

American Symbols



There are many symbols that represent the United States of America. Here are some of the most popular ones.

--> **TASK :** Match each symbol with the right number of picture and then with the right description as in the example for the Great Seal of the USA

the US Capitol -->
 the Statue of Liberty (a gift from France) -->
 the bald eagle (our national bird) -->
 the Stars and Stripes -->
 the Empire State Building -->

Mount Rushmore (on a mountain in South Dakota) -->
 the Liberty Bell -->
 the Great Seal of the USA --> **3 a**
 the White House -->

What is the correct definition of each symbol?

- a) It represents an American eagle with a ribbon in its beak. The bird is holding an olive branch (symbolizing peace) and 13 arrows (for the original 13 colonies and the necessity of war to protect the country). A shield is in front of the eagle.
- b) It is the official residence of the President of the United States of America. It is located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C., the capital city of the USA.
- c) It is a big mountain sculpture of four US Presidents, located in South Dakota. The Presidents depicted are: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln. The work was designed by the sculptor John Gutzon Borglum
- d) It is a huge bronze bell that symbolizes freedom (= liberty) in the United States of America.
- e) It is a huge sculpture that is located on Liberty Island in New York. The real name of the statue is "Liberty Enlightening the World."
- f) This bird is native from North America ; it has been the national symbol of the USA since 1782.
- g) Americans do the Pledge of Allegiance facing it. They display and honour it much more than French people do.
- h) This building houses* the United States Congress (a part of the Government) ; It is in Washington DC. (* ici, il s'agit du verbe 'to house' à la 3è personne du singulier: abriter)
- i) This building was built in 1931 and was the highest skyscraper in the world until 1972