

WALK THROUGH CALIFORNIA

EXPERT WORD CARDS

(Green Cards)

Sheet 1 of 5

Altitude/Elevation

Altitude or elevation is the height of land above or below sea level.

What is the **altitude** of Badwater Basin in Death Valley, California?

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Aqueduct

An aqueduct is a pipe or canal used for bringing water to an area that needs more.

What **aqueduct** brings water to Los Angeles?

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Bay

A bay is a part of a body of water that reaches into the land and protects ships from storms and waves.

What is the closest **bay** to your school?

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Border

A border is the edge or limit of a state, city, county, or country. Rivers can be borders too.

What is the **border** between California and Arizona?

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Canyon

A canyon is a deep, narrow valley with steep sides that has been worn into mountains by a stream or river.

What **canyon** in California is also a national park?

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Capital/Capitol

A capital, with the a/ spelling, is a city where a state or nation has its main offices and makes laws. Capitol, with the o/ spelling, is the building in the capital city where laws are made.

What **cities**, besides Sacramento, used to be the **capital** of California?

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City

A city is a part of a county with its own separate government and address.

What is the largest **city** in California?

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Coast

A coast is land next to an ocean or a large body of water. California's coast is along the Pacific Ocean.

Approximately how many miles does the general **coast** of California stretch?

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Country

A country is a part of the world with its own leaders, flag, army, and people. It makes laws and collects taxes.

What are the two **countries** that touch the United States?

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County

A county is a part of a state that has its own government. It is made up of cities and towns.

How many **counties** are there in California?

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Desert

A desert is a dry area of land where plants that need little water will grow. A desert gets less than 10 inches of rain a year.

What is the largest **desert** in California?

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Earthquake Fault

An earthquake fault is a place where large parts of earth come together and movement happens.

What is the largest **earthquake fault** in California?

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El Camino Real

El Camino Real are Spanish words that mean the King's Highway. It is the pathway among the missions from San Diego to Sonoma along the coast of our state.

What modern-day highway runs along parts of the original **El Camino Real**?

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Erosion

Erosion is the wearing away and changing of land by the movement of water and wind.

What are some land formations in California formed by **erosion**?

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Farm Produce

Farm produce are plants that are grown on farms and sold for food or other needs.

What is the main **farm produce** grown or processed in your area?

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Glacier

A glacier is a large body of slow-moving ice that stays frozen all year.

What famous valley in a California national park was formed by a **glacier**?

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Governor

A governor is the main elected person who is head of the government in a state.

Who is the **governor** of California?

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Irrigation

Irrigation is a system for bringing water to an area so crops can grow.

What is the **irrigation system** that provides water for the Central Valley in California?

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Island

An island is a piece of land surrounded on all sides by water.

What group of **islands** is off the coast of California?

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Mission

A mission is a settlement built around a church where local people are taught about God.

What is the nearest **mission** to your area?

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Missionary

A missionary is a person who travels and tells others about God.

Who was the **missionary** who started the first nine California missions?

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Mother Lode

The Mother Lode is the main deposit of an important mineral. In California it is where gold was first found in 1848 by James W. Marshall.

What is the California mountain range where the **Mother Lode** is located?

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Mountain

A mountain is high, rocky land, often with steep sides and a pointed top. A mountain range is a group of mountains that form a wall or chain.

What is the highest **mountain** in California, and what is its elevation?

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Peninsula

A peninsula is land surrounded on all but one side by water. It is connected to a larger piece of land.

What large city in California is built on a **peninsula**?

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2010)
- 18. Irriga

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Plateau
A plateau is an area of mostly high, flat land that is raised above nearby land.
*What large **plateau** is in the north-eastern part of California?*

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Precipitation
Precipitation is moisture that falls to earth as snow, rain, hail, dew, or fog.
*What is the annual amount of **precipitation** in your area?*

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Presidio
A presidio is a fort built by the Spanish military. In California, they were used to protect the coastal areas.
*What cities in California began as **presidios**?*

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Pueblo
A pueblo is a small community of homes and farms started by the Spanish to bring more people to California.
*What early Spanish **pueblo** is in California?*

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Rancho
A rancho is a large farm area in California that was often given to a person as a reward for service. It was where cattle were raised.
*What early Spanish or Mexican **rancho** is in your area?*

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Region
A region is an area of land that is different from other areas based on its geography, industry, and climate.
*What are the four main **regions** of California?*

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Reservoir
A reservoir is a large lake created by building a dam across a stream or river to store water for people and farms. Sometimes it's a large tank placed underground to store water.
*What large lake or **reservoir** is in your area?*

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River
A river is a large stream of water flowing through the land, usually fed by smaller streams.
*What is the **river** where gold was discovered in California in 1848?*

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Sea

A sea is a large body of salt water. Usually a sea is a part of an ocean, but in California there is a sea that is located inland.

What **sea** is located in California?

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State

A state is a separate part of a nation that makes its own laws and has its own leaders.

What are the three **states** that touch California?

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Valley

A valley is low, flat land between mountains or hills.

What are the two **valleys** that make up the Central Valley in California?

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Volcano

A volcano is a mountain formed of ash and rock thrown up from inside the earth.

What California **volcano** located in the Cascade Range erupted between 1914 and 1917?

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