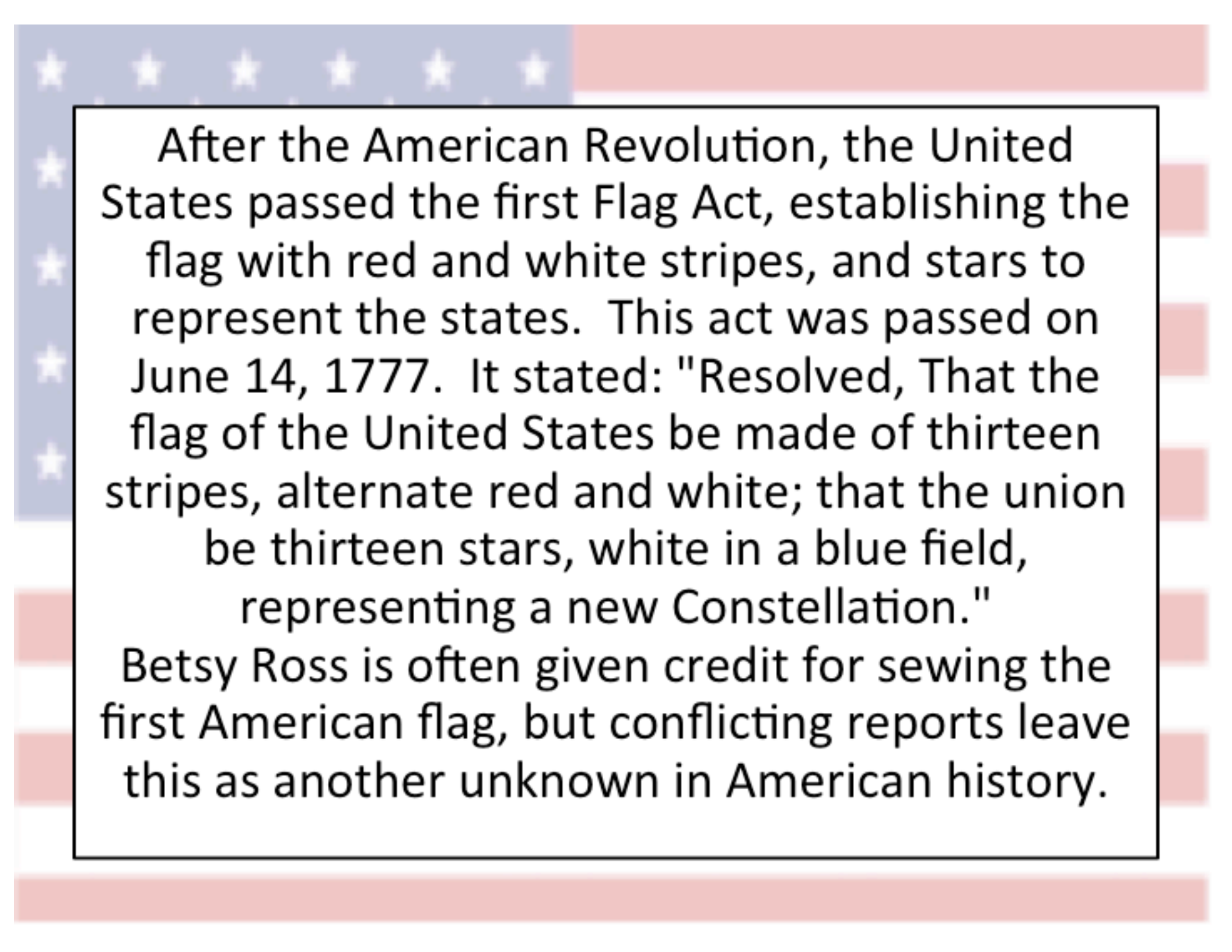
a.1777

b.1865

c.1685

d.1752



The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top left corner shows a blue field with white stars, while the rest of the background consists of horizontal red and white stripes. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a black border.

After the American Revolution, the United States passed the first Flag Act, establishing the flag with red and white stripes, and stars to represent the states. This act was passed on June 14, 1777. It stated: "Resolved, That the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

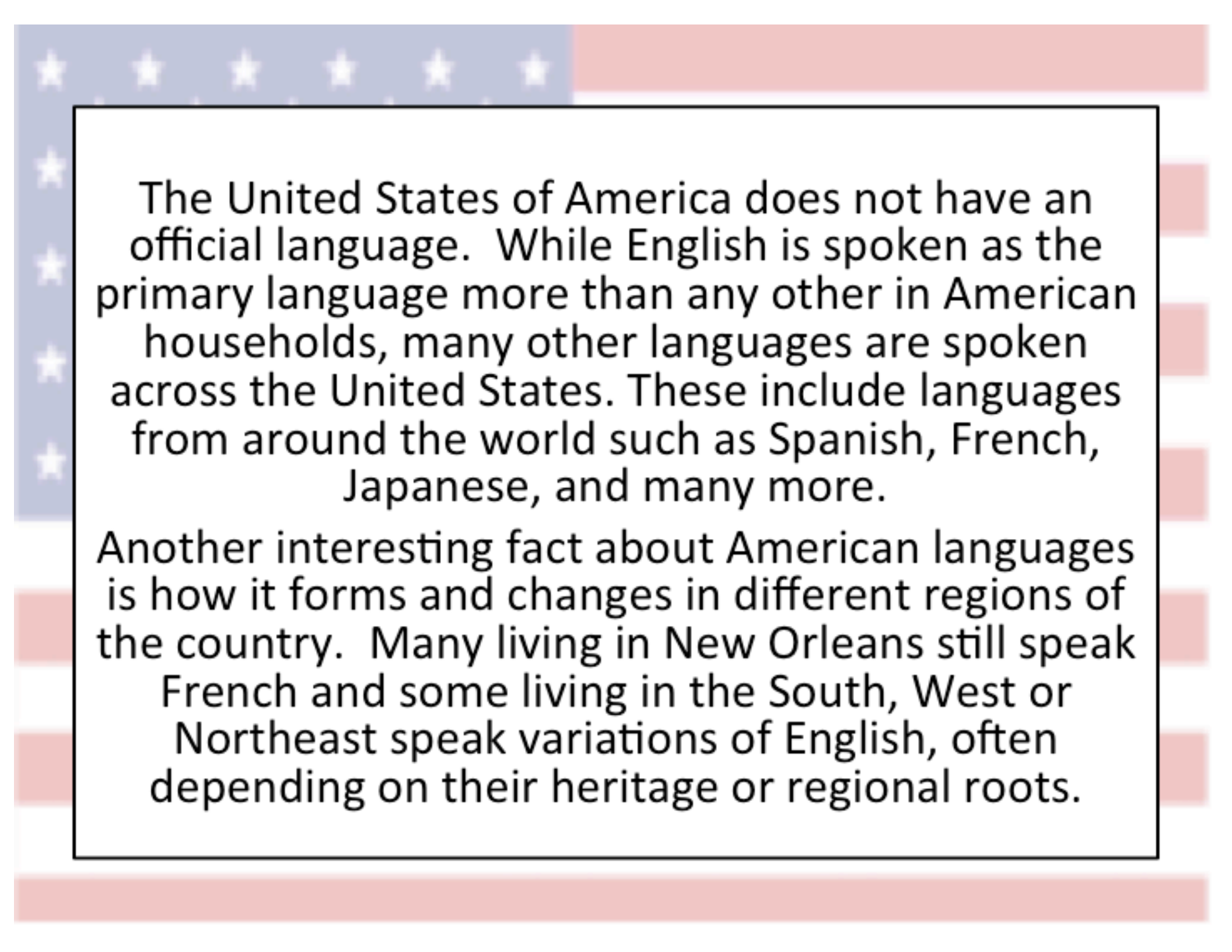
Betsy Ross is often given credit for sewing the first American flag, but conflicting reports leave this as another unknown in American history.

The background of the slide is a stylized American flag, featuring a blue canton with white stars on the left and horizontal stripes of red and white on the right.

## Clue #2

What is the official language of the United States of America?

- a. French
- b. English
- c. Spanish
- d. There is no “official” language.

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The United States of America does not have an official language. While English is spoken as the primary language more than any other in American households, many other languages are spoken across the United States. These include languages from around the world such as Spanish, French, Japanese, and many more.

Another interesting fact about American languages is how it forms and changes in different regions of the country. Many living in New Orleans still speak French and some living in the South, West or Northeast speak variations of English, often depending on their heritage or regional roots.

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Clue #3

What is the “American sport?”

a. Football

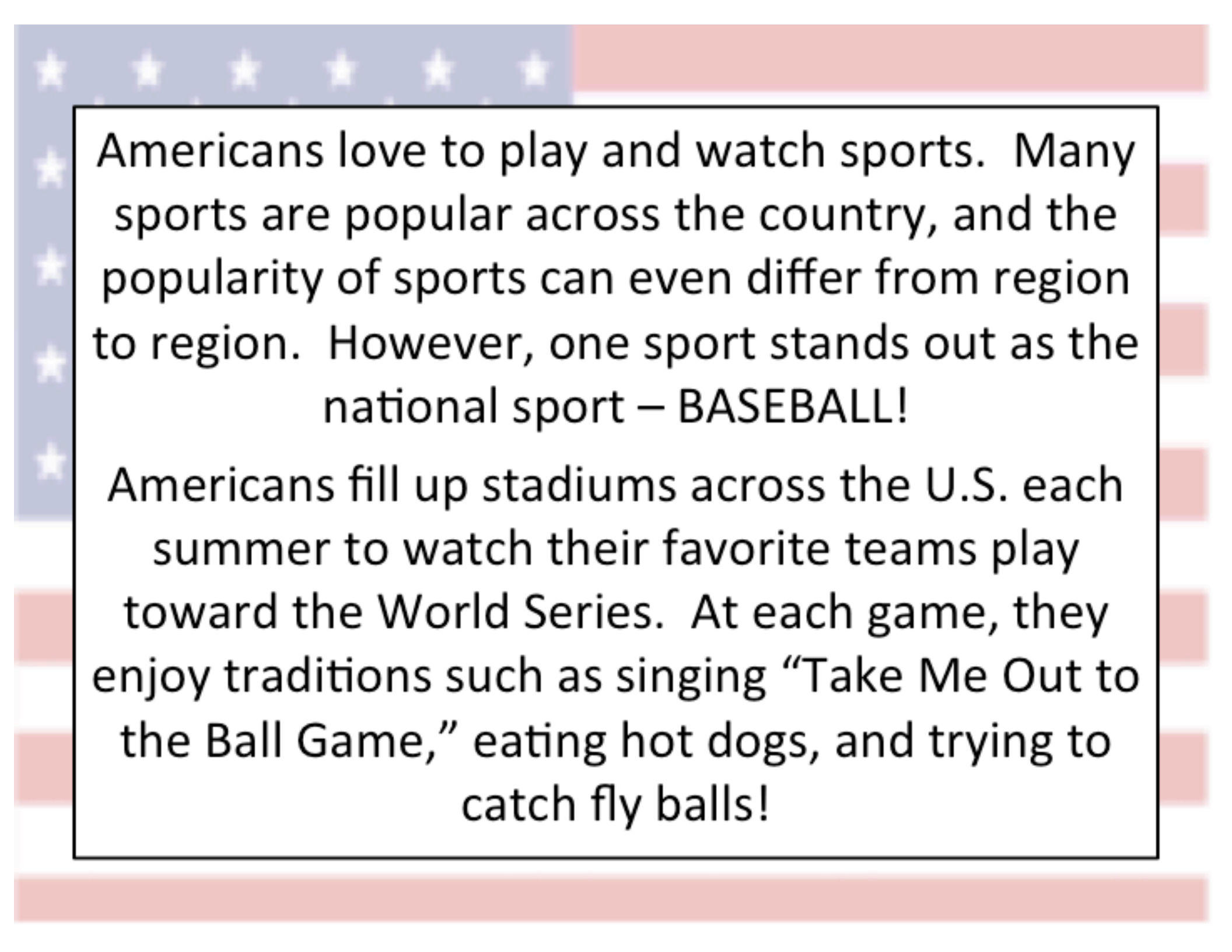
b. Soccer

c. Baseball

d. Hockey

Bonus: What is the American sport’s song?



The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top left corner has a blue field with white stars, and the rest of the slide is filled with horizontal red and white stripes. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a black border.

Americans love to play and watch sports. Many sports are popular across the country, and the popularity of sports can even differ from region to region. However, one sport stands out as the national sport – BASEBALL!

Americans fill up stadiums across the U.S. each summer to watch their favorite teams play toward the World Series. At each game, they enjoy traditions such as singing “Take Me Out to the Ball Game,” eating hot dogs, and trying to catch fly balls!

The background of the entire slide is a stylized American flag, featuring a blue canton with white stars on the left and horizontal stripes of red and white on the right.

## Clue #4

At what age do most Americans  
begin school?

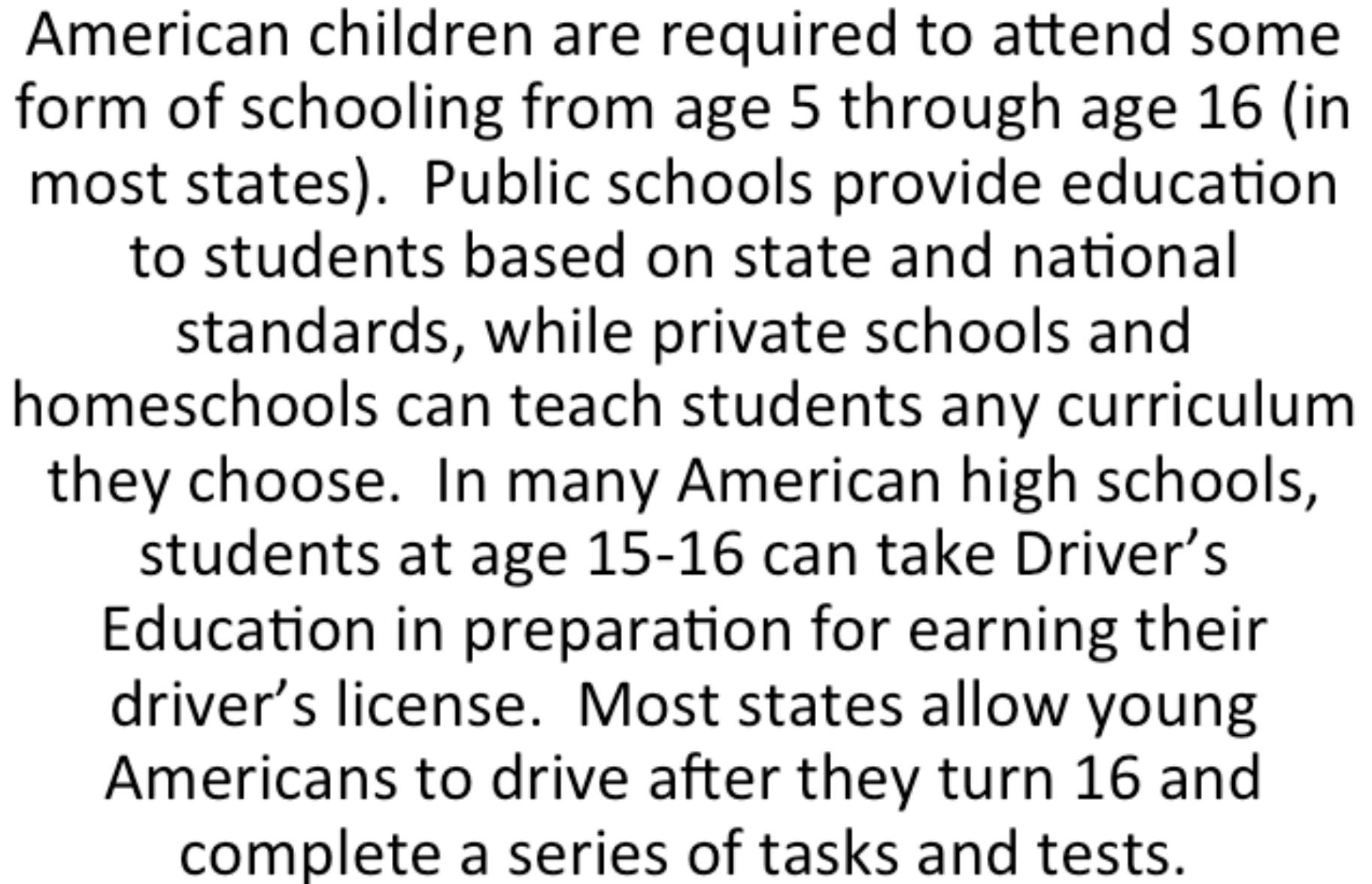
a.4

b.5

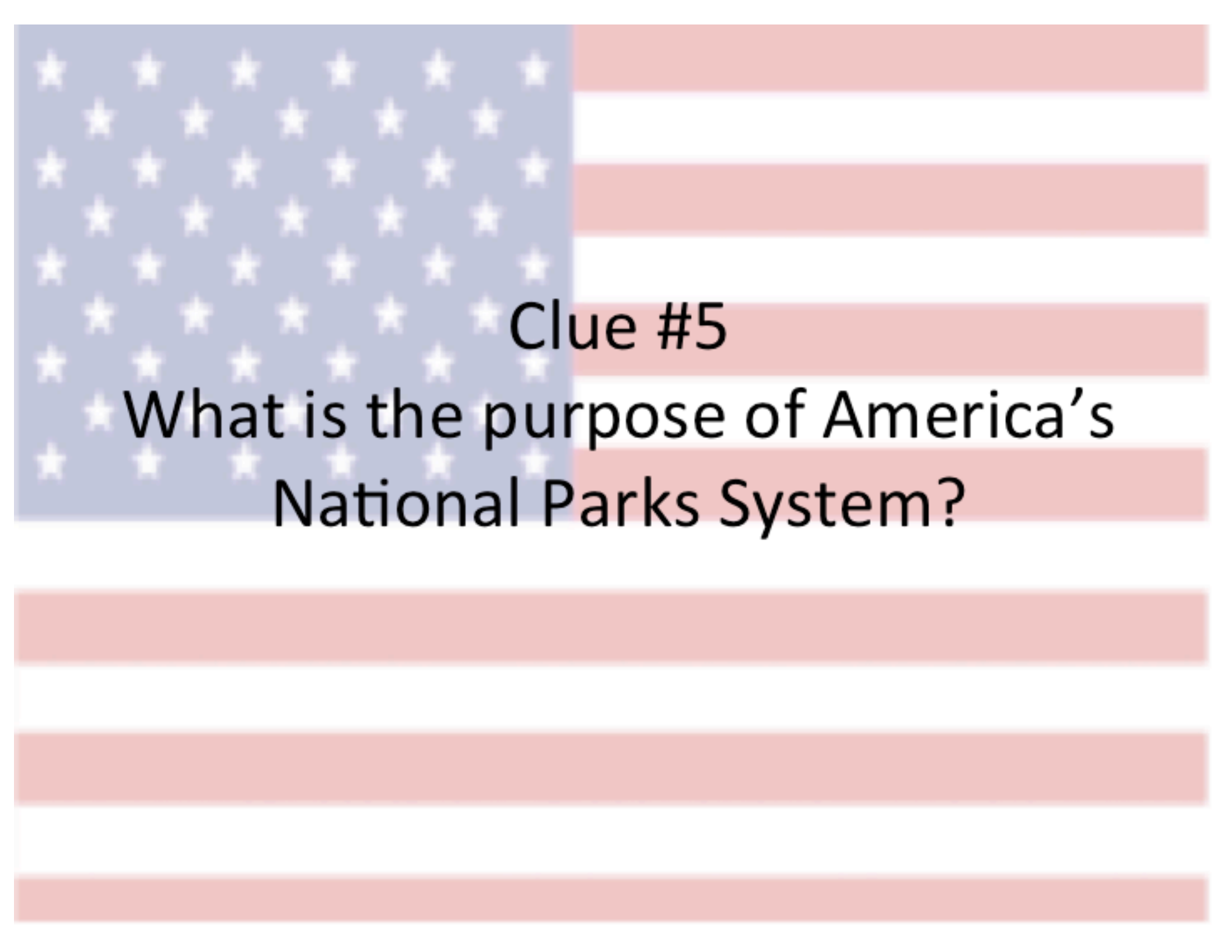
c.7

d.8

Bonus: At what age can  
Americans drive?

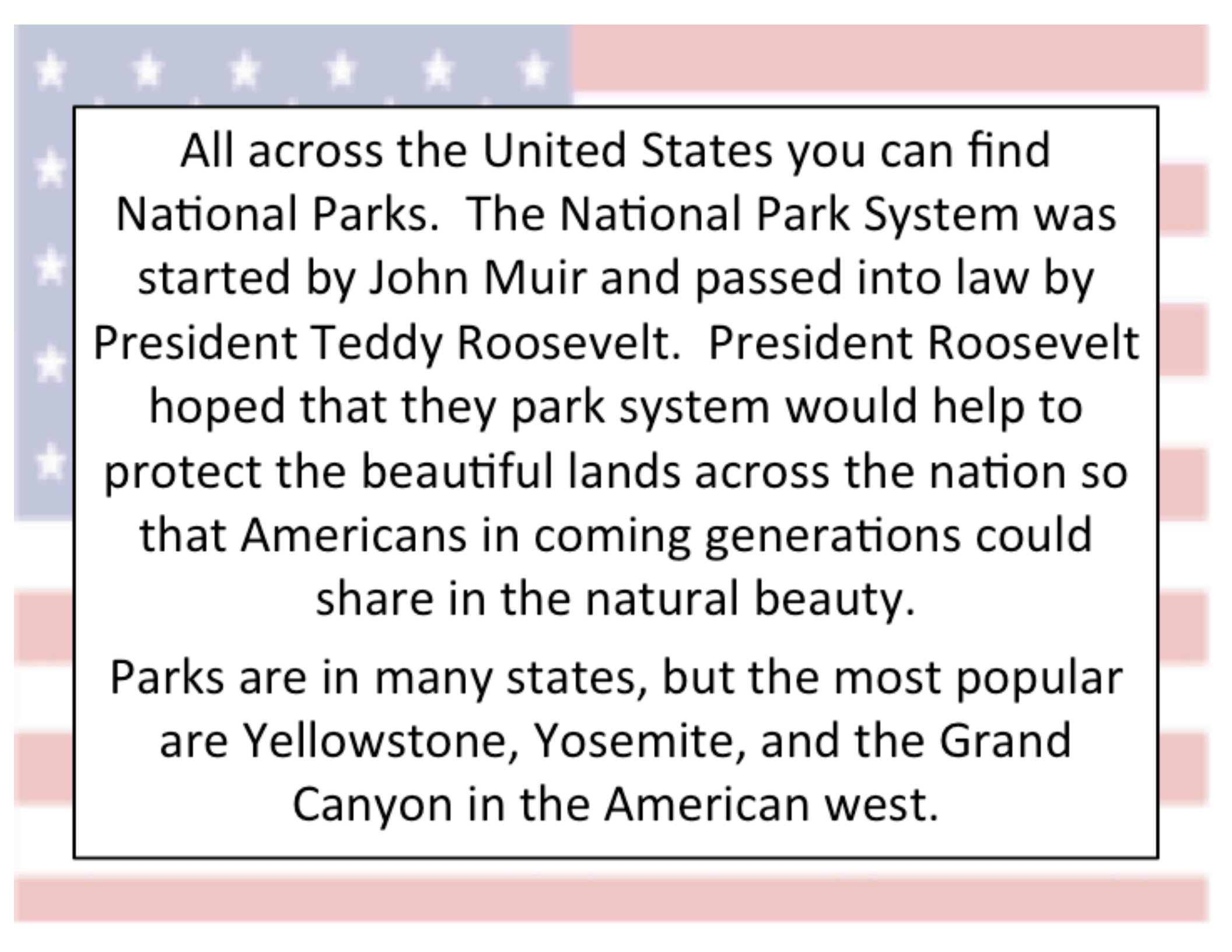
The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top left corner has a blue field with white stars, and the rest of the background is composed of horizontal red and white stripes. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a black border.

American children are required to attend some form of schooling from age 5 through age 16 (in most states). Public schools provide education to students based on state and national standards, while private schools and homeschools can teach students any curriculum they choose. In many American high schools, students at age 15-16 can take Driver's Education in preparation for earning their driver's license. Most states allow young Americans to drive after they turn 16 and complete a series of tasks and tests.

The background of the slide is a stylized American flag. It features a blue canton in the upper left corner containing a grid of white stars. The rest of the flag is composed of horizontal stripes, alternating between white and a light red color. The text is overlaid on the flag.

Clue #5

What is the purpose of America's  
National Parks System?

The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top left corner has a blue field with white stars, and the rest of the background is composed of horizontal red and white stripes. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a black border.

All across the United States you can find National Parks. The National Park System was started by John Muir and passed into law by President Teddy Roosevelt. President Roosevelt hoped that they park system would help to protect the beautiful lands across the nation so that Americans in coming generations could share in the natural beauty.

Parks are in many states, but the most popular are Yellowstone, Yosemite, and the Grand Canyon in the American west.

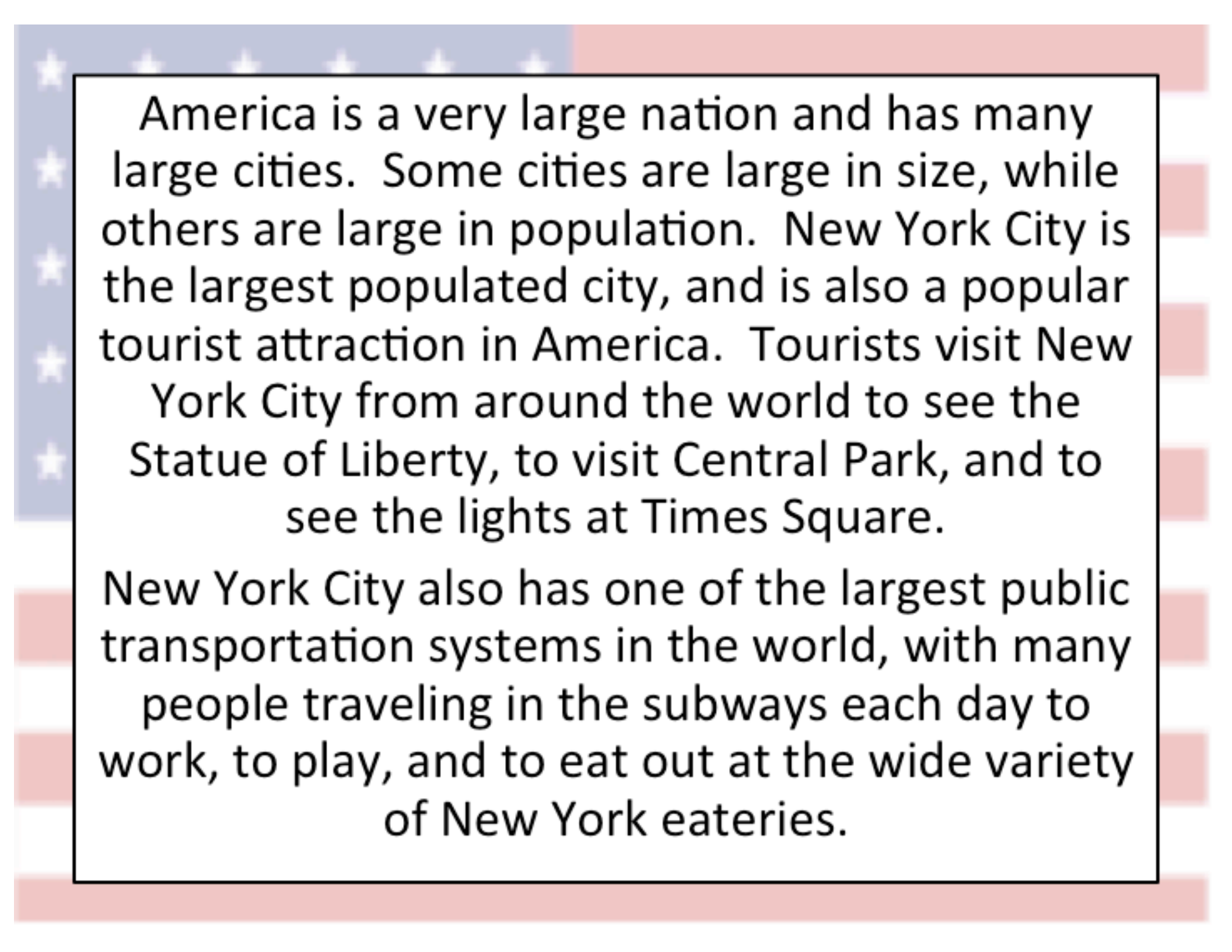


The background of the image is a stylized American flag with a blue canton containing white stars and red and white horizontal stripes. The text is overlaid on this background.

## Clue #6

Which is the largest American city  
(by population)?

- a. Chicago
- b. Los Angeles
- c. Tampa
- d. New York City

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America is a very large nation and has many large cities. Some cities are large in size, while others are large in population. New York City is the largest populated city, and is also a popular tourist attraction in America. Tourists visit New York City from around the world to see the Statue of Liberty, to visit Central Park, and to see the lights at Times Square.

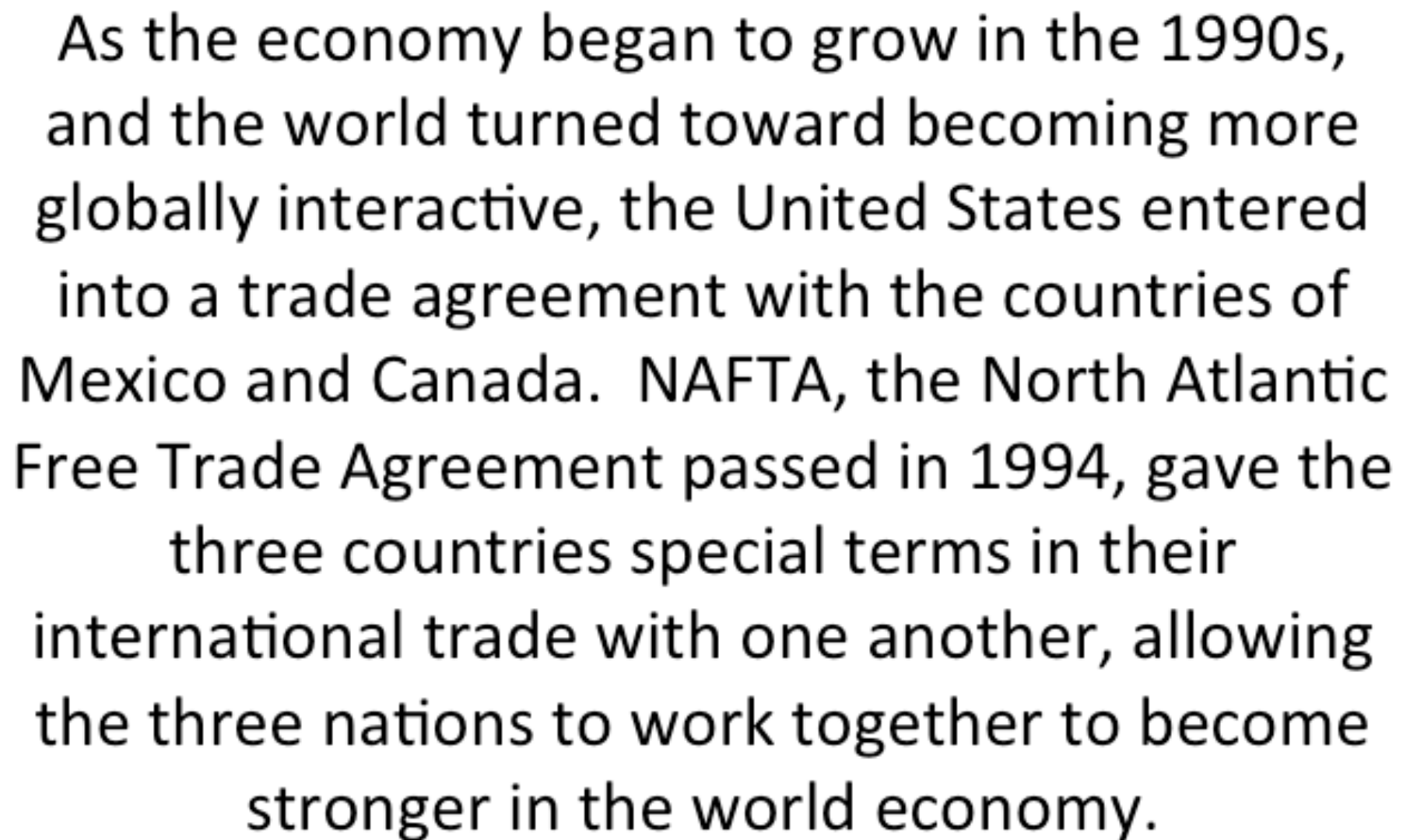
New York City also has one of the largest public transportation systems in the world, with many people traveling in the subways each day to work, to play, and to eat out at the wide variety of New York eateries.

The background of the slide is a stylized American flag. The top-left portion features a blue field with white stars, while the rest of the image consists of horizontal stripes of red and white. The text is overlaid on this background.

Clue #7

What trade agreement did  
America enter into in 1994?

Bonus: Who are their trade  
partners?



As the economy began to grow in the 1990s, and the world turned toward becoming more globally interactive, the United States entered into a trade agreement with the countries of Mexico and Canada. NAFTA, the North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement passed in 1994, gave the three countries special terms in their international trade with one another, allowing the three nations to work together to become stronger in the world economy.

The background of the entire image is a stylized American flag, featuring a blue canton with white stars on the left and horizontal stripes of red and white on the right.

Clue #8

What is the literacy rate in  
America?

a.94%

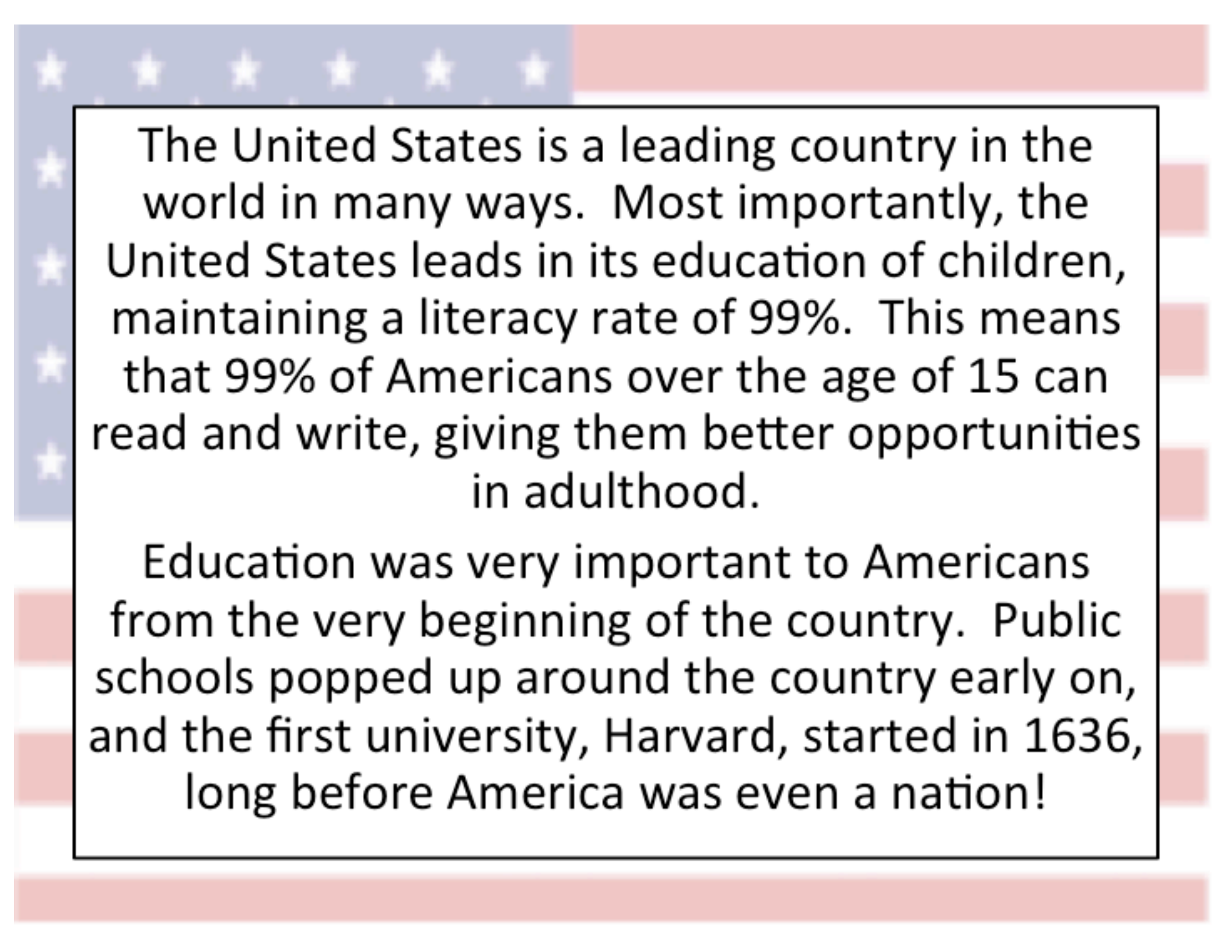
b.82%

c.79%

d.99%

Bonus: What was America's  
first university?



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The United States is a leading country in the world in many ways. Most importantly, the United States leads in its education of children, maintaining a literacy rate of 99%. This means that 99% of Americans over the age of 15 can read and write, giving them better opportunities in adulthood.

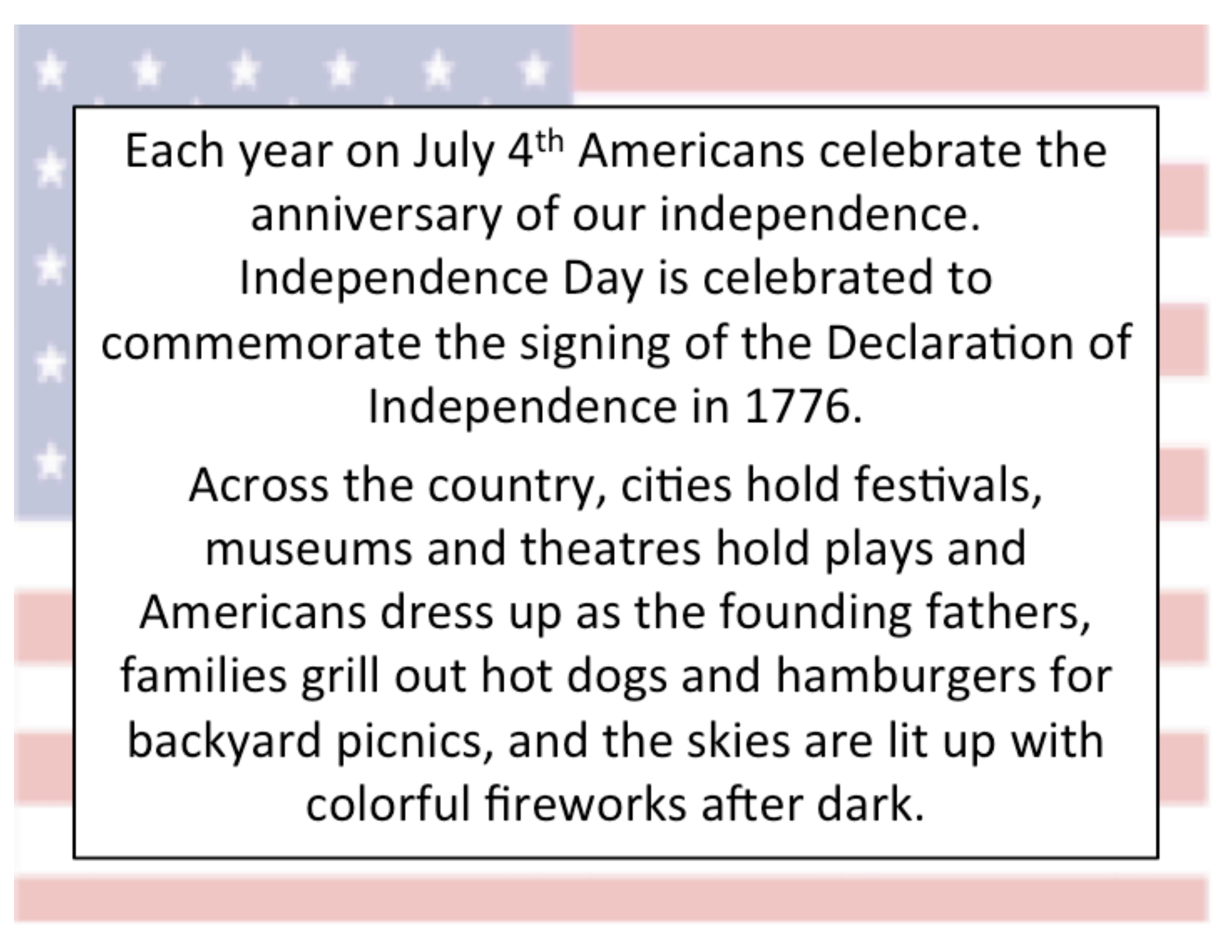
Education was very important to Americans from the very beginning of the country. Public schools popped up around the country early on, and the first university, Harvard, started in 1636, long before America was even a nation!

The background of the entire image is a stylized American flag, featuring a blue canton with white stars on the left and horizontal stripes of red and white on the right.

## Clue #9

What holiday is celebrated in July of each year, commemorating the nation's birth?

- a. Independence Day
- b. President's Day
- c. Labor Day
- d. National Day



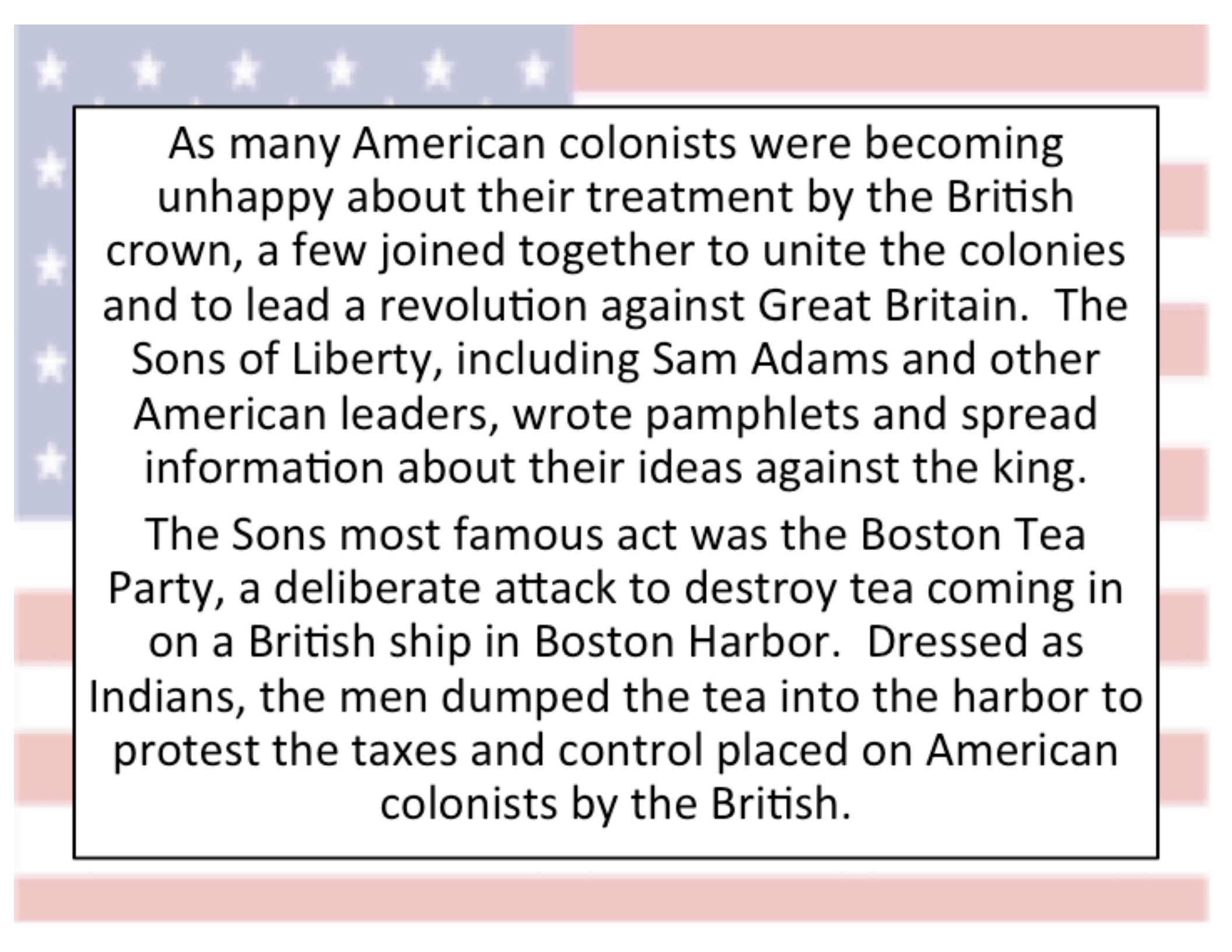
Each year on July 4<sup>th</sup> Americans celebrate the anniversary of our independence. Independence Day is celebrated to commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

Across the country, cities hold festivals, museums and theatres hold plays and Americans dress up as the founding fathers, families grill out hot dogs and hamburgers for backyard picnics, and the skies are lit up with colorful fireworks after dark.

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Clue #10

Who were the Sons of Liberty?

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As many American colonists were becoming unhappy about their treatment by the British crown, a few joined together to unite the colonies and to lead a revolution against Great Britain. The Sons of Liberty, including Sam Adams and other American leaders, wrote pamphlets and spread information about their ideas against the king.

The Sons most famous act was the Boston Tea Party, a deliberate attack to destroy tea coming in on a British ship in Boston Harbor. Dressed as Indians, the men dumped the tea into the harbor to protest the taxes and control placed on American colonists by the British.

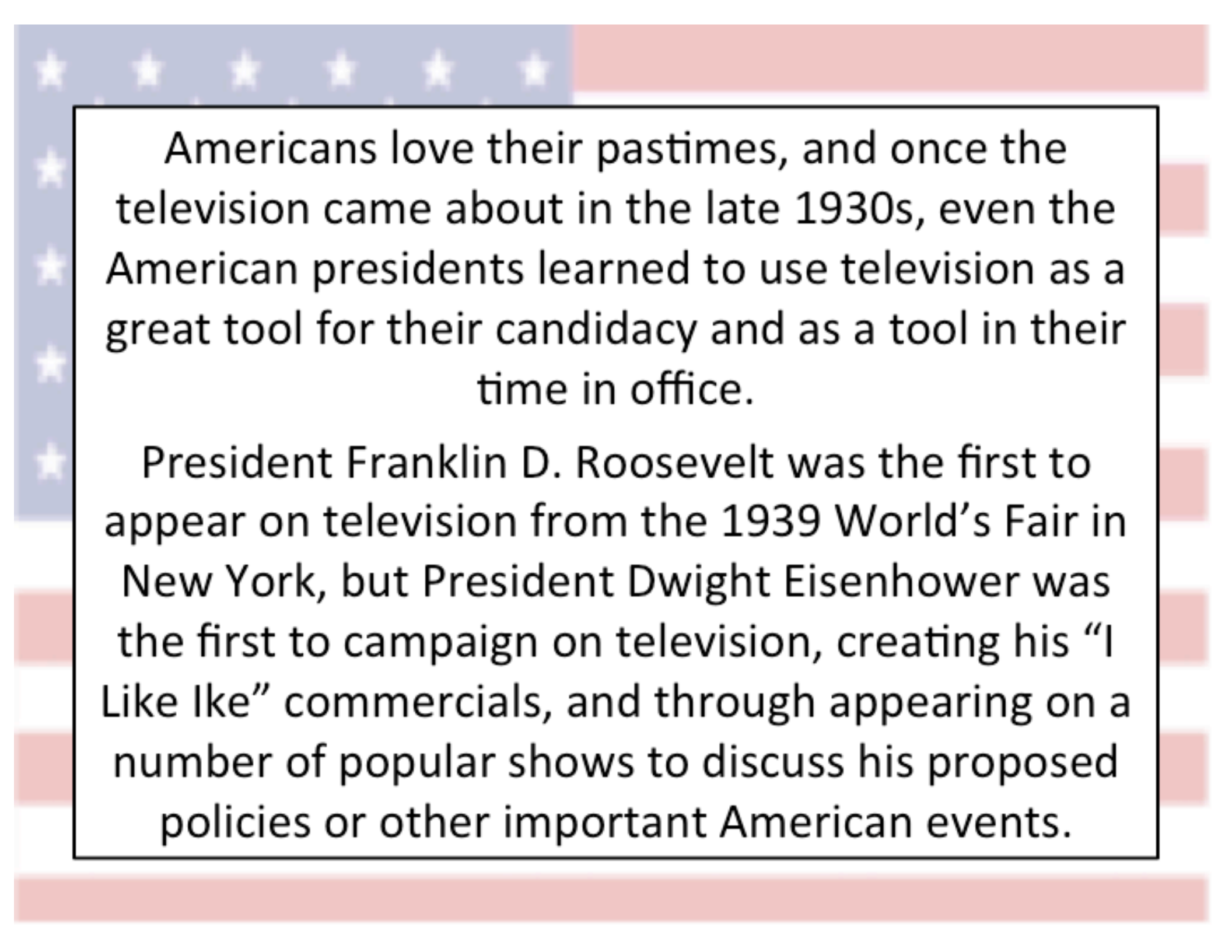


The background of the slide is a stylized American flag with a blue field of white stars on the left and red and white horizontal stripes on the right.

## Clue #11

Who was the first American president to appear on television?

- a. John F. Kennedy
- b. Dwight Eisenhower
- c. Gerald Ford
- d. Franklin D. Roosevelt

The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top-left corner shows a blue field with white stars, while the rest of the background is a solid light red color. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a black border.

Americans love their pastimes, and once the television came about in the late 1930s, even the American presidents learned to use television as a great tool for their candidacy and as a tool in their time in office.


President Franklin D. Roosevelt was the first to appear on television from the 1939 World's Fair in New York, but President Dwight Eisenhower was the first to campaign on television, creating his "I Like Ike" commercials, and through appearing on a number of popular shows to discuss his proposed policies or other important American events.

The background of the slide is a stylized American flag with a blue field of white stars on the left and horizontal stripes of red and white on the right.

## Clue #12

What is the largest corporation  
in America?

- a. Exxon Mobile
- b. Starbucks
- c. Wal-Mart
- d. McDonalds

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Large corporations are all across the American landscape. Small businesses have the potential to start off as nothing more than an idea, yet turn into a major U.S., and even world-wide, money-making corporation.

Most of the largest corporations in the United States are in the categories of fuel or energy; however, the largest corporation in America is the popular neighborhood store, Wal-Mart.

The first Wal-Mart store was opened in 1962 by its founder, Sam Walton.

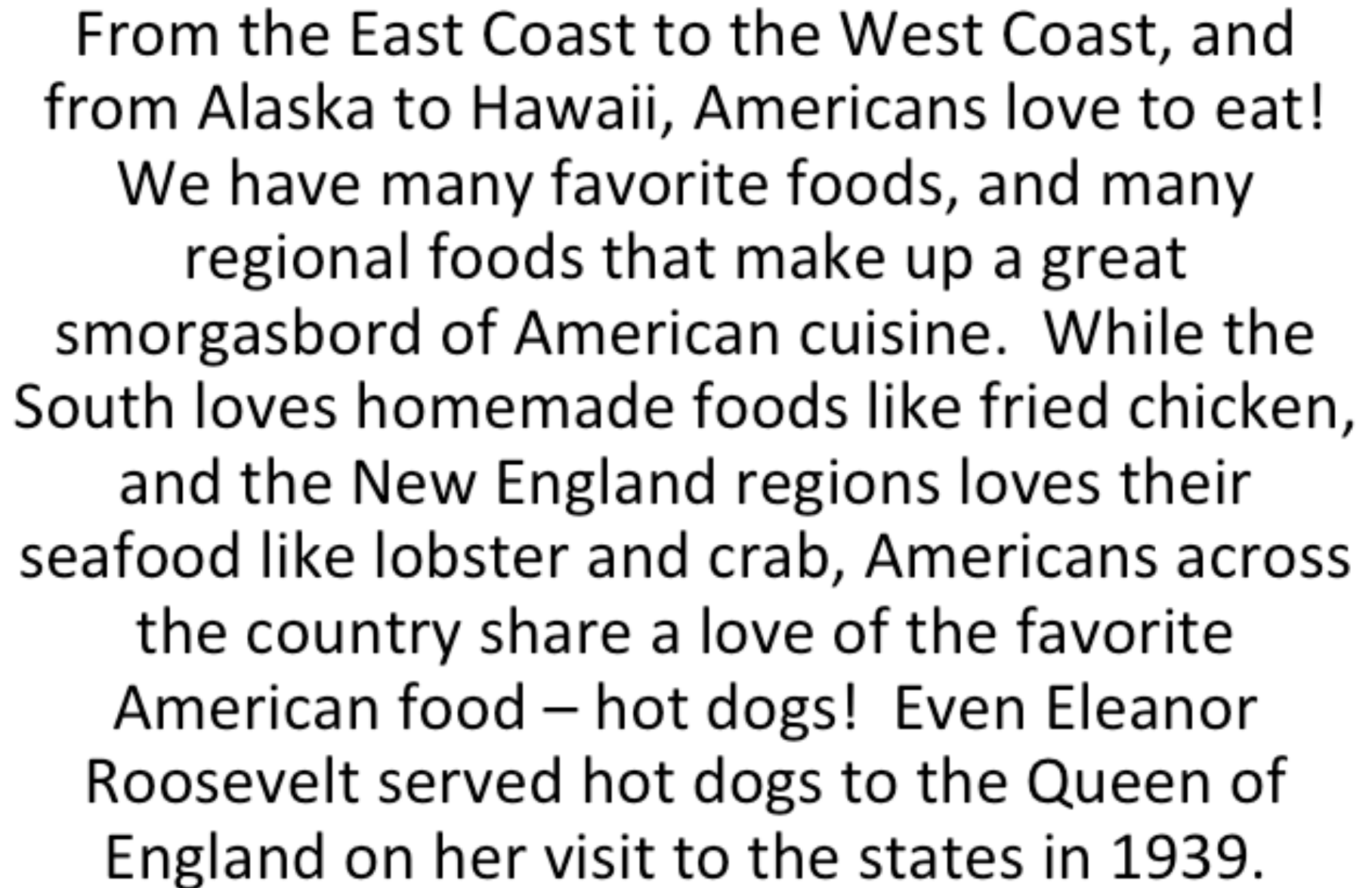
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## Clue #13

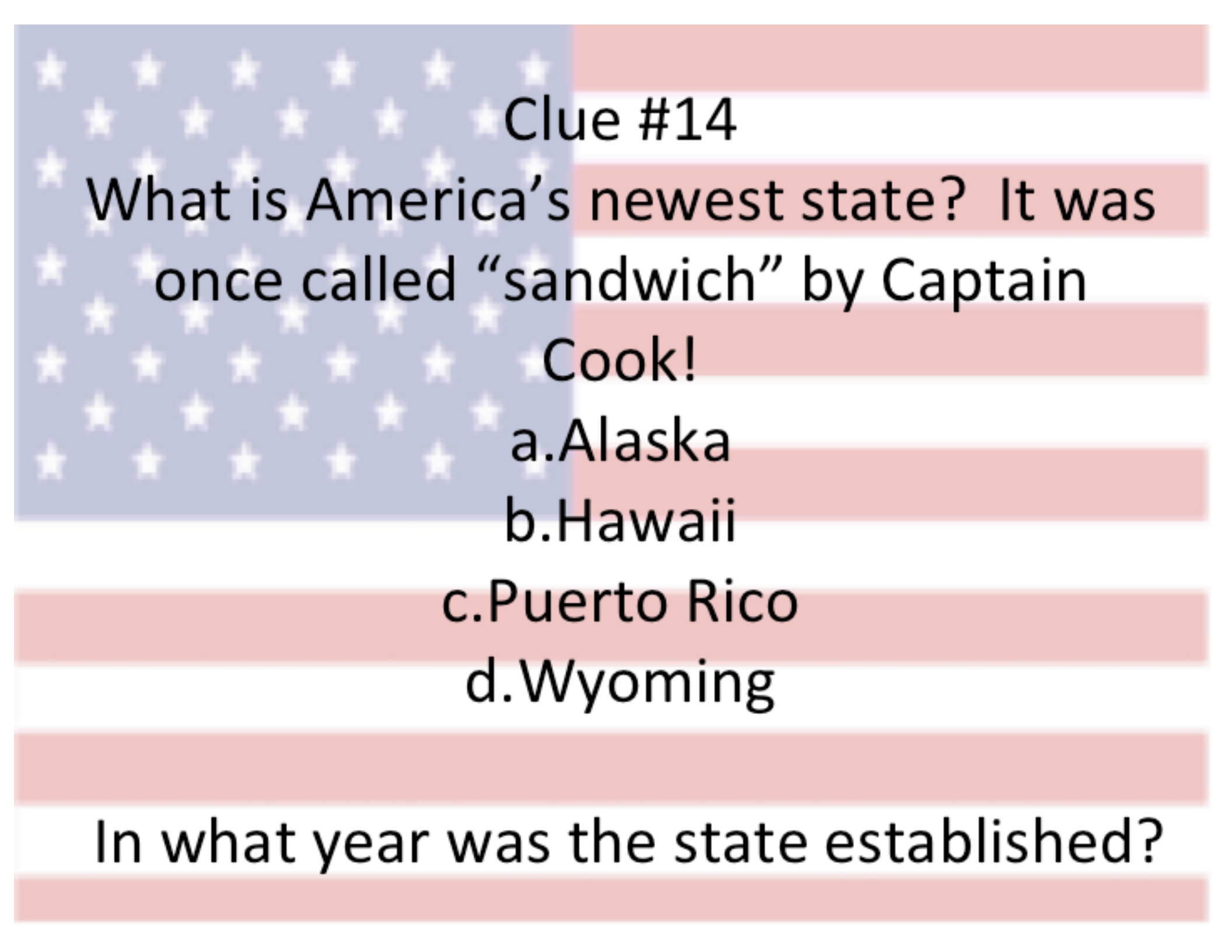
What American food did Eleanor Roosevelt serve to Queen Elizabeth on her visit in 1939?

- a. Fried Chicken
- b. Hamburgers
- c. Chips and Dip
- d. Hot Dogs



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From the East Coast to the West Coast, and from Alaska to Hawaii, Americans love to eat! We have many favorite foods, and many regional foods that make up a great smorgasbord of American cuisine. While the South loves homemade foods like fried chicken, and the New England regions loves their seafood like lobster and crab, Americans across the country share a love of the favorite American food – hot dogs! Even Eleanor Roosevelt served hot dogs to the Queen of England on her visit to the states in 1939.

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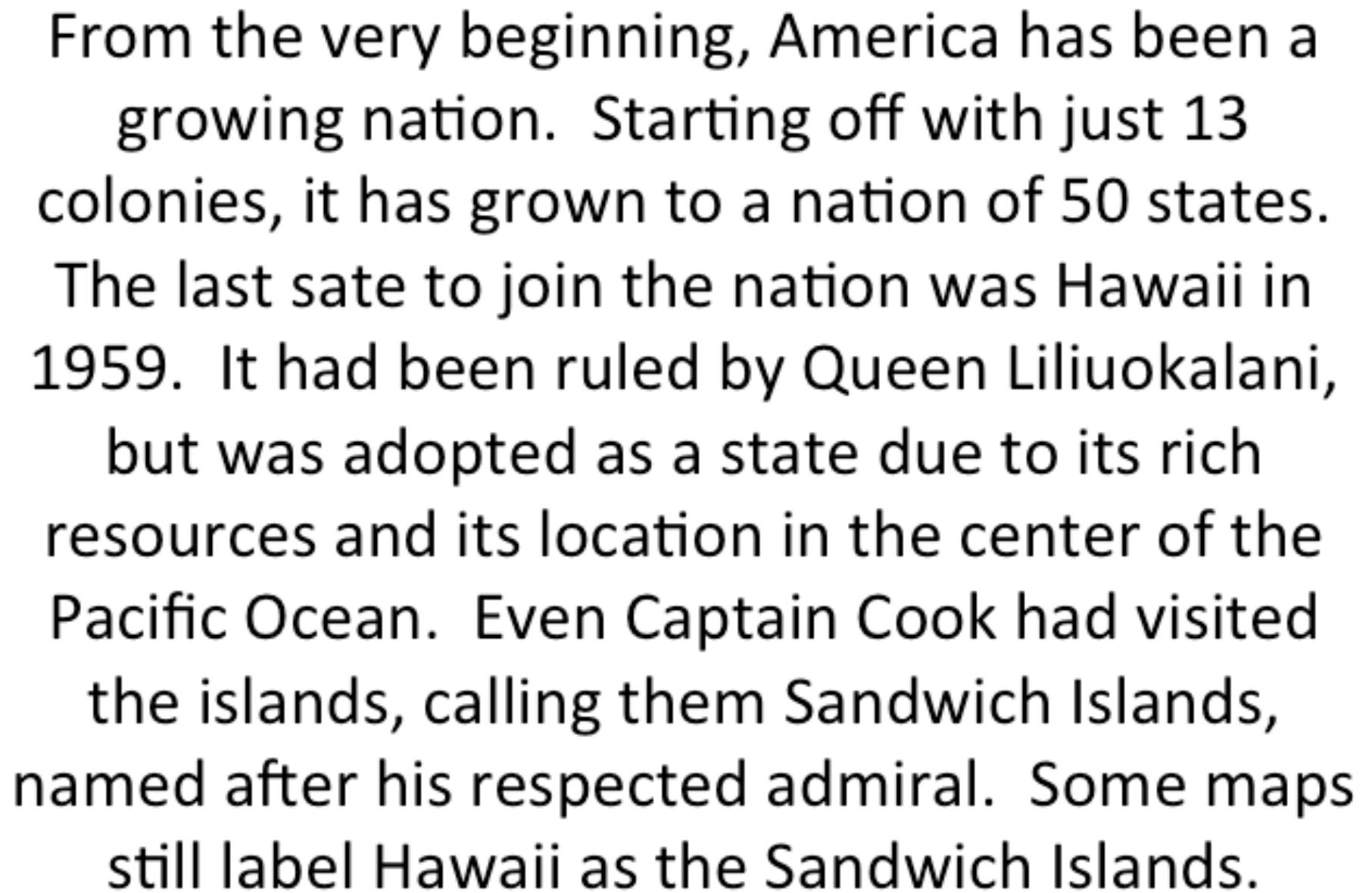
## Clue #14

What is America's newest state? It was once called "sandwich" by Captain

Cook!

- a. Alaska
- b. Hawaii
- c. Puerto Rico
- d. Wyoming

In what year was the state established?

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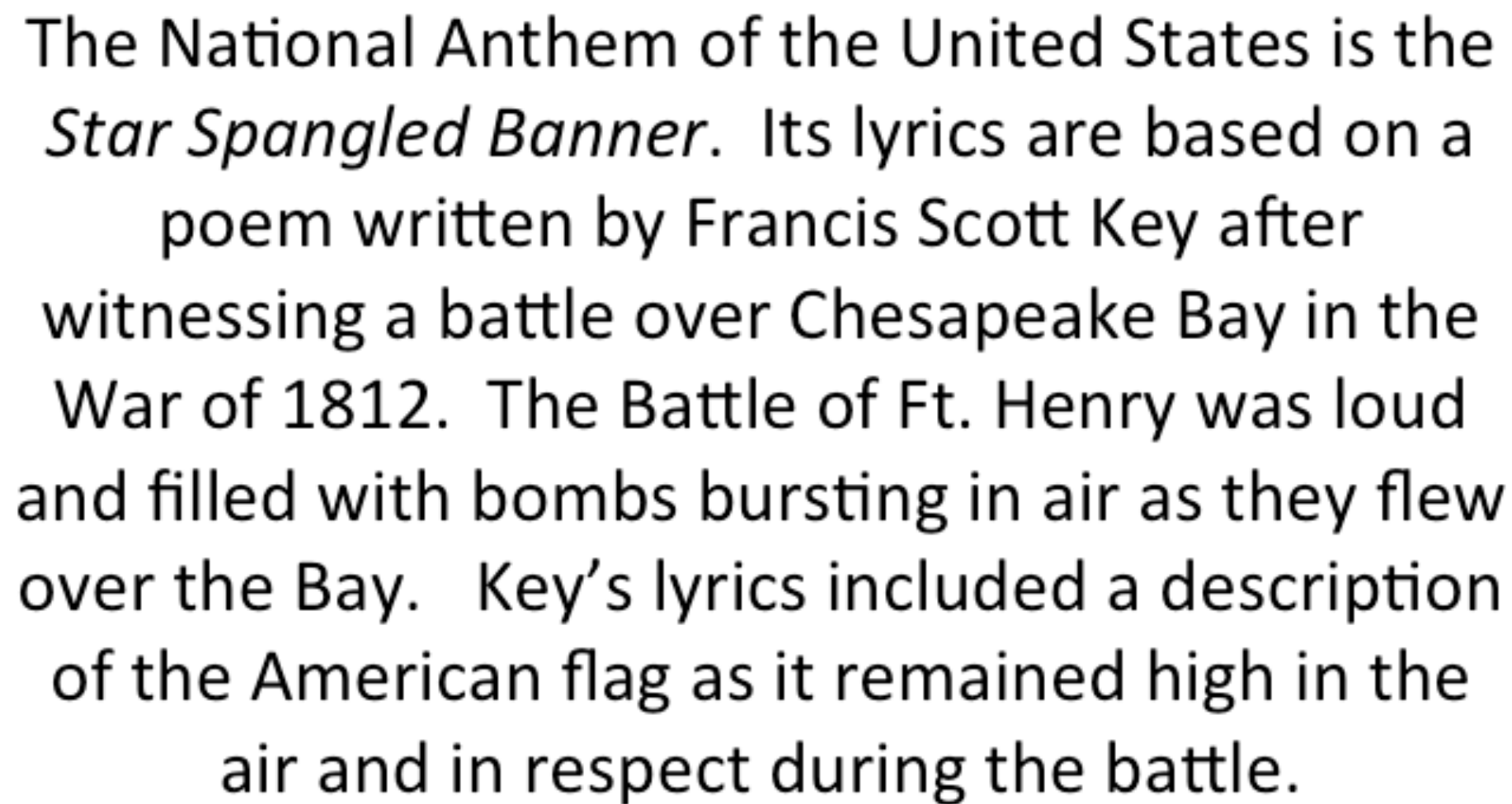
From the very beginning, America has been a growing nation. Starting off with just 13 colonies, it has grown to a nation of 50 states. The last state to join the nation was Hawaii in 1959. It had been ruled by Queen Liliuokalani, but was adopted as a state due to its rich resources and its location in the center of the Pacific Ocean. Even Captain Cook had visited the islands, calling them Sandwich Islands, named after his respected admiral. Some maps still label Hawaii as the Sandwich Islands.

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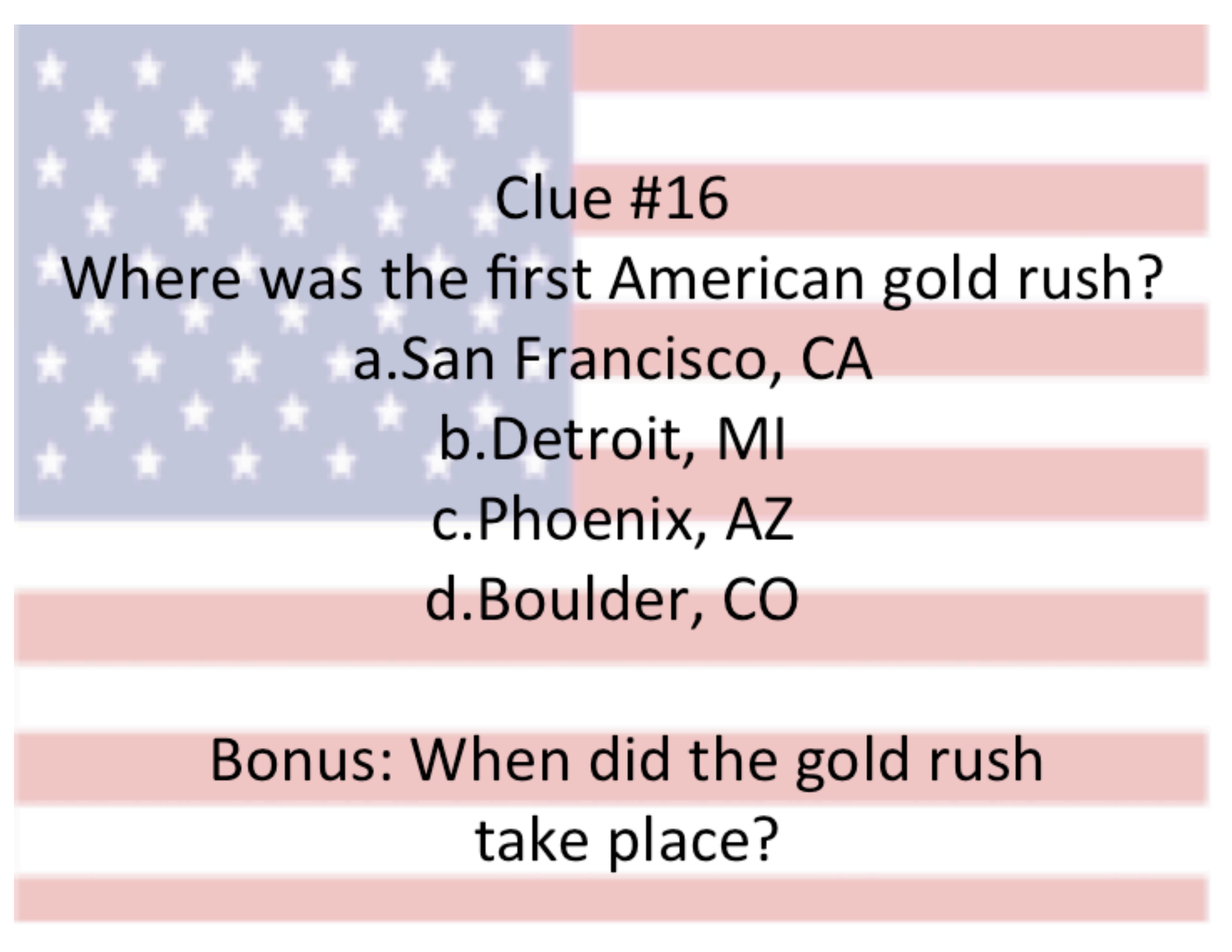
## Clue #15

In the American National Anthem, what was “bursting in air?”

- a. The true North, strong and free
- b. Fireworks
- c. Bombs
- d. American people’s screams

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The National Anthem of the United States is the *Star Spangled Banner*. Its lyrics are based on a poem written by Francis Scott Key after witnessing a battle over Chesapeake Bay in the War of 1812. The Battle of Ft. Henry was loud and filled with bombs bursting in air as they flew over the Bay. Key's lyrics included a description of the American flag as it remained high in the air and in respect during the battle.

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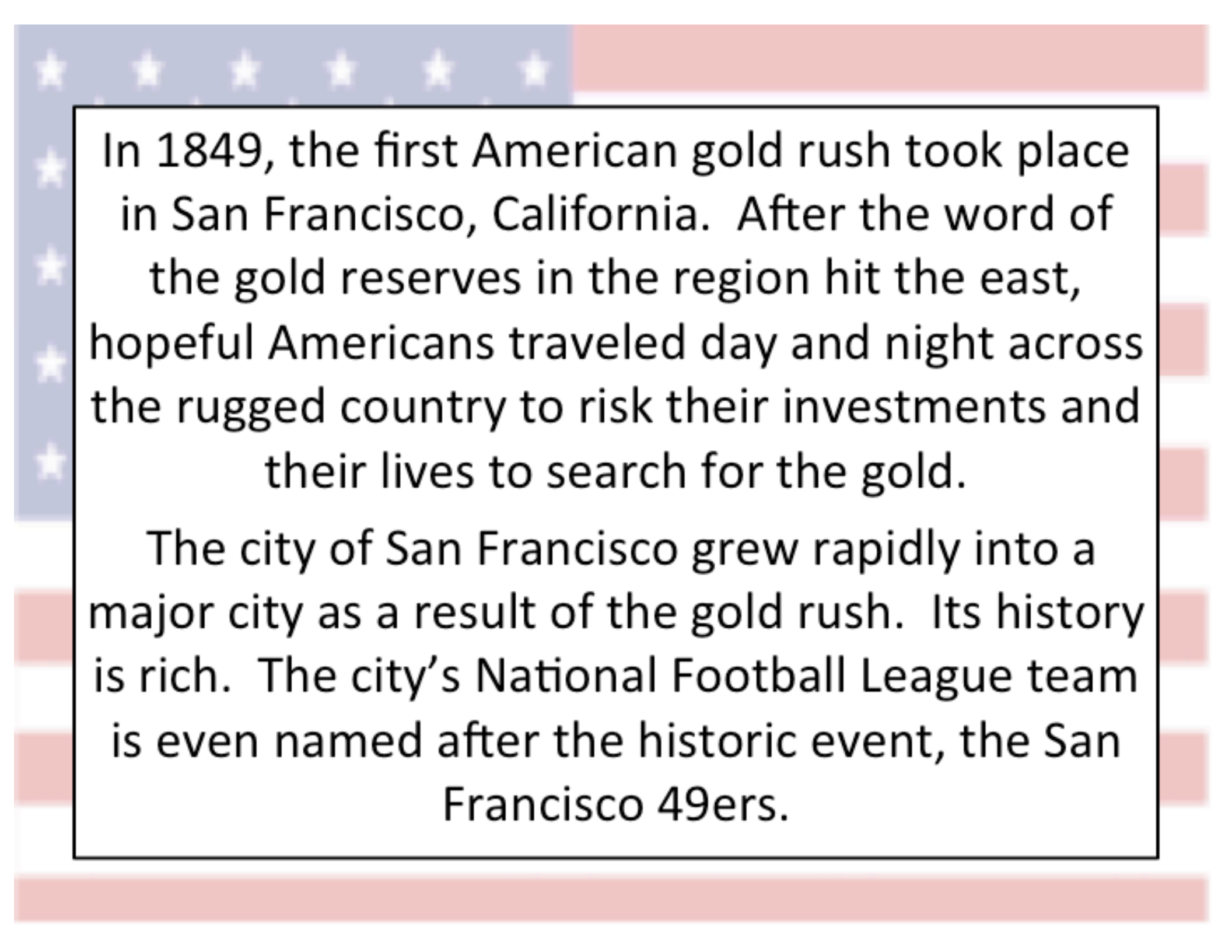
Clue #16

Where was the first American gold rush?

- a. San Francisco, CA
- b. Detroit, MI
- c. Phoenix, AZ
- d. Boulder, CO

Bonus: When did the gold rush  
take place?



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In 1849, the first American gold rush took place in San Francisco, California. After the word of the gold reserves in the region hit the east, hopeful Americans traveled day and night across the rugged country to risk their investments and their lives to search for the gold.

The city of San Francisco grew rapidly into a major city as a result of the gold rush. Its history is rich. The city's National Football League team is even named after the historic event, the San Francisco 49ers.

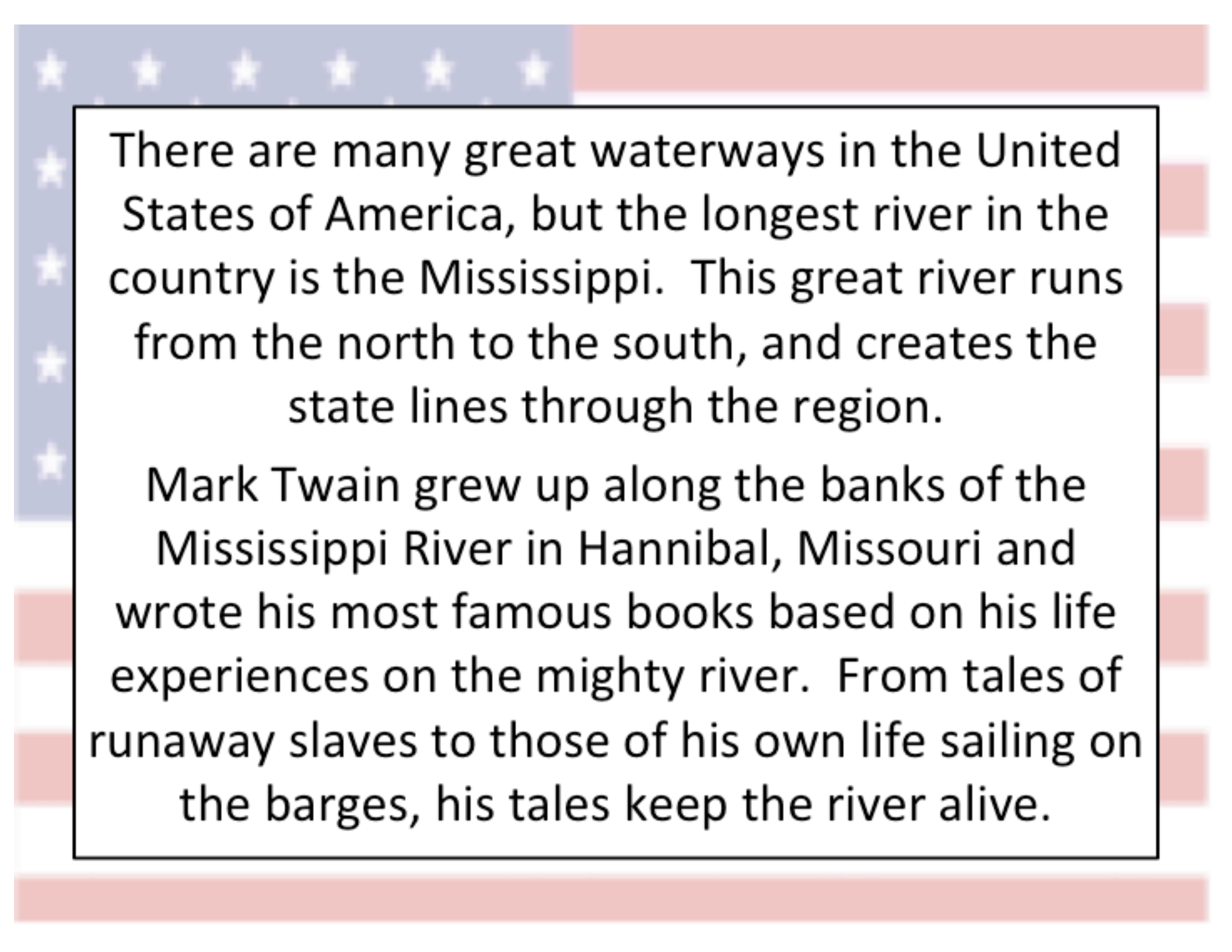
The background of the entire slide is a stylized American flag, featuring a blue field with white stars on the left and red and white horizontal stripes on the right.

Clue #17

What is America's longest river?

- a. Ohio
- b. Colorado
- c. Missouri
- d. Mississippi

Bonus: What American author based his stories on living in Hannibal, MO next to the great river?

The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top-left corner shows a blue field with white stars, while the rest of the background is a light red color with horizontal white stripes. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a black border.

There are many great waterways in the United States of America, but the longest river in the country is the Mississippi. This great river runs from the north to the south, and creates the state lines through the region.

Mark Twain grew up along the banks of the Mississippi River in Hannibal, Missouri and wrote his most famous books based on his life experiences on the mighty river. From tales of runaway slaves to those of his own life sailing on the barges, his tales keep the river alive.

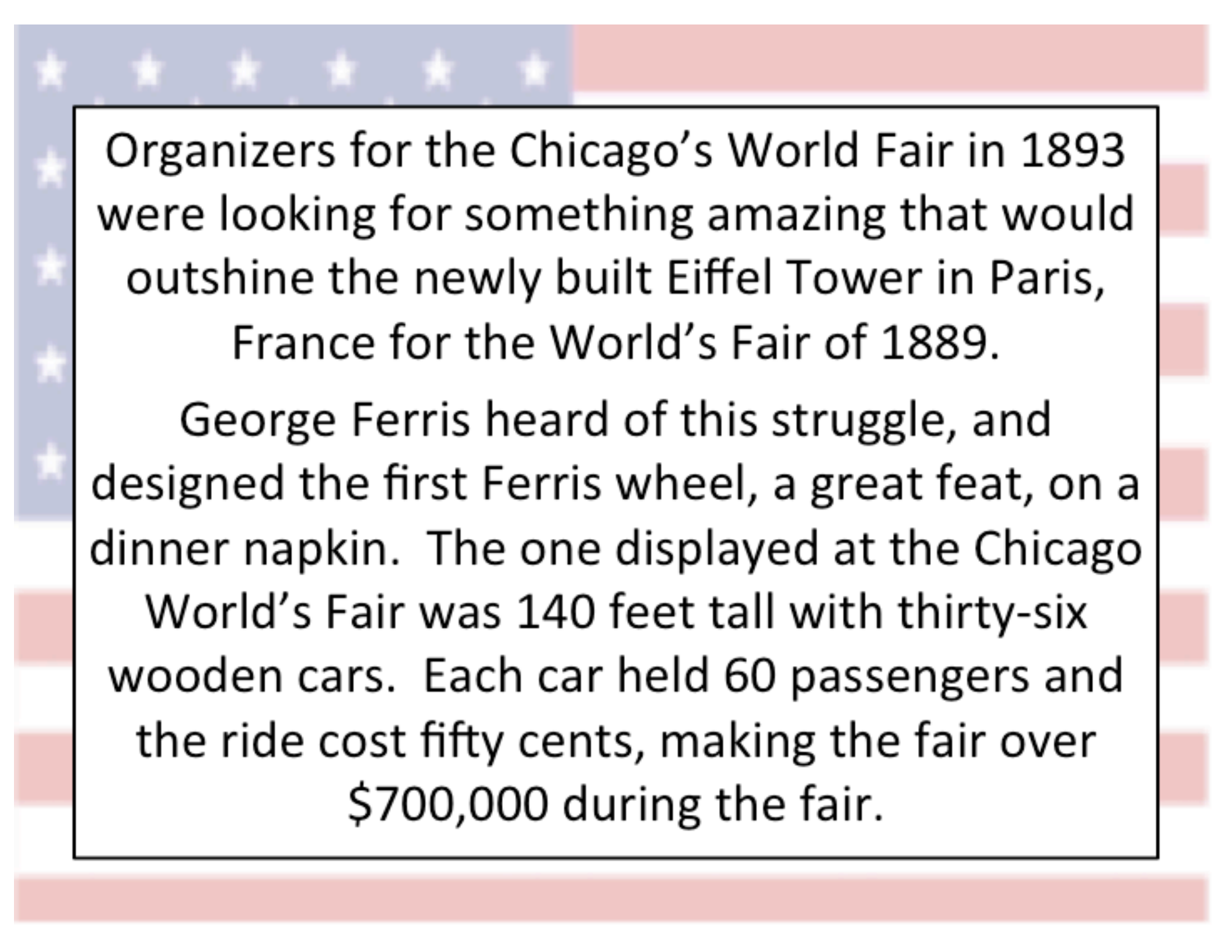
The background of the slide is a stylized American flag with a blue field of white stars on the left and red and white horizontal stripes on the right.

## Clue #18

What American invention was first introduced at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893? (It's named after its inventor from Pittsburg, PA)

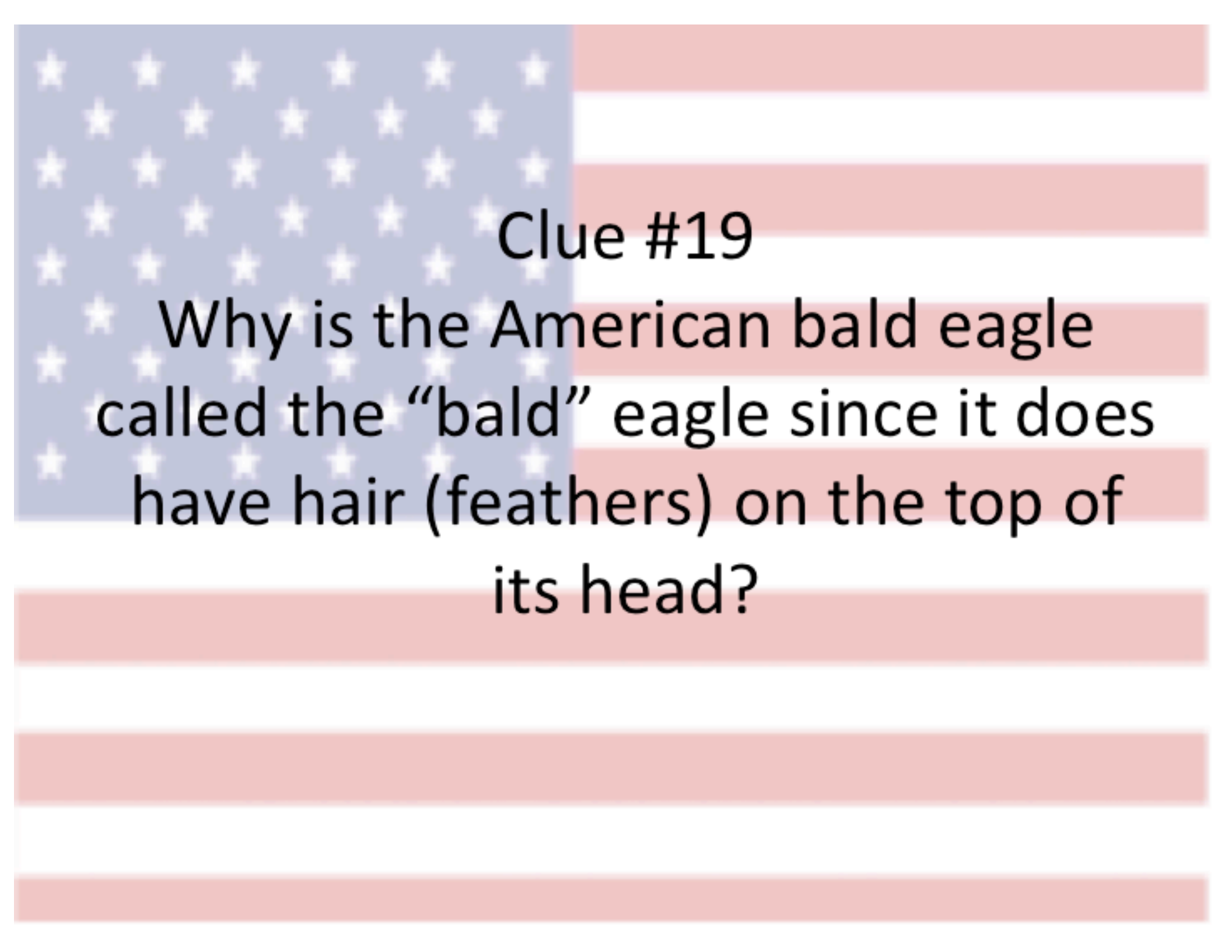
- a. Roller Coaster
- b. Ferris Wheel
- c. Bumper Cars
- d. Elevator

Bonus: What does it do?

The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top-left corner shows a blue field with white stars, while the rest of the background is a light red color with horizontal white stripes. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a black border.

Organizers for the Chicago's World Fair in 1893 were looking for something amazing that would outshine the newly built Eiffel Tower in Paris, France for the World's Fair of 1889.

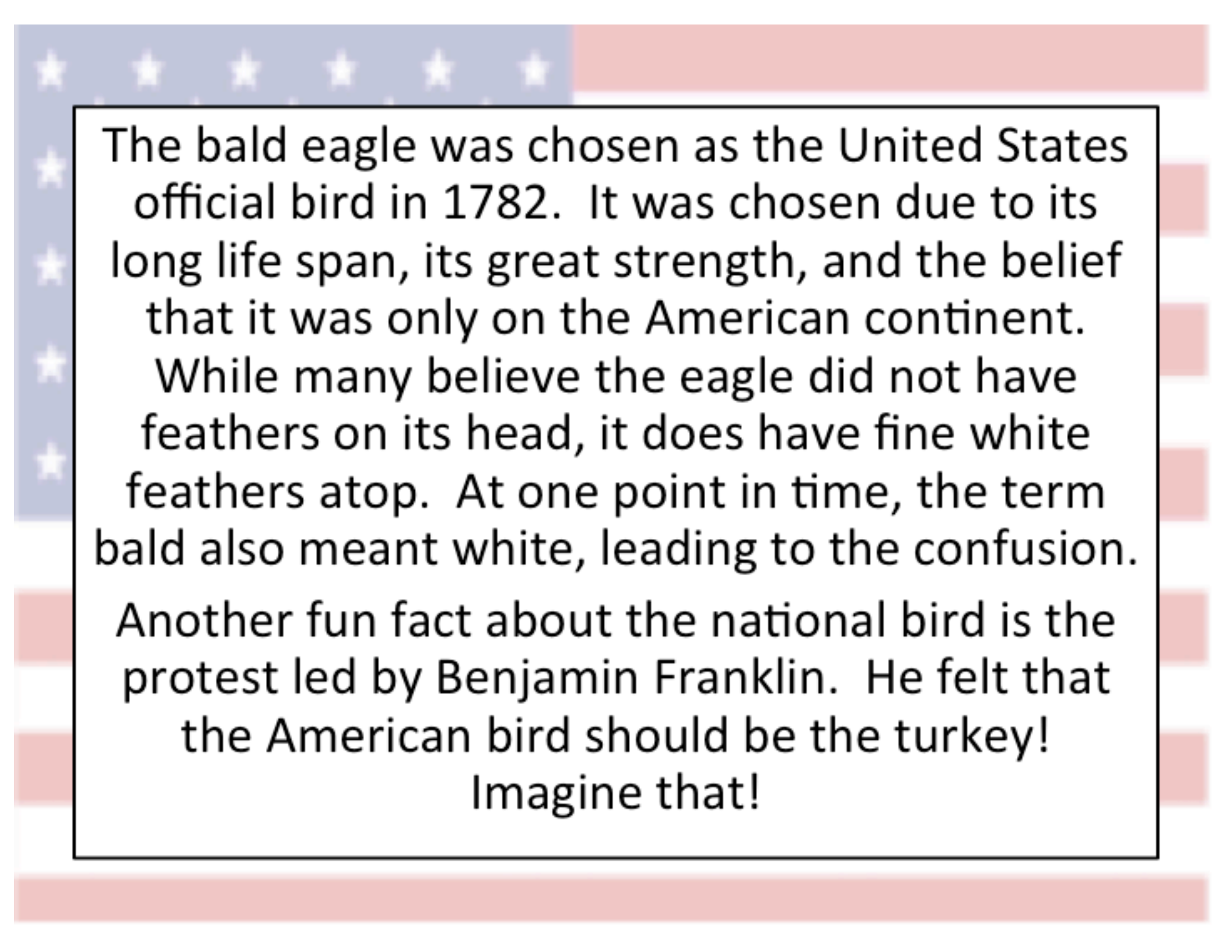
George Ferris heard of this struggle, and designed the first Ferris wheel, a great feat, on a dinner napkin. The one displayed at the Chicago World's Fair was 140 feet tall with thirty-six wooden cars. Each car held 60 passengers and the ride cost fifty cents, making the fair over \$700,000 during the fair.

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## Clue #19

Why is the American bald eagle called the “bald” eagle since it does have hair (feathers) on the top of its head?



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The bald eagle was chosen as the United States official bird in 1782. It was chosen due to its long life span, its great strength, and the belief that it was only on the American continent.

While many believe the eagle did not have feathers on its head, it does have fine white feathers atop. At one point in time, the term bald also meant white, leading to the confusion.

Another fun fact about the national bird is the protest led by Benjamin Franklin. He felt that the American bird should be the turkey!

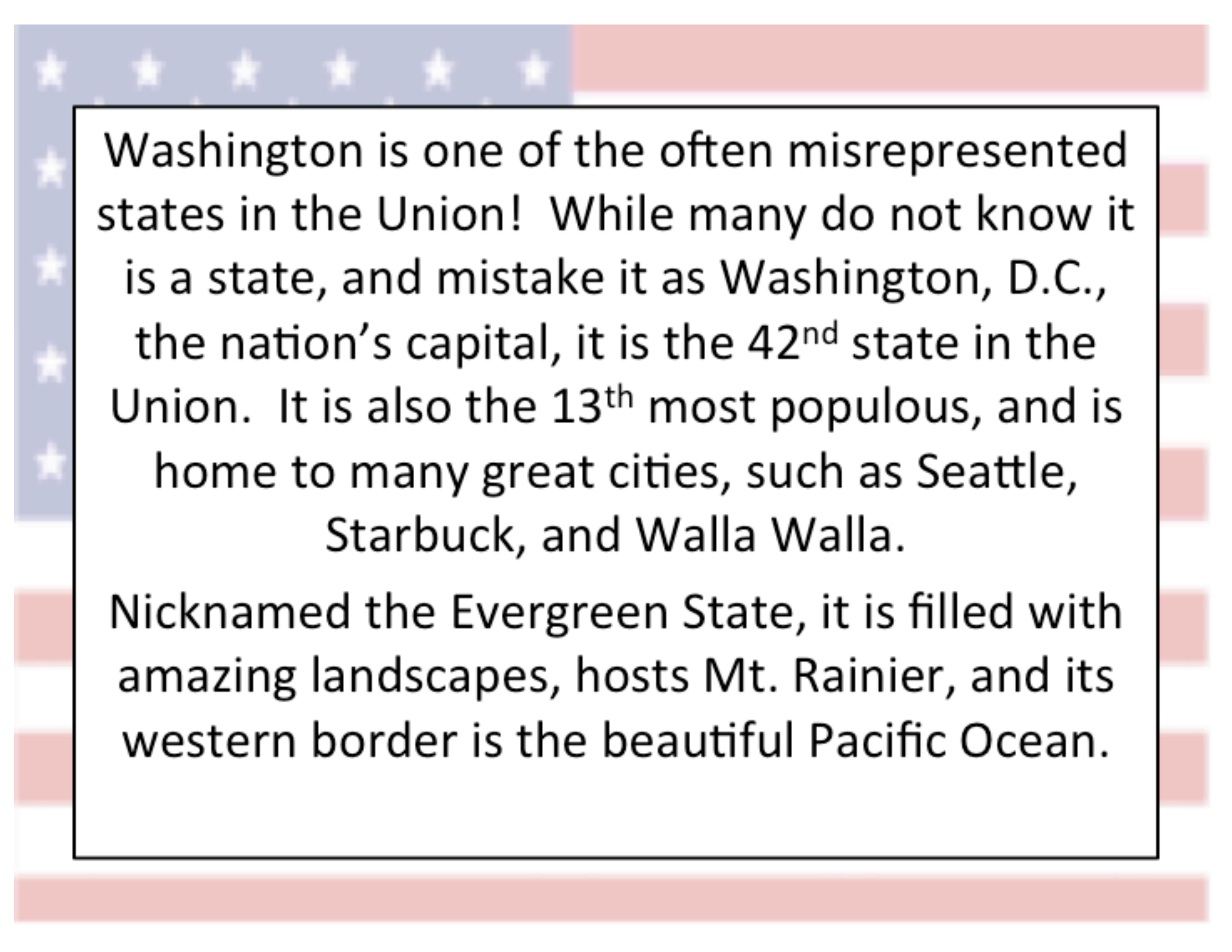
Imagine that!

The background of the image is a stylized American flag with a blue field of white stars on the left and horizontal stripes of red and white on the right.

## Clue #20

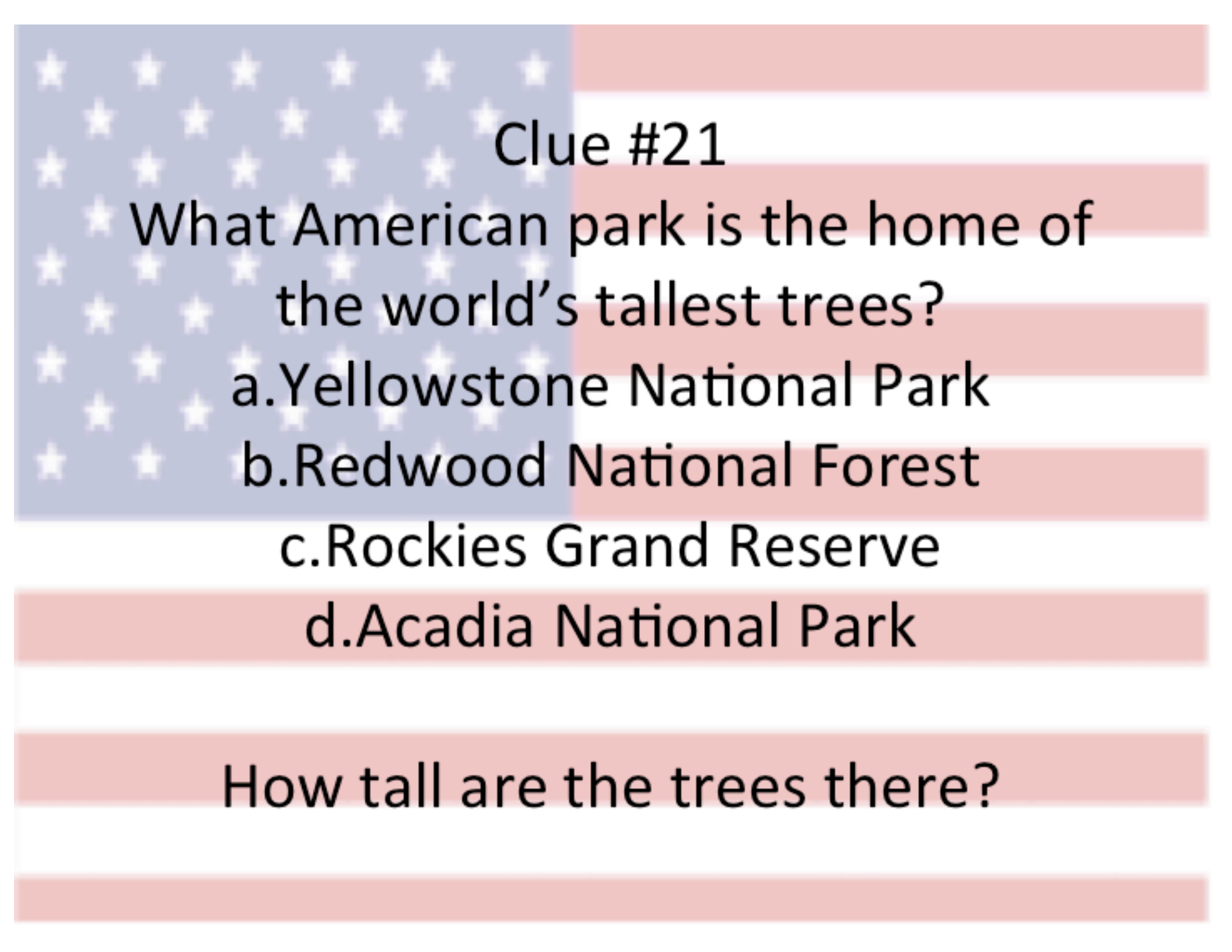
In what state would you be if you travelled through the cities of Walla Walla and Starbuck?

- a. Washington
- b. California
- c. Ohio
- d. Florida

The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top-left corner has a blue field with white stars, and the rest of the background is composed of horizontal red and white stripes. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a black border.

Washington is one of the often misrepresented states in the Union! While many do not know it is a state, and mistake it as Washington, D.C., the nation's capital, it is the 42<sup>nd</sup> state in the Union. It is also the 13<sup>th</sup> most populous, and is home to many great cities, such as Seattle, Starbuck, and Walla Walla.

Nicknamed the Evergreen State, it is filled with amazing landscapes, hosts Mt. Rainier, and its western border is the beautiful Pacific Ocean.

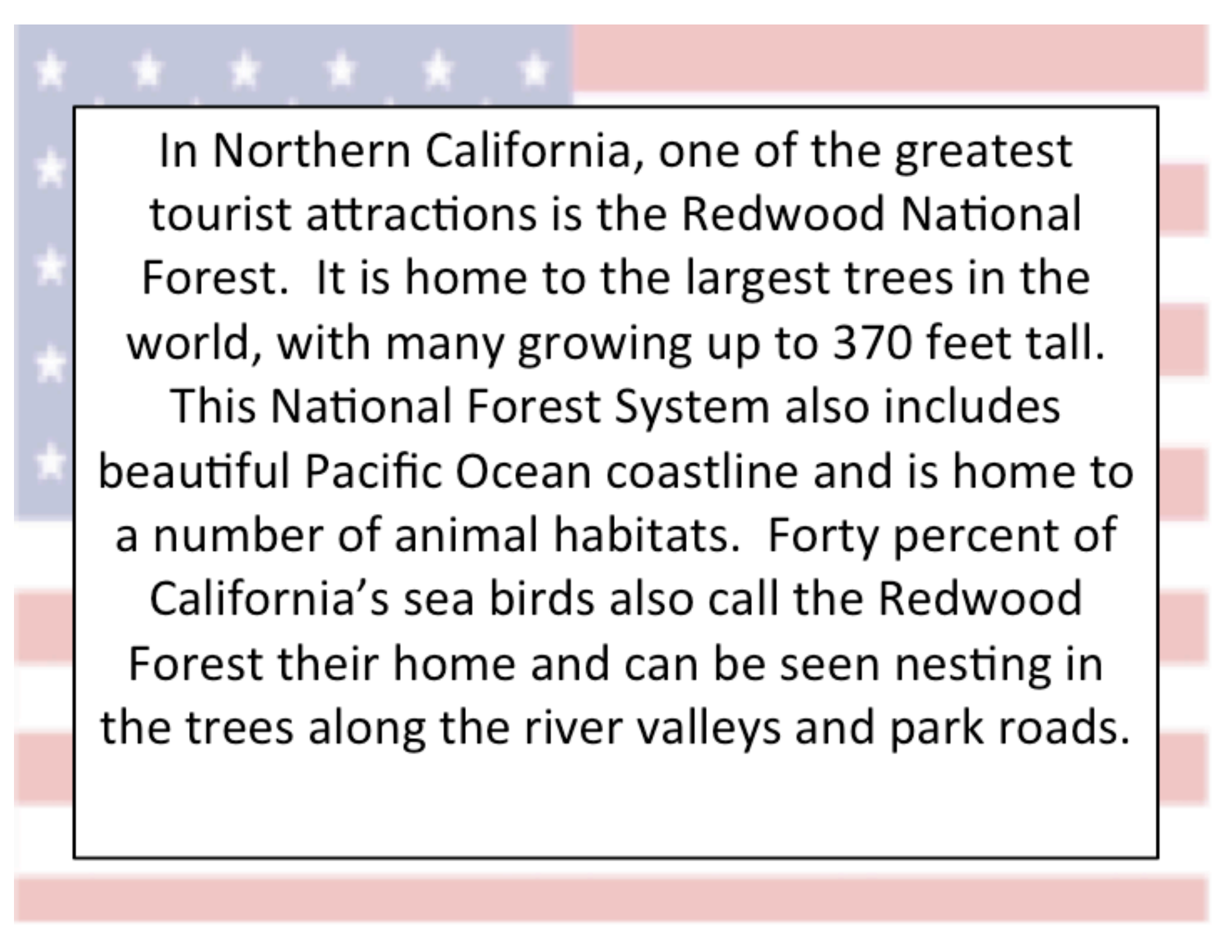
The background of the slide is a stylized American flag with a blue field of white stars on the left and red and white horizontal stripes on the right.

## Clue #21

What American park is the home of the world's tallest trees?

- a. Yellowstone National Park
- b. Redwood National Forest
- c. Rockies Grand Reserve
- d. Acadia National Park

How tall are the trees there?

The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top-left corner has a blue field with white stars, and the rest of the slide is filled with horizontal red and white stripes. A white rectangular box with a black border is centered on the slide, containing the text.

In Northern California, one of the greatest tourist attractions is the Redwood National Forest. It is home to the largest trees in the world, with many growing up to 370 feet tall.

This National Forest System also includes beautiful Pacific Ocean coastline and is home to a number of animal habitats. Forty percent of California's sea birds also call the Redwood Forest their home and can be seen nesting in the trees along the river valleys and park roads.

The background of the slide is a stylized American flag with a blue field of white stars on the left and red and white horizontal stripes on the right.

## Clue #22

What school, its campus in Lincoln Center, is the center for the “highest caliber of artistic education?”

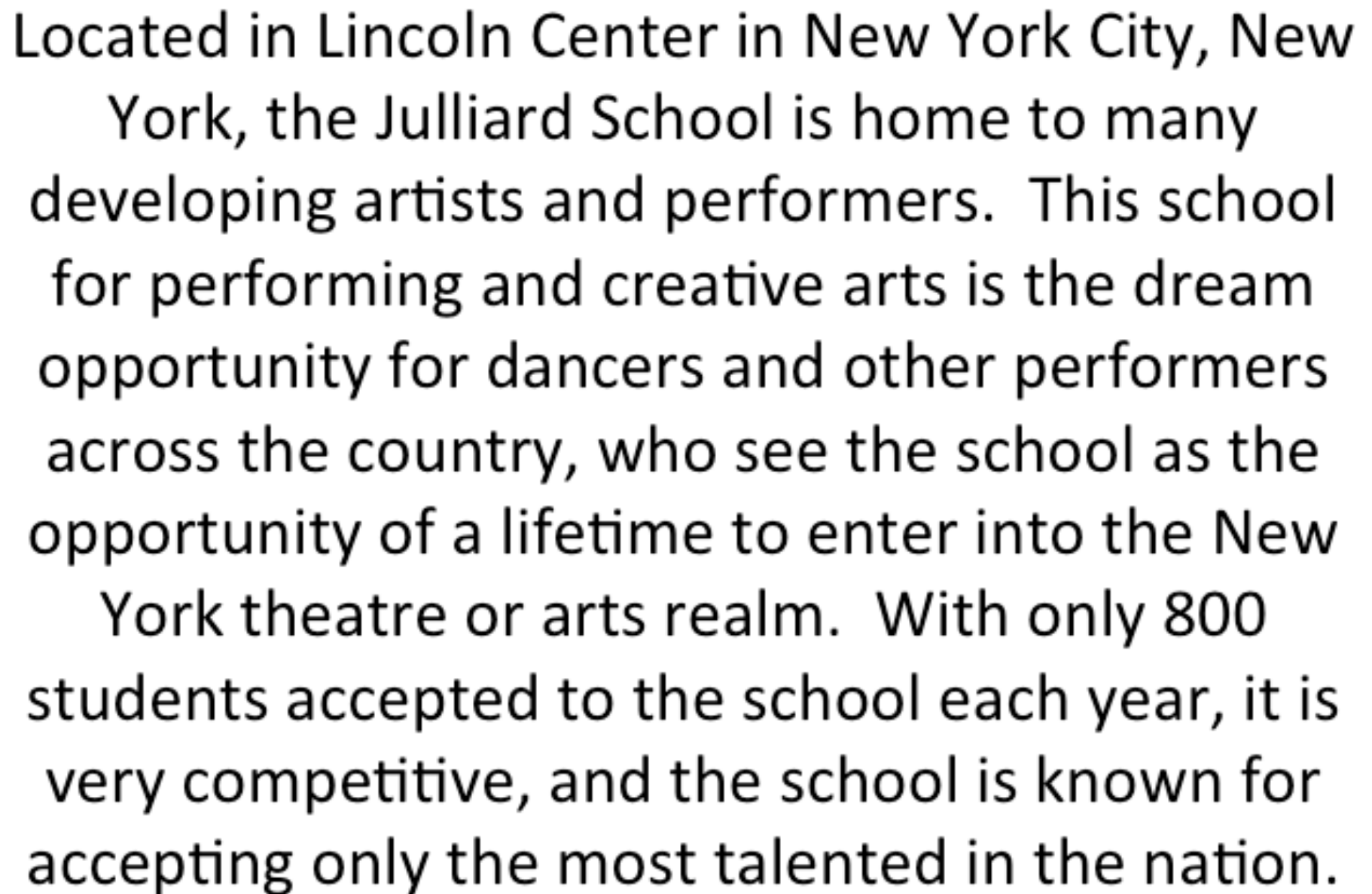
a. Juilliard

b. Yale

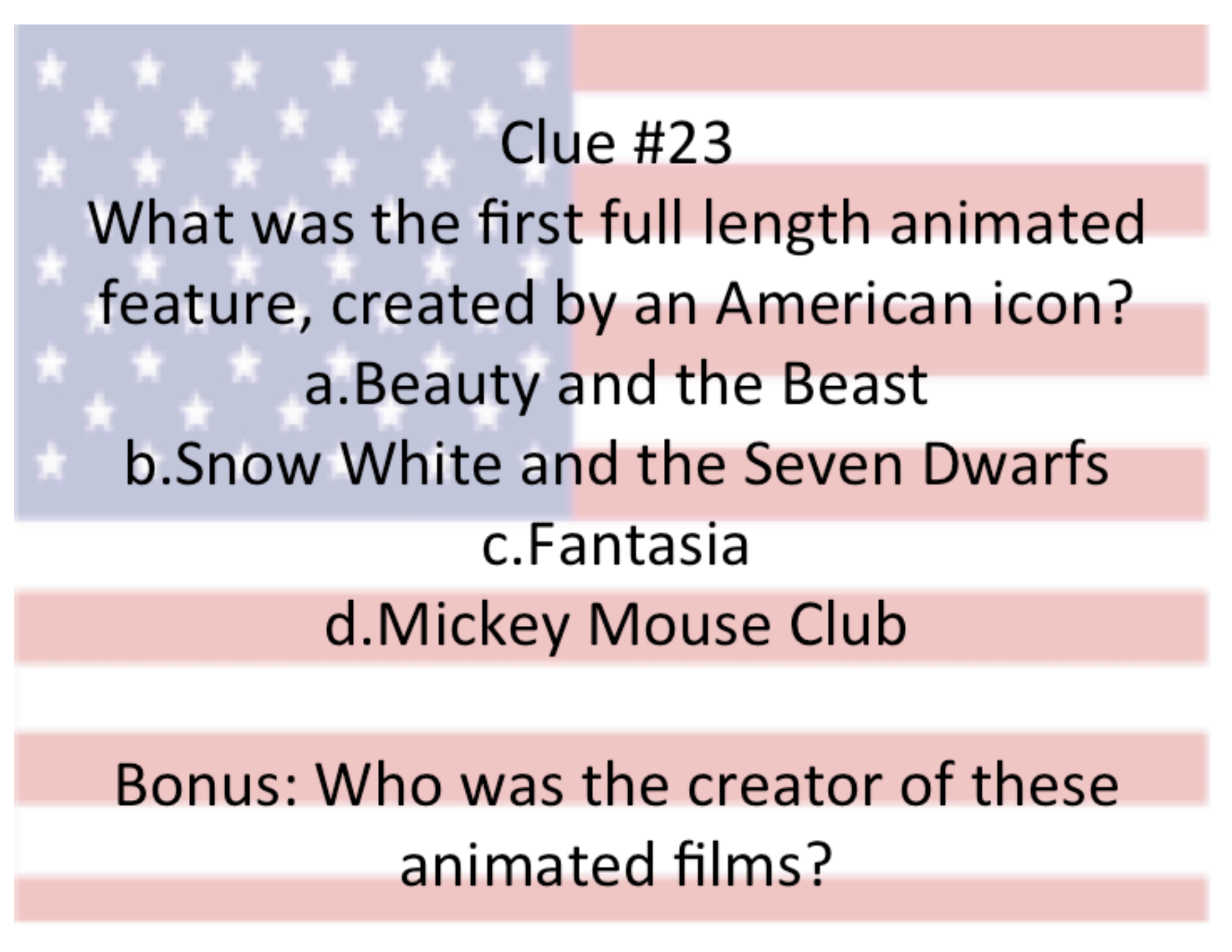
c. Stanford

d. Detroit Conservatory of Music



The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top-left corner has a blue field with white stars, and the rest of the background consists of horizontal red and white stripes. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a black border.

Located in Lincoln Center in New York City, New York, the Julliard School is home to many developing artists and performers. This school for performing and creative arts is the dream opportunity for dancers and other performers across the country, who see the school as the opportunity of a lifetime to enter into the New York theatre or arts realm. With only 800 students accepted to the school each year, it is very competitive, and the school is known for accepting only the most talented in the nation.

The background of the entire image is a stylized American flag, featuring a blue field with white stars on the left and red and white horizontal stripes on the right.

## Clue #23

What was the first full length animated feature, created by an American icon?

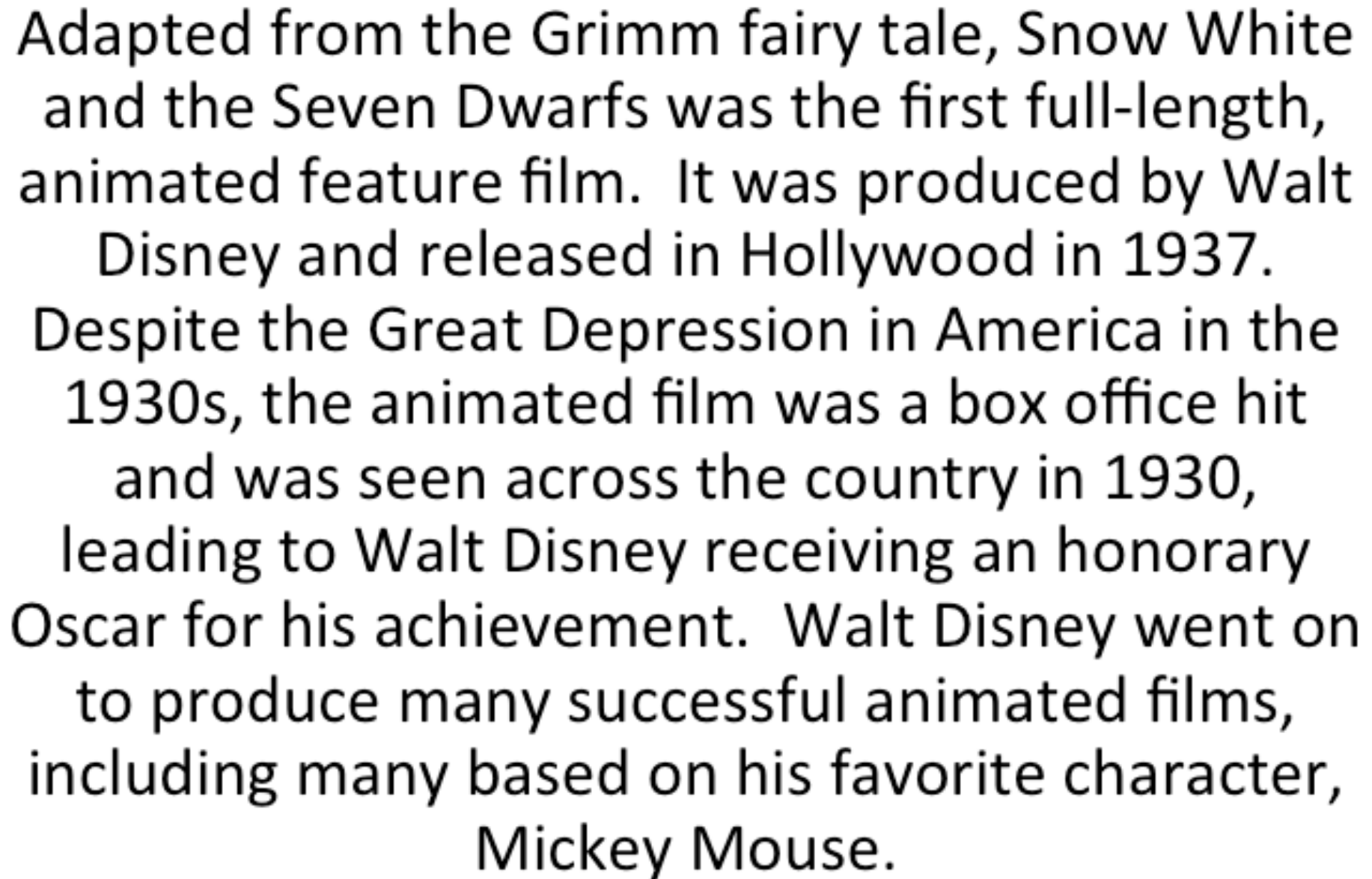
a. Beauty and the Beast

b. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

c. Fantasia

d. Mickey Mouse Club

Bonus: Who was the creator of these animated films?

The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top-left corner has a blue field with white stars, and the rest of the slide is filled with horizontal red and white stripes.

Adapted from the Grimm fairy tale, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs was the first full-length, animated feature film. It was produced by Walt Disney and released in Hollywood in 1937. Despite the Great Depression in America in the 1930s, the animated film was a box office hit and was seen across the country in 1930, leading to Walt Disney receiving an honorary Oscar for his achievement. Walt Disney went on to produce many successful animated films, including many based on his favorite character, Mickey Mouse.

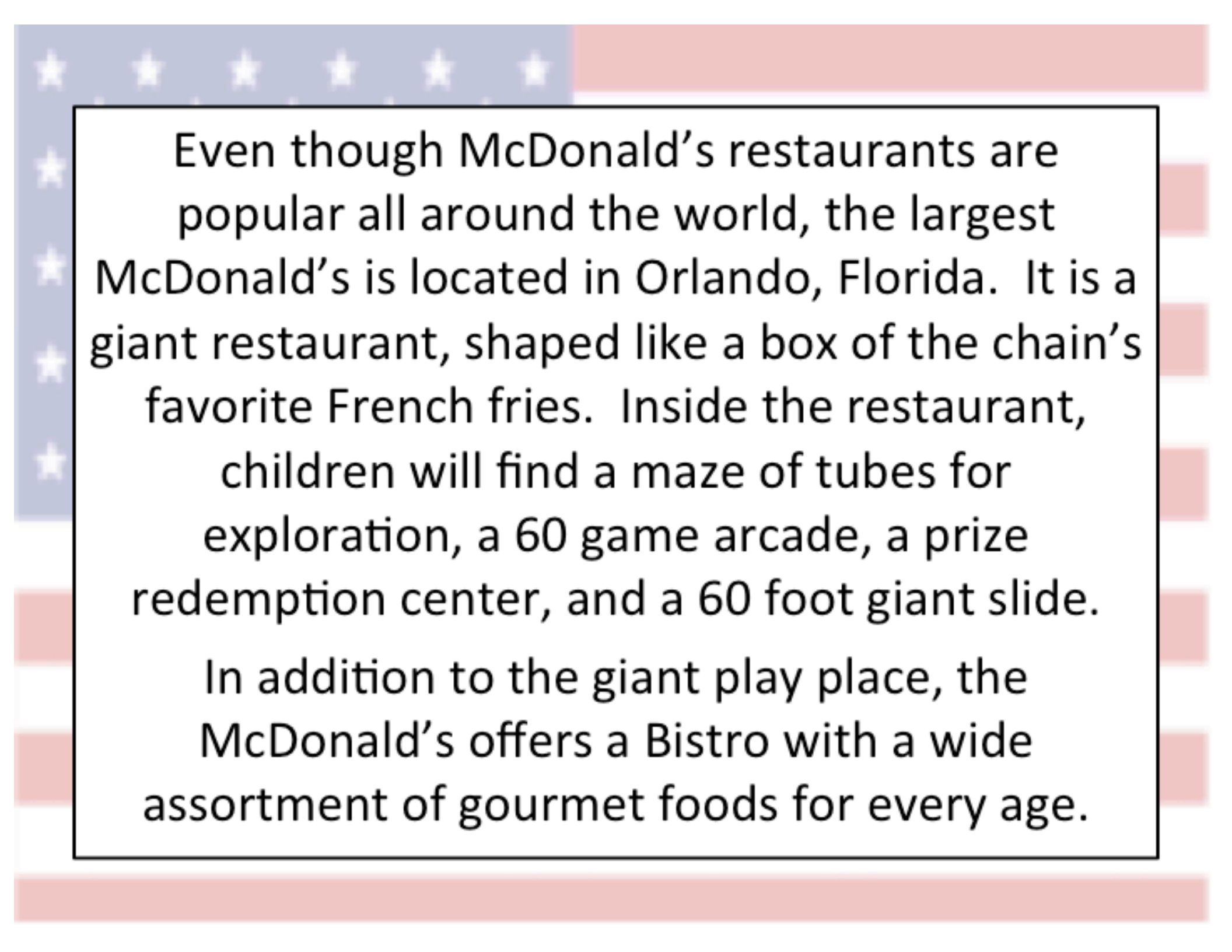
The background of the entire slide is a stylized American flag, featuring a blue field with white stars on the left and horizontal stripes of red and white on the right.

Clue #24

Where in America will you find the world's largest McDonald's?

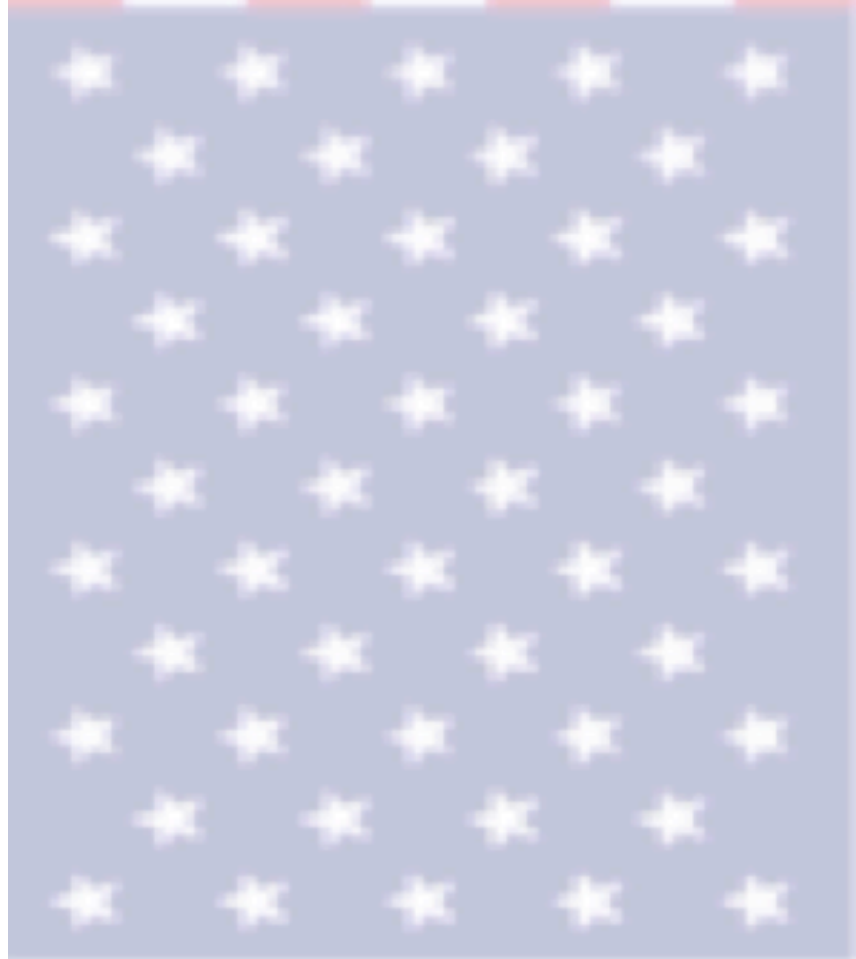
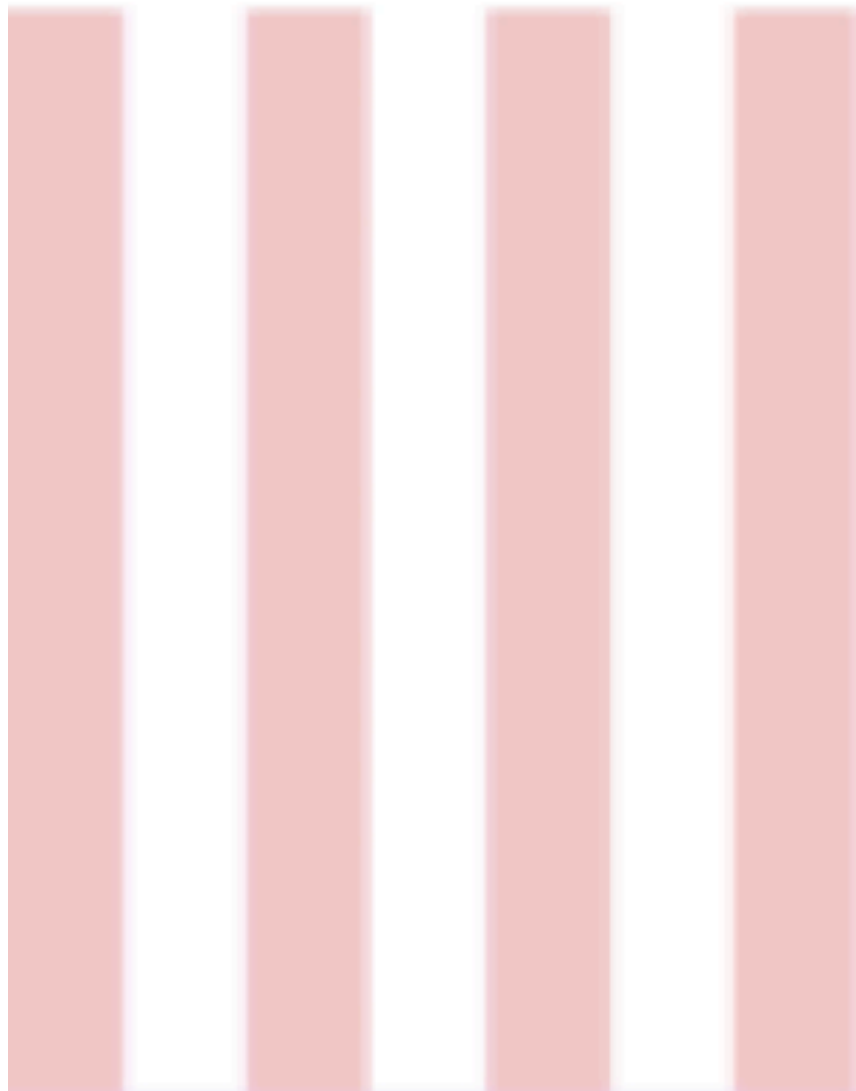
- a. Los Angeles, CA
- b. New York City, NY
- c. Washington, D.C.
- d. Orlando, FL

Bonus: What is the building of this McDonald's shaped like?

The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top-left corner has a blue field with white stars, and the rest of the background consists of horizontal red and white stripes. The text is contained within a white rectangular box with a black border.

Even though McDonald's restaurants are popular all around the world, the largest McDonald's is located in Orlando, Florida. It is a giant restaurant, shaped like a box of the chain's favorite French fries. Inside the restaurant, children will find a maze of tubes for exploration, a 60 game arcade, a prize redemption center, and a 60 foot giant slide.

In addition to the giant play place, the McDonald's offers a Bistro with a wide assortment of gourmet foods for every age.

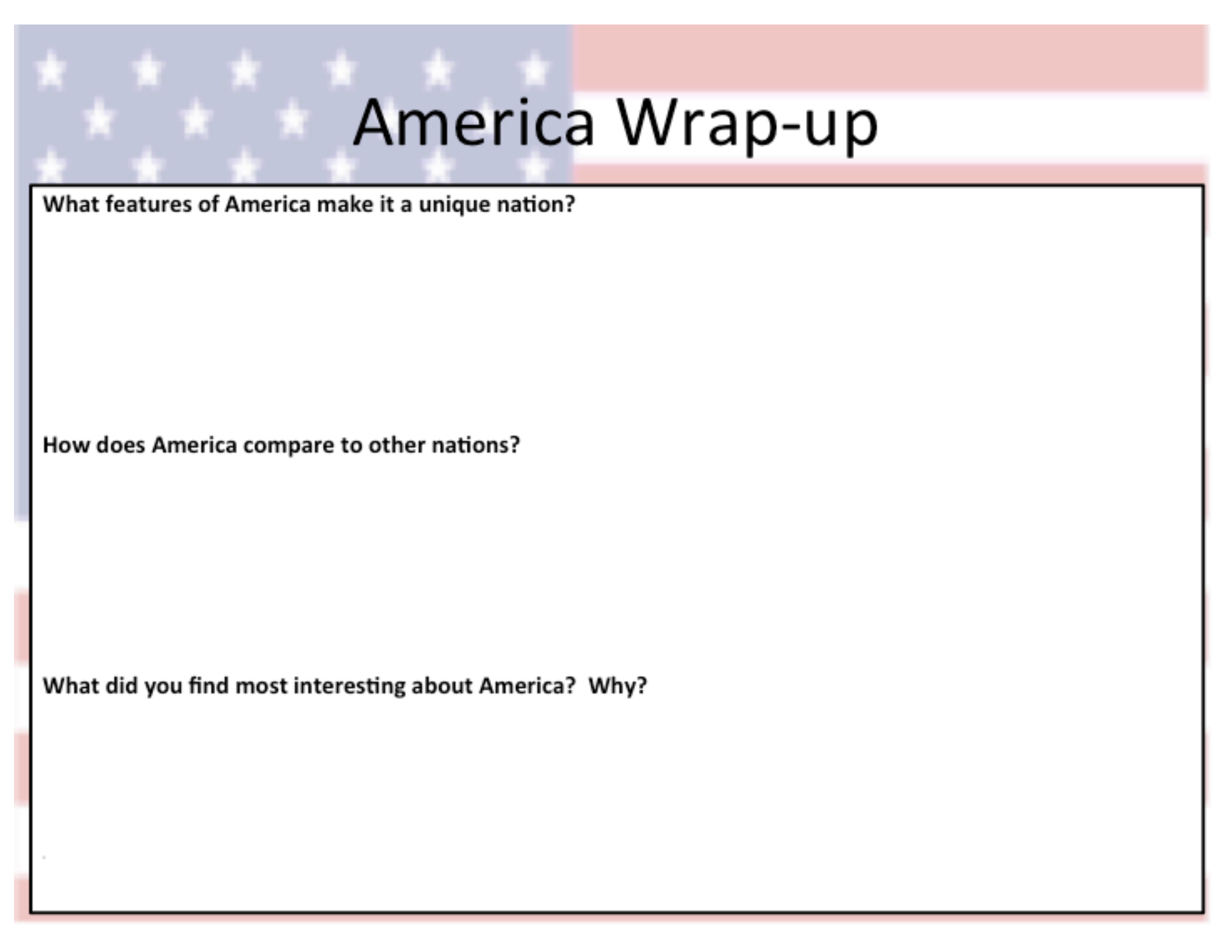




America Scavenger Hunt: Record each clue and the correct answer in the chart. Have each answer checked before going to the next.

<b>Card Clue/Bonus Clues</b>	<b>Answers</b>



The background of the slide features a stylized American flag. The top-left corner is a blue field with white stars, while the rest of the slide is a solid light red color.

# America Wrap-up

What features of America make it a unique nation?

How does America compare to other nations?

What did you find most interesting about America? Why?

# Answer Key

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 – A  | 16 – A  |
| 2 – D  | 16B – 1859                                    |
| 3 – C  | 17 – D  |
| 3B – Take Me Out to the Ball Game!               | 17B – Mark Twain                              |
| 4 – B  | 18 – B  |
| 4B – 16, but can depend on state laws            | 19 – At one time, bald was defined as “white” |
| 5 – Lands protected to preserve America’s beauty | 20 – A  |
| 6 – D  | 21 – B  |
| 7 – NAFTA  | 21B – They grow up to 370 feet!               |
| 7B – Canada & Mexico                             | 22 – A  |
| 8 – D  | 23 – B  |
| 8A – Harvard, established in 1636                | 23B – Walt Disney                             |
| 9 – A  | 24 - D  |
| 10 – Leaders in the American Revolution          |   |
| 11 – D   |   |
| 12 – C   |   |
| 13 – D   |   |
| 14 – B   |   |
| 14B – 1959                                       |   |
| 15 – C   |   |