

San Francisco

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San Francisco was **founded** in 1776 by **colonists** from Spain. It was a small, quiet town for several years, until January 24th 1848, when James W Marshall discovered gold in California. **Hundreds of thousands** of people rushed to California, all hoping to find gold and become rich, and many of them **settled** in San Francisco.



By 1900, San Francisco was a major city, with a population of over 300,000. But then, on

April 18th 1906 there was a huge **earthquake**. More than 3000 people died and **hundreds of thousands** of people became **homeless**.

Top three things to do in San Francisco:

Today, San Francisco is famous for its cultural life and also for its tech industry. Many important internet companies have their main offices in San Francisco.



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The Golden Gate Bridge is one of the most beautiful

bridges in the world. It is bright orange and 2.7 kilometres long. The **maintenance** work on the bridge is never complete – fifty-five people repair and paint the bridge every day.

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San Francisco has got 43 hills, so if you want to walk around the city, you will get very fit! But many people take the cable cars. Before the 1906 earthquake, there were more than 600 cable cars in San Francisco. Now there are only 44, and they aren't very fast – they travel

at 14 km per hour – but they're very popular! It costs \$7 to take a cable car anywhere in the city.

4 ____



On an island in San Francisco **bay**, there is an old prison called Alcatraz. It's now a museum, but from 1934 to 1963 it was America's most famous **maximum security** prison. One of the most famous prisoners at Alcatraz was 'The Birdman of Alcatraz'. He was a dangerous criminal but also an expert on birds.

- 1 Pracujcie w parach. Przeczytajcie tekst i połączcie poniższe nagłówki z odpowiednimi akapitami tekstu.

- A The unique travel!
- B The history of San Francisco
- C Visit a prison
- D Cross a bridge

- 2 Przeczytaj tekst ponownie i odpowiedz na pytania.

- 1 Why did people start coming to California after 1848?
- 2 What kinds of companies have their main offices in San Francisco?
- 3 How long is the Golden Gate Bridge?
- 4 How many cable cars were there in San Francisco before the earthquake?
- 5 Who was the 'Birdman of Alcatraz'?

Glossary:

- found** – założyć
- colonist** – osadnik
- settle** – osiedlić się
- earthquake** – trzęsienie ziemi
- hundreds of thousands** – setki tysięcy
- homeless** – bezdomny
- maintenance** – utrzymanie, konserwacja
- bay** – zatoka
- maximum security** – maksymalny nadzór



My turn

Napisz krótki tekst na temat swojego miasta lub kraju.

- 1 some important historical events
- 2 two or three interesting places for tourists to visit
- 3 the best way to travel around the city/country



Check your memory

Zakryj tekst i wybierz właściwe odpowiedzi.

- 1 Colonists from **Spain** / **Portugal** founded San Francisco in 1776.
- 2 More than **1000** / **3000** people died in the earthquake of 1906.
- 3 The Golden Gate Bridge is **red** / **orange**.
- 4 A trip on a cable car today costs **\$7** / **\$5**.
- 5 The prison at Alcatraz is now a **hotel** / **museum**.