

Regions 4

first settlers sense ship industrialize the cities corner discussed regions create with center centre time dense schooling culture in cold communities business prosperous founded up smallest left educational religion by century

New England

New England is _____ smallest cultural region of the present US: it occupies the northeastern _____ of the country, and consists of the states of Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island (the _____ state of the US by territory), New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine.

It has a long and rugged coastline, with many good natural harbours, while the inland areas are mostly hilly, originally covered with _____ forests.

There are few big _____ in the region, except for Boston, capital of Massachusetts, and the historical, commercial and cultural _____ of the whole region.

New England is one of the oldest _____ of the country. Its origins go back to the arrival of the first Puritan _____, the so-called Pilgrims, aboard the _____ Mayflower at the coast of today's Massachusetts _____ 1620.

They were persecuted by the Anglican government of England. Therefore they _____ England for the American colonies to practice their _____ freely. The name of the region reflects the fact that this area remained for a long _____ ethnically homogeneous and culturally similar to England.

However, it also expressed the hope of the early settlers that they would be able to _____ a new, better version of their homeland in the New World.

The character of New England has been shaped _____ the Puritans: they settled in small, self-governing _____, in which town leaders and church elders were elected and public issues were _____ and decided at town meetings. The spirit of religious devotion, democracy and the strong _____ of community are often considered Puritan legacy in American _____.

Since the climate of the region is rather _____ and the soil is rocky and poor, self-sufficient farms were not _____, and New Englanders soon

began to take _____ shipbuilding, manufacturing, and trade. By the time of the American Revolution, they earned the nickname Yankee, a word that was associated _____ hard work, thrift, ingenuity and a good _____ sense. The Yankee peddler and storekeeper became popular folklore figures in colonial America.

In the early 19th _____, New England became the first region to _____, and Boston developed into a national commercial and financial _____. New England has always been the _____ center of the nation, because the Puritans put a strong emphasis on _____. As a result, the oldest and most prestigious universities were _____ here, including Harvard, Yale. Many of the country's recent leaders have been educated at one of the elite universities of New England, and Massachusetts-born John F. Kennedy became the _____ Catholic President of the US in 1960.