

## EXPERT WORD CARDS

(Green Cards)

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### 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, laws, flag, and boundaries. Most have their own army and collect 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 Spanish mission was a settlement built around a church to teach the local people about the Catholic faith. A mission contained living quarters, gardens, cooking and farming areas, and housed different types of animals.

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

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### Missionary

A missionary is a religious person who travels and tells others about their 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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### 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 part of the United States with the ability to make legal decisions for its defined area. A state has its own leaders, flag, and collects its own taxes.

*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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