

Country of Origin – Criteria guideline

Using the Internet, books, atlases, your relatives, etc., find out as much as you can about your selected country... concentrating on these factors:
(it is okay if you cannot answer them all).

1. Your **ancestral location of origin** (where your ancestors lived within the chosen country) and the **main history** of the country (particularly at the time your ancestor(s) lived or left there). Be sure to include:

- any historical developments that led to the country's present status or situation
- famous or important people, historical figures from that country, and for what they were/are famous
- pictures of famous people or leaders of the country
- any major conflicts that have occurred in that country such as civil or world war that helped to define the country today.

2. The **geography** of the country (use an online atlas for this section, such as <http://www.atlapedia.com>) - Try and use at least 2-3 sources for this section.

- its regions, mountain ranges, large lakes, rivers, oceans, etc.
- its relative location (definitions below)
- *What is the difference between relative and absolute location? Relative location means to locate a place relative to other landmarks while absolute location is locating a place using a coordinate system.*
- its climate in the winter and summer, overall yearly temperature
- a relief map of the country showing its geography, and a map showing major cities, rivers, lakes, etc.
- the main **cultural, language and religious groups** of the country
- population of this country
- unique qualities of this country's people
- main languages spoken
- main religions
- foods, animals, vegetation
- fruit are native to this country
- graphics showing cultural, and/or religious aspects of the country

3. The **current political and economic climate** of the country... for example, is it a war torn country?

- style of government (communist, capitalistic, democratic, socialist)
- current country leader, and his/her political party
- main political and economic issues faced by the country
- country's main industries (agriculture, mining, manufacturing, retail, etc)
- country's GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
- country's trade policy (regulations and agreements that control imports and exports to foreign countries such as NAFTA, CAFTA and the Middle Easter Trade Initiative)

4. A **conclusion/final analysis** comparing your country of origin to life in Canada today. Provide **specific examples or references** to answer the following: How is it similar? How is it different? Which country would you prefer to live in and why? (3 to 4 paragraphs)

NOTE: Your project must contain Sub-titles clearly indicating which section you are writing about.