**The USA at work**

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Since the early 20th century the USA has become and is still by far the largest economy.

**Agriculture**

The USA produces a great variety of goods and has world’s highest export thanks to the wide range of its climates and the huge areas of rich farming land. The farms are enormous, mechanized and effective. Beef cattle is raised in the western areas.

**Energy and mining**

The USA has large mineral deposits, especially oil, natural gas and coal. With only 5% of world’s population consuming 25% of world’s energy it is the highest consumer.

**Manufacturing**

USA is still world’s biggest manufacturer. However, some industries have declined due to cheaper imports.

**High-tech and electronics**

USA is a leader in many innovative industries involving technology. Computers, telecommunications, aerospace, military equipment, medical technology, robotics and nanotechnology do not stop developing.

**Trade**

The USA is the world’s biggest trader. It imports petroleum, cars, raw materials and food. It exports machinery, computers, high-tech products, chemicals and agricultural crops.

**Service industries**

Four out of 5 Americans work in services. Here are the biggest employers in the industry:

* **Financial Service**

Banks and insurance companies operate all over the country. New York and Chicago are leading cities.

* **Business Services**

These include advertising and internet services

* **Tourism**

This industry is a huge employer. Hotels and restaurants are at every famous tourist destination all over the country.

* **Entertainment industry**

Computer games, TV and cinema are also highly developed.

**SILICON VALLEY**

The silicon valley is world’s most important center for businesses involved in electronics, computers, software and the Internet. It is a 25 by 10 mile area around the city of San Jose. The name comes from the material, silicone, used to make semiconductors, which are vital for all electronic equipment.

Until the 1950s the area was an agricultural region but when NASA set up research facilities there, it started transforming into an area for electronics. Soon there were hundreds of new companies there, competing and stimulating each other. This led to an electronic evolution, which has led to the modern age of Internet. Silicon valley has developed a reputation for youthful, fresh, innovative and original ideas, combined with a relaxing working atmosphere. Although many new companies risk going bankrupt quickly, investors keep pouring money into the industry.