

Hawaii

11 The Hawaiian Islands are in the Pacific Ocean, about 2500 miles west of San Francisco. They became part of the United States on 21 August 1959. They are the 50th state of the United States and consist of eight big islands and many small ones. Most of the population live on six islands: Hawaii, Kauai, Lanai, Maui, Molokai and Oahu.

Some History

From the 16th century people from Tahiti and the Marquesas Islands occupied this land. The first European to discover these islands was Captain Cook in 1778. At the beginning of the 19th century missionaries, tradesmen¹ and whale² hunters³ arrived from England and the USA. Unfortunately they also brought many new diseases⁴ and consequently 80% of the native population died.

Later these islands became very important for their production of sugar cane and many immigrants arrived. In 1941 the Japanese attacked the famous Pearl Harbour US military base on the Oahu island and the USA entered the Second World War as a result.

Hawaii Today

Today the main economic activities of these islands are tourism and the growing of sugar cane and pineapples. The capital of the state is Honolulu, on the Oahu island. This island has the most tourists. On their arrival the tourists can relax on the many wonderful beaches of white sand and swim in the incredibly blue water of the ocean.

Some important symbols of Hawaii are: Hula dancers, the lei flowers, grass skirts, ukulele and Hawaiian music.

For surfers the best island is Maui. Here there are also spectacular beaches.

1. **tradesmen** : merchants.

2. **whale** :



3. **hunters** : people who kill animals.

4. **diseases** : illnesses.

The island of Kauai is called the 'garden island'. It has many beautiful rivers and waterfalls. ¹

Big Island is the second name of the island of Hawaii. Its capital is called Hilo and the island is famous for its volcanoes. Particularly famous are Mauna Kea and Kilauea Crater. Mauna Kea is 4025 metres high and is a sleeping volcano. Sometimes you even see some snow at the top! Kilauea Crater is a very active volcano and erupts regularly! Luckily these eruptions are usually very small.



1. waterfall :



1 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- | | T | F |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The Hawaiian Islands are in the Pacific Ocean, about 2500 miles east of San Francisco. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. They are the 50th state of the United States. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Captain Cook was the first person to go to Hawaii. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. In the 19th century 80% of the native population died because they did not have enough food. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Pearl Harbour was a Japanese military base. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. The capital of the state is Tahiti. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Big Island is the second name of the island of Hawaii. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. The island of Kauai is also called the 'garden island'. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

PROJECT ON THE WEB

LET'S FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HAWAII!

Your teacher will give you the correct web-site address. Work in small groups. Choose one of the six main Hawaiian islands. Prepare a fact file on this island. Use these questions to help you.

- What is the population?
- How big is the island?
- What are the island's flowers and colours?
- What are some of the main things you can see or do on this island?

T: GRADE 4

2 Topic – Holidays

Many people go to Hawaii on holiday. What type of holidays do you like? Bring in a picture of your favourite holiday destination and talk to the class about it. Use these questions to help you.

- What can you see and do in this place?
- What is the weather usually like? When is the best time to go?
- Why do you like this type of holiday ?