GEOG 251
Geography of the United States and Canada

Term Project

Your term project is a report on a make-believe trans-continental journey by car across our study area. It should be at least 20 pages long (including maps and photos as described below). Text should be double-spaced in 12 point type. Your make-believe itinerary must conform to each of the following:

1. Your travel must begin in a large city on or near the Atlantic Coast (excluding the Gulf of Mexico) of the United States or Canada, and terminate in a large city on the Pacific Coast of either country.
2. Your entire journey may take place in the United States, but cannot be entirely limited to Canada.
3. Your itinerary must include portions of at least seven (7) regions of the United States and Canada as defined by the author of your textbook.
4. Your trip must include visits to at least five (5) major cities and five (5) national parks.

With respect to your actual paper/project:

5. With the aid of your road atlas, include in your report at least four (4) maps that visually depict your itinerary. The first map should be a general map of North America and show your entire route, as well as the major cities and national parks you visited. The other maps should show smaller segments of your itinerary in much greater detail including roads and route numbers, and points of interest. Together, the smaller segments should depict your entire trip.
6. Include one photograph taken in each region included in your itinerary. Your photos will be evaluated on the extent to which they capture the essence of their respective regions.
7. The regions should serve as the major headings/divisions of your paper.
8. As is the case in your textbook, the maps and photographs should be consecutively numbered (i.e. Figure 1, Figure 2, etc.). Each should have a title.
9. Your maps and photos should be incorporated into the text rather than appended.
10. The narrative should combine objective description with make-believe. Thus, it should describe the places you visited, things that you did, people you met, etc. during your trip.
11. The narrative should begin with a general overview and then proceed with a sequential (start to finish) recounting of your travels. Your grade will largely be based on how well you followed directions, your paper’s overall content and organization, the quality of your writing, and the extent to which you make it sound like you really did take the trip you are describing.