

CHAPTER 9: CENTRAL CANADA: QUEBEC

A. COMPREHENSION

1. In 2001, what was the dominant religion in the province of Quebec?
2. Looking at the map on page 164, what large river do you see that allows ships to make their way to Quebec City?
3. Name two cities in Quebec in which one can see glimpses of history in cobblestone streets and old stone buildings.
4. What language do most people in Quebec speak every day?
5. How many First Nations are there in the province of Quebec?
6. While all the other provinces in Canada have at least some sources of fossil fuels—oil and gas, that is—that are used for power, Quebec has no sources of fossil fuels. What do Quebecers use for power instead?
7. What is the name of a well-known pilgrimage site in Montreal where people go in the hope that they will be healed?
8. What is the name of Montreal’s hockey team?
9. What is the name of Quebec City’s colourful mascot for the Carnaval de Québec?
10. What is the name of the popular French-Canadian meat pie made of ground pork, vegetables, and spices?

B. WORD RECOGNITION

Fill in each blank with a word from the list below.

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| assimilation | miraculous |
| bursaries | prestigious |
| context | referendum |
| cuisine | separatism |
| damp | tremendous |
| grievances | trendy |

1. _____ is a political view in which a group of people want to separate themselves from a larger body and become independent.

2. Nowadays, it has become very _____ to communicate by texting rather than telephoning or emailing someone.
3. The doctor from Poland had won many _____ awards in his country for the research he had done and could not understand why he was having such a hard time finding a job in Canada.
4. The woman was startled to find that not drying her _____ hair thoroughly after swimming on particularly cold winter days made it freeze on her head when she went outside.
5. The Basilique de St. Anne de Beaupré is another site in the province of Quebec where many people have experienced _____ healings.
6. Many people enjoy eating the delicious French _____ in restaurants in the cities of Montreal and Quebec.
7. Many people are relieved there has not been a third _____ for separatism in Quebec after the first two failed by such small margins.
8. While Canada's official policy is one of multiculturalism, the Americans prefer a policy of _____, in which all immigrants are expected to take on American values and practices.
9. When one has _____ in a unionized workplace, he or she is free to take them to a union steward for assistance in resolving them, if he or she has not been successful in resolving them with his or her supervisor.
10. In making difficult decisions, it is important to take time to thoroughly understand the _____ in which that decision is being made.
11. While scholarships are awarded solely on the basis of academic achievement, _____ are given in consideration of one's financial need as well as one's history of achievement.
12. When the young immigrant couple looked back on the first five years of their lives in Canada, they were able to say that, while the first two years were very difficult, the last three had been _____; they both had jobs they loved, a new house, good friends, and a baby on the way.

C. WORD FAMILIES

Use your dictionary to find the other words in the word family chart below.

| VERB | NOUN | ADJECTIVE | ADVERB |
|------------|------|-------------|--------|
| resolved | | ----- | ----- |
| assimilate | | ----- | ----- |
| ----- | | prestigious | ----- |

Use each word from the table in one of the six sentences below.

1. The unhappy couple finally _____ their differences after working with a good marriage counsellor for three months.
2. Canada is fortunate to have a number of _____ universities.
3. It is very difficult to _____ someone into a country's cultural ways if that person does not want to be there in the first place, a situation for some refugees who leave their country only in order to survive.
4. Genuine _____ takes more than one generation to occur.
5. The _____ of the conflict in the group required some compromise from all concerned.
6. There is a certain _____ associated with the addresses in the wealthy parts of the city.

D. DISCUSSION TOPICS

- » In past years, a lot of money was spent enabling students to go on exchanges between Quebec and the predominantly English provinces. They would go for 1–2 weeks to one location and 1–2 weeks to the other, accompanying their partner to school and various social events arranged in and near the host community. In my experience, this was money well-spent, as those students most often came away with an appreciation for their hosts and a wider understanding of their two cultures. What ways can you think of to provide learning opportunities for our children so that they become more open-minded in their appreciation for people who are different from themselves?
- » Many Québécois have long believed that their identity can only be protected by closely guarding their language. Many of their laws ensure that French remains the dominant language in the province of Quebec—in schools, in government,

and in business. How do you understand the relationship between culture and language?

- » The 10 First Nations of Quebec have been very threatened by talk of separation because they mostly speak English rather than French. In what ways are their concerns different from those of immigrant groups in Quebec who may already have learned English as a second language but are now compelled to learn French for school and work?