

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## READING

# Canada's Plan to Attack America!

### Vocabulary Preview

- **Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.**

- |                   |          |   |
|-------------------|----------|---|
| 1. border         | <u>E</u> | A. something that you are trying to do or achieve       |
| 2. topic          | _____    | B. worried about something or somebody                  |
| 3. objective      | _____    | C. in a way that seems normal or reasonable             |
| 4. invasion       | _____    | D. to attack after first being attacked                 |
| 5. understandably | _____    | E. the line that divides two countries                  |
| 6. concerned      | _____    | F. a subject that you talk, write, or learn about       |
| 7. counter-attack | _____    | G. at the end of a period of time                       |
| 8. eventually     | _____    | H. the act of an army entering another country by force |

- **Use the above words to complete the sentences. Change the forms of verbs and nouns when necessary.**

1. We waited for two hours before our flight eventually took off.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ between Canada and the USA is very long.
3. I'm \_\_\_\_\_ about my pet hamster. He doesn't look very well.
4. What is the \_\_\_\_\_ of today's science lesson?
5. Jack is \_\_\_\_\_ very tired. He didn't get much sleep last night.
6. Russian forces attacked Ukraine in 2022, but Ukraine \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Britain by Rome happened 2,000 years ago.
8. What is your company trying to do? What is its \_\_\_\_\_?

- **Choose any two of the above words and write your own sentences.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

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## READING

Topics: War / Canada / the United States

# Canada's Plan To Attack America!



When you look at Canada and the United States on a map of North America, one of the very first things you might notice is that they share a very long **border**<sup>1</sup>. In fact, at 5,525 miles (8,891 kilometers), it is the longest international border in the world. This fact alone is a **topic**<sup>2</sup> worth discussion, but what makes it even more interesting is that in 1921 Canada created a secret plan for its soldiers to cross over that border and attack America! The plan was called “Defence Scheme No 1” and it was created by James “Buster” Sutherland Brown, the Canadian Director of Military Operations and Intelligence. As the name of the plan suggests, Canada’s main **objective**<sup>3</sup> was for Canada to defend itself against a possible American **invasion**<sup>4</sup>. An American invasion of Canada? Well, only three years earlier, millions of people had died in World War 1, and many countries were **understandably**<sup>5</sup> **concerned**<sup>6</sup> that more fighting was a real possibility (don’t forget – World War 2 was less than 20 years away!). In case the United States began moving its military closer to the Canadian border, the plan called for Canada to attack first and hold several big northern US cities and states (such as Seattle, Portland, Minneapolis, Detroit, and Main). Of course, there was no way that Canada could keep these places for very long (even if the attack was successful): in 1921 the Canadian population totaled only 4.3 million, whereas that of the US was 109 million – 25 times bigger! However, the objective of Defence Scheme No 1 was only to delay a possible American attack on Canada, and if the expected American **counter-attack**<sup>7</sup> happened, Canadian soldiers would quickly return to Canada – and wait for Britain to send help. Between 1921 and 1926, Brown and a few others traveled to the US as spies, but the plan was **eventually**<sup>8</sup> given up and destroyed by Canada in 1928. It was only two years later (in 1930) that the US created its own secret plan for an invasion of Canada called “War Plan Red”!

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### Grammar Practice

# Canada's Plan to Attack America!

When you look at Canada and the United States on a map of North America, one of the very first things you might (1)\_\_\_\_\_ is that they share a very long border. In fact, at 5,525 miles (8,891 kilometers), it is the longest international border (2)\_\_\_\_\_ the world. This fact alone is a topic worth discussion, but what makes it even (3)\_\_\_\_\_ is that in 1921 Canada created a secret plan for its soldiers to cross over that border and attack America! The plan was called "Defence Scheme No 1" and it (4)\_\_\_\_\_ by James "Buster" Sutherland Brown, the Canadian Director of Military Operations and Intelligence. As the name of the plan suggests, Canada's main objective was for Canada to defend (5)\_\_\_\_\_ against a possible American invasion. An American invasion of Canada? Well, only three years earlier, millions of people (6)\_\_\_\_\_ in World War 1, and many countries were understandably concerned that more fighting was a real possibility (don't forget – World War 2 was less than 20 years away!). In case the United States began (7)\_\_\_\_\_ its military closer to the Canadian border, the plan called for Canada to attack first and hold several big northern US cities and states (such as Seattle, Portland, Minneapolis, Detroit, and Maine). Of course, there was (8)\_\_\_\_\_ way that Canada could keep these places for very long (even if the attack was successful): in 1921 the Canadian population totaled only 4.3 million, whereas that of the US (9)\_\_\_\_\_ 109 million – 25 times bigger! However, the objective of Defence Scheme No 1 was only to delay a possible American attack on Canada, and if the expected American counter-attack happened, Canadian soldiers would (10)\_\_\_\_\_ to Canada – and wait for Britain to send help. Between 1921 and 1926, Brown and (11)\_\_\_\_\_ others traveled to the US as spies, but the plan was eventually given up and destroyed by Canada in 1928. It was only two years later (in 1930) that the US created its own secret plan for (12)\_\_\_\_\_ of Canada called "War Plan Red"!

1.

- (A) noticed
- (B) noticing
- (C) notice

2.

- (A) at
- (B) in
- (C) on

3.

- (A) more interested
- (B) most interested
- (C) more interesting

4.

- (A) was created
- (B) created
- (C) creates

5.

- (A) itself
- (B) yourself
- (C) ourselves

6.

- (A) were died
- (B) had died
- (C) was dead

7.

- (A) moved
- (B) moves
- (C) moving

8.

- (A) no
- (B) don't
- (C) not

9.

- (A) it was
- (B) it
- (C) was

10.

- (A) quick returned
- (B) quickly return
- (C) quick returns

11.

- (A) a few
- (B) little
- (C) a little

12.

- (A) invaders
- (B) an invasion
- (C) invaded

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## READING

# Canada's Plan to Attack America!



### How Much Do You Understand?

● **Complete the statements.**

- |                                |                                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. The US-Canada border        | A. the United States might attack it. |
| 2. Canada was afraid that      | B. to the United States.              |
| 3. In 1921, Canada made a      | C. own plan to attack Canada.         |
| 4. Spies were sent from Canada | D. in 1928.                           |
| 5. The plan was destroyed      | E. is very long                       |
| 6. In 1930, the US made its    | F. plan to attack the United States.  |

### Discuss

● **Discuss the following questions with your classmates.**

1. Canada decided to cancel its attack plan in 1928 – but the article doesn't say why. What reasons do you think might have led to its cancellation?
2. Is war ever a good thing? Why? / Why not?
3. "There will always be wars." Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give reasons for your opinion.

### Write

● **What three reasons can you think of for countries deciding to go to war?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



# Reading Lesson      Topics: War / Canada / the United States

## Lesson "Canada's Plan to Attack America!"

**Grammar Focus** Mixed: Past Simple & Cont., Passive, "would" (talk about future in the past)

**Vocabulary** 344 words

**A1** words-56% / **A2** words-13% / **B1** words-10% / **B2** words-6% /  
**C1** words-0% / **C2** words-0% / **Off List**-14%

**AWL Words** in this text: *created, eventually, intelligence, military, objective, scheme, topic, whereas*

Vocabulary Analysis by: [vocabkitchen.com](http://vocabkitchen.com)

**Level** Intermediate to Upper Intermediate (CEFR B1 – B2)

### ANSWER KEY Page 1

#### ● Vocabulary

- |      |                             |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 1. E | 1. eventually               |
| 2. F | 2. border                   |
| 3. A | 3. concerned                |
| 4. H | 4. topic                    |
| 5. C | 5. understandably           |
| 6. B | 6. counter-attack <b>ed</b> |
| 7. D | 7. invasion                 |
| 8. G | 8. objective                |

### ANSWER KEY Page 3

#### ● Grammar

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. C | 7. C  |
| 2. B | 8. A  |
| 3. C | 9. C  |
| 4. A | 10. B |
| 5. A | 11. A |
| 6. B | 12. B |

### ANSWER KEY Page 4

#### ● How Much Do You Understand?

1. The US-Canada border (E) is very long.
2. Canada was afraid that (A) the United States might attack it.
3. In 1921, Canada made a (F) plan to attack the United States.
4. Spies were sent from Canada (B) to the United States.
5. The plan was destroyed (D) in 1928.
6. In 1930, the US made its (C) own plan to attack Canada.



#### Article Sources:

- *How Canada Planned to Invade the U.S. (and vice versa)*  
<https://www.macleans.ca/culture/books/how-canada-planned-to-invade-the-u-s-and-vice-versa/>
- *Defence Scheme No 1*  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Defence\\_Scheme\\_No.\\_1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Defence_Scheme_No._1)
- *War Plan Red*  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War\\_Plan\\_Red#:~:text=The%20idea%20was%20that%20US,Canadians%20from%20their%20British%20allies.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_Plan_Red#:~:text=The%20idea%20was%20that%20US,Canadians%20from%20their%20British%20allies.)