

College Guild
PO Box 696 Brunswick, Maine 04011

Travel

~ North America ~

Unit 1 of 5

Welcome to the College Guild course, Travel.

Overview: Travel through five continents, focusing on two regions in each. Starting in two North American states with very different landscapes, we can also find the influence of the culture and language of Canada (in Maine) and that of Mexico (in Arizona).

Guidelines for all College Guild courses:

1. **Answer all the questions that are in bold print, using black or blue ink or dark pencil if possible.** After we receive and review your completed Unit, we will send you feedback from your reader along with your original work and the next Unit. You don't need to return the questions – it saves us both postage.
2. There is no **specific deadline** to complete any Unit, but we would get concerned if we hadn't heard back from you after two months.
3. Remember how often the mail service loses things. **If you don't hear back from us after a month, please write to make sure we received your Unit** and sent out the next one.

Let us know if you need a dictionary, free to students who complete the first unit.

MAINE

When you think of states that have a huge coastline - what do you think of? It's easy to believe that California has the largest coastline because it seems like such a long state, but in fact, Maine has more coastline than California, 3,478 miles of it! This coastline is tucked into curves and crevices and around beautiful islands. Brunswick is just one of the many towns that sits on this long coast. Brunswick was founded in 1628 when Maine didn't even exist as a state. That didn't happen until 1820 when Maine broke away from Massachusetts to become the 23rd state in the Union. Maine had been unhappy with Massachusetts since the 1700s when it thought that Boston wasn't listening to its concerns. It took five tries, starting in 1770, before Maine voted to break away.

Maine is often said to be two states. Northern Maine is different from southern Maine when it comes to politics (more conservative), income (poorer), and geography (more rural). But Maine is also two states when it comes to coastal towns versus inland towns. The coastal towns have always attracted more people, not only tourists, but also those seeking permanent as well as seasonal jobs.

1. **What are the disadvantages for a state that has such polarized regions?**
2. **To voice *your* concerns, write a letter to someone in the government.**

Maine's request to break away from Massachusetts was tied to a similar request from Missouri. Missouri had slave owners at the time; Maine did not. Part of the reason that Maine became a state was the U.S. Congress wanted to balance the number of slave states and free states.

3. What issues are the states arguing about now?

Brunswick sits next to the Androscoggin River and Maquoit Bay, and the rivers are nice for boating and clamming, but were also once used for the production of lumber. Trees would be cut in northern Maine and float down the river to various mills. See Appendix 1 for a song about the brave log-drivers who went "birling" down the river.

4. Without looking at Appendix 1, try to define "birling" and draw a picture of it.

In 1794, Bowdoin College was named the first institution of higher learning in Maine, and is still a well-respected, thriving college today. You may have heard about the book *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which was the best-selling novel of the 19th century about a black man depicting the harsh realities of slavery. This was written by Harriet Beecher Stowe in 1851 in Brunswick!

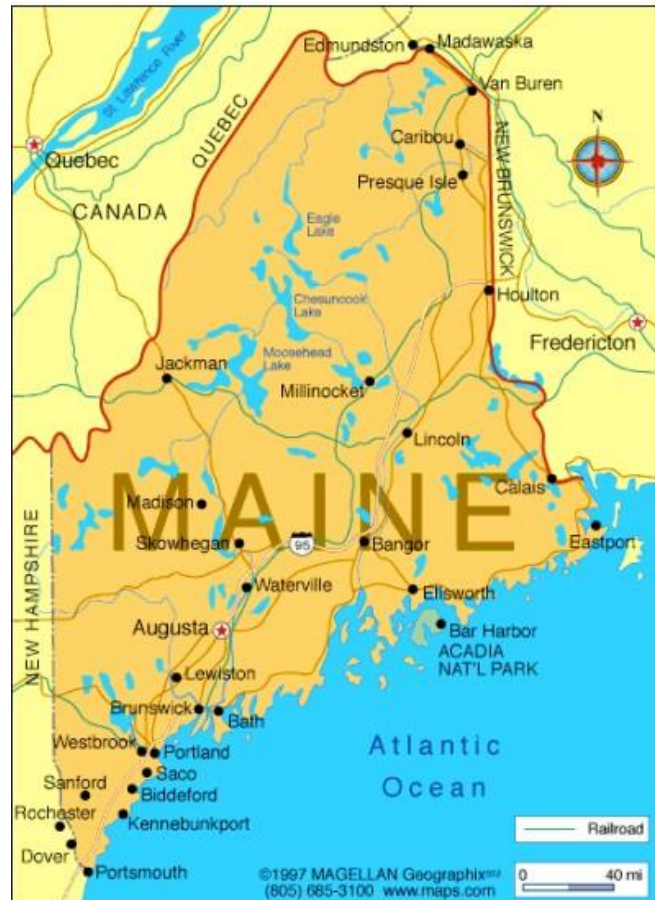
5. What topic in history would you write a book on? Give us a summary of what the book would be about, including a title.

Since Brunswick is an historic place, there have been many mentions of hauntings in the town. One of the spots where the most apparition sightings have occurred is in Joshua L. Chamberlain's house. Chamberlain was a Civil War general, a president of Bowdoin College, and also the governor of Maine at one point. He and his wife, Fanny, lived in a small brown house located in town, where visitors can now go on tours. On these tours there have been many apparition sightings as well as orbs and lights appearing in photographs. Some visitors even find they have an inexplicable pain in their right hips after leaving the house, and it is believed they are experiencing the pain of Chamberlain who was once shot in the hip!

6. What might be a reason to spread rumors of haunted buildings?

Another reportedly haunted spot is in Bucksport, Maine, in the cemetery where Jonathon Bucksport was buried. Bucksport was a Revolutionary War Hero, but rumor has it he had his mistress executed, claiming she was a witch -- a sensitive subject for many at the time. Before her death, she promised him she would return to his grave and dance on it. The grave has a footprint cracked into the tombstone, and though it has been replaced many times, the foot always reappears shortly after.

7. Make up your own tale of a haunted place. (Make sure to explain why it is haunted and what people have seen/heard/experienced.)



Enough of these creepy tales! Most Maine tourists have lobster on the mind when they go out to eat. In fact, 90% of the nation's lobster comes from Maine, which is about one million pounds annually. Though lobster is considered a delicacy now, in Colonial times it was considered a poor man's food. Prisoners got so sick of it, they refused to eat any more, and lobsters were so abundant that they would wash onto the shore in deep piles. Since lobsters are nocturnal, it's easier to hunt them at night. However, the law limits lobstermen to catching seven lobsters at night. Being a lobsterman is a dangerous profession; they encounter gigantic waves, frigid winter temperatures, and there are often feuds over the best places to put traps. They also often have to throw many of the lobster they catch back into the ocean; it's illegal to keep female lobsters with eggs or lobsters under a certain size. If a trap is abandoned, it's not a problem since they have biodegradable doors so the lobsters won't be trapped.

8. Would you like to have a job outside even if it were dangerous? Why or why not?

Another great site in Brunswick is the Bowdoin College Museum of Arts, which has more than 20,000 objects, including paintings, sculptures, works on paper, decorative arts, and artifacts. This building is open to the public at no charge and is used as a teaching facility for Bowdoin students.

There are many shops in Brunswick containing local art, hand-made products, trinkets, and anything else you could need. There are also many Bowdoin College sporting events to attend, as well as walking trails, and plenty of areas of waterfront to enjoy -- including many places to go for a boat ride or take a dip in the chilly Maine waters. Lots of visitors come during the warm summer months -- the state nickname is "Vacationland" -- whereas others visit Maine for skiing or snowboarding during the winter.

9. What place would you most like to visit in Maine and why?

20,000 years ago, Maine was covered with glaciers. They melted and left Maine's coast with many fingers of land reaching into the sea. **Japan's** coastline is similar, meaning that both are lands deeply involved with the water. Bath is a town in Maine located about half an hour away from Brunswick. It is known as the "City of Ships". The ships built in Bath sailed around the world.

In 1889, the *Chesborough* left Bath bound for Japan. The *Chesborough's* trip would last for months and the ship would sail clear around the bottom of South America to get from Philadelphia to Japan because the Panama Canal was not yet built. The story of the *Chesborough* is a piece of history that involves the coasts of Maine and Japan.

10. Would you like to take a voyage lasting for many months? Why or why not?

At that time, there was an eighteen year old fellow named Victor Boeck who lived in Philadelphia. Victor's father was a teacher and probably strict. Victor needed some breathing room; he persuaded his father to let him have a real adventure. He signed on to the ship as a "Boy", which meant that he would be paid about \$50 for the whole trip.

11. What do you think the job responsibilities of a "Boy" would be?

Victor didn't care if he was a "Boy" -- he wanted adventure. He got it. World travel, hurricanes, typhoons, and finally...shipwreck. The wreck was truly awful. Below is an excerpt from *The Japan Gazette*.

The Japan Gazette, 14 November 1889: *The story of the wreck of the Chesborough is as sad as any narrative can be, because that which was lost, all the power and skill of this world cannot replace. Nineteen human lives battled with the elements...but the victory was not theirs. Nineteen men succumbed to the storm. Their sad story can be shortly re-told. That*

ship, which has felt many a breeze set off towards home. But the breezes changed to a hurricane that drove the Chesborough on to the ground, and the planks that had formed a gallant ship held together no more.

Fortunately, some Japanese fishermen were responsible for saving the lives of the few men who survived the shipwreck. A permanent bond resulted from this rescue. Today Bath, Maine and Shariki, Japan call themselves "Sister Cities".

12. What are the advantages of having a "sister city"?

13. Pick another country or city and write a news article, essay, or poem about a connection between Maine and that place (this can be fictional!).

ARIZONA

Now we head for the other side of the United States to what some 19th Century geographers called "the Great American desert." Though Arizona may seem like a dry landscape, lacking in the lushness of, say, Maine or Washington, it was a wonderful place to plant crops for the first settlers. John James Thompson was the first Anglo settler to reach the Sedona area in 1876. He found an abandoned garden that still had crops -- a welcome gift in a time when food was hard to acquire - later named the "Indian Gardens". An acquaintance of John's from his days in Utah, named Abraham James, joined him three years later with his family. In 1880, more settlers began to flood in, and they worked hard to maintain crops, hunt, fish, and build.

14. Would you want to be one of the first people to settle a new area? Why or why not?

15. There were many rigorous, time-consuming jobs to be done when new settlements popped up. List at least five.

The first homestead was owned by Frank Owenby in 1901, and many followed suite soon after. One of their main focuses was "irrigation" -- which is when a water supply is manipulated through channels or other means to help the growth of plants.

16. Think of two ways we manipulate water to make it more convenient for us. (Ex. Using a hose to water a patch in the garden.)

Theodore Carlton Schnebly and his wife, Sedona Miller Schnebly, moved to the area in 1899 and Theodore quickly became a profitable young businessman. He owned eighty acres of land, a hotel, and a general store, and he set up the town's first post office and mail delivery system. When deciding on a name for the area, the Postmaster denied Theodore's suggestions of "Oak Creek Crossing" and "Shnebly Station", but eventually accepted the name of Theodore's wife -- "Sedona".

17. Think of another town in the United States named for a woman.

A remarkable landmark in Sedona is the Chapel of the Holy Cross. Whether you are religious or not, this church will catch your eye with its innovative architecture -- it's built *into* Arizona's natural rocky landscape. The building was designed by a spiritual and artistic woman: Margurite Brunswig Staude. She was a devout Catholic and wanted to design the chapel in memory of her parents. It was completed in 1955 and is still an inspiration for artistic creation.

18. If you could design something to be built in the United States, where would you build it and what would it be? What would be its function, if anything?

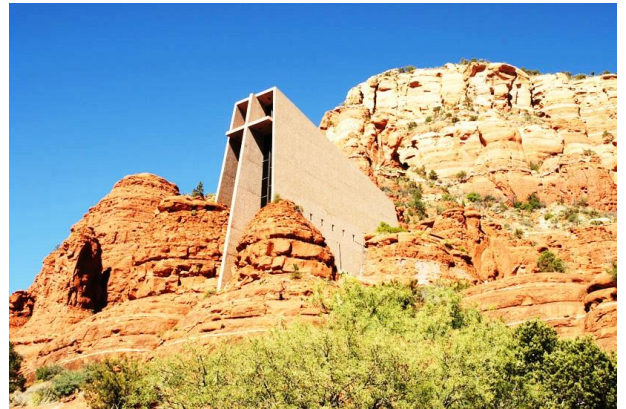
Sedona continues to be a hub for artsy and unique stores, and one of its most famous places is the internationally renowned Tlaquepaque Arts & Crafts Village. Tlaquepaque is a combination of colorful flowers and huge Sycamore trees nestled among shops of every variety. There are stores with silks, leathers, jewelry, blown glass, ceramics, décor, photography, etc.

19. Imagine you decide to open a shop in this renowned area. What would you sell?

20. As a business owner, what would you do to draw people to your store *and* keep them coming back? Write an ad for your store.



Tlaquepaque Arts & Crafts Village



Chapel of the Holy Cross

Another notable part of the Sedona experience is the "energy vortexes" that reside in the area. There are four major energy vortexes in Sedona -- an energy vortex is a swirl of energy that spirals out of the ground and affects the people standing near them. Depending on how sensitive or spiritual a person is, it is said that the energy "resonates with and strengthens the Inner Being of each person that comes within about a quarter to half mile of it." People report feeling uplifted after experiencing the energy from the vortexes, and can continue to be positively affected by them in the following days.

21. Write a ten-line dialogue between two people standing near an energy vortex.

22. Give two reasons someone might believe in these energy vortexes, and two reasons someone might not.

A short drive from Sedona is the town of Flagstaff, where many people begin the hike into the Grand Canyon. It's hard to grasp the enormity of the Grand Canyon through pictures; it is in fact 277 miles long, up to eighteen miles wide at parts, and one mile deep. The Grand Canyon is a geologists dream - there have been artifacts dating back 12,000 years. It was first protected as a Forest Reserve in 1893, but became a National Park in 1919.

23. What do you think should be some of the qualifications for a place to become a National Park?

The Grand Canyon has many trails - so put on your hiking shoes! Even those prepared with plenty of food and water and hiking experience have to be careful of the mental intensity of hiking in this sometimes demanding environment. Some take on a day hike, while others want to experience the camp at the base of the Grand Canyon with an overnight hike. It may feel truly isolating down there, as it takes a lot of hard work to get back to civilization. At the bottom, there are cabins to sleep in and meals eaten "family style" prepared by chefs. The food is brought to the bottom on the backs of mules (a cross between a donkey and a horse). You can even ride these mules up and down the Canyon if you aren't in good enough shape to walk

-- though you'll have to trust them not to fall off the edge. There are also pockets of water, streams, and woods to explore by day, and historical and mythological Canyon stories told by rangers at night.

24. If you could only pick one person, who would you want to be your companion on this trip? (It could be someone in your family or someone fictional, famous, etc.)



A section of the Grand Canyon

Arizona is also home to the Arizona International Film Festival, which takes place yearly and features films of various lengths and subjects made by participants all around the world. Created in 1990, the Festival is the largest and longest running film festival in Arizona, and it has shown over 2,400 films coming from ninety different countries! Their mission is to showcase independent filmmakers -- both their creative genius and technical skill, culminating in a culturally enriching film for the Arizona audience. Below are a handful of the winners from the 2015 Arizona International Film Festival.

* Best Dramatic Feature: "Love Is Now" by Jim Lounsbury of Australia. A summer couple learns of the adventure, grief, and love that can quickly circulate in a relationship.

* Best Animated Shot: "Bear Story" by Gabriel Osorio of Chile. A worn bear tells his life's story through a mechanical diorama.

* Festival Grand Prize: "Medicine of the Wolf" by Julia Huffman. A film that captures the beauty of the Minnesota wolves while enlightening people to their status as highly misunderstood creatures.



Saguaro (sa-wah-row) and organ pipe cactus



Monument Valley, site of filming for countless movie and TV show "westerns"

25. If you were a film director, where would your documentary be shot and what would it be about?

Arizona's deserts have beauty as stunning as Maine's ocean. Appendix 2 is a poem about the desert by College Guild student William A.

26. Write a poem about the sea or a sailor.

Remember: First names only & please let us know if your address changes

Appendices Travel: Unit 1 of 5

Appendix 1

If you ask any girl from the parish around,
What pleases her most from her head to her toes;
She'll say, "I'm not sure that it's business of yours,
But I do like to waltz with a log driver."

*For he goes birling down a-down white water,
That's where the log driver learns to step lightly;
It's birling down, a-down white water,
A log driver's waltz pleases girls completely.*

When the drive's nearly over, I like to go down
To see all the lads as they work on the river;
I know that come evening they'll be in the town,
And we all want to waltz with a log driver.

*For he goes birling down a-down white water,
That's where the log driver learns to step lightly;
It's birling down, a-down white water,
A log driver's waltz pleases girls completely.*

To please both my parents I've had to give way,
And dance with the doctors and the merchants and lawyers;
Their manners are fine, but their feet are of clay,
And there's none with the style of a log driver.

*For he goes birling down a-down white water,
That's where the log driver learns to step lightly;
It's birling down, a-down white water,
A log driver's waltz pleases girls completely.*

Now I've had my chances with all sorts of men,
There's none is so fine as my lad on the river;
And when the drive's over, if he asks me again,
I think I will marry my log driver.

*For he goes birling down a-down white water,
That's where the log driver learns to step lightly;
It's birling down, a-down white water,
A log driver's waltz pleases girls completely.*

*Birling down, a-down white water,
A log driver's waltz pleases girls completely.*



Appendix 2

Crumbly Waves

Sun bleached Bones
Sand all around
Land of death and decay
Crumbly waves abound
The desert hates water
Plod on to my mirage
Trick bred from despair
Few things survive here
Though I am not one
The desert plots against me
With her lover, the sun

Citations:

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<http://www.hauntedplaces.org/item/joshua-l-chamberlain-museum/>
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