

# Summary: Many Regions, One Nation

## Linking Regions

Americans share the same government. We have the same values of liberty, equality, and justice. Our nation is connected by railroads, canals, and airports. We are linked by phones, airplanes, and the Internet.

Each connection between states leads to interdependence. For example, farmers in Maryland can sell their crops to families in New Jersey. People in New Jersey can buy food from farmers in Maryland. The farmers and families both depend on each other. These kinds of links are found across the country. They help to bring us together.

The U.S. government works hard to create these links. The U.S. Postal Service connects people and businesses across the country. It helps people communicate and move goods. The government also helped to build a transportation system across the country. The Interstate Highway system helps transport people and goods around the country.

Good transportation and communication help bring prosperity to Americans. The government runs air-traffic control so that airplanes can travel safely. It sets basic rules for television and radio communications. The government and businesses try to make trade grow. The banking system makes trade easier because everyone knows how to pay for goods and services.

## Our Common Culture

Americans come from many different places, but we have a shared heritage. This includes language, food, music, holidays, and beliefs. The cultures of all people who live in the United States are part of our heritage. People in every state celebrate Independence Day with fireworks and Memorial Day with parades. People from all regions help when there is need. After the attacks on September 11, 2001, volunteers came to New York City from all over the country to help.

### Before You Read

Find and underline each vocabulary word.

**interdependence** *noun*, a relationship in which people depend on each other

**prosperity** *noun*, wealth and success

**heritage** *noun*, traditions that people have honored for many years

**volunteer** *noun*, someone who agrees to provide a service without pay

### After You Read

**REVIEW** In what ways does the United States Postal Service link different parts of the country?

Underline the sentence that tells what the U.S. postal service does.

**REVIEW** In what ways do we show our shared culture? Draw a box around the sentence that describes how people celebrate holidays all over the country.