

# Where Are You From?: American Regions

地域で見るアメリカ

by

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## はしがき

本書はアメリカ文化を理解する重要な鍵は地域の違いを理解することにある、という視点からアメリカを11の地域に分けて説明した計11章に、アメリカを考えるのに重要な「音楽」「宗教」「連邦政府と州政府」など補足的な説明をした4章を加えたものです。

国土面積は約9,833万平方キロメートルで日本の約26倍、人口は約3億3000万人で日本の約2.6倍、経済の規模を表すGDPは日本の約4倍の20兆5800億ドルで世界一の経済大国、これがアメリカ合衆国の基本的な姿ではあります。こうした巨大なアメリカはたとえ具体的な数字は知らなくとも誰でもが想像することができるし、調べようと思えばそうした姿はインターネットですぐ調べることができます。しかし、どの国でもそうでしょうが国土の大きさや人口、経済的な規模などを知ることは容易にできてもその国の文化を理解することはたいへん難しい。とくに国内にさまざまな文化的な違いを包含するマンモス国家アメリカを知り理解するということはそんなに単純なことではありません。

アメリカのなかの文化的な違いを人種、宗教、世代の違いから見ると一つの方法でしょう。しかし、冒頭でも述べたように、本書はアメリカ文化の本当に重要なことを理解する鍵は地域の違いを理解することにあるという視点から書かれました。州境は今日のアメリカを主に区別するものではありません。説明されている11の地域の人々は、それぞれに民族的起源、言語、歴史的経験、伝統を共有しています。これらの地域は「ミニ国家」とでも呼べるのかもしれませんが。少なくとも、彼らはお互いにライバルの勢力圏です。彼らが使用する言葉でさえも異なるものがあります。

本文に加えて、本書は英語自体をきちんと読めているかどうかチェックする設問を随所に設け、文法問題とリスニング問題も各章ごとにつけて総合的な英語力がつくように配慮してあります。また、各章末のディスカッションや自習用の設問は授業の活性化の一助になるように意図してつけられています。

本書で学習する皆さんがトランプ大統領の登場以来「分裂するアメリカ」と言われることが多くなったマンモス国家アメリカが包含する地域の違いにも目を向けるとともに英語力が向上することを著者として願っています。

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# Dividing America

## アメリカへの10年ごとの流入移民数

年代	流入移民数	関連した出来事
1820	14 万人	ノルウェー等
1830	60 万人	原住民強制立ち退き法 (1830)
1840	170 万人	ドイツ、アイルランド等。ゴールド・ラッシュ (1848-55)
1850	260 万人	カトリック・アイリッシュ移民反対運動
1860	230 万人	ポーランド等。ホームステッド法 (1862)
1870	280 万人	南北戦争後の不況が移民流入を抑えた
1880	520 万人	ドイツ移民ピーク。東欧ユダヤ人等。中国人排斥法 (1862)
1890	370 万人	北・西欧の旧移民→南・東欧の新移民
1900	880 万人	ロシア移民増加
1910	570 万人	イタリア移民ピーク、200万人。
1920	410 万人	移民割当制 (1924)。東・南欧移民制限、アジア人移民禁止
1930	53 万人	大恐慌

### 【その後の主な動き】

1965年 移民国籍法改正：国別割当を廃止、西半球12万人、東半球17万人の上限枠を設ける。

1978年 西／東半球ごとの上限枠に代え、全体の上限を29万人に。

1990年 全移民枠を70万人とする。家族とスキル労働者を優先、未熟練労働者枠を1万人に設定。

Open Collections Program: Immigration to the Us, Timeline; Migration Policy Institute; Wikipedia 等より作成。

(ホーン川嶋瑤子著『アメリカの社会改革』ちくま新書、35頁より。)

# Dividing America



Beginning with the original Native American tribes, America has been a nation of immigrants. They came in waves from different continents and migrated to available lands with different ideas of how they wanted to live, forming cultures of varied characteristics. Some factors “pushed” them out of their original homelands. Some factors “pulled” them to new homelands on the North American continent.

The early immigrants from the British Isles to the eastern shores of the country included what came to be known as White Anglo-Saxon Protestants, or WASPs. Subsequent waves of immigrants yielded competing images of “American culture” that make the WASP concept virtually meaningless in our day.

The first large wave of immigrants [1830–1860] on the Atlantic Coast were Irish, British, and German. But the second inflow [1860–1890] included these as well as Scandinavians and Chinese. The Germans were the largest participants in the third inflow [1890–1924], which was three-fourths Catholic or Jewish, with other immigrants coming from Italy, Greece, and Poland. The fourth major inflow [1945–today] included Japanese and other Asians, people from southeast Asia (Vietnam, the Hmong, Hong Kong), and Africa (Somalia, Yemen, Sudan, Congo).

## ● NOTES ●

1 **Beginning with the original Native American tribes** 「そもそものアメリカ先住民の種族たちに始まり」 Native Americans とはヨーロッパの植民者のアメリカ大陸上陸以前からアメリカ大陸に住み独自の文化を築いていた諸民族をさす。／2 **came in waves** 「波のように押し寄せた」／4 **“pushed” them out of ...** 「…から押し出す」／5 **“pulled” them to ...** 「…へ引き寄せる」／8 **yielded competing images of “American Culture”** 「アメリカ文化の競い合うイメージを生み出した」移民によるさまざまな文化がぶつかりあっていること。  
11 **Irish** 「アイルランド人（語）、アイルランド人の」1840年代からは主にアイルランドから年間100万単位での移民が行われたが、その契機となったのは1845年からアイルランドで起こったジャガイモ飢饉であった。／15- **the Hmong** 「モン族」中国南部の貴州省や雲南省、タイ、ラオス、ベトナムなどの山岳地帯に住むミャオ族の支系。

## Comprehension Check ▶▶▶▶▶▶

- Which statement is true?
  - American culture has not changed from the beginning of immigration.
  - European immigrants came in four different waves.
  - The first people who came to America were from Europe.
- Which large group of immigrants besides those from the British Isles settled on the Atlantic Coast?
  - Those from Asia.
  - Those from Germany.
  - Those from Southeast Asia.





An increased inflow of immigrants into the 1920s alarmed native-born Americans who feared that the “new” immigrants would not assimilate to local ways. The native-born worried that they would lose something if too many new immigrants were allowed to come in. This has been a repeated theme throughout American history, and one that continues today. To calm the unrest, Congress in 1924 passed laws that established quotas on how many immigrants would be allowed from each country each year. This reduced the number of immigrants who were not white and northern European.

Most new immigrants entered through so-called gateway cities, such as New York, Boston, and San Francisco. They spread across the northern half of the U.S. and avoided the southern half of the country. In fact, in 1870 New York City alone had more foreign-born residents than the whole of Appalachia and the South combined.

The reasons for this are obvious. Appalachia offered few jobs, with the exception of dangerous jobs drilling tunnels through the mountains for the railroads and mining coal deep underground. In the South, land was controlled by white elites and work was done by black laborers. The Southwest was simply too remote and there were few jobs, with the exception of cattle herding.

#### ● NOTES ●

21 **Congress in ... each year** 1924年に成立した移民法(Immigration Laws)は、1890年の国勢調査における出身国別人口の2%の移民を毎年許可することになっていた。しかし、基準となった1890年は南欧・東欧からの移民が少なかった時代であり、実質的にはそれら「新移民」を排除してアングロ・サクソン系や西欧北欧出身者を多数とする人口構成を守ろうとしたものであった。／25 **gateway cities**: Entry point to or from a country; a primary arrival and departure point. Typically is an airport or seaport.／28 **Appalachia** 「アパラチア地方」 ニューヨーク州からミシシッピ州まで伸びるアメリカ合衆国東部のアパラチア山脈周辺の地域。第4章参照。

### **Comprehension Check** ▶▶▶▶▶▶

3. What did native-born Americans fear early in the twentieth century?
  - a. Newer immigrants would not blend into American society.
  - b. Immigrants would move to the southern half of the country.
  - c. Fewer immigrants from their own countries would come.
  
4. Which of the following is NOT true about new immigrants?
  - a. They preferred to settle in the northern half of the US.
  - b. They were eager to move into Appalachia.
  - c. They generally entered the country through gateway cities.



State borderlines are not the main divisions of Americans today. It is in the regions that we find differences that help us to understand what is really important to Americans. In the following chapters, America is described as eleven regions. The people of each region believe they share a common culture, ethnic origin, language, historical experience, and traditions.

It is tempting to call these regions “mini-nations.” At the very least, they are rival power blocs. Even the words they use are different. What New Englanders call “scallions,” the rest of the country calls “green onions.” What the majority of New Englanders and Metropolitan New Yorkers call “sneakers,” the rest of the country calls “tennis shoes.” When Southerners refer to other people, they say “y’all”, while the rest of the country says “you guys.” A “freeway” in the western third of the country is a “highway” in the eastern two-thirds.

The regions are based on features including topography, climate, inbound immigration patterns and periods, economic foundations, political strength, primary language, educational attainment, cost of living, social stability, and potential for attaining some version of the American Dream.

●NOTES●

42 **scallions, green onions** 日本で言う「エシャロット」の一種。／47 **topography** 「地形；地勢」／47 **inbound immigration patterns and periods** 「入ってくる移民のパターンと期間」

### **Comprehension Check** ▶▶▶▶▶▶

5. Which of the following words are not commonly used in New England?  
a. sneakers            b. scallions            c. freeway

## Structure Practice >>>>>

**A. Choose the one underlined word or phrase that should be corrected or rewritten. Then change it so the sentence is correct.**

1. <sub>1</sub> Almost all of groups of immigrants that settle in the U.S. <sub>2</sub> struggle over how to maintain their original culture while <sub>3</sub> adjusting to a completely new culture, and this cultural conflict is commonly <sub>4</sub> found in individual families as well.  
[ ]

2. <sub>1</sub> While the early immigrants from the British Isles who settled <sub>2</sub> in the Atlantic Coast were British and Irish, later immigrants came not <sub>3</sub> only from northern Europe and southern Europe but <sub>4</sub> also from southern Europe and Asia.  
[ ]

**B. Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.**

3. Differences between American regions ..... differences in the words the people use, the foods they eat, the sports they enjoy, and the views they have about people of the other regions.

a. include                      b. consist                      c. compose                      d. make up

4. Competition between different immigrant groups is not ..... to groups from different nations but also exists between people who came from a single country, but at different times in history.

a. based                      b. decided                      c. limited                      d. outlined

5. Arrivals at immigration ports on the Atlantic Coast were far more ..... to remain in the urban centers of the U.S. than to attempt long journeys inland to regions where they did not have relatives or information about available jobs.

a. advantageous              b. beneficial                      c. likely                      d. probable

## Listening Challenge >>>>>>

Listen and fill in the missing words.

1. One of the [ ] things new immigrants [ ] to locate was a [ ] for each [ ] of the family, even the children.
2. For decades immigrants who came by [ ] from [ ] landed at Ellis Island [ ] they were [ ] examined by [ ] agents.
3. In many [ ] immigrants [ ] [ ] working on the railroads, in construction, and in mining, jobs [ ] did not require knowledge or [ ].
4. Many new arrivals [ ] [ ] to live in neighborhoods [ ] there were a lot of people who [ ] their language.
5. Restrictions were [ ] for how many immigrants from [ ] [ ] would be [allowed] to enter the U.S. each year.

### ◆ Going Further (for discussion or research)

1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of immigrants coming into a country?
2. Are there any political or economic differences between American “states” and Japanese “prefectures”?