In 1969, Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau gave a speech describing what it was like to have the United States as a neighbour:

> Living next to you is in some ways like living next to an elephant. No matter how friendly and even-tempered the beast, one is affected by every twitch and grunt.

This speech is generally referred to foreign policy matters but the analogy could be applied to matters of culture and identity as well.

Write a three paragraph analysis of Prime Minister Trudeau’s quotation (for more information use your Counterpoints textbook, pages 146-147, also use the informational handouts for information.)

In the first paragraph explain, in your own words, what Trudeau meant by sleeping with an elephant. In the second paragraph provide three examples that suggest Trudeau’s comparison is accurate (valid). In other words, give three examples of things that the American government has done that have had an impact on Canadian culture and identity. The three examples could be from any time before or during Trudeau’s time as Prime Minister. In the third paragraph, explain ways that the Canadian government has tried to “tame” the elephant, i.e., to protect Canadian culture and identity from its twitches and grunts.
A CHANGING CANADIAN SOCIETY