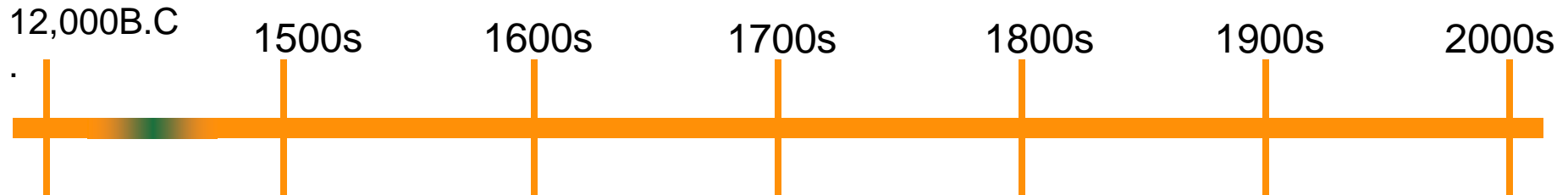


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## II. The America's Cultural Characteristics

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# Historical Timeline



12,000B.C.

1500s

1600s

1700s

1800s

1900s

2000s

12,000B.C.-  
Ancestors of  
American  
Indians arrive  
from Asia

Early 1500s-  
The Spanish  
explore the  
Americas

1600s-The  
British begin to  
set up colonies  
in the Americas

1619-Enslaved  
Africans arrive in  
the British  
colonies. South  
Africa gains  
independence

1600s-1700s-  
Spanish  
colonists migrate  
North from  
Mexico into the  
American  
Southwest

1776-The  
American War  
for  
independence  
begins

1800s-Migrants  
move west

1830s-Settlers  
moved as far as  
Texas

1848-Gold is  
discovered in  
California

1861-65-The  
Civil War

1869-The  
transcontinental  
railroad is  
completed

1917-1918 U.S.  
Involvement In  
World War I

1920-more  
Americans live  
in Cities than in  
rural areas

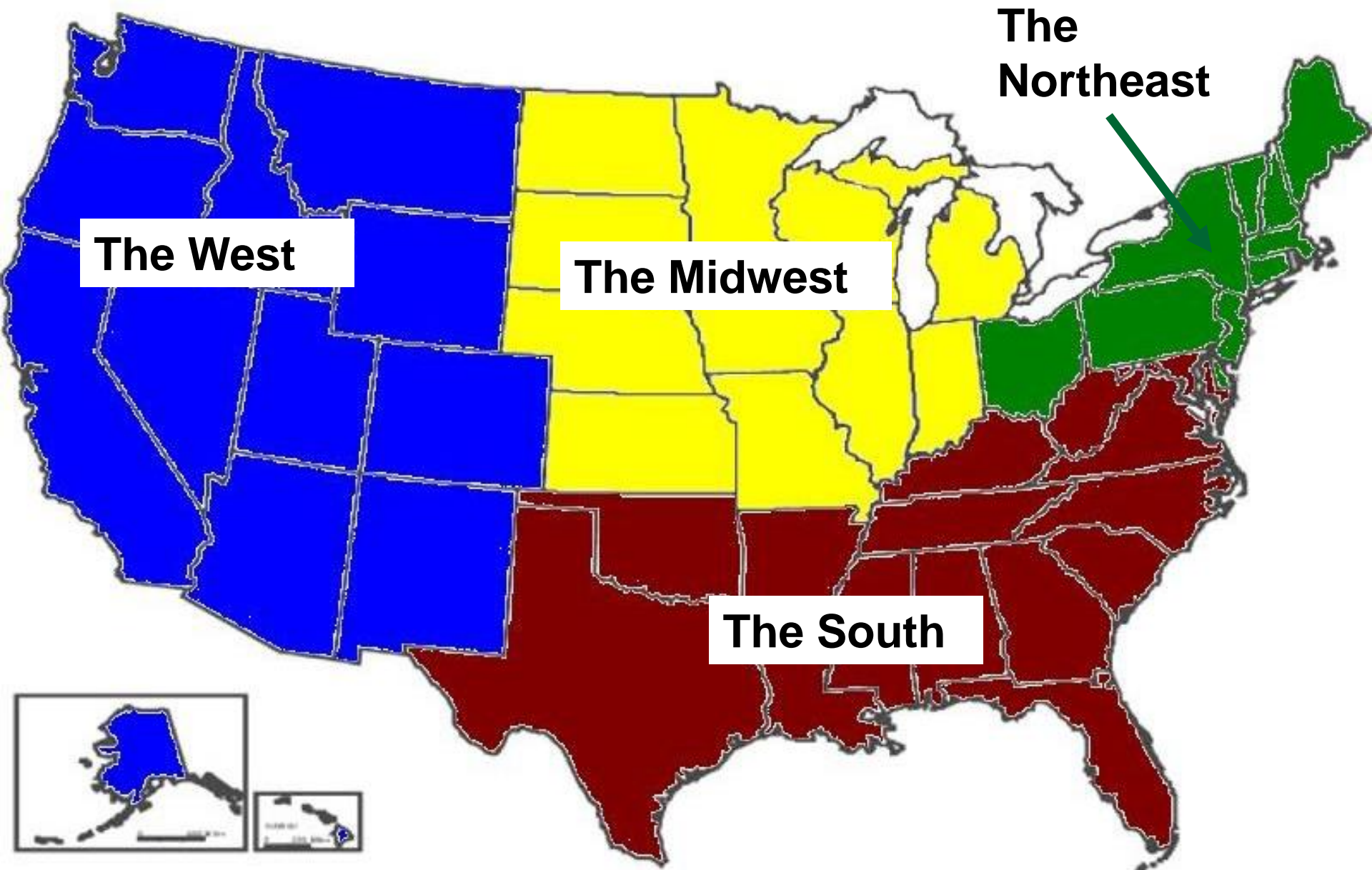
1941-1945-U.S.  
involvement in  
World War II

1945-early  
1990s-Cold War

# A. Unique elements of American Culture

1. Great Diversity of people and languages
2. Variety of Religions
3. Broad Public Education
4. Distinctive Forms of Popular Culture: movies, jazz, and sports





## B. United States

### 1. Economic Activities of the Northeast

#### The Northeast

**a. Financial center:** New York is the country's leader in commerce and banking.

**b. Manufacturing industries:** Pittsburgh is a steel producer. This industry declined in the late 1900s.

**c. Textiles:** New York is a major fashion center.

**d. Trade:** Many cities are important commercial centers and ports.



## 2. Strength of Midwestern Agriculture

a. Productive farmland



b. Arable Land



c. Corn Belt-corn for export  
& livestock feed



d. Dairy Belt-major producer  
of butter & cheese



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### 3. Changes in the South



- a. Shift away from a rural farm economy
- b. Growth of industry, prompted by low wages, cheap land, & laws
- c. Substantial immigration from Latin America
- d. Urbanization: migration from rural life to cities



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## 4. Environmental Influences on the West



- a. Harsh conditions limited early settlement
- b. Ranching, wheat farming on the plains
- c. Abundant minerals fueled the mining economy
- d. Natural beauty stimulates tourism
- e. California agriculture based on irrigation





# 5. Global Interdependence

- a. Reliance on world trade
- b. Shifting emphasis from tariff protections to free trade
- c. Pro's and Con's of free trade agreements (ex. NAFTA)
- d. Outsourcing of jobs to other countries



Maquiladora workers in Mexico

# European Arrivals in Canada

Vikings A.D. 1000

French  
1530s

British  
1713

**Eastern  
shores  
no  
permanent  
settlers**

**Jacques Cartier  
St. Lawrence  
River  
northwest  
passage  
to Asia  
--fishing & furs  
Catholicism**

**•Nova Scotia  
French/British  
conflict**

**•increased  
settlement during  
American  
Revolution**

**•set up provinces  
(gov't districts)**

## C. Canada

### 1. Key features of Canadian Culture

- a. Mix of French and British Culture, with U.S. influences
- b. Many immigrants in recent years.
- c. French-Canadian culture in Quebec
- d. British culture in Ontario and further west
- e. Influences in north from southern migrants, Inuit, and Canadian Indians



# 2. Canada's Economy

## a. Atlantic Provinces

**Resources:** fish forests, minerals, oil

**Economic Activities:** fishing, mining, some industries

## b. Quebec and Ontario

**Resources:** farmland, minerals

**Economic Activities:** service industries, manufacturing, farming, mining

## c. Prairie Provinces

**Resources:** fertile soils, potash deposits, oil

**Economic Activities:** wheat farming, mining, oil drilling

## d. British Columbia

**Resources:** forests, fish, minerals

**Economic Activities:** manufacture of forest products, fishing, mining, trade

## e. Canadian North

**Resources:** mineral, diamond and fossil fuel deposits, freshwater

**Economic Activities:** mining, construction, military posts, tourism

### 3. Growth of Canada's cities

- a. Toronto-the largest city-major companies & cultural institutions; immigration
- b. Montreal-cultural capital, good transportation
- c. Victoria & Vancouver-west coast centers based on fishing, tourism & trade
- d. Prairie Cities-Calgary, Edmonton & Winnipeg-farming, oil production & trade



## 4. Canada's Government

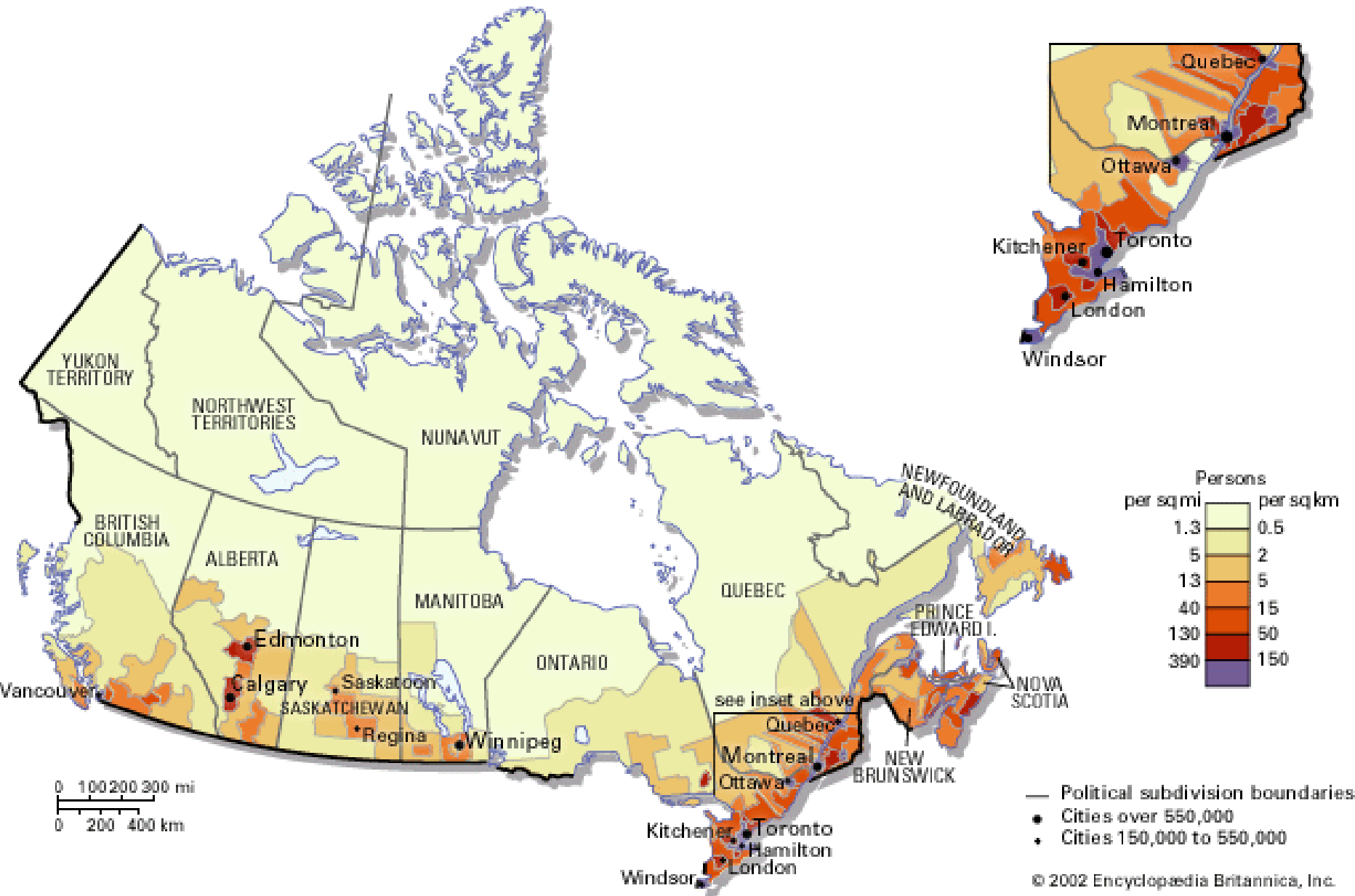
- a. Maintains British Ties & British Monarch
- b. Democratic Government with a Prime Minister & Parliament
- c. Provincial governments have local power
- d. Three Northern territories with some control over local issues



Canadian Parliament - Ottawa

## 5. American Influences in Canada

| <b>a. Economy</b>   | <b>b. Population</b>  | <b>c. Culture</b>  | <b>d. Cities</b>  |
|---|---|--|---|
| <b>economies closely tied together, free trade through NAFTA; many American companies there</b> | <b>U.S. population is much larger; most Canadians live near U.S. border</b> | <b>American mass media heard and seen in Canada nearly every day</b> | <b>Canadian and U.S. cities linked; increases cultural exchange</b> |





## 6. Effects of Geography on Canadian Unity



- a. Regional loyalties undermine unity.
- b. Physical barriers and distance contribute to separation.
- c. Differences between French and British culture promote separatism.

A poster promoting unity.