

INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

Washington, D.C.

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| Číslo projektu | CZ.1.07/1.5.00/34.0950 |
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| Název školy | Gymnázium Kladno |
| Autor | Mgr. Ivana Humlová |
| Anotace | Výukový text obsahující základní informace k maturitní otázce Washington, D.C. |
| Předmět | Anglický jazyk |
| Tematická oblast | Reálie anglicky mluvících zemí |
| Téma | Washington, D.C. |
| Očekávané výstupy | Získat základní soubor informací o hlavním městě USA |
| Klíčová slova | Washington, D.C. |
| Druh učebního materiálu | Výukový text |
| Ročník | 4. ročník |
| Cílová skupina | vyšší stupeň osmiletého gymnázia, čtyřleté gymnázium |
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| Pokud není uvedeno jinak, uvedený materiál je z vlastních zdrojů autora | |

Source:

[1] Washington, D.C. In: *Wikipedia: the free encyclopedia* [online]. San Francisco (CA): Wikimedia Foundation, 2001- [cit. 2013-10-10]. Dostupné z: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington,_D.C.

[2] SMITH-DLUHÁ, Gabrielle. *Maturitní anglické reálie*. 1. vyd. Dubicko: INFOA, 2006, 135 s. ISBN 80-724-0380-X.



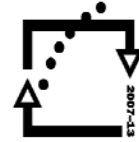
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Metodické pokyny pro práci s pracovním listem

1. Vyučující připraví jednoduchý kvíz o Washingtonu, D.C. se základními otázkami, které studenti před čtením textu vyplní. Správné odpovědi se zatím nezveřejňují.
2. Následuje seznámení s textem a kontrola odpovědí z kvízu.
3. Studenti pak mohou pracovat s mapou Washingtonu a vyhledávat zde nejvýznamnější památky. Současně je možné doplňovat tuto práci některými zajímavostmi, které nejsou součástí textu, případně osobními zážitky z návštěvy města.
4. Jako obrazovou galerii pak můžeme využít internetové stránky nebo doporučíme studentům tuto část jako domácí přípravu.
5. Text je možné následně upravit tak, že vymažeme vybraná slova (např. všechny významné památky) a studenti je ve dvojicích doplňují. Toto cvičení je vhodné k upevnění získaných informací.



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Washington, D. C.

Washington, D.C. (District of Columbia) is unique among American cities because it was established by the Constitution of the United States to serve as **the nation's capital in 1790**. George Washington, the first President of the USA, himself chose the site on the east coast along the Potomac River. The city plan was designed by a French-born architect **Pierre Charles L'Enfant**, who based his design on those of European cities: broad streets and avenues radiating out from rectangles, including a „grand avenue“. The full development of Washington was finalized in 1901 by McMillan Plan.

The **architecture** of Washington was limited by height restrictions from 1910 but this fact did not decrease its architectural value. Six of the top ten buildings in the American Institute of Architects' 2007 ranking of America's Favourite Architecture are in Washington, D.C.: the White House, the Washington National Cathedral, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, the US Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The city's unique character is also created by numerous cosy parks and nooks decorated with statues.

The population of the capital city is over **600,000** people but commuters from the suburbs increase the daytime figure to 1 million. Washington, D.C. has had a significant African American population since it was formed.

The city's **economy** is based on services. People work in federal government service and also in tourism, which is the second largest industry.

Washington has teams from all major professional men's **sports**, e.g. the Washington Capitals (NHL) or the Washington Wizards (NBA).

It is also the centre of the national media. **The Washington Post**, founded in 1877, is the oldest and most-read local daily newspaper.

People who live in Washington prefer to use **public transport**, namely the excellent metro system, because the roads are often congested. However, unlike other American cities, Washington is pedestrian friendly, too.

Visitors and inhabitants of Washington have a lot of **entertainment possibilities** thanks to a great variety of theatres, art galleries, museums, ethnic restaurants and clubs. Some concerts and performances are even free.

The **climate** of the city is humid subtropical with cool winters and hot and humid summers causing thunderstorms and occasional tornadoes.

Washington Sights

If you want to start a walk around the city, you will probably begin at one of the landmarks – **the US Capitol**, the seat of Congress (the supreme legislative body). Its imposing dome is one of Washington's dominants. On Capitol Hill there is also located **the Library of Congress**, the largest library complex in the world with a collection of over 147 million books and other materials.

Important documents illustrating the early history of the US can be found in Washington, too. They are kept in **the National Archives** and include the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Stretching westward off the Capitol is **the National Mall**. It is a 1.6 km long and 120m wide grassy strip (boulevard) connecting the Capitol and **the Lincoln Memorial**. This monument honours the 16th President of the US, Abraham Lincoln. The building is in the form of a Greek temple and contains a large seated

sculpture of A. Lincoln. Nearby stands another landmark – **the Washington Monument** – an obelisk, the world’s tallest stone structure (169 m), which is reflected in the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool.

Strolling along the mall you cannot miss **the Smithsonian Institution** headquarters in a red brick castle. This educational foundation (founded in 1855) operates 19 museums and galleries such as the National Museum of Natural History, the National Air and Space Museum (the most visited museum in the world where you can see, for example, the Wright Brothers’ historic aircraft or the Apollo 11 lunar module) or the National Gallery of Art and the National Zoo. Other remarkable museums are, for example, Madame Tussauds where all American presidents’ wax figures are displayed, the Newsmuseum which exhibits a part of Berlin Wall, the International Spy Museum and many others.

The Thomas Jefferson Memorial is situated close to the Potomac River. It is dedicated to an American Founding Father and the 3rd President of the US. This neoclassical building contains the bronze statue of T. Jefferson.

Next to the National Mall, in Constitution Gardens, is **the Vietnam Veterans Memorial**. One of its parts is made up by the Memorial Wall with inscribed names of servicemen of the US armed forces who were either killed or listed as missing in the Vietnam War.

Located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW is **the White House**, the official residence of presidents since 1800 (the 2nd president John Adams). It has been expanded many times since then, including a reconstruction after the fire in 1812 and a follow-up white paint which is said to have given the residence its name.

Washington, D.C. is a national centre for the arts. For example, **the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts** is home to the National Symphony Orchestra, the Washington National Opera and Ballet, and theatres perform for example in **Arena Stage**. You can also visit the restored **Ford’s Theater** where Abraham Lincoln was shot dead.

Washington National Cathedral is a magnificent 14-century-style gothic structure (1907-1990) offering great views of the city.

U. S. leaders burial place is in **Arlington National Cemetery**. For example, J. F. Kennedy, his wife and his brother Robert are buried there.

If you wish to see the graves of George Washington and his wife, see **Mount Vernon**, Washington’s home.