

# LESSON 2 - Massachusetts

**PART 1:** Go to <http://www.usconsulate.org.hk/pas/kids/50states.htm> and [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) to collect general information about Massachusetts.

1. Locate the state of Massachusetts on the map.



2. What is the nickname of Massachusetts? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Where does the name "Massachusetts" come from?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Go to [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) and find out when Massachusetts became a state.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What is the capital city of Massachusetts? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the motto of Massachusetts?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. How many inhabitants are there in Massachusetts? (Give an approximate figure.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

## PART 2: Important Events in the History of Massachusetts.

### a) The Abolitionist Movement

Go to <http://www.history.com/videos/abolition-and-the-underground-railroad> and watch the video up to 1:11.

Find the missing nouns and adjectives.

By the mid 1800s, America was a \_\_\_\_\_ nation. But much of the \_\_\_\_\_ had been made on the backs of \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ system, particularly in the South, had become increasingly \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of it ate away at the heart of the country. After waging \_\_\_\_\_ with England for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, some people believed it was \_\_\_\_\_ to deny \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ had served in \_\_\_\_\_ and were petitioning for \_\_\_\_\_. White \_\_\_\_\_ societies agitated for \_\_\_\_\_ and by 1804, convinced Northern States to gradually phase out the practice. But the South resisted. Their thriving economy was dependent on \_\_\_\_\_. Stirred by agitation among black \_\_\_\_\_ and a zealous \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_, the Abolitionist Movement grew. Some activists wanted a gradual end to \_\_\_\_\_, others began to take risks.

### b) The Underground Railroad

Go to <http://www.history.com/videos/abolitionists-and-the-underground-railroad>, watch the video, then answer the questions.

- Complete the following sentences.
  - In the 1830s a slave is considered \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Helping a slave is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Which industry is mentioned in the documentary?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- True or False?

The Underground Railroad was an ordinary railroad system with ordinary trains.

True.       False.

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4. What was the preferred destination and why?

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5. What did fugitive slaves risk? (4 things)

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6. True or False?

The people working on the Underground Railroad did not know the entire itinerary.

True.       False.

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The Underground Railroad was extremely well-organized.

True.       False.

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7. When did the Underground Railroad end? What brought its end?

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## GRAMMAR POINT 1: The Pluperfect.

Observe the following examples and deduce the rules!

*By the mid 1800s, America was a prosperous young nation. But much of the wealth had been made on the backs of slaves during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.*

*During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, some people thought that the slavery system had become increasingly inhuman. They found it hypocritical to deny rights to African Americans since Blacks had served in the Revolutionary Army.*

## REMEMBER!

'*had been made*', '*had become*', '*had served*'

> This tense is called the *pluperfect* (or *past perfect*)

**Formation** \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_  
1) \_\_\_\_\_  
2) \_\_\_\_\_

The *pluperfect* is used to talk about:

- a single action in the past.
- an action that took place before another action in the past.
- an action that started in the past with consequences in the present.

### Time to practise!

Choose the right tense for the verbs in brackets.

**Tip:** Look at the chronological order of the actions! Then use the pluperfect for the first action, and the past simple for the second action.

- a) The burglars \_\_\_\_\_ (already leave) the house when the police \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive).
- b) She suddenly \_\_\_\_\_ (realise) that she \_\_\_\_\_ (forget) her shopping list.
- c) \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ (do) your homework when your mother \_\_\_\_\_ (come) home from work?
- d) We \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) the cookies we \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) at the supermarket.

e) I \_\_\_\_\_ (know) I \_\_\_\_\_ (see) her somewhere before.

But where?

f) When we \_\_\_\_\_ (ask) her what \_\_\_\_\_ (happen), she \_\_\_\_\_ (start) to cry.

g) After they \_\_\_\_\_ (visit) the Tower of London, they \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to see Buckingham Palace.

h) After I \_\_\_\_\_ (wash) the curtains, I \_\_\_\_\_ (clean) the windows.

i) He \_\_\_\_\_ (ask) me for her telephone number before he \_\_\_\_\_ (phone) her.

j) When we \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive) at the stadium, the match \_\_\_\_\_ (already start).

k) They \_\_\_\_\_ (go) for a walk after it \_\_\_\_\_ (stop) raining.

### **PART 3: Things to see or do in Massachusetts.**

#### **a) Harvard University**

**Watch the video: <http://www.universitiesinboston.com/>. Then, answer the following questions.**

1. Where is Harvard University located?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How old is Harvard University?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How many students were there at the beginning? How many students are there now? Go to <http://www.news.harvard.edu/guide/content/history-harvard-university> to find out! (Read the first paragraph only.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is Harvard University's motto?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What colour is associated with Harvard?

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6. How many American Presidents graduated from Harvard?

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Go to [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Presidents\\_of\\_the\\_United\\_States\\_by\\_education](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Presidents_of_the_United_States_by_education) and write down the names of 4 famous Presidents of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries who graduated from Harvard.

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

7. Why is the statue of John Harvard a popular attraction?

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## b) Stellwagen Bank

**Answer the following questions.**

1. What is Stellwagen Bank?

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2. Where is it located?

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3. How big is it?

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4. Why is it an important place? What role has it played in the history of the United States? (Focus on the following passage: 00:38 - 01:00)

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5. How many people visit Stellwagen Bank?

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6. When was the importance of Stellwagen Bank recognized?

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7. What has happened to Stellwagen Bank over the years? (Focus on the following passage: 01:38 - 01:56)

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8. What can be said about the future of Stellwagen Bank?

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If you want to know more about Stellwagen Bank, go to <http://stellwagen.noaa.gov/about/historicuse.html>.

If you want to see more videos on Stellwagen Bank, go to <http://www.youtube.com/user/SBNMS>.

### GRAMMAR POINT 2: Present Perfect.

Observe the following sentences and choose the correct answers.

Sentence 1: *In 1992, the United States recognized the importance of Stellwagen Bank.*

Sentence 2: *The waters of Stellwagen Bank have given food to the American people for more than 400 years.*

Sentence 1 refers to:

- a precise moment in the past.  
 an action that started in the past and is still continuing in the present.

Sentence 2 refers to:

- a precise moment in the past.  
 an action that started in the past and is still continuing in the present.

Which tense is used in Sentence 1? \_\_\_\_\_

The tense used in Sentence 2 is called the *present perfect*.

It is composed of \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_.

## REMEMBER!

We use the *present perfect* to ...

- talk about an **experience without telling when it happened**

ex: *I've (have) eaten kangaroo. Have you?*

*I've been to the United States but I've never been to Australia.*

**Note:** *Kate is on holiday. She has gone to the United States.*

> She is in the United States now.

*Tom is back in England now. He has been to France.*

> Tom was in France but now he is in England.

- talk about a **recent event / situation** with '*just*'

ex: *We have just bought a plane ticket to the States!*

- talk about things you have **already** done or **not done yet**

ex: *I have **already** visited the Empire State Building but I haven't visited the Statue of Liberty **yet**.*

Time to practise!

**Exercise 1:** Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the present perfect.  
Underline the clues!

1. Our cousins from Texas \_\_\_\_\_ (come) to stay with us last week.
2. When she was a child, my mother \_\_\_\_\_ (spend) her summer holidays in Florida.
3. You can't see him now - he \_\_\_\_\_ (go) out.
4. They \_\_\_\_\_ (leave) early yesterday morning.
5. I \_\_\_\_\_ (never meet) any celebrities.
6. I \_\_\_\_\_ (travel) a lot in my life, but I don't know the USA at all.
7. They \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to California 5 years ago.
8. My plane \_\_\_\_\_ (not arrive) yet.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ (you take) some pictures last weekend?
10. When \_\_\_\_\_ (Columbus discover) America?
11. \_\_\_\_\_ (you see) Mr Jackson yet?  
Yes, I \_\_\_\_\_ (speak) to him a few minutes ago.

Observe the following sentences and choose the correct answers.

**HOW LONG** have the waters of Stellwagen Bank given food to the American people?

Sentence 1: 'The waters of Stellwagen Bank have given food to the American people for more than 400 years.'

Sentence 2: 'The waters of Stellwagen Bank have given food to the American people since the 17<sup>th</sup> century.'

We use **for** when we refer to:

- the starting point of the action.
- the period of time between the beginning of the action and now.

We use **since** when we refer to:

- the starting point of the action.
- the period of time between the beginning of the action and now.

**Time to practise!**

**Exercise 2: a) 'for' or 'since'?**

1. It has been there \_\_\_\_ 1995.
2. It has been there \_\_\_\_ last Monday.
3. It has been there \_\_\_\_ she called.
4. It has been there \_\_\_\_ January.
5. It has been there \_\_\_\_ five thirty.
6. It has been there \_\_\_\_ two months.
7. It has been there \_\_\_\_ three weeks.
8. It has been there \_\_\_\_ the end of the war.
9. It has been there \_\_\_\_ three centuries.
10. It has been there \_\_\_\_ ten minutes.
11. It has been there \_\_\_\_ last month.
12. It has been there \_\_\_\_ I was born.

**b) Write sentences about how long these situations have existed. (Take the year and the month we are in as a reference and use the verbs given in brackets.)**

1. America became independent in 1776. (be)

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2. My American penpal and I met each other online two months ago. (know)

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3. They moved to Washington D.C. in 2005. (live)

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4. The light bulb was invented by Thomas Edison in 1879. (exist)

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## PART 4: Norman Rockwell.

### Norman Rockwell

Norman Rockwell was an American painter and illustrator whose works presented a sentimental idealized view of everyday life.

Norman Rockwell was born in New York City on February 3, 1894. At the age of 14, he enrolled in art classes at The New York School of Art. Two years later, in 1910, he left high school to study art at The National Academy of Design. He soon transferred to The Art Students League, where his discipline, hard work, and sense of humor were widely recognized.

Rockwell found success early. He painted his first commission, which consisted of four Christmas cards, before his sixteenth birthday. While still in his teens, he was hired as art director of *Boys' Life*, the official publication of the Boy Scouts of America, and began a successful freelance career illustrating a variety of young people's publications.

Rockwell's family moved to New Rochelle, New York when Norman was 21 years old and shared a studio with the cartoonist Clyde Forsythe, who worked for *The Saturday Evening Post*. With Forsythe's help, he submitted his first successful cover painting to the *Post* in 1916, *Mother's Day Off* (published on May 20).

In 1943, during the Second World War, Rockwell painted the *Four Freedoms* series, which was completed in seven months. The series was inspired by a speech by Franklin D. Roosevelt, in which he described four principles for universal rights: Freedom from Want, Freedom of Speech, Freedom to Worship, and Freedom from Fear. The paintings were published in 1943 by *The Saturday Evening Post*. The originals were then used by the United States Treasury in a 16 city tour seen by 1,222,000 people who purchased over \$133,000,000 in war bonds.

Rockwell married his first wife, Irene O'Connor, in 1916. However, the couple divorced in 1930. The following year he married schoolteacher Mary Barstow, with whom he had three children. In 1959, Mary Barstow Rockwell died unexpectedly of a heart attack. In 1961, Rockwell married Molly Punderson, a retired teacher.

In his later years, Rockwell began receiving more attention as a painter when he chose more serious subjects such as the series on racism for *Look* magazine.

Christopher Finch, author and art curator, wrote this about Norman Rockwell: "He is an American original who left his mark not by effecting radical change but rather by giving old subjects his own, inimitable inflection."

From 1953 until his death in 1978, Norman lived at Stockbridge, Massachusetts, where there is a museum devoted to him. In 2008, Rockwell was named the official state artist of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, thanks to a dedicated effort from students in Berkshire County, where Rockwell lived for the last 25 years of his life.

(Adapted from <http://www.lucidcafe.com/library/96feb/rockwell.html>, <http://www.nrm.org/about-2/about-norman-rockwell/>, and [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norman\\_Rockwell](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norman_Rockwell))

**True or False? Quote the text to justify your answer.**

1. Norman Rockwell had a negative view on life in general.

True.             False.

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2. His teachers liked him very much.

True.             False.

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3. Norman Rockwell became successful immediately.

True.             False.

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4. Some of his paintings were used to collect money for the war.

True.             False.

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5. Norman Rockwell got married twice.

True.             False.

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6. At the end of his career he started to illustrate the problems in American society.

True.             False.

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7. Norman Rockwell revolutionized the world of art.

True.             False.

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## GRAMMAR POINT 3: Relative Pronouns.

### a) Observe the following sentences and deduce the rules.

Norman Rockwell was an American painter and illustrator whose works presented a sentimental idealized view of everyday life.

He transferred to The Art Students League, where his discipline, hard work, and sense of humor were widely recognized.

Rockwell's family moved to New Rochelle, New York when Norman was 21 years old and shared a studio with the cartoonist Clyde Forsythe, who worked for *The Saturday Evening Post*.

In 1943, during the Second World War, Rockwell painted the *Four Freedoms* series, which was completed in seven months.

[in 1931] he married schoolteacher Mary Barstow, with whom he had three children.

WHERE refers to	•	• a person or people
WHICH (also THAT) refers to	•	• a place
WHO / WHOM refers to	•	• a possessive adjective
WHOSE is used in place of	•	• an object

### b) More about relative pronouns!

- **WHO, THAT / WHICH** can be subjects or objects of the verb in the relative clause. When **WHO** or **THAT / WHICH** are objects of the verb in the relative clause, you can leave them out:

*The girl who(m) you want to meet is not here.*

→ *The girl  $\emptyset$  you want to meet is not here.*

*The cookies that your mother made were delicious.*

→ *The cookies  $\emptyset$  your mother made were delicious.*

- There are often PREPOSITIONS (*in, at, with, about, for ...*) in relative clauses.

*The girl to whom I want to talk is new in our school.*

*The film about which I told you is on TV tonight.*

But in informal spoken English, the relative pronoun is not used and the preposition is put at the end of the relative clause:

→ *The girl I want to talk to is new in our school.*

→ *The film I told you about is on TV tonight.*

- You can use **WHAT** in a relative clause to talk about *the thing(s) that...*
  - *Did you hear what he said? (= the words that he said)*
  - *What they saw really scared them. (= the thing(s) that they saw)*

- You can use **WHY** (or you leave it out) when you say *the reason why something happened*.

→ I don't know *the reason (why) she left him*.

- In the following sentences the relative clauses give us **extra information** about the person or thing. Commas (,) are used at the beginning and at the end of the clause.

*Kate's mother, who is 42, is German.*

*This hotel, which was built last year, is quite expensive. (you CANNOT use that)*

- We use **WHICH** to refer to a whole sentence.

*Tom passed his exam. This surprised everybody.*

→ *Tom passed his exam, which surprised everybody.*

### c) Time to practise!

#### **Exercise 1: WHO and THAT as subject and object.**

(Write the relative in brackets () if you can leave it out.)

- The restaurant \_\_\_\_\_ you like so much closed down last week.
- Emily is the only person \_\_\_\_\_ understands me.
- The thief \_\_\_\_\_ the police arrested a week ago escaped from prison this morning.
- The dress \_\_\_\_\_ she bought me was too big.
- I can't remember the name of the man \_\_\_\_\_ invented the telephone.
- This is the dog \_\_\_\_\_ bit my little sister.
- My parents bought a car \_\_\_\_\_ they found too small afterwards.
- I'll give you the DVDs \_\_\_\_\_ I have already watched.
- The new neighbour \_\_\_\_\_ I met yesterday is really friendly.
- The tennis player \_\_\_\_\_ took drugs was suspended.

#### **Exercise 2: Make one sentence using a relative pronoun.**

- A scientist discovered a new planet. He has won the Nobel Prize.

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- I went to a party. It was very boring.

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- We watched a film. It was very sad.

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4. A man was injured in the accident. He is now in hospital.

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5. One of my friends helped me to get a summer job. His father is the manager of a restaurant.

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6. He left without saying goodbye. I found this unacceptable.

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7. My uncle has gone into hospital for some tests. His health has not been excellent recently.

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8. My passport is no longer valid. It means I can't go with you to the United States.

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**Exercise 3: Prepositions in relative clauses.**

Complete each sentence with the correct relative pronoun, then rewrite it with the preposition at the end of the relative clause.

Ex: The person *on* \_\_\_\_\_ I counted did not come.

→ The person *on* **whom** I counted did not come.

→ The person I counted **on** did not come.

1. The bed in \_\_\_\_\_ I slept was too hard.

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2. The girl about \_\_\_\_\_ he was talking is my cousin.

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3. The book for \_\_\_\_\_ I was looking was not available.

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4. The people with \_\_\_\_\_ we went to Canada are really good friends.

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5. The painting at \_\_\_\_\_ you are looking was painted by Monet.

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6. The song to \_\_\_\_\_ you are listening was composed by my older brother.

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