

A CITY FULL OF SUPERLATIVES

- 1) Read the text "A City Full of Superlatives".
- 2) Look up the words you need in a dictionary.
- 3) With the help of the text, find other expressions (= synonyms) for the underlined words on worksheet B2. Compare the words you have written down with the answer key.

das
nicht

Answer the questions about the text and find the right words for the maze on worksheet B3. If you follow the words correctly, the letters in the grey squares will make up a popular dessert in America. You can go right →, left ← and down ↓.

Materials: text "New York City – a City Full of Superlatives", dictionary, worksheet B2 "Vocabulary: Synonyms" and answer key, worksheet B3 "A New York City Maze" and answer key

NEW YORK – A CITY FULL OF SUPERLATIVES

New York City is the largest city in the **USA**: over eight million people live in an area of 786 square kilometres which make up five boroughs. The most famous borough is Manhattan, often incorrectly used as a synonym for New York City because most of the tourist attractions can be found here. The inhabitants of the city area are called "New Yorkers".

New York City is one of the world's leading financial, business and cultural centers – it is full of superlatives: about 10,200 kilometres of streets and 1,300 kilometres of subway tracks lead the people through "the city that never sleeps". More than 500 galleries, 200 museums, 150 theatres and 18,000 restaurants attract tourists from all over the world. The cityscape of the "Big Apple" is dominated by skyscrapers and for forty years it has been the backdrop* to the world's tallest building, the Empire State Building.

The city has always been a main attraction for immigrants and is popular for its ethnic diversity: in 2007 nearly 170 languages were spoken in New York City and about 36 per cent of its population were born in a foreign country. Little Italy, Chinatown and Spanish Harlem are just a few examples of communities that represent the city's cultural diversity. In the 1980s New York City had a significant population growth caused by a new wave of immigration from Latin America, Asia, Jamaica, Haiti and Africa. Today most of New York's new immigrants still come from these countries.

*backdrop = *Hintergrund, Kulisse*



FINDING SYNONYMS

- With the help of text B1, find other words (= synonyms) for the underlined words.

1. The most popular borough of New York City is Manhattan.
most famous
2. Manhattan is often mistakenly used as another name for New York City.

3. About 1,300 kilometres of subway track guide the people through New York City.

4. The view of the city is dominated by tall buildings.

5. New York City is also famous for its ethnic variety.

6. About 36 per cent of New York's population were born in another country.

7. In the 1980s New York City had a population increase caused by a new wave of immigration.

