

The United States

WORKSHEET A

Exercise 1

Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct word from the box below. There are fifteen words, but only twelve gaps.

military	soldiers	she	chewing gum	woman
main	fewer	male	outside	person
important	people	smallest	number	more

- Of the fifty states in the United States, the largest is Alaska and the (1) _____ is Rhode Island. California has the biggest population (37 million); Wyoming has the smallest (550,000). The total US population is about 310 million.
- (2) _____ in the United States consume more (3) _____ per head than in any other country.
- Barack Obama is the first black president of the United States. He is in one of the two (4) _____ political parties in the US, the Democratic Party. The (5) _____ he beat to become the party's candidate in 2008, Hillary Clinton, is now the US Secretary of State ((6) _____ is the wife of former president Bill Clinton).
- Many of the most (7) _____ singers and groups in the history of pop music have been American. The biggest-selling (8) _____ solo artist, for example, is Elvis Presley (or Michael Jackson, according to some statistics) and the biggest-selling female solo artist is Madonna.
- There are around 1.5 million people in the US (9) _____ (army, navy, and air force), and more than 350,000 of them are (10) _____ the US. In fact, there are US military personnel in about 150 countries (although in most of these countries, there are fewer than 1,000 troops).
- The most popular spectator sports in the US are baseball, basketball, and football. (11) _____ Americans watch soccer, but a lot of them play it, and a high percentage of players are female. In fact, the US women's soccer team is (12) _____ one in the world rankings and won the gold medal in both of the last two Olympic Games.

The United States

WORKSHEET B

Exercise 2

Can you match the items in the first column of the table with the numbers in the second column?

a) The number of pieces of chewing gum that the average American consumes every year.	30,000,000
b) Of the people who play soccer in the United States, the percentage who are female.	0
c) The number of US military personnel in Afghanistan.	20
d) The number of women who were US Secretary of State before Hillary Clinton.	48
e) The number of women who have been US president.	25
f) The number of people who live in the US state with the second-biggest population, Texas.	300
g) Of the three biggest-selling groups in the history of pop music, the number that are American.	2
h) The number of Americans who watched the 2010 Super Bowl (the year's most important football game) on TV.	40
i) The number of copies of Madonna's album <i>The Immaculate Collection</i> (1990) that people have bought.	25,000,000
j) The percentage of women in the US military.	70,000
k) The number of states that are next to the ocean.	105,000,000
l) Barack Obama's age.	0

