**Quebec’s Independence** Quebec is an important part of Canada because a large part of Canadian industry is centered in Quebec. Many electronics and computer industries are based in the province. The people of Quebec and the rest of Canada share a history of cooperation and success. Most Canadians want to keep the French-speaking citizens as a part of Canada.
 Some people in Quebec want Quebec to be independent. These people are called separatists. They believe that Quebec cannot keep its French language and culture in a country where most people have English as their first language. The people have voted on the issue, but both times (1982 and 1995), they decided to remain a part of Canada. In fact, in 1995, the vote was very close – 49.4% voted to secede and 50.6% voted to stay a part of Canada.
 The government of Canada has passed several laws to help Quebec’s citizens preserve their language and culture. First they made Canada officially bilingual. That means that both the English and the French languages are used for government and business. Bilingual also means that many Canadians speak two languages. Canadian law guarantees the right to preserve one’s cultural heritage. Quebec has also been officially labeled a “distinct society” in Canada.
 In Quebec, French is the only official language. English may be used in advertising, but it must be placed after the French words, and it must be in a smaller size. Some in Quebec are happy with these changes. Others are not satisfied. They still believe that Quebec should be independent.

1. What does separatist mean?

People who want to be independent from a community/group of people.

1. The goal of the independence movement was for Quebec to .

A. have its own monarch.

B. be an independent country.

C. become a part of France again.

D. make the rest of Canada become French-speaking.

1. Which is a way of protecting the language and culture of Quebec?

A. Businesses must be bilingual in Quebec

B. French is the official language of Quebec

C. The Canadian government prints laws only in French

D. Quebec’s citizens have been ordered to learn English

1. Do you think Quebec should be independent, why or why not?

Answers will vary . . . Support with facts.