2006

Count Yourself In!
May 16, 2006

Activity 8:
Census Game

Suggested Level: **Secondary**
Subjects: **Geography, History, Social Studies, Economics**

Overview

This activity uses a game format to encourage students to develop knowledge of Canada's demographic, social and economic features as revealed by the census. Questions addressing the local, regional and national implications of the census are offered in increasing difficulty to add challenge to the exercise. (1 class period)

Note: See the **Teacher's Guide** for general background on the census and census vocabulary.

Learning Objectives

Develop an awareness of the range of major demographic information provided by Canada's census.

Realize that all Canadians are part of the census and are represented by its findings.

Understand that each census is a snapshot of the population and that by comparing current census data with previous census data, the dynamics of the population can be studied.

Vocabulary

Census, confidentiality, House of Commons, immigrant, sample, urban

Materials

- Teacher's Guide
- Handout 1: *Census Geography Game Sheets*
- Handout 2: *Canada's Population Distribution*

Getting Started

1. Before students participate in this activity, they will need **background information**. Discuss or photocopy the information on the census beginning on page 2 of the Teacher's Guide, or you can use Quick Census Facts on pages 10 and 11 (also in the Guide). Explain that the census provides a wide range of demographic, social and economic information about Canada.

2. **Divide the class into four to six teams**. Distribute Handout 1*: Census Geography Game Sheets* and Handout 2: *Canada's Population Distribution* to each player on each team. Allow students a few moments to look at the handouts. The map in Handout 2 will be useful for answering some of the questions in the activity.

3. **Teams could suggest team names**. Since each team begins with a score of zero (0), write one large zero for each team below their team names on the blackboard. Decide the order of play (e.g., alphabetical order of team names). You may want to limit the number of categories in play depending on the time available.

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4. **Describe how to play the game** as detailed in the Census Activity section. In brief, a team picks any topic from the six categories on the game sheet, the teacher reads the "answer" and the team are asked for the "question."

   Points are awarded or removed depending on whether an acceptable response is given. The point values for the topics increase to reflect their difficulty. Do a practice round using the sample given on Handout 1.

Census Activity

1. Each team in turn has the opportunity to select a topic listed under one of the categories on the game sheet (Handout 1). From the ANSWERS AND QUESTIONS beginning on page 3, the teacher reads the appropriate answer to the team. Time is then allowed for the team to confer, reach a consensus and respond with the question (about one minute). Encourage different members of the team to respond rather than having one member provide the questions for all the answers.

   If the question is acceptable to the teacher, the team is awarded the number of points shown for the topic on the game sheet. The team's score is then increased on the blackboard and the topic is eliminated. Unacceptable responses reduce the team's score by the value of the

topic and this topic remains in play. Any answer completes a turn and the play moves on to the next team. Eight topics have double points (bonus questions). These can be changed by the teacher.

3. The game is over when all the topics have been used or when time has run out. Leave time to tabulate the final score and announce the winning team.

Extension/Enrichment

1. Any of the rules can be altered to suit the circumstances. The number of categories and topics in play can be changed as well as the value of the questions.

2. Allow students to create their own answers and questions.

3. Suggest that students take the materials home and play the game with their families.

4. Consider the possibility of a challenge match between classes using either the topics provided or those created by the students. Maybe the teachers could challenge the students!

1. **Census: Game Sheet 1**

COUNT (5)   This survey counts the Canadian population. **What is the Census of Population?**

TIME (10)   This time period separates each modern Canadian census so that census information stays up-to-date. **What is five years?**

DATE (15)   On this day, each resident in Canada will be asked to "count yourself in." **What is May 16, 2006?**

FARM (20)   This survey asks farmers for detailed information on their agricultural operations. **What is the Census of Agriculture?**

SAMPLE (25)   This percentage or ratio of Canadian households will get a long census questionnaire to complete in the next census. **What is 20% (or one in five)?**

Census: Game Sheet 2

PLACE (5)   This is the place where most people will complete their own census questionnaires. **What is a home?**

LAW (10)   ***Double points*** This term means that your census information is kept secret. **What is confidentiality?**

NEW (15)   If this life-beginning event happened to you on May 17, 2006 you would not be included in the 2006 Census. **What is birth?**

FACTS (20)   This term refers to all the numbers or values calculated from the census. **What are data (or information)?**

TERM (25)   This term refers to the study of the spatial distribution of population.
                  What is geography?

2. **Geography: Game Sheet 1**

BIG (5)   This second largest country in land size had a population of 30.5 million people on May 15, 2001. **What is Canada?**

COMPLETE (10)   In 1951, this province of Canada was included in the census for the first time.
                  What is Newfoundland?

ASIA (15)   ***Double points*** This major western Canadian city has the largest number of immigrants from Asia. **What is Vancouver?**

ORIGIN (20)   88% of Quebec's immigrants live in this city. **What is Montreal?**

ABORIGINAL (25)   The 2001 Census reported that 85% of the population in this Canadian region is of Aboriginal origin. **What is Nunavut?**

Geography: Game Sheet 2

NEW (5)   This, Canada's most populous province, is home to 55% of the country's immigrant population. **What is Ontario?**

FOOD (10)   These Quebec residents, members of the province's fourth largest ethnic group, are famous for their pasta. **Who are people of Italian ancestry?**

URBAN (15)   In 2001, 79% of Canadians lived in these non-rural areas. **What are urban areas?**

NORTH (20)   In Canada's territories in the north, we are the largest aboriginal group? **Who are the Inuit?**

SEATS (25)   ***Double points*** This national parliamentary chamber has always had its membership determined by the results of the census once every 10 years. **What is the House of Commons?**

3.   **Who Am I?: Game Sheet 1**

ARRIVAL (5)   Although I came to live in Canada from another country, I am still counted in the census. **What is an immigrant?**

MOVE (10)   Like many Canadians, I migrated to and settled in this western province during the 1970s to work in the oil exploration business. **What is an Albertan?**

CITY (15)   I live in Canada's largest urban area (or metropolitan area) which has a population of over four and a half million. **What is a Torontonian?**

ROOTS (20)   We are some of Canada's earliest immigrants. Our great-grandparents came from the "Emerald Isle" during the potato famines in the 1800s. **Who are the Irish?**

FIRST (25)   We are Canadians who speak over 50 different languages or dialects and belong to 10 different linguistic groups. **Who are Aboriginal peoples?**

Who Am I?: Game Sheet 2

BIRTH (5)   How I came to be living in Canada gives me something in common with approximately 82% of Canada's population. **What is "born in Canada"?**

SMALL (10)   I live in Canada's least-populated province, but my name is not Anne. **What is a Prince Edward Islander?**

NEW (15)   ***Double points*** I come from the continent that provides most of Canada's immigrants today. **What is an Asian?**

WORK (20)   I work for the Canadian government agency that develops and conducts a census of the population. **What is a Statistics Canada employee?**

CHECK (25)   I deliver census questionnaires to 70% of households in Canada. **What is a Canada Post mail carrier?**

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4. **Settlement: Game Sheet 1**

AREA (5)　　　　　　They are political divisions shown on the map of population distribution. **What are the provinces and territories?**

DOT (10)　　　　　　This is the number of people with whom I share a dot on Canada's 2001 population distribution map. **What are 999 people?**

CLUSTER (15)　　　　*** **Double points***** This area in Ontario is home to 22% of the population of Canada. **What is the extended Golden Horseshoe?**

DONUT (20)　　　　　This eastern province's population distribution map has its population clustered around its exterior. **What is New Brunswick?**

GATEWAY (25)　　　This western capital city's population appears on the population distribution map as a cluster of dots and is the gateway to Canada's western Arctic. **What is Edmonton?**

Settlement: Game Sheet 2

FEW (5)　　　　　　This non-provincial region of Canada consists of 0.1% of Canada's population in 2001 and has few dots due to the scattered settlement pattern. **What is the Yukon Territory?**

CLUSTERS (10)　　　This broad and fairly flat region of Canada features a settlement pattern of scattered clusters of dots. **What are the Prairies?**

ISLAND (15)　　　　This west coast island features a population pattern that is concentrated along its eastern side. **What is Vancouver Island?**

WATER (20)　　　　The largest province in Canada features settlement that is highly concentrated along this major river. **What is the St. Lawrence River?**

COASTAL (25)　　　These three provinces in Atlantic Canada feature settlement along their coastal borders. **What are Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland?**

5. **Results: Game Sheet 1**

WATER (5)　　　　The most striking concentration of population in Canada shown on the distribution map lies along the northern shores of these large bodies of water. **What are the Great Lakes?**

METALS (10)　　　The clusters of settlement north of the major population centres in Quebec and Ontario are communities built around this rock-based economic activity. **What is mining?**

NARROWS (15)　　This provincial capital city is the centre of a large concentration of population located between two large lakes and an international border. **What is Winnipeg?**

DOUBLE V (20)　　*****Double points***** These two west coast cities form their province's major population concentration and begin with the same letter.
What are Vancouver and Victoria?

LANDFALL (25)　　This provincial capital appears as the major cluster on the island and faces Europe. **What is St. John's?**

Results: Game Sheet 2

YOUTH (5) The location of these buildings, constructed for education, is determined through census data. **What are schools?**

ADS (10) These television messages are aimed at certain segments of the population whose numbers were determined by the census. **What are commercials?**

GRANTS (15) These political areas of Canada receive money (grants) from the federal government based on their population as counted by the census. **What are the provinces and territories?**

SEATS (20) ***Double points*** Information from the Census of Population divides voters into areas called ridings from which representatives are elected to this government body. **What is the House of Commons?**

SECTIONS (25) Canada is divided into these units to enable the orderly count of the population at census time. **What are collection units?**

6. **At Home: Game Sheet 1**

HOME (5) This name is used to identify your concentration of population as counted by the census. **What is (name your community)?**

DRAW (10) This natural feature was the principal attraction that drew population to this area. **What is (local answer)?**

MOVE (15) ***Double points*** This term is used to describe the movement of people to new areas in the same country. **What is migration?**

WORK (20) This money-earning task is the principal reason why people migrate to different areas of the country. **What is a job?**

PLACES (25) These concentrations of population offer the largest number and variety of work opportunities and therefore attract even more settlement. **What are cities?**

At Home: Game Sheet 2

SPOT (5) This is how a community of 2,000 persons would be shown on the population distribution map. **What are two dots?**

NEWS (10) This reading material depends on a large daily readership in a concentrated area as identified by the census. **What is a newspaper?**

HOME (15) This type of dwelling is the most common form of shelter in Canada. **What is a house?**

GROUP (20) The average size of this household unit in 2001 was 2.6 persons. **What is a family?**

SPEAK (25) This term refers to the first language you learned to speak. **What is mother tongue?**

GAME SHEET 1

Team name: _____

Team members: _____

CATEGORIES:

Census	Geography	Who Am I?	Settlement	Results	At Home
Count (5)	Big (5)	Arrival (5)	Area (5)	Water (5)	Home (5)
Time (10)	Complete (10)	Move (10)	Dot (10)	Metals (10)	Draw (10)
Date (15)	Asia (15)	City (15)	Cluster (15)	Narrows (15)	Move (15)
Farm (20)	Origin (20)	Roots (20)	Donut (20)	Double V (20)	Work (20)
Sample (25)	Aboriginal (25)	First (25)	Gateway (25)	Landfall (25)	Places (25)

Sample exercise
Topic: DAY (5):
Answer: This is the day when all people living in Canada are counted.
Question: What is Census Day?

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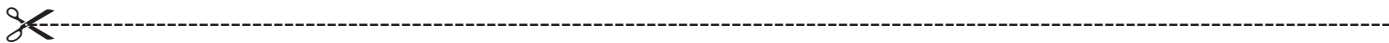
Handout 1: *Census Geography Game Sheets*

GAME SHEET 2

Team name: _____

Team members: _____

CATEGORIES:

Census	Geography	Who Am I?	Settlement	Results	At Home
Place (5)	New (5)	Birth (5)	Few (5)	Youth (5)	Spot (5)
Law (10)	October (10)	Small (10)	Clusters (10)	Ads (10)	News (10)
New (15)	Urban (15)	New (15)	Island (15)	Grants (15)	Home (15)
Facts (20)	North (20)	Work (20)	Water (20)	Seats (20)	Group (20)
Term (25)	Seats (25)	Check (25)	Coastal (25)	Sections (25)	Speak (25)

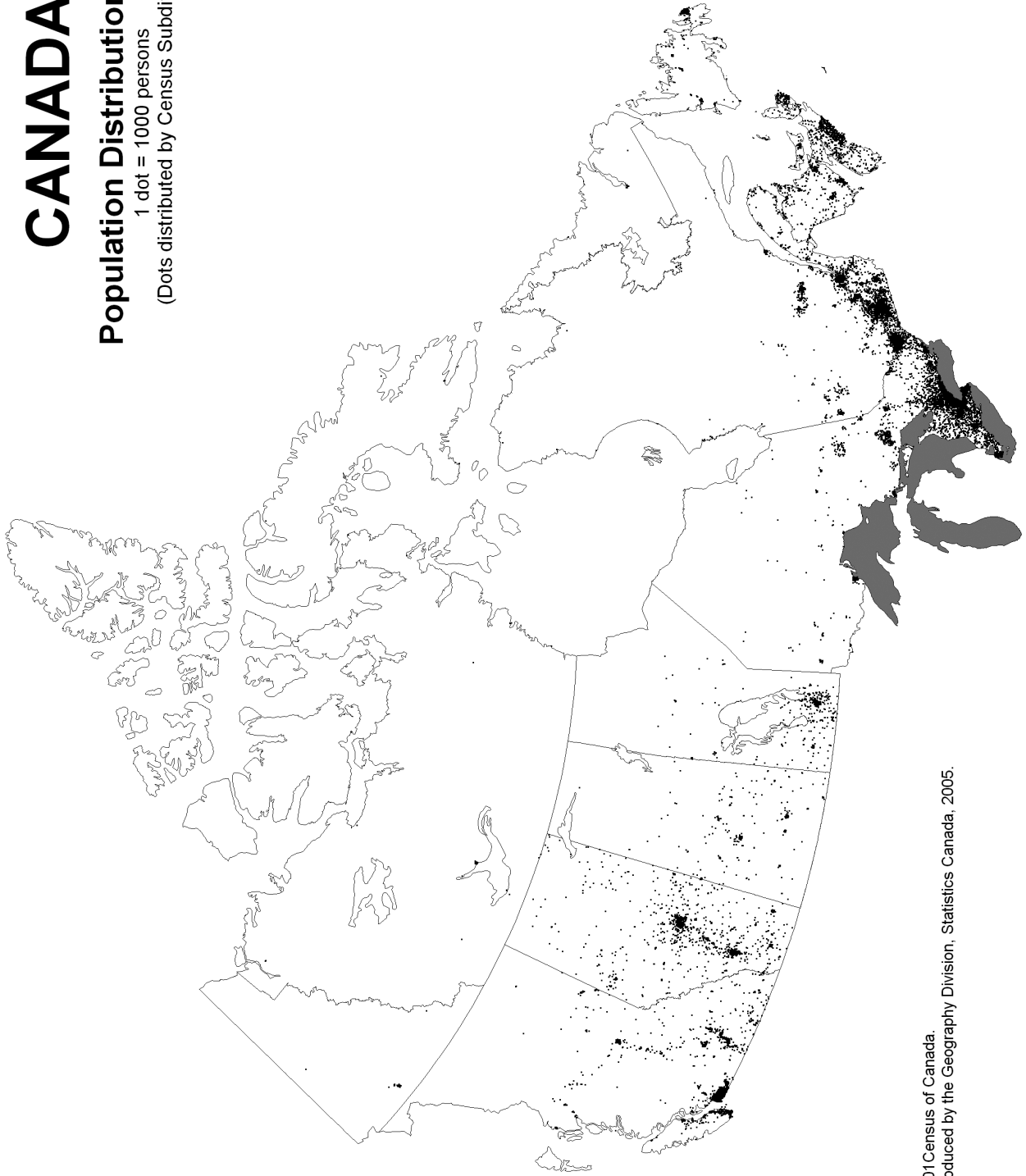**Sample exercise**
Topic: DAY (5):
Answer: This is the day when all people living in Canada are counted.
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CANADA

Population Distribution, 2001

1 dot = 1000 persons

(Dots distributed by Census Subdivision)

Source: 2001 Census of Canada.
Produced by the Geography Division, Statistics Canada, 2005.