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**Australia**

**GEOGRAPHY**

**HISTORY**

**LANGUAGE**

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У посібнику подано географічні відомості про Австралію, стисло викладено основні історичні події, що відбулися в Австралії з найдавніших часів і досі та наведено відомості про етапи розвитку мови, які дозволяють простежити її трансформацію.

Книга адресована студентам, які опановують англійську мову як другу спеціальність, учням старших класів ліцеїв та гімназій з поглибленим вивченням англійської мови і усім, хто цікавиться питаннями мови та історії Австралії.

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**PREFACE**

A young, peaceful and powerful country, Australia has always enchanted and drawn attention of both researchers and immigrants. Its remoteness from the civilized world, diverse geography and history were the key stones and major factors of formation of unique culture and original Australian English.

The aim of the book is to help teachers and students of English understand better the factors that influenced the development of Australia and led to the formation of the Australian English language.

The book contains different tasks and exercises, which can be used at the lessons of English Country Studies. It is possible to integrate History of English into these lessons and thus give the students an opportunity to understand the interconnection of these subjects.

Each unit is dedicated to a particular theme and provides tasks for different levels. Exercises may be used as separate sources of information, for warming-up activity, for testing students’ knowledge, for making the lessons brighter. Their main aim is to draw students’ attention to the necessary details and help them remember these details better.

The units of the book contain:

* Main facts and dates from the history and geography of the country.
* Maps, schemes, tasks and exercises on the given topic.
* Cultural focus.
* Language focus.

**The facts and dates from the history of Australia** are picked out to focus students’ attention on the main events of the period.

**Maps and schemes** give the students an opportunity to expand the exploration of the material.

**Tasks and exercises** are designed to help the students memorize the given material better.

**Cultural Focus** is to give the students an opportunity to trace the connection between history and modern life in related areas.

**Language Focus** helps to see the peculiarities and changes of Australian English at different periods.

**AUSTRALIA BASIC FACTS**



**Official name:** Commonwealth of Australia

**Founded:** 1788

**Administrative division:** 6 states and 2 territories

**Population (2011 est.):** 22,682,752

**Land area:** 7,682,300 sq km

**Ethnic groups:**white 92%, Asian 7%, aboriginal and other 1%

**Principal languages:** English (80%), Chinese (2.1%), Italian (1.9%), Vietnamese (1.7%) and Greek (1.4%).

**Chief religions:** 64% of the population claim adherence to the Christian faith. 18.7% of Australians declare "no-religion". The remaining population is a diverse group that includes fast-growing Islamic and Buddhist communities.

[**Capital:**](http://www.infoplease.com/cgi-bin/id/A0855603) Canberra

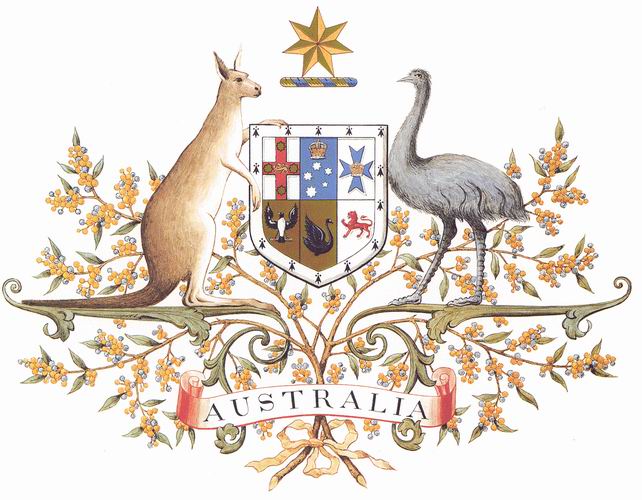
**Head of State:** the Sovereign (Queen Elizabeth II (from 1952)).

**Head of government:** the Prime Minister.

**Type of government:** Constitutional monarchy: democratic, federal-state system.

**National Emblems**

The **flag of Australia** is a [defaced](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Defacement_(flag)) Blue Ensign: a blue field with the Union Flag in the canton (upper hoist quarter), and a large white seven-pointed star known as the Commonwealth Star in the lower hoist quarter. The [fly](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_terminology#Description_of_standard_flag_parts_and_terms) contains a representation of the Southern Cross constellation, made up of five white stars – one small five-pointed star and four, larger, seven-pointed stars.

The **coat of arms of Australia** (formally known as **Commonwealth Coat of Arms**) is the official symbol of [Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia). The initial [coat of arms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coat_of_arms) was granted by King Edward VII on 7 May 1908, and the current version was granted by King George V on 19 September 1912, although the 1908 version continued to be used in some contexts, notably appearing on the [sixpenny coin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sixpence_(Australian)) until 1966.

The [shield](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Escutcheon_(heraldry)) is the focal point of the coat of arms, contained within is the badge of each Australian state. In the top half, from left to right, the states represented are: New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland. In the bottom half, from left to right: South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania. Above the shield is the seven-pointed “Commonwealth Star” or “Star of Federation” above a blue and gold wreath, forming the [crest](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crest_(heraldry)). Six of the points on the star represent the original six states, while the seventh point represents the combined territories and any future states of Australia. In its entirety the shield represents the [federation of Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federation_of_Australia).

**National Anthem: “Advance Australia Fair”**

*Australians all let us rejoice,  
For we are young and free;  
We’ve golden soil and wealth for toil;  
Our home is girt by sea;  
Our land abounds in nature’s gifts  
Of beauty rich and rare;  
In history’s page, let every stage  
Advance Australia Fair.*

*In joyful strains then let us sing,  
Advance Australia Fair.*

*Beneath our radiant Southern Cross  
We’ll toil with hearts and hands;  
To make this Commonwealth of ours  
Renowned of all the lands;  
For those who’ve come across the seas  
We’ve boundless plains to share;  
With courage let us all combine  
To Advance Australia Fair.*

*In joyful strains then let us sing,  
Advance Australia Fair.*

**UNIT 1. GEOGRAPHICAL SURVEY**



**Pre-reading activities.**

**Brainstorming. *Study the map of Australia and answer the following questions:***

1. What are the main geographic peculiarities of the region?
2. What parts of Australia are mountainous?
3. What are the main rivers in Australia?
4. What are its main islands?
5. What seas and oceans is Australia washed by?
6. What can you say about the climate of the country?

**1. Physical Structure, Relief and Climate**

Australia, nicknamed the "Land Down Under", is a country, an island, and a continent. It is located in the Southern Hemisphere in Oceania between the Indian Ocean and the South Pacific Ocean. It is the world's smallest continent and the [sixth largest country](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_and_outlying_territories_by_total_area) with a total area of 7,686,850 square kilometres (including Lord Howe Island and Macquarie Island), making it slightly smaller than the contiguous 48 states of the United States and 31.5 times larger than the United Kingdom.

The [geography](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography) of Australia encompasses a variety of [biogeographic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biogeography) regions. The population of Australia is concentrated along the eastern and southeastern coasts. The geography of the country is diverse, ranging from the [snow](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snow) capped [mountains](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mountains) of the Australian Alps and Tasmania to [deserts](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deserts), tropical and temperate forests.

With no land borders, it has the largest ocean jurisdiction of any country on earth. The northernmost points of the country are the Cape York Peninsular of Queensland and the Top End of the Northern Territory. The neighbouring countries of Australia are East Timor and Papua New Guinea and Indonesia in the north, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and the French dependency of New Caledonia in the east, New Zealand in the southeast.

The western half of Australia consists of the Western Plateau, which is generally flat, though broken by various mountain ranges such as the Hamersley Range, the McDonnell Ranges, and the Musgrave Range. Surface water is generally lacking in the Western Plateau, although there are several larger rivers in the west and north, such as the Murchison, Ashburton, and Victoria River.

The Eastern Highlands, or Great Dividing Range, lie near the eastern coast of Australia, separating the relatively narrow eastern coastal plain from the rest of the continent. These Eastern Australian temperate forests have the greatest relief, the most rainfall, the most abundant and varied flora and fauna, and the densest human settlement.

Between the Eastern Highlands and the Western Plateau lie the Central Lowlands, which are made up of the Great Artesian Basin and Australia's largest river systems, Murray-Darling Basin and Lake Eyre Basin.

The state of Tasmania, a large and mountainous island, resides in the south-eastern corner of Australia.

Off the eastern coast of Australia is the world's largest coral reef complex, the Great Barrier Reef, which is considered one of the wonders of the natural world. The combination of glorious weather, pristine rainforest, white sandy beaches, and the ocean makes this place the desirable destination for tourists. The area abounds with wildlife, varieties of dolphins and whales, more than 1500 species of fish, 400 types of mollusk and more than 200 species of bird. The Great Barrier Reef system consists of more than 3000 reefs which range in size from 1 hectare to over 10,000 hectares in area. The reef is scattered with beautiful islands and idyllic coral cays and covers more than 300, 000 square kilometers.

Australia is a land of vast plains. Only 6 percent of the island continent is above 600 metres in elevation. Australia is the lowest, flattest, and oldest continental landmass on Earth. Its highest peak is Mount Kosciuszko at 2,228 metres, which is relatively low in comparison to the highest mountains on other continents.

Australia is situated in the middle of the tectonic plate, and therefore currently has no active volcanism. Minor earthquakes which produce no damage occur regularly, while major earthquakes measuring greater than magnitude 6 occur on average every five years. Fully one-third of its area is occupied by desert, another third is steppe or semidesert, and only in the north, east, southeast and southwest is the precipitation adequate to support vegetation. Tasmania and the [Australian Alps](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Alps) do not contain any permanent [ice fields](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Icefields) or [glaciers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glaciers), although they may have existed in the past.

***Task 1. Comprehension Check.***

1. Where is Australia situated?
2. It is a very large country, isn’t it? Support your answers with the facts.
3. What are the most populated regions of Australia? Why?
4. What is the geography of Australia like?
5. Why does it not have any land borders?
6. Which countries does it border on?
7. Why is the [Great Barrier Reef](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Barrier_Reef) considered the desirable destination for tourists?

***Rivers and Lakes***

Because much of Australia's interior is arid, the low average annual rainfall means interior rivers are often dry and lakes empty. Flood events drastically alter the dry environment of central Australia.

Permanently flowing rivers are found only in the eastern and southwestern regions and in Tasmania. The major exception is the Murray River, a stream that rises in the Mount Kosciuszko area in the Eastern Highlands and is fed by melting snows.

The Great Artesian Basin is an important source of [water](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water), the world’s largest and deepest fresh water [basin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drainage_basin). Access to water from the basin has led to the expansion of grazing into areas that were previously far too dry for livestock.

Towns and cities across the country sometimes face major water storage and usage crisis in which restrictions and other measures are implemented to reduce water [consumption](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consumption_(economics)).

A map of Australia can be misleading. Though many “lakes” are depicted in the interior, the fact is that many of them are now salt lakes that contain no water for years.

“Billabongs” is the Australian name given to [oxbow lakes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxbow_lake) that can form along a meandering river’s course.

***Task 2. Explain the following notions:***

average annual rainfall

interior rivers

permanently flowing rivers

water storage and usage crisis

salt lakes

billabongs

***Task 3. Speak about rivers and lakes of Australia using the following words and word-combinations:***

interior rivers, flood events, dry environment, permanently flowing rivers, the Murray River, the Great Artesian Basin , water storage and usage crisis, water [consumption](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consumption_(economics)), salt lakes, [billabongs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billabong).

***Climate***

Australia contains most climatic zones found throughout the world. The most distinctive of them are equatorial, tropical, subtropical, desert, mediterranean and temperate. By far the largest part of Australia is [desert](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desert) or [semi-arid](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semi-arid) – 40% of the landmass is covered by [sand dunes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sand_dune). A total of 18% of Australia’s mainland is [desert](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deserts_of_Australia). Only the south-east and south-west corners have a temperate climate and moderately fertile soil. The northern part of the country has a tropical climate: part is tropical [rainforests](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rainforest), part grasslands, and part desert.

Rainfall is highly variable, with frequent [droughts](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drought_in_Australia) lasting several months. Occasionally a dust storm will blanket a region or even several states and there are reports of the occasional large [tornado](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tornado). Rising levels of [salinity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salinity) and desertification in some areas is ravaging the landscape.

Australia's tropical/subtropical location and cold waters off the western coast make most of western Australia a hot desert with aridity, a marked feature of the greater part of the continent.

***Task 4. Match the climatic zone with its description.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Climatic zone** | **Description** |
| equatorial | This type of climate is found in central Australia. The summers are very hot and dry while the winters are cool and dry. Due to scanty rainfall only brush and scrub is to be seen and there are no signs of trees for miles together. |
| tropical | This type of climate is found at the northeastern tip of the Australian continent. The climate is hot throughout the year with heavy rainfall equally distributed in all months of the year and high relative humidity throughout the year. Since only season is that of summer, the climate is a monotonous one. |
| subtropical | This climate exists in the southeastern part of the continent of Australia and on the Island of Tasmania. This type of climatic zone has no extremes of temperatures. The winters are cool and the summers warm. The rainfall is uniform through out the year. The climate is the most pleasant climate of whole of Australia. The famous city of Sydney is situated in this climatic zone. |
| mediterranean | This type of climate is found in the southwestern part of Australia. It resembles the weather found in the areas located near the Mediterranean sea in the Northern Hemisphere. The winters are cool and rainy and the summers are hot and very dry indeed. |
| temperate | This type is found in northwestern and northern Australia. The winters are dry and cool while summers are hot and wet. This part of Australia also receives monsoonal rains in the summer season (from November to March). |
| desert | This type of climate is found in southeastern and western Australia. The winters are relatively warm-mild, but not as hot as the summer season. This climate rarely—if ever—sees frost or snow and plants such as palm, citrus and many [broadleaf](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Broadleaf) [evergreens](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evergreen) flourish. |

***Flora and Fauna***

Australia’s isolation for more than 55 million years has created a unique sanctuary of animals and plants found nowhere else in the world. It is home to many unique and fascinating animals. Both [geologic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geology_of_Australia) and climatic events helped to make Australia's fauna unique.

The fauna of Australia consists of a huge variety of animals. Some 83% of mammals, 89% of reptiles, 90% of fish and insects and 93% of [amphibians](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amphibian) that inhabit the continent are [endemic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endemism) to Australia. A unique feature of Australia's fauna is the relative scarcity of native [placental](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Placentalia) mammals. Most of them are marsupials, which means their young are born blind and bald and they complete their development in their mothers’ pouches. They include the[macropods](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macropodidae), [possums](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Possum) and [dasyuromorphs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dasyuromorphia). One of Australia's best-known marsupials, the koala is an arboreal species that feeds on the leaves of various species of eucalyptus.

Australian koala bear

Australia hosts a really interesting group, the monotremes, egg laying mammals that are often referred to as living fossils, like the platypus. The shy platypus is found only in eastern Australia, where they live on the edges of rivers and freshwater lakes where burrows can be dug.

Other representatives of this group are the short-beaked echidna and the wombat. Wombats live on the ground and feed on [grasses](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poaceae), [sedges](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyperaceae) and [roots](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Root). They use their rodent-like front teeth and powerful claws to dig extensive burrow systems; they are mainly [crepuscular](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crepuscular) and [nocturnal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nocturnal_animal). Wombats have been in Australia for more than 15 million years and are found in many parts there. 

short-beaked echidna

The short-beaked echidna is strange, covered in hairy spikes with a tubular snout in the place of a mouth, and a tongue that can move in and out of the snout about 100 times a minute to capture [termites](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Termite).

There are about 800 species of birds recorded in Australia, 300 of which are found nowhere else in the world. Among them is the kookaburra, lots of different parrots, hundreds of small fairy penguins, large flightless emu as well as a variety of water birds. Australian parrots comprise a sixth of the world’s parrots. The kookaburra is known for its call, which sounds uncannily like loud, echoing human laughter.

Laughing kookaburra in Tasmania

The passerines of Australia, also known as songbirds or perching birds, include wrens, robins, the magpie group, thornbills, pardalotes, etc.

Relatively recent colonists from Eurasia are swallows, larks, thrushes, cisticolas, and sunbirds. A number of bird species have been introduced by humans. Some, like the European goldfish greenfinch, coexist happily with Australian species, while others, such as the common starling, common blackbird, house sparrow and Indian mynah, are destructive of some native bird species and thus destabilize the native ecosystem.

The settlement of Australia by Indigenous Australians between 48,000 and 70,000 years ago, and by Europeans from 1788, has significantly affected the fauna. Hunting, the introduction of non-native species, and land-management practices involving the modification or destruction of habitats have led to numerous extinctions. Some examples include the paradise parrot, pig-footed bandicoot and the broad-faced potoroo. Unsustainable land use still threatens the survival of many species. To target threats to the survival of its fauna, Australia has passed wide-ranging federal and state legislation and established numerous [protected areas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protected_areas_of_Australia).

Since human settlement many placental mammals have been introduced to Australia and are now feral. The first animal introduced to Australia was the dingo. 

Fossil evidence suggests that people from the north brought the dingo to Australia about 5000 years ago. When Europeans settled Australia they intentionally released many species into the wild including the red fox, brown hare, and the European rabbit. Other domestic species have escaped and over time have produced wild populations including the cat, fallow deer, red deer, samba deer, rusa deer, hog deer, domestic horse, donkey,  pig, domestic goat, water buffalo and the dromedary. Only three species of placental mammal were not deliberately introduced to Australia, the house mouse, black rat and the brown rat.

Forty-six marine mammals are found in Australian coastal waters. There are nine species of ballen whale present, including the humpback whale. There are 37 species of toothed whale and 21 species of oceanic dolphin. Eleven species of seal live off the southern coast.

Australia has four families of native frogs and one introduced [toad](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toad), the cane toad. In 1935 the cane toad was introduced to Australia in a failed attempt to control pests in [sugarcane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sugarcane) crops. It has since become a devastating pest, spreading across northern Australia. As well as competing with native insectivores for food, the cane toad produces a venom that is toxic to native fauna as well as to humans. The southern frogs are Australia's largest group of frogs with 112 species. A notable member of this group is the colourful and endangered corroboree frog.

As elsewhere, there has been a decline in Australia’s frog populations in recent years. Although the full reasons for the decline are uncertain, there is a theory for it. The research shows that species from the Southern Hemisphere are on average 4.6 million years old compared to an average 2.9 million years old for the Northern Hemisphere. Researchers believe this age difference is because of the history of severe Ice Ages in the Northern Hemisphere, which may drive older species to extinction.

Australia has two species of crocodile. The saltwater crocodile, known colloquially as the "salty," is the largest living crocodile species; reaching over 7 m, and weighing over 1,000 kg, they [can and do kill people](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crocodile_attacks_in_Australia). They live on the coast and in the freshwater rivers of northern Australia, and they are farmed for their meat and leather. [Freshwater Crocodiles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freshwater_Crocodile), found only in northern Australia, are not considered dangerous to humans.

The Australian coast is visited by six species of [sea turtle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheloniidae): the flatback, green sea, hawksbill, olive ridley, loggerhead and the leatherback sea turtles. There are 29 species of Australian freshwater turtles. The pig-nosed turtle is the bright representative of them. Australia is the only continent without any living species of land tortoise.

Australian snakes belong to seven families. Of these, the most venomous species are fierce snake, eastern brown snake, taipan and eastern tiger snake. There are 15 python species and 31 species of insectivorous blind snake.

There are more than 700 species of lizards in Australia.  The most of them, Dragon lizards, are represented by 70 species including the [Thorny Devil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thorny_Devil), [Bearded Dragon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bearded_Dragon) and [Frill-necked Lizard](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frill-necked_Lizard). The largest Australian monitor is the [Perentie](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perentie), which can reach up to 2 m in length.

Perentie in the wild

More than 4,400 species of fish inhabit Australia's waterways; of these, 90% are endemic. However, because of the relative scarcity of freshwater waterways, Australia has only about 300 species of freshwater fish. One of the smallest freshwater fish, peculiar to the southwest of Western Australia, is the salamanderfish, which can survive desiccation in the dry season by burrowing into mud.

Most of Australia's fish species are marine. Groups of interest include the moray eels and squrrelfish, as well as the pipefish and seahorses, whose males incubate their partner's eggs in a specialized pouch. There are 80 species of [grouper](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grouper) in Australian waters, including one of the world's biggest [bony fish](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osteichthyes), the [Giant Grouper](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giant_Grouper), which can grow as large as 2.7 m and weigh up to 400 kg.

There are several venomous fish, among them several species of [stonefish](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stonefish) and [pufferfish](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pufferfish) and the [red lionfish](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_lionfish), all of which have toxins that can kill humans. The [barracudas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barracuda) are one of the reef's largest species.

Sharks inhabit all the coastal waters and estuarine habitats of Australia's coast. Only 3 species of shark pose a significant threat to humans: the [bull shark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bull_shark), the [tiger shark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger_shark) and the [great white shark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_white_shark). The overfishing of sharks has also significantly reduced shark numbers in Australian waters, and several species are now endangered.

Of the estimated 200,000 animal species in Australia, about 96% are invertebrates. While the full extent of invertebrate diversity is uncertain, 90% of [insects](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insect) and [molluscs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mollusk) are considered endemic. Invertebrates occupy many ecological niches and are important in all ecosystems as decomposers, pollinators, and food sources. The largest group of invertebrates is the insects, comprising 75% of Australia's known species of animals. Introduced species that pose a significant threat to native species include the European wasp, the red fire ant, the yellow crazy ant and feral honeybees which compete with native bees.

Australia has a wide variety of arachnids, including 135 species of spider that are familiar enough to have common names. There are numerous highly venomous species, including the notorious Sydney funnel-web and redback spiders, whose bites can be deadly. There are thousands of species of mites and ticks. Australia also has eight species of pseudoscorpion and nine scorpion species.

There are many families of aquatic worms and native terrestrial [worms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Worm) in Australia including the world's largest earthworm, the [giant Gippsland earthworm](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giant_Gippsland_earthworm), found only in [Gippsland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gippsland), [Victoria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_(Australia)). On average they reach 80 cm in length, but specimens up to 3.7 m in length have been found.

There has been found 124 species of Australian freshwater crayfish. These include the world’s smallest crayfish, the swamp crayfish, which does not exceed 30 mm in length, and the world's largest crayfish, the Tasmanian giant freshwater crayfish, measuring up to 76 cm long and weighing 4.5 kg.

A huge variety of marine invertebrates are found in Australian waters, with the Great Barrier Reef an important source of this diversity. Families include sea sponges, jellyfish, corals, sea stars, brittle stars, sea cucumbers, lamp shells and the Mollusca (snails, slugs, limpets, squid, octopus, cockles, oysters). Venomous invertebrates include the box jellyfish, the blue-ringed octopus and ten species of cone snail, which can cause respiratory failure and death in humans. The crown-of-thorns starfish usually inhabits the Reef at low densities. However, under conditions that are not yet well understood, they can reproduce to reach an unsustainable population density when coral is devoured at a rate faster than it can regenerate. This presents a serious reef management issue.

There are many unique marine crustaceans in Australian waters. The warm waters of northern Australia are home to many species of crabs, false crabs, hermit crabs, lobsters, shrimps and prawns. Notable species include the Tasmanian giant crab, the second largest crab species in the world, found in deep water, and weighing up to 13 kg, and the Australian spiny lobsters, such as the Western rock lobster, which are distinct from other lobsters species as they do not have claws.

Introduction of exotic fauna in Australia by design, accident and natural processes has led to a considerable number of invasive, feral and pest species which have flourished and now impact the environment adversely. Introduced organisms affect the environment in a number of ways. Rabbits render land economically useless by eating everything. Red foxes affect local endemic fauna by predation while the cane toad poisons the predators by being eaten. The invasive species include birds (Indian mynah) and fish (common carp), insects (red imported fire ant) and molluscs (Asian mussel). The problem is compounded by invasive exotic flora as well as introduced diseases, fungi and parasites.

Costly, laborious and time-consuming efforts at control of these species has met with little success and this continues to be a major problem area in the conservation of Australia's biodiversity.

For at least 40,000 years, Australia's fauna played an integral role in the traditional lifestyles of Indigenous Australians, who exploited many species as a source of food and skins.

The impact of Aborigines on native species populations is widely considered to be less significant than that of the European settlers, whose impact on the landscape has been on a relatively large scale. Since European settlement, direct exploitation of native fauna, habitat destruction and the introduction of exotic predators and competitive herbivores has led to the extinction of some 27 mammal, 23 bird and 4 frog species.

Covered in rainforest and ferns 300 million years ago, Gondwana included South America, Africa, India and Antarctica. Most of Australia’s flora has its origin in Gondwana, which broke up about 140 million years ago.

Australia separated from Antarctica 50 million years ago. As it drifted away from the southern polar region, its climate became warmer and drier and new species of plants evolved and came to dominate the landscape.

Most of the Gondwanan forests were replaced by tough-leaved open forests of eucalypts and acacias. The eucalyptus is called the gum tree and it has been brought to other countries from Australia.

Some isolated remnants of the ancient Gondwanan forests remain. These include the cool and warm temperate rainforests of Tasmania and eastern Australia and the dry rainforests or scrub forests of northern Australia. These forests have high conservation values.

In 1994, the Wollemi Pine was found in a remote valley in the Blue Mountains of New South Wales. It is believed to be representative of a now extinct group of trees that existed at the time of the dinosaurs, making it a species that has been around for 65 million years.

Plants in Australia include living fossils such as the cycad palm and the grass tree. A famous grass tree is important to the Aboriginal people who live where it grows. The flowering spike makes the perfect fishing spear. It is also soaked in water and the nectar from the flowers gives a sweet tasting drink. In the bush the flowers are used as a compass. This is because flowers on the warmer, sunnier side of the spike often open before the flowers on the cooler side facing away from the sun.



The plant was called a “blackboy” for many years as the trunk of the grass tree resembles an aboriginal boy holding a vertical spear. The term “blackboy” is now considered politically incorrect and “grass tree” has become universally accepted.

Wildflowers turn open country into a blaze of colour in spring and some of the best known are the Sturt’s desert pea, the waratah, banksias, kangaroo paw and the Christmas bush.

Grass Tree



**The kangaroo paw**

***Task 5. Match the groups and the species.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| marsupial mammals (pouched mammals) | crab, false crab, hermit crab, lobster, shrimp, prawn, Western rock lobster |
| egg laying mammals (living fossils) | wrens, robins, thornbills, pardalotes |
| passerines (perching birds) | European wasp, red fire ant, yellow crazy ant |
| placental mammals (eutherians) | ballen whale, humpback whale, toothed whale, oceanic dolphin, seal |
| marine mammals | koala, kangaroo, possums, opossums |
| invertebrates | sea sponge, jellyfish, coral, sea star, brittle star, sea cucumber, lamp shell |
| arachnids | platypus, short-beaked echidna, wombat |
| marine invertebrates | Sydney funnel-web, redback spider, mite |
| marine crustaceans | dingo, red fox, brown hare, European rabbit, house mouse, black rat, brown rat |

***Task 6. Comprehension Check.***

1. Why does Australia have unique flora and fauna?
2. What is unique about it? Give evidence.
3. What is the unique feature of Australia's fauna?
4. What are the major reasons of numerous [extinctions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extinction) of Australian species?
5. Which measures does Australian government take to protect the endangered species?
6. Which was the first animal introduced to Australia?
7. Give examples of the damage done by the introduced species?
8. Which Australian species are dangerous and deadly?
9. Which species impressed you most?
10. What was Gondwana? Which influence did it have on the formation of Australian flora?

**2. Landform Divisions**

The Australian continent is dominated by plains and low rises. Exceptions are found in the central parts of the continent, such as the Flinders Ranges, and along the margins, particularly the Eastern Highlands, of which Tasmania is an off-shore continuation. The margins, except in the south, are generally higher than the inland areas, giving the continent a saucer shape.

The Australian continental landmass consists of six distinct landform divisions. These are:

- the Eastern Highlands (including the Great Dividing Range, the fertile Brigalow Belt strip of grassland and the Eastern Uplands);

- the Eastern alluvial Plains and Lowlands (including Murray-Darling Basin, parts of the Lake Eyre Basin and the Gulf of Carpentaria);

-the South Australian Highlands (including the Flinders Range, Eyre Peninsula and Yorke Peninsula);

- the Western Plateau (including the Nullarbor Plain);

- the Central Deserts;

- Northern Plateau and Basins (including the Top End).

# *Eastern Highlands*

Eastern Highlands, 3,860 km long, is the general name for the mountains and plateaus roughly paralleling the east and southeast coasts of Australia (including Tasmania). This landform is a habitat of the greatest relief with highest rainfall and rich flora and fauna. Rugged, with many gorges and few gaps, the Eastern Highlands long hindered westward expansion of British settlement. The slopes are covered with eucalyptus forests. Rich in minerals, the highlands contain most of Australia's coalfields. Gold, copper, tin, oil, and natural gas are also extracted. The southern part of the region is a popular winter resort area. It is the place with densest human settlement. Major segments of the system are the Australian Alps, the New England Range, and the Blue Mountains.

***The Eastern alluvial Plains and Lowlands***

The alluvial Plains and Lowlands sprawls over the southeastern part of Australia. This landform is dominated by three major basins: the Carpentaria Basin, the Eyre Basin and the Murray Basin. It is a flat area lower than 100 m above the sea level. It is mostly covered by tropic forests and savannah with occasional creeks and rivers, which flow into Lake Eyre, Lake Torrens and Lake Gairdner (large lakes which become dry in the dry season). There are a lot of grasslands which were in the past used for cattle and sheep ranches.

***The South Australian Highlands***

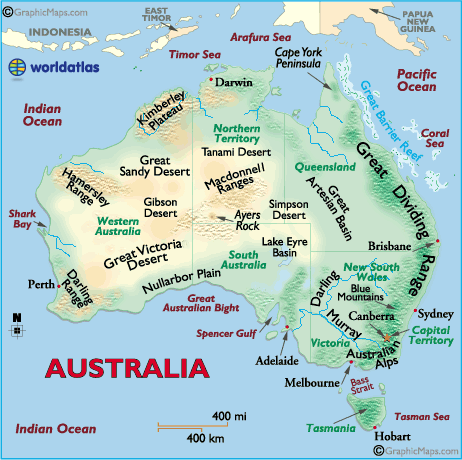
It encompasses the southern section of the uplands along the east coast of Eyre Peninsula. The uplands rise abruptly from a narrow coastal foreland to altitudes of between 200 m and 400 m but slope gradually to the west where they merge into the plain. The fauna is represented by low open forest or woodland or sugar gum, peppermint box and blue gum. The region has a great variety of views. There is a mild climate with a winter rainfall maximum and dry summers. Temperatures range from mild in summer to cool to cold in winter.

***The Western Plateau***

The Western Plateau incorporates two thirds of the continent; 2,700,000 square kilometres of arid land including large parts of [Western Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Australia), [South Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Australia), and the [Northern Territory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Territory). For comparison, it is roughly four times the size of Texas, or the same size as the whole of continental Europe from Poland west to Portugal.

Rain seldom falls in this region and aside from a handful of permanent waterholes, surface water is absent at all times except after heavy rain. Most of the territory is flat sandy or stony desert with a sparse covering of scrub or tussock grasses.

***The Central Deserts***



Australia is a very dry country. Despite the fact that its eastern coast and northern tropics are frequently flooded in rains, 70% of the country are deserts or semideserts. There are ten large deserts in Australia, the six of which lie in the central areas of Australia. The largest of them is the Great Victoria Desert, which covers huge areas of extensive sand hills, spinifex grasslands, and open [eucalypt](http://www.gondwananet.com/australian-gum-tree.html) woodlands in South Australia and Western Australia.

East of the Great Victoria Desert in north-eastern [South Australia](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-south-australia.html) are Strzelecki, Sturt Stony, Tirari, Pedirka and Simpson Deserts.

Simpson is the largest and most amazing one, consisting of the world's longest parallel sand dunes (e.g. Big Red). There are also Spinifex grasslands, shrublands, coolibah trees and many desert wildflowers. Some animals include the water holding frog, mulgara, skinks and spinifex hopping mouse. West of the Simpson Desert is Pedirka, east of it is Strzelecki, and south of it is Tirari Desert with the dry and salty Lake Eyre.



Big Red, Simpson Desert

***Northern Plateau and Basins***

This part of the country is a geographer’s dream landscape. From the dry rugged terrain of the red centre to the lush wetlands in the Top End, the land is as beautiful as it is ancient.

Almost all of Northern Australia is a huge ancient [craton](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Craton). This vast craton in the north and west contains a number of quite rugged mountain ranges, of which the highest are the McDonnel and Musgrave Ranges on the southern border of the Northern Territory. These rise to over 1,500 metres, but the most spectacular features are the deep gorges of rivers such as the Finke. Most of the craton, however, is distinctly flat.

The climate of the north of Australia ranges from [arid](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arid) in the south to monsoonal in the Top End and Kimberley. Temperatures in summer are generally unpleasantly hot.

The extreme soil poverty of most of Northern Australia has the effect of confining large herbivores such as the kangaroo to the better soil in the dry grasslands.

The many large rivers of the region such as the Mitchell, Gilbert-Einasleigh, South and East Alligator, Daly, Ord and Fitzroy support populations of the saltwater and freshwater crocodiles, which are by far the best-known animals of the region. There is also a number of species of python. Further south, where rivers are not adequate to support crocodiles, there exist a number of quite unique lizard species.

The Wet Tropics, like all tropical rainforests, is very rich in unique species, and importantly contains some of the most primitive flowering plants in the world. Massive areas of lush tropical rainforest make the Northern Territory seem like the most diverse landscape in the world.

***CULTURAL FOCUS: National Parks of Australia***

**Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park**

The park is situated in the Northern Territory of Australia. It covers 2010 km2 and includes the features it is named after – Uluru / Ayers Rock and 40 kilometres to its west Kata Tjuta / Mount Olga.

Uluru is Australia’s most recognisable natural icon and has become a focal point for Australia and the world's acknowledgement of Australian Indigenous culture.

Kata Tjuta, meaning ‘many heads’, is a very sacred men's place relating to knowledge that is considered very powerful and dangerous, only suitable for initiated men. It is made up of a group of 36 conglomerate rock domes that dates back 500 million years.

Anangu are the traditional [Aboriginal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_Australian) owners of Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. They believe that their culture has always existed in the Central Australian landscape and was created at the beginning of time by ancestral beings.  Uluru and Kata Tjuta provide physical evidence of feats performed during the creation period. As both Uluru and Kata Tjuta have great cultural significance for the Anangu traditional landowners, they often lead walking tours to inform visitors about the local flora and fauna, bush foods and the Aboriginals Dreamtime stories of the area.

The park supports some of the most unusual flora and fauna on the planet. Many of these have long been a valuable source of bush tucker and medicine for local Aboriginal people who recognise six [seasons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Season):

1. Piryakatu (August/September): animals breed and food plants flower.
2. Wiyaringkupai (October/November): the really hot season when food becomes scarce.
3. Itanju (January/February): sporadic storms can roll in suddenly.
4. Wanitjunkupai (March): cooler weather.
5. Tjuntalpa (April/May): clouds roll in from the south.
6. Wari (June/July): cold season bringing morning frosts.

Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park [flora](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flora) represents a large portion of plants found in [Central Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Australia). A number of these species are considered rare and endangered. Plants are an important part of [Tjukurpa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tjukurpa), and there are ceremonies for each of the major plant foods. Many plants are associated with [ancestral](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancestral) beings.

Flora in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park can be broken into the following categories:

* punu – trees;
* puti – shrubs;
* tjulpun-tjulpunpa – flowers;
* ukiri – grasses.

Historically 46 species of native [mammal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mammal) are known to have been living in the Uluru region; there are currently 21 according to recent surveys.

Anangu continue to hunt and gather animal species in remote areas of the Park and on Anangu land elsewhere. Hunting is largely confined to the red kangaroo, Australian bustard, emu and lizard such as the sand goanna and perentie.

The pressures exerted by introduced predators and herbivores on the original mammalian fauna of Central Australia were a major factor in the extinction of about 40% of the native species. Of the 27 [mammal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mammal) species found in the Park, six are introduced: the house mouse, camel, fox, cat, dog and rabbit.

Iconic birds of Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park include pied butcherbird, black breasted buzzard, black-faced woodswallow and crimson chat.

Fires have been a part of central [desert](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desert) land management for thousands of years and have shaped the landscape, survival of animals and patterns of [vegetation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vegetation). Controlled burning usually takes place during the winter months due to the cooler [weather](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Weather) while natural fires mostly occur in the early summer months. They are usually started by the lightning strikes of dry electrical storms from the north-west. Damage can be severe and widespread. Destructive bushfires burnt much of Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park.

**Kakadu National Park**

Kakadu National Park is located within the Alligator Rivers Region of the Northern Territory of Australia. It covers an area of 19,804 km2, extending nearly 200 kilometres from north to south and over 100 kilometres from east to west. It is the size of Slovenia, about one-third the size of Tasmania, or nearly half the size of Switzerland. The Ranger Uranium Mine, one of the most productive Uranium mines in the world, is contained within the park.

The name Kakadu comes from the mispronunciation of Gaagudju, which is the name of an Aboriginal language formerly spoken in the northern part of the Park.

Kakadu is ecologically and biologically diverse. The main natural features protected within the National Park include: four major river systems (the East Alligator River, the West Alligator River, the Wildman River and the South Alligator River) and a remarkable variety and concentration of wildlife (over 280 bird species, roughly 60 mammal species, over 50 freshwater species, over 10 000 insects species, over 1600 plant species).

Aboriginal people have occupied the Kakadu area continuously for at least 40 000 years. So Kakadu National Park is renowned for the richness of its Aboriginal cultural sites. There are more than 5000 recorded art sites illustrating Aboriginal culture over thousands of years. The archaeological sites demonstrate Aboriginal occupation for at least 20 000 and possibly up to 40 000 years.

The Aboriginal traditional owners of the Park are descendants of various clan groups from the Kakadu area. Their lifestyle has changed in recent years, but their traditional customs and beliefs remain very important. About 500 Aboriginal people live in the Park.

Most non-Aboriginal people really only refer to the rain and dry seasons, but Aboriginal people Bininj/Mungguy identify as many as six seasons in the Kakadu region:

- Gunumeleng - mid-October to late December, pre-monsoon storm season with hot weather and building thunderstorms in the afternoons;

- Gudjewg - from January to March, monsoon season with thunderstorms, heavy rain, and flooding; the heat and humidity generate an explosion of plant and animal life;

- Banggerreng - April, the "knock 'em down storm" season where floodwater recedes but violent, windy storms knock down grasses;

- Yegge - from May to mid-June, relatively cool with low humidity, the Aboriginal people historically started burning the woodlands in patches to 'clean the country' and encourage new growth for grazing animals;

- Wurrgeng - from mid-June to mid-August, the cold weather season with low humidity; most creeks stop flowing and the floodplains quickly dry out;

- Gurrung - from mid-August to mid-October, hot dry weather with ever shrinking [billabongs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billabong).

Kakadu's flora is among the richest in northern Australia with more than 1700 plant species recorded which is a result of the Park's geological, landform and habitat diversity. Kakadu is also considered to be one of the most weed free national parks in the world.

The distinctly different geographical areas of Kakadu have their own specialised flora. The [environment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_environment) referred to as ‘the Stone Country’ features ‘resurrection grasses’ that are able to cope with extreme heat. Lowland areas form a large proportion of Kakadu National Park and are mainly covered in eucalypt-dominated open woodland with the ground layer consisting of a large range of grasses including spear grass, sedges and wildflowers.

The diverse environments of Kakadu National Park support an astonishing array of animals, a number of which have adapted to particular habitats. Some animals in the Park are rare, [endangered](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endangered), vulnerable or [endemic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endemism). Responding to the extreme weather conditions experienced in the Park, many animals are active only at particular times of the day or night or at particular times of the year.

About 60 [mammal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mammal) species—marsupials and placental mammals — have been recorded in the Park. Most of them inhabit the open forest and woodlands and are nocturnal, making it difficult to see them. Others, such as wallabies and kangaroos are active in the cooler parts of the day and are easier to see.

Among the more common species are dingos, antilopine kangaroos, black wallaroos, agile wallabys, and short-eared rock wallabys. Smaller common mammals are northern quolls, brush-tailed phascogales, brown bandicoots, black-footed tree-rats, and black fruit bats.

Kakadu’s many habitats support more than 280 species of birds, or about one-third of Australia’s bird species.

Some 117 species of reptiles have been recorded in Kakadu. Being cold blooded, these animals rely on heat from an external source such as the sun to regulate their body temperature.

Two species of crocodile occur in Kakadu: the freshwater crocodile and the saltwater crocodile. The maximum size for a ‘freshie’ is 3 metres, whereas a ‘saltie’ can exceed 6 metres.

Despite the fact that Kakadu supports more than 10,000 species of insect, these creatures are often overlooked by visitors. The great variety of insects is a result of the varied habitats and relatively high temperatures throughout the year.

Speaking about the landscape Ubirr is worth mentioning. Ubirr is a group of rock outcrops in the northeast of the park. The art sites of [Ubirr](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ubirr), Burrunguy and Nanguluwur are internationally recognised as outstanding examples of Aboriginal rock art. These sites are found in rocky outcrops that have afforded shelter to Aboriginal inhabitants for thousands of years. The painting in these rock shelters were done for various reasons:

- hunting - animals were often painted to increase their abundance and to ensure a successful hunt by placing people in touch with the spirit of the animal;

- religious significance - at some sites paintings depict aspects of particular ceremonies;

- stories and learning - stories associated with the Creation Ancestors, who gave shape to the world were painted;

- sorcery and magic - paintings could be used to manipulate events and influence people's lives; fun-for play and practice.

Animals depicted in the main gallery of Burrunguy include catfish, mullet, goanna, snake-neckedturtle, wallaby and Tasmanian tiger.

Many stories connected to Aboriginal rock are highly complex and linked to other stories. Often the true meanings have been lost, but they all have a purpose which is usually to serve as a lesson or a warning to the young or to those passing through the area.

Nanguluwur is a small art site, near Nourlangie, which displays several rock art styles. These include hand stencils, dynamic figures in large head-dresses carrying spears and boomerangs, representations of Namandi spirits and mythical figures, including Alkajko, a female spirit with four arms and horn-like protuberances. There is also an interesting example of ‘contact art’ depicting a two-masted sailing ship with anchor chain and a dinghy trailing behind.

Hunter with spear killing kangaroo

Fire is part of the landscape of Kakadu National Park as the Park contains large areas of woodland and grassy plains that are subject to long periods of dry hot weather. The flora of the region has adapted to frequent fires. Fires in northern Australia are less threatening than in southern Australia as many of the trees are largely fire resistant while other plants simply regenerate very quickly.

Controlled burning is practised by the national park in consultation with traditional owners who have used fire as a land management tool for thousands of years. Fire is an important hunting tool for Aboriginal people using it to flush out prey. The other benefit is that once the fire has gone through an area the tender shoots of the fast regenerating grasses attract wallabies into a clearly defined area. Aboriginal people understand that fire is necessary to ‘clean up’ the landscape and believe that many small fires are preferable to one large fire.

***Task 7. Comprehension Check.***

1. Which distinct landform divisions are there in Australia?
2. What is peculiar to each of them?
3. Which part of Australia is most densely populated?
4. Which part of the country are taken by deserts and semi-deserts?
5. How many large deserts are there in Australia?
6. Which part of Australia can bother the most diverse landscape in the world?
7. Why are Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park and Kakadu National Park are special for Aboriginal people?

***Task 8. Choose the key words from the text that best characterize the region and add them to the lines. Speak about each region using the key words.***

**the Eastern Highlands:** mountains and plateaus, east and southeast coasts, rich flora and fauna, … .

**the Eastern alluvial Plains and Lowlands:** three major basins, flat area, forests and savannah, … .

**the South Australian Highlands:** uplands, low open forest, mild climate, … .

**the Western Plateau:** two thirds of the continent, surface water is absent, flat sandy or stony desert, … .

**the Central Deserts:** large deserts, extensive sand hills, [eucalypt](http://www.gondwananet.com/australian-gum-tree.html) woodlands, … .

**Northern Plateau and Basins:** geographer’s dream landscape, dry rugged terrain, lush wetlands, … .

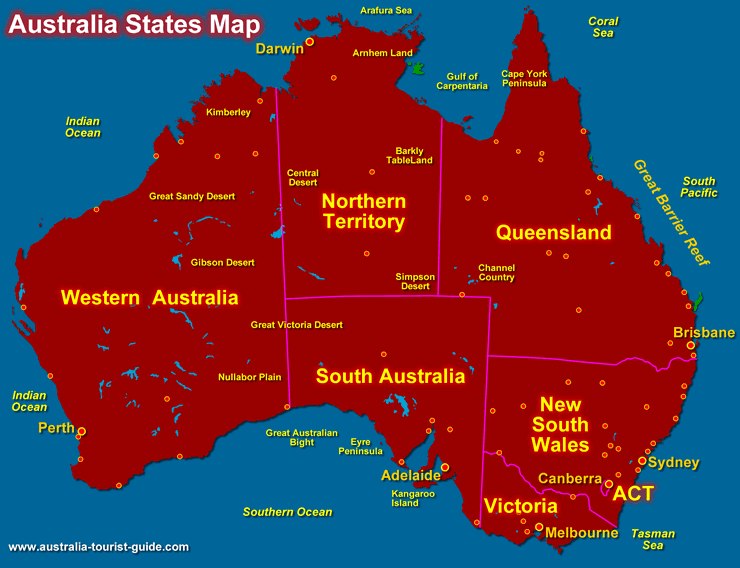
**UNIT 2. ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION OF AUSTRALIA**

The [Commonwealth of Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia) is a union of six states (New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, Western Australia) and various territories. The Australian mainland is made up of five states and three territories, with the sixth state of [Tasmania](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tasmania) being made up of islands. In addition, there are six island territories, known as external territories, and a claim to a territory in Antarctica. All states and two of the three internal territories have their own parliaments and administer themselves; the remaining territories are administered by the Federal Government.

The states are basically country's in their own right and can in fact withdraw from the federation of Australia if they so wished. The Territories have no sovereignty and are administrated by the federal government.

**1. States and Territories**http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/images/nswf.gif

**New South Wales** (abbreviated as **NSW**), is [Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia)'s most populous [state](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_and_territories_of_Australia), and is located in the south-east of the country, north of [Victoria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_(Australia)), south of [Queensland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queensland), east of [South Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Australia) and encompasses the whole of the [Australian Capital Territory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Capital_Territory).



The colony of New South Wales was founded in 1788 and originally comprised much of the Australian mainland, as well as Van Diemen’s Land, Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Island in addition to the area currently referred to as the state of New South Wales, which was formed during Federation in 1901.

Inhabitants of New South Wales are referred to as *New South Welshmen*. New South Wales's largest city and capital is [Sydney](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sydney).

New South Wales contains one third (33%) of Australia's population.

**Queensland** is a [state](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_and_territories_of_Australia) of Australia that occupies the north-eastern section of the mainland continent. It is bordered by the Northern Territory to the west, South Australia to the south-west and New South Wales to the south. To the east, Queensland is bordered by the Coral Sea and Pacific Ocean. The state is Australia's second largest by area, following Western Australia, and the country's third most populous after New South Wales and Victoria.http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/images/queenlandf.gif

The area was first occupied by Indigenous Australians and Torres Strait Islanders, who arrived between 40,000 and 65,000 years ago, according to various dating methods. Later, Queensland was made a British Crown Coloony that was separated from New South Wales on 6 June 1859, a date now celebrated state-wide as Queensland Day.

The area that currently forms the state capital, Brisbane, was originally the Moreton Bay penal colony, intended as a place for recidivist convicts who had offended while serving out their sentences in New South Wales. The state later encouraged free settlement, and today Queensland's economy is dominated by the agricultural, tourist and natural resource sectors.

The state's population is concentrated in South East Queensland, which includes Brisbane, Logan City, Ipswich, Toowoomba, and the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast.

Queensland is often nicknamed the Sunshine State. Executive power rests with the Premier. Queensland is currently governed by Anna Bligh, who is the state's and the nation's first popularly elected female premier.

**South Australia** is a [state](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_and_territories_of_Australia) of [Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia) in the southern central part of the country. It covers some of the most arid parts of the continent; with a total land area of 983,482 square kilometres, it is the fourth largest of Australia's six states and two territories.http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/images/sausf.gif

South Australia shares borders with all of the mainland states and the Northern Territory. It is bordered to the west by Western Australia, to the north by the Northern Territory, to the north-east by Queensland, to the east by New South Wales, to the south-east by Victoria, and to the south by the Great Australian Bight and the Indian Ocean. With over 1.6 million people, the state comprises less than 8% of the Australian population and ranks fifth in population among the states and territories. The majority of its people reside in the state capital, Adelaide, with most of the remainder settled in fertile areas along the south-eastern coast and River Murray. The state's origins are unique in Australia as a freely settled, planned British province, rather than as a [convict](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convictism_in_Australia) settlement. Official settlement began on 28 December 1836, when the colony was proclaimed at The Old Gum Tree by Governor John Hindmarsh.

The first settlement to be established was Kingscote, Kangaroo Island, on 26 July 1836, five months before Adelaide was founded. The guiding principle behind settlement was that of systematic colonisation that was later employed by the New Zealand Company. The aim was to establish the province as a centre of civilisation for free immigrants, promising civil liberties and religious tolerance. Although its history is marked by economic hardship, South Australia has remained politically innovative and culturally vibrant. Today, the state is known as a state of festivals and of fine wine. The state's economy centres on the agricultural, manufacturing and mining industries and has an increasingly significant finance sector as well.

**Tasmania** is an Australian island and state. It is 240 kilometres south of the continent, separated by Bass Strait. The state includes the island of Tasmania—the [26th largest island in the world](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_islands_by_area#Islands_25.2C000_km.C2.B2.E2.80.93250.2C000_km.C2.B2)—and the [surrounding islands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_islands_of_Australia#Tasmania). The state has a population of 507,626, of whom almost half reside in the greater Hobart precinct. Tasmania’s area is 68,401 square kilometres.http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/images/tasf.jpg

Tasmania is promoted as the *natural state*, the "island of inspiration", and *A World Apart, Not A World Away* owing to its large and relatively unspoiled natural environment. Almost 37% of Tasmania lies in reserves, [national parks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_parks) and World Heritage Sites. The island is 364 kilometres long from its northern most to its southernmost points, and 306 kilometres from west to east.

The state capital and largest city is Hobart, which encompasses the local government areas of City of Hobart, City of Glenorchy, and City of Clarence, while the satellite town of Kingston is generally included in the Greater Hobart area. Other major population centres include Launceston in the north and Devonport and Burnie in the northwest. The subantarctic Macquarie Island is also under the administration of the state.

**Victoria** is the second most populous state in Australia. Geographically the smallest mainland state, Victoria is bordered by New South Wales to the north, South Australia to the west, and Tasmania to the south, on Boundary Islet.http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/images/victoriaf.gif

Victoria is Australia's most densely populated state, and has a highly centralised population, with almost 75% of Victorians living in Melbourne, the state capital and largest city.

Victoria, like Queensland, was named after Queen Victoria, the monarch at the time.

**Western Australia** (commonly abbreviated as **WA**) is a [state of Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_and_territories_of_Australia), occupying the entire western third of the [Australian continent](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia_(continent)). It is bordered by the Indian Ocean to the north and west, the Great Australian Bight and Indian Ocean to the south, the Northern Territory to the north-east and South Australia to the south-east. Western Australia is Australia's largest state and the [second largest](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_the_largest_country_subdivisions_by_area) [subnational entity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Administrative_division) in the world. It has 2.3 million inhabitants (10% of the national total), 85% of whom live in the south-west corner of the state.Western Australia Flag

The first European to visit Western Australia was the Dutch explorer Dirk Hartog, who visited the Western Australian coast in 1616. The British established a military outpost at King George Sound, near present-day Albany, in 1826, which was followed by the establishment of the Swan River Colony in 1829, including the townsite of the present-day capital, Perth.

Western Australia (WA) achieved self-government in 1890, and later [federated](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federation_of_Australia) with the other British colonies in Australia in 1901. Today Western Australia's economy mainly relies on mining, agriculture and tourism. WA supplies 36% of Australia's overseas exports and is the third largest iron-ore producer in the world.

The **Northern Territory** is a federal territory of Australia, occupying much of the centre of the mainland continent, as well as the central northern regions. It shares borders with Western Australia to the west, South Australia to the south, and Queensland to the east.http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/images/nterrf.jpg

To the north, the territory is bordered by the Timor Sea, the Arafura Sea and the Gulf of Carpentaria. Despite its large area—over 1,349,129 square kilometres, making it the third largest Australian federal division—it is sparsely populated. With a population of 229,675 it is the least populous of Australia's eight major states and territories.

The archeological history of the Northern Territory begins over 40,000 years ago when Indigenous Australians settled the region.

The coast of the territory was first seen by Europeans in the 17th century. The British were the first Europeans to attempt to settle the coastal regions in the 19th century. However no attempt was successful until the establishment of a settlement at Port Darwin in 1869. Today the economy is based on tourism, especially Kakadu National Park in the Top End and the Uluru-Kata Tjuta [National Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uluru-Kata_Tjuta_National_Park) (Ayers Rock) in central Australia, and mining.

The capital city is Darwin. The population is not concentrated in coastal regions but rather along the Stuart Highway. The other major settlements are Alice Springs, Katherine, Nhulunbuy, and Tennant Creek.

Residents of the Northern Territory are often known simply as 'Territorians'.

The **Australian Capital Territory (ACT)** is the capital territory of the Commonwealth of Australia and is the smallest self-governing internal territory. It is enclaved within New South Wales and is regularly referred to as Australia's '[Bush Capital](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Bush)'.http://www.atozkidsstuff.com/images/actf.gif

The need for a National Territory was flagged by colonial delegates during the Federation conventions of the late 19th century. In 1908, the Federal Parliament designated the territory for the national capital and annexed further land at Jervis Bay on the New South Wales coast so the national capital could have a seaport. The territory was transferred to the Commonwealth by the state of New South Wales in 1911, two years prior to the naming of Canberra as the National Capital in 1913.

Fertile farming lands, the Great Dividing Range and alpine peaks surround the Australian Capital Territory. The territory has an abundance of nature with 53 per cent of the total area preserved as parks and reserves. Namadgi National Park is situated at the northern end of the Australian Alps. This park is perfect for a picnic or bushwalk along the numerous marked trails to experience native flora and fauna and enjoy spectacular wildflowers in spring.

**2. Main Cities**

Australia’s cosmopolitan cities lie side by side with stunning natural attractions, beautiful harbours, National Parks and unspoilt beaches.

**Sydney** – a dazzling city built around one of the world’s most beautiful harbours.

**Melbourn** – a cultural city known for fashion, food and entertainment.

**Canberra** – political centre of Australia.

**Adelaide** – a graceful festival city.

**Perth** – a city with a relaxed easy-going lifestyle and wonderful climate.

**Darwin** – a gateway to a wide range of outback experiences and natural wonders.

**Brisbane** – a sophisticated and exciting city boasting tropical sunshine.

**Hobart** – a pristine and tranquil city close to nature.

***SYDNEY***

***(New South Wales)***

The most populated city of Sydney (4.6 million people called Sydneysiders), one of the top 10 [world centr](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_city)es is located on Australia's south-east coast of the Tasman Sea.

The city is built on hills surrounding Port Jackson which is commonly known as Sydney Harbour, where the iconic Sydney Opera House and the Harbour Bridge feature prominently. Within the city are many notable parks, including Hyde Park and the Royal Botanic Gardens.



The Sydney Opera House

The Sydney region has been inhabited by indigenous Australians for at least 30,000 years. Before the contact with British settlers there lived approximately 4,000–8,000 Aboriginal people. The British called the Indigenous people the "[Eora](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eora)", because being asked where they came from, these people would answer: "Eora", meaning "here", or "from this place" in their language.

There were three language groups in the Sydney region, which were divided into dialects spoken by smaller clans. The principal languages were Darug, Dharawal and Guringai. Each clan had a territory, the location of said territory determined the available resources. Although urbanisation has destroyed much evidence of these settlements, a number of Sydney rock engravings, carvings and rock art remain visible in the Hawkesbury sandstone of the Sydney basin.

In 1770, British sea Captain Lieutenant James Cook landed in Botany Bay on the Kurnell Peninsula. It is here that Cook made first contact with an Aboriginal community known as the Gweagal. Under instruction from the British government, a convict settlement was founded by Arthur Phillip, who arrived at Botany Bay with a [fleet of 11 ships](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Fleet) on 18 January 1788. This site was soon determined to be unsuitable for habitation, owing to poor soil and a lack of reliable fresh water. Phillip subsequently founded the colony one inlet further up the coast, at Sydney Cove on Port Jackson on 26 January 1788. However, the official proclamation of the founding and naming of Sydney took place only on 7 February 1788 when he named it after the British Home Secretary,Thomas Townshend, Lord Sydney in recognition of Sydney's role in issuing the charter authorising Phillip to establish a colony. The original name was intended to be Albion until Phillip decided upon Sydney.

However, in 1789, shortly after the arrival in Botany Bay of the French expedition led by La Perouse, a catastrophic epidemic disease—smallpox or possibly chicken pox—spread through the Eora people and surrounding groups, with the result that local Aborigines died in their thousands, and bodies could often be seen bobbing in the water in Sydney Harbour. There are suppositions that the epidemic may have been caused by Aborigines disturbing the grave of a French sailor who died shortly after arrival in Australia (supposedly of smallpox) and had been buried at Botany Bay.

By 1820 there were only a few hundred Aborigines and Governor Macquarie had begun initiatives to “civilize, Christianize and educate” the Aborigines by removing them from their clans. Roads, bridges, wharves and public buildings were constructed by British and Irish convicts, and by 1822 the town had banks, markets, well-established thoroughfares and an organized constabulary.

The 1830s and 1840s were periods of urban development including the development of the first suburbs, as the town grew rapidly when ships began arriving from Britain and Ireland with immigrants looking to start a new life in a new country. On 20 July 1842 the municipal council of Sydney was incorporated and the town was declared the first city in Australia, with John Hosking the first elected mayor. The first of several [Australian gold rushes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_gold_rushes) started in 1851, and the port of Sydney has since seen many waves of people arriving from around the world.

Rapid suburban development began in the last quarter of the 19th century with the advent of steam powered tramways and railways. With industrialization Sydney expanded rapidly, and by the early 20th century it had a population of more than a million. In 1929, the novelist [Arthur Henry Adams](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Henry_Adams) called it the "Siren City of the South" and the "[Athens](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Athens) of Australia".

The [Great Depression](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Depression) hit Sydney badly. One of the highlights of the Depression era, however, was the completion of the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1932.

Throughout the 20th century, especially in the decades immediately following World War II, Sydney continued to expand large numbers of European and later Asian immigrants populated the metropolitan area.

***CULTURAL FOCUS: Sydney Opera House***

The Sydney Opera House must be one of the most recognizable images of the modern world – up there with The Eiffel Tower and the Empire State Building – and one of the most photographed.

It was conceived and largely built by Danish architect [Jørn Utzon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J%C3%B8rn_Utzon), opening in 1973. It is one of the great iconic buildings of the 20th century, an image of great beauty that has become known throughout the world – a symbol for not only a city, but a whole country and continent.

As one of the busiest performing arts centres in the world, the Sydney Opera House hosts over 1,500 performances each year attended by some 1.2 million people. It is also one of the most popular visitor attractions in Australia, with more than seven million people visiting the site each year.

The Sydney Opera House is a modern expressionist design, with a series of large concrete "shells", each composed of sections of a sphere of 75.2 metres radius, forming the roofs of the structure, set on a monumental podium. The building covers 1.8 hectares of land and is 183 m long and 120 m wide at its widest point. It is supported on 588 concrete piers sunk as much as 25 m below sea level.

***MELBOURNE***

***(Victoria)***

Melbourne is the capital of the state of Victoria. It is the second most populous city in Australia with the population of 4 million people called Melbournians.

The metropolis is located on the large natural bay known as Port Phillip, with the city centre positioned at the estuary of the Yarra River. It was founded in 1835 (47 years after the European settlement in Australia) by settlers from Van Diemen’s Land. It was named by governour Richard Bourke in 1837, in honour of the British Prime Minister of the day, William Lamb - the 2nd Viscount Melbourne. Melbourne was officially declared a city by Queen Victoria in 1847. In 1851, it became the capital city of the newly created colony of Victoria. During the Victorian gold rush of the 1850s, it was transformed into one of the world's largest and wealthiest cities.

Often referred to as the "cultural capital of Australia", Melbourne is the birthplace of cultural institutions such as Australian film (as well as the world's first feature film), Australian television, Australian rules football, the Australian rules football movement (known as the Heidelberg School) and Australian dance styles such as New Vogue and the Melbourne Shuffle. It is also a major centre for contemporary and traditional Australian music.

Before the arrival of European settlers, the area was occupied for an estimated 31,000 to 40,000 years by under 20,000 hunter-gatheres from three indigenous regional tribes: the Wurundjeri, Boonwurrung and Wathaurong. The area was a vital source of food and water. The first European settlement in Victoria was established in 1803 on Sullivan Bay, near present-day Sorrento, but this settlement was abandoned due to a perceived lack of resources. It would be 30 years before another settlement was attempted.

In May and June 1835, the area which is now central and northern Melbourne was explored by John Batman who negotiated a purchase of 600,000 acres (2,400 km2) with eight Wurundjeri elders. Batman selected a site on the northern bank of the Yarra River, declaring that "this will be the place for a village". Batman then returned to Tasmania. By the time a settlement party arrived to set up the new village, a separate group organized by John Pascoe Fawkner had already arrived (on 30 August 1835) aboard his ship the Enterprise and had established a settlement at the same location. The two groups ultimately agreed to share the settlement.

Batman’s Treaty with the Aborigines was annulled by the New South Wales government (which at the time governed all of eastern mainland Australia. In 1836, Governor Bourke declared the city the administrative capital of the Port Phillip District of New South Wales, and commissioned the first plan for the city in 1837. Later that year the settlement was named "Melbourne".

***CULTURAL FOCUS: Victorian Gold Rush***

The Victorian gold rush was a period in the history of Victoria approximately between 1851 and the late 1860s. In 10 years the Australian population nearly tripled.

Gold was first discovered in Australia on 15 February 1823, by assistant surveyor James McBrien, at Fish River in New South Wales.

The £500,000 million worth of gold exported to Britain in the fifties paid all her foreign debts and helped lay the foundation of her enormous commercial expansion in the latter half of the century.

Melbourne was a major boomtown during the gold rush. The city became the centre of the colony with rail networks radiating to the regional towns and ports. It became one of the great cities of the [British Empire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Empire) and the world.

The gold rush is reflected in the architecture of Victorian gold-boom cities like Melbourne, Caslemaine, Ballarat, Bendigo and Ararat. Ballarat has Sovereign Hill — a 60 acres recreation of a gold rush town — as well as the Gold Museum, while Bendigo has a large operating gold mine system which also functions as a tourist attraction.

***CANBERRA***

***(the Australian Capital Territory)***

Canberra is the [capital city](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Australian_capital_cities) of Australia. With a population of over 345,000, it is Australia's largest inland city and the eigth-largest city overall. The city is located at the northern end of the Australian Capital Territory (ACT). A resident of Canberra is known as a "Canberran".

The site of Canberra was selected for the location of the nation's capital in 1908 as a compromise between rivals Sydney and Melbourne. It is unusual among Australian cities, being an entirely planned city. Following an international contest for the city's design, a blueprint by the Chicago architects Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin was selected and construction commenced in 1913. The Griffins' plan featured geometric motifs such as circles, hexagons and triangles.

The city's design was heavily influenced by the garden city movement and incorporates significant areas of natural vegetation that have earned Canberra the title of the "bush capital".

As the seat of the government of Australia, Canberra is the site of Parliament House, the High Court and numerous government departments and agencies. It is also the location of many social and cultural institutions of national significance, such as the Australian War Memorial, Australian National University, Australian Institute of Sport, National Gallery, National Museum and the National Library.

As the city has a high proportion of public servants, the federal government is the largest single employer in Canberra. As the seat of government, the unemployment rate is lower and the average income higher than the national average, while property prices are relatively high. Tertiary education levels are higher, while the population is younger.

Before European settlement, the area in which Canberra would eventually be constructed was seasonally inhabited by Indigenous Australians (the Ngunnawal people). Archaeological evidence of settlement in the region includes inhabited rock shelters, rock paintings and engravings, burial places, camps and quarry sites, and stone tools and arrangements. The evidence suggests human habitation in the area for at least 21,000 years.

European exploration and settlement started in the Canberra area as early as the 1820s. There were four expeditions between 1820 and 1824. White settlement of the area probably dates from 1824, when a station was built by stockmen employed by Joshua John Moore. He formally purchased the site in 1826, and named the property "Canberry".

The European population in the Canberra area continued to grow slowly throughout the 19th century. As the European presence increased, the indigenous population dwindled, mainly from disease such as smallpox and measles.

***CULTURAL FOCUS: Parliament House***

Parliament House is the meeting facility of the Parliament of Australia located in Canberra. The building was designed by Mitchell / Giurgola architects and opened on 9 May 1988 by Elizabeth II. At the time of the construction, it was the most expensive building in the world at more than [A$](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_dollar)1.1 billion.

Federal Parliament meetings were first held in Melbourne until 1927. Prior to 1988, the Parliament of Australia met in the Provisional Parliament House, which is now known as "Old Parliament House". Construction of the new building began in 1981. The principal design of the structure is based on the shape of two boomerangs and is topped by an 81-metre flagpole.

It contains 4,700 rooms and many areas are open to the public. The main foyer contains a marble staircase and leads to the Great Hall which has a large tapestry on display. The House of Representatives chamber is decorated green while the Senate chamber has a red colour scheme. Between the two chambers is the Members' Hall which has a water feature and is not open to the public. The Ministerial Wing houses the office of the Prime Minister and other Ministers.

There are 25,000 granite slabs on the curved walls which, placed end to end, would stretch 46 kilometres. The building required 300,000 cubic metres of concrete, enough to build 25 Sydney Opera Houses and has a [design life](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Design_life) of at least 200 years. The building has 4,700 rooms and has 2,416 clocks that are used for calling members or senators to a vote. On a non-sitting day there could be 2,000 to 3,000 people working there.

***ADELAIDE***

***(South Australia)***

Adelaide is the [capital](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Australian_capital_cities) city of [South Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Australia) and the fifth-largest city in Australia. Adelaide has an estimated population of more than 1.2 million. The demonym "Adelaidean" is used in reference to the city and its residents.

Adelaide is a coastal city situated on the eastern shores of Gulf St Vincent, on the Adelaide Plains.

South Australia was officially proclaimed as a new British colony on 28 December 1836, near the Old Gum Tree in what is now the suburb of Glenelg North. The event is commemorated in South Australia as Proclamation Day. Named in honour of Adelaide of Saxe-Meiningen, queen consort to King William IV, the city was founded the same year as the [planned capital](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_town) for a freely settled British province in Australia. Colonel William Light, one of Adelaide's founding fathers, designed the city and chose its location close to the River Torrens in the area originally inhabited by the Kaurna people. Light's design set out Adelaide in a grid layout, interspaced by wide boulevards and large public squares, and entirely surrounded by parkland.

Being the site of many governmental and financial institutions, Adelaide is also noted for [its many festivals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Festivals_in_Adelaide) and sporting events, its food, wine and culture, its long beachfronts.

Adelaide was established as the centre of a planned colony of free immigrants, promising civil liberties and freedom from religious persecution, based upon the ideas of Edward Gibbon Wakefield. Wakefield had read accounts of Australian settlement while in prison in London for attempting to abduct an heiress, and realized that the eastern colonies suffered from a lack of available labour, due to the practice of giving land grants to all arrivals. Wakefield's idea was for the Government to survey and sell the land at a rate that would maintain land values high enough to be unaffordable for labourers and journeymen. As a result of this policy, Adelaide does not share [the convict settlement history](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convictism_in_Australia) of other Australian cities like Sydney, [Perth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perth,_Western_Australia), [Brisbane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brisbane) and [Hobart](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hobart).

***CULTURAL FOCUS: The*** [***Kaurna***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaurna_people)***people***

The Kaurna people are a group of [Indigenous Australians](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_Australians) whose traditional lands include the area around the [Adelaide Plains](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adelaide_Plains) of [South Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Australia).

Kaurna culture and language was almost completely destroyed within a few decades of the European settlement of South Australia in 1836. However, extensive documentation by early missionaries and other researchers has enabled a modern revival of both language and culture.

The Kaurna people were a [hunter-gatherer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hunter-gatherer) society. Among their customs was the practice of [fire-stick farming](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fire-stick_farming) (deliberately lit [bushfires](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bushfires) for hunting purposes) in the [Adelaide Hills](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adelaide_Hills), which the early European settlers spotted before the Kaurna were displaced. These fires were part of a scrub clearing process to encourage grass growth for [Emu](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emu) and [Kangaroo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kangaroo). This tradition led to conflict with the colonists as the fires tended to cause considerable damage to farmland. Due to this regular burning by the time the first Europeans arrived, the foothills' original [Stringybark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stringybark) forests had been largely replaced with grassland.

At the establishment of South Australia in 1836 the Kaurna population was around 500 with the first official report on population. The Kaurna population, which may have originally numbered up to 1000, had been seriously depleted in 1830 due to a [smallpox](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smallpox) epidemic which is thought to have originated in the eastern states and spread along the [Murray River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Murray_River) as Indigenous groups traded with each other. As the first colonists had arrived in summer when the Kaurna traditionally moved from the plains to the foothills, the Adelaide area was settled without any conflict. The population again severely declined upon the arrival of Anglo-European colonial settlers from about 1000 members before settlement to 180 in 1856. An outbreak of typhoid, due to pollution by Europeans of the [River Torrens](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Torrens), lead to many deaths and a rapid population decline. In 1879 it was recorded that the Kaurna were extinct with 'no single trace of them remaining'. However, the last surviving full-blood Kaurna, a woman called Ivaritji, died in 1931.

The Kaurna people lived in independent family structures in defined territories called *pangkarra*. Pangkarra always had access to the coastline and ran extensively inland. The coastline was essential for seafood hunting and the inland territories provided protection to the people during bad weather. The pangkarra were then grouped into larger areas of land called *yerta*. "Yerta" is defined as "a complete territory which is able to sustain a group with all economic necessities".

All the members in the yerta and different pangkarra were intimately linked, and therefore marriage between a man and a woman within the same yerta was forbidden. Girls became marriageable at [puberty](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puberty), usually around 12 years of age. Conversely, men were only allowed to marry after the age of 25.

Sexual relations were relatively free and uninhibited, regardless of marital status. Kaurna ownership of property was communal; the reproductive organs were seen no differently to any other form of property, and thus [adultery](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adultery) was practically ubiquitous. The visitation of men from distant tribes was seen as a good opportunity to enhance the [gene pool](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gene_pool). The practice of *milla mangkondi* or [wife stealing](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Wife_stealing&action=edit&redlink=1) was also common, for the same reason. Although this custom was bitterly hated by the victims, all Kaurna tribes are said to have engaged in it regularly.

***LANGUAGE FOCUS:*** ***Kaurna place names***

Many places around Adelaide and the Fleurieu Peninsula have names either directly or partially derived from Kaurna. There are also a few Kaurna names hybridised with European words.

* [Aldinga](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aldinga,_South_Australia) - *Ngalti* (meaning unknown) + locative suffix *-ngga*.
* [Cowandilla](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cowandilla,_South_Australia) -*kauanda*, "north" + locative suffix*-illa*, hence "in the north".
* [Kangarilla](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kangarilla,_South_Australia) - *kanggari* + locative suffix *-illa*.
* [Kondoparinga](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Kondoparinga,_South_Australia&action=edit&redlink=1) - possibly from*kundo* "chest" +*parri* "river" + locative suffix*-ngga*.
* [Noarlunga](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_Noarlunga,_South_Australia) -*nurlo*, "corner" + locative suffix*-ngga*, probably referring to Horseshoe Bend on the [Onkaparinga River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Onkaparinga_River).
* [Onkaparinga](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Onkaparinga_River) - derived from *nganki*, "woman" + *parri*, "river" + locative suffix *-ngga*.
* [Patawalonga](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patawalonga_River) - derived from*patta*, a species of gum tree (possibly the [swamp gum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eucalyptus_ovata)) +*wilya*, "foliage" + locative suffix*-ngga*.
* [Uraidla](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uraidla,_South_Australia) -*yurreidla*, "two ears", derived from a [dreaming](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dreamtime_(mythology)) story in which the [Mount Lofty Ranges](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Lofty_Ranges) are the body of a giant.
* [Willyaroo](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Willyaroo,_South_Australia&action=edit&redlink=1) - *wilyaru*, a fully initiated adult man.
* [Piccadilly](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piccadilly,_South_Australia) - Although usually assumed to be named after [Piccadilly, London](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piccadilly,_London), it is likely to be an [anglicisation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglicisation) of the Kaurna*pikodla*, "two eyebrows", being part of the same dreaming story that gave rise to "Uraidla".
* [Yankalilla](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yankalilla,_South_Australia) - Although almost certainly an indigenous word, there are conflicting etymologies. The most likely is that it is derived from the Ramindjeri *yangaiake*, "hill", but with the Kaurna locative suffix *-illa*, or possibly *yernkalyilla*, "place of the fallen bits".
* [Yatala](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yatala_Labour_Prison) - Most likely derived from the Kaurna *yertalla*, "water running by the side of a river".

***PERTH***

***(Western Australia )***

Perth is the [capital](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Australian_capital_cities) and largest city of the Australian [state](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_and_territories_of_Australia) of [Western Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Australia) and the [fourth most populous city](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Australia_by_population) in [Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia). The Perth metropolitan area has an estimated population of almost 1,700,000.

The metropolitan area is located in the [South West Division](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_West_Land_Division) of Western Australia, between the [Indian Ocean](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Ocean) and the [Darling Range](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darling_Range). The [central business district](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perth_(suburb)) and [suburbs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Perth_suburbs) of Perth are situated on the banks of the [Swan River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swan_River_(Western_Australia)). Perth was founded on 12 June 1829 by [Captain James Stirling](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Stirling_(Australian_governor)).

Perth became known worldwide as the "City of Light" when city residents lit their house lights and streetlights as American astronaut [John Glenn](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Glenn) passed overhead while orbiting the earth on [Friendship 7](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friendship_7) in 1962. The city repeated the act as Glenn passed overhead on the [Space Shuttle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_Shuttle) in 1998.

Before European colonization, the area had been inhabited by the [Whadjuk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whadjuk) [Noongar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noongar) people for over 40,000 years. These [Aborigines](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Aborigines) lived as hunter-gatherers. The area where Perth now stands was called *Boorloo* by the Aboriginals. Boorloo formed part of *Mooro*, the tribal lands of the Yellagonga.

The first documented European sighting of the region was made by the Dutch Captain [Willem de Vlamingh](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willem_de_Vlamingh) on 10 January 1697. Subsequent sightings between this date and 1829 were made by other Europeans, but as in the case of the sighting and observations made by Vlamingh, the area was considered to be inhospitable and unsuitable for the agriculture which would be needed to sustain a settlement.

On 4 June 1829, newly arriving British colonists had their first view of the mainland, and Western Australia's Foundation Day has since been recognized by a public holiday on the first Monday in June each year. Captain James Stirling, aboard the [*Parmelia*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parmelia_(barque)), said that Perth was "as beautiful as anything of this kind I had ever witnessed". On 12 August that year, Mrs. Helen Dance, wife of the captain of the second ship *Sulphur*, cut down a tree to mark the founding of the town.

They named the town Perth according to the wishes of [Sir George Murray](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Murray_(British_Army_officer)). Murray was born in [Perth, Scotland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perth,_Scotland), and was in 1829 [Secretary of State for the Colonies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secretary_of_State_for_the_Colonies) and Member for [Perthshire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perthshire_(UK_Parliament_constituency)) in the [British House of Commons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_House_of_Commons). The town was named after the Scottish Perth, in Murray's honour.

Beginning in 1831, hostile encounters between the British settlers and the [Noongar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noongar) people increased considerably as the colony grew. This violent phase of the region's history culminated in a series of events in which the British overcame the indigenous people, including the execution of the [Whadjuk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whadjuk) elder [Midgegooroo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Midgegooroo), the death of his son [Yagan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yagan) in 1833, and the [Battle of Pinjarra](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Pinjarra) in 1834.

In 1850, Western Australia was [opened to convicts](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convict_era_of_Western_Australia) at the request of farming and business people looking for cheap labour. [Queen Victoria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen_Victoria) announced the city status of Perth in 1856.

***CULTURAL FOCUS: Yagan, the Son of the***[***Whadjuk***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whadjuk)***elder***[***Midgegooroo***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Midgegooroo)***.***

Yagan was a Whadjuk Noongar man. He gained notoriety for his courage and daring in resisting the European settlement of Noongar land. His father was Midgegooroo, another influential Noongar elder. Yagan had three brothers: Narral, Billy and Willim.

Tall and imposing, Yagan had a distinctive tribal marking on his right shoulder and down his back.  He wore a soldier's old coat under his kangaroo cloak to hide this mark, to avoid recognition by settlers. Yagan had a small black dog, which walked with him everywhere.

Early settler portrayals of Yagan register dual attitudes towards the Noongar leader. He was described positively as the 'daring chief of the tribe', but also criticized as 'the daring villain we have too frequently had occasion to notice'.

Criticisms of Noongar people often reflected a poor or non-existent understanding of Noongar law. Noongars who were 'stealing', for example, livestock and other food-sources, were engaging in what they saw as a system of reciprocity. The following series of events led to Yagan becoming an outlaw.

In 1831 Smedley, a servant of homesteader Archibald Butler, shot at a group of Noongars caught harvesting potatoes and fowls, and killed one of them. In retaliation, Yagan and Midgegooroo speared another of Butler's servants. To the settlers, this act was seen as the unlawful killing of an innocent man. To Noongars, tribal law required that a member of Smedley's 'family-group' also be killed.

In June 1832, Yagan speared William Gaze who was laboring along the Canning River. Yagan may not have intended to kill Gaze and his death may have been in part due to other factors. Nevertheless, Yagan was declared an outlaw, a bounty of twenty pounds placed on his head.

It wasn't until October that Yagan and fellow Noongars, Donmera and Ningina were caught.  The men were 'tricked into a boat' and eventually taken to the Round House prison in Fremantle. Yagan was saved from execution by the intervention of Robert Lyon, an outspoken settler who had become a defender of the Aboriginal cause'. Instead, Yagan and his compatriots were exiled to Carnac Island. After six weeks, the three escaped by boarding an unattended dinghy.

Yagan eluded capture until July 1833 when he was shot by two young shepherd boys on the Upper Swan. Yagan was walking with a group of Noongars when they met up with brothers, William and James Keats, whom they knew.  Waiting for the opportune moment, the older brother William took aim and shot at Yagan. When Yagan sprang to his feet, spear in hand, James shot and killed him.  In the ensuing fight, William Keats was also killed. His brother later collected the reward for apprehending Yagan and left the Colony for England.

'Yagan's head, brutally hacked from his body, was wedged into a hollow tree stump and slowly preserved in the smoke of gum leaves. After several months the lank hair was combed, a band of possum fur string was wrapped around the forehead and a pair of red and black cockatoo feathers added for effect'. The head was then taken to England aboard the Cornwallis in September 1833 to be held at the Liverpool Museum.

Yagan's death had a negative impact on the Swan and Canning River Noongar groups. Without Yagan's strong personality, Noongar Elders Yellagonga and Munday's influence was greatly reduced after 1833.

Yagan remains a significant and legendary figure to Noongar people. He is a symbol of resistance to the European colonization of country and culture.

On the 1st of September 1997, a delegation of Elders brought Yagan's head or 'kaat' back to Noongar country.

Now, 177 years after his death, Yagan's kaat has been reburied in a Memorial Park in the Swan Valley. The Department of Indigenous Affairs granted the City of Swan over $500,000 to develop the 'Yagan Memorial Park' to honour the Noongar activist. The reburial was well attended by the Noongar community and included traditional dancing, and a smoking ceremony to purify the area and ward off bad spirits.

***DARWIN***

***(Northern Territory)***

Darwin is the [capital city](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Australian_capital_cities) of the Northern Territory. Situated on the Timor Sea, Darwin has a population of 127,500, making it by far the largest and most populated city in the sparsely populated Northern Territory, but the least populous of all Australia's capital cities. It is the smallest and most northerly of the Australian capital cities, and acts as the [Top End](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Top_End)'s regional centre.

The region, like the rest of the [Top End](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Top_End), has a tropical climate, with a [wet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wet_season) and a [dry season](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dry_season). It receives heavy rainfall during the Wet, and is well known for its spectacular lightning.

The Aboriginal people of the [Larrakia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larrakia) language group are the first inhabitants of the greater Darwin area. They had [trading routes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trading_routes) with Southeast Asia. Established [songlines](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Songlines) penetrated throughout the country, allowing stories and histories to be told and retold along the routes.

The Dutch visited Australia's northern coastline in the 1600s, and created the first European maps of the area. This accounts for the Dutch names in the area, such as [Arnhem Land](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arnhem_Land) and [Groote Eylandt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Groote_Eylandt).

On 9 September 1839 [John Clements Wickham](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Clements_Wickham) named the region "Port Darwin" in honour of their former shipmate [Charles Darwin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Darwin), who had sailed with them on the [ship's previous voyage](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_voyage_of_HMS_Beagle). On 5 February 1869, [George Goyder](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Goyder), the Surveyor-General of South Australia, established a small settlement of 135 people at Port Darwin. Goyder named the settlement [Palmerston](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palmerston,_Northern_Territory), after the [British Prime Minister](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prime_Minister_of_the_United_Kingdom) [Lord Palmerston](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Temple,_3rd_Viscount_Palmerston). In 1870, the first poles for the [Overland Telegraph](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Overland_Telegraph_Line) were erected in Darwin, connecting Australia to the rest of the world. The discovery of gold at [Pine Creek](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pine_Creek,_Northern_Territory) in the 1880s further boosted the young colony's development. In early 1875 Darwin's European population had grown to approximately 300 because of the gold rush. On transfer to federal administration in 1911, Darwin became the city's official name.

Having been almost entirely rebuilt twice, once due to [Japanese air raids](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bombing_of_Darwin) during World War II, and again after being devastated by [Cyclone Tracy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclone_Tracy) in 1974, the city is one of Australia's most modern capitals.

***CULTURAL FOCUS: Songlines***

Songlines, also called Dreaming tracks by [Indigenous Australians](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_Australians) within the [animist](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animist) indigenous belief system, are paths across the land (or, sometimes the sky) which mark the route followed by localised 'creator-beings' during the [Dreaming](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dreaming_(spirituality)). The paths of the songlines are recorded in traditional songs, stories, dance, and painting.

A knowledgeable person is able to navigate across the land by repeating the words of the song, which describe the location of landmarks, waterholes, and other natural phenomena. In some cases, the paths of the creator-beings are said to be evident from their marks, or [petrosomatoglyphs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petrosomatoglyph), on the land, such as large depressions in the land which are said to be their footprints.

By singing the songs in the appropriate sequence, Indigenous people could navigate vast distances, often travelling through the deserts of Australia's interior. The continent of Australia contains an extensive system of songlines, some of which are of a few kilometres, whilst others traverse hundreds of kilometres through lands of many different Indigenous peoples — peoples who may speak markedly different languages and have different cultural traditions.

Since a songline can span the lands of several different language groups, different parts of the song are said to be in those different languages. Languages are not a barrier because the melodic contour of the song describes the nature of the land over which the song passes. The rhythm is what is crucial to understanding the song. Listening to the song of the land is the same as walking on this songline and observing the land.

In some cases, a songline has a particular direction, and walking the wrong way along a songline may be a sacrilegious act (e.g. climbing up [Uluru](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uluru) where the correct direction is down). Traditional Aboriginal people regard all land as sacred, and the songs must be continually sung to keep the land "alive".

***BRISBANE***

***(Queensland)***

Brisbane (“the City of Sun Days”) is the [capital](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Australian_capital_cities) and most populous city in the Australian state of [Queensland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queensland) and the [third most populous city](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Australia_by_population) in [Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia). Brisbane's metropolitan area has a population of over 2 million. The metropolitan area extends in all directions along the [floodplain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Floodplain) of the Brisbane River valley between the bay and the [Great Dividing Range](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Dividing_Range). The [demonym](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demonym) of Brisbane is Brisbanian, and Brisbanite is also used.

Brisbane is named after the river on which it sits which, in turn, was named after Scotsman [Sir Thomas Brisbane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Brisbane), the [Governor of New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governor_of_New_South_Wales) from 1821 to 1825. The first European settlement in Queensland was a [penal colony](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penal_colony) at [Redcliffe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Redcliffe,_Queensland) in 1824. Free [settlers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immigrants) were permitted from 1842. Brisbane was chosen as the capital when Queensland was proclaimed a separate colony from [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales) in 1859.

Prior to European settlement, the Brisbane area was inhabited by the [Turrbal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turrbal) and [Jagera](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jagera_(tribe)) people. Land, language, and people are linked together in three important elements of Aboriginal culture: family, clan, and language. In the Brisbane area the Yaggera language group was used and the clans associated with this group of languages were the Jagera and the Turrbal. The Turrbal, also called 'the Duke of York's clan' by the whites, mainly lived north of the Brisbane River, and the Jagera were mostly located south of the river.

Brisbane was known as 'Mian-jin', which means 'place shaped like a spike'. The Turrbal and the Jagera had numerous campsites, including those at Woolloongabba, Toowong, Bowen Hills, Newstead, Nundah, and Nudgee, and many pathways that allowed them access to different parts of Brisbane. During certain seasons and for some ceremonies the area could become the gathering place for hundreds of people. Everyday life for the clan consisted of hunting and gathering food, with time for games, and other social and spiritual activities. Both clans roamed over a large area that encompassed forest, scrub, and the coastal lowlands, which featured swamps, lagoons, and pockets of rainforest. The coastal areas were rich in food and the Aborigines here were said to number 5,000 prior to white occupation.

The [Moreton Bay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moreton_Bay) area was initially explored by [Matthew Flinders](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew_Flinders). On 17 July 1799, Flinders landed at what is now known as [Woody Point](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woody_Point,_Queensland), which he named "Red Cliff Point", after the red-coloured cliffs visible from the bay. In 1823, [Governor of New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governors_of_New_South_Wales), [Thomas Brisbane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Brisbane), instructed that a new northern [penal settlement](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convictism_in_Australia) be developed.

The first immigrants settled in [Redcliffe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Redcliffe,_Queensland) on 13 September 1824, under the command of Lieutenant Henry Miller with 14 soldiers; some with wives and children; and 29 convicts. However, this settlement was abandoned after a year, and the colony was moved to [North Quay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Quay,_Brisbane). Non-convict European settlement of the Brisbane region commenced in 1838. German missionaries settled at Zions Hill, [Nundah](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nundah,_Queensland) in 1837, five years before Brisbane was officially declared a free settlement. The band consisted of two ministers, [Christopher Eipper](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christopher_Eipper) and [Carl Wilhelm Schmidt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Wilhelm_Schmidt), and missionaries Haussmann, Johann Gottried Wagner, Niquet, Hartenstein, Zillman, Franz, Rode, Doege and Schneider. They established the mission, which became known as German Station.

***HOBART***

***(Tasmania)***

Hobart  is the [state capital](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Australian_capital_cities) and most populous city of the Australian island state of [Tasmania](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tasmania). Founded in 1804 as a [penal colony](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penal_colony), Hobart is Australia's second oldest capital city after [Sydney](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sydney). A resident of Hobart is known as a "Hobartian". The city is located in the state's south-east on the estuary of the [Derwent River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Derwent_River,_Tasmania).

The first settlement began in 1803 as a penal colony at [Risdon Cove](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Risdon_Cove) on the eastern shores of the [Derwent River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Derwent_River,_Tasmania), amid British concerns over the presence of French [explorers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exploration). In 1804 it was moved to a better location at the present site of Hobart at [Sullivans Cove](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sullivans_Cove). The city, initially known as Hobart Town or Hobarton, was named after [Lord Hobart](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Hobart,_4th_Earl_of_Buckinghamshire), the Colonial Secretary. The area's [indiginous inhabitants](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tasmanian_Aborigines) were members of the semi-nomadic *Mouheneener* tribe. Violent conflict with the European settlers, and the effects of diseases brought by them, completely destroyed the aboriginal population, which was rapidly replaced by free settlers and the [convict](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convict) population. [Charles Darwin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Darwin) visited Hobart Town in February 1836.

Hobart Town became a city on 21 August 1842, and was renamed Hobart in 1875.

***CULTURAL FOCUS: Port Arthur***

Port Arthur is a small town and former [convict](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convictism_in_Australia) settlement on the [Tasman Peninsula](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tasman_Peninsula). It is one of Australia's most significant heritage areas. The [open air museum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_air_museum) is officially Tasmania's top tourist attraction. It is located approximately 60 km south east of the state capital, [Hobart](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hobart).

Port Arthur was named after [Van Diemen's Land](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Van_Diemen%27s_Land) lieutenant governor [George Arthur](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Arthur). The settlement started as a [timber](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timber) station in 1830, but it is best known for being a [penal colony](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penal_colony).

From 1833 until 1853 it was the destination for the hardest of convicted [British](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom) and [Irish](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ireland) [criminals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Criminal), those who were secondary offenders having re-offended after their arrival in Australia. Rebellious personalities from other convict stations were also sent here, a quite undesirable punishment. In addition, Port Arthur had some of the strictest [security](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Security) measures of the British penal system.

Port Arthur was one example of the “Separate Prison Typology” (sometimes known as the Model prison. The prison was completed in 1853 but then extended in 1855. The layout of the prison was fairly symmetrical. It was a cross shape with exercise yards at each corner.

The Separate Prison System also signalled a shift from physical punishment to psychological punishment. It was thought that the hard [corporal punishment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corporal_punishment), such as whippings, used in other penal stations only served to harden criminals, and did nothing to turn them from their immoral ways. For example, food was used to reward well-behaved prisoners and as punishment for troublemakers. As a reward, a prisoner could receive larger amounts of food or even luxury items such as tea, sugar and tobacco. As punishment, the prisoners would receive the bare minimum of bread and water. Under this system of punishment the "Silent System" was implemented in the building. Here prisoners were hooded and made to stay silent, this was supposed to allow time for the prisoner to reflect upon the actions which had brought him there. Many of the prisoners in the Separate Prison developed mental illness from the lack of light and sound. This was an unintended outcome although the asylum was built right next to the Separate Prison. In many ways Port Arthur was the pin-up for many of the [penal reform](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penal_reform) movement, despite shipping, housing and slave-labour use of convicts being as harsh, or worse, than others stations around the nation.

The peninsula on which Port Arthur is located is a naturally secure site by being surrounded by water (rumoured by the administration to be [shark](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shark)-infested). The 30m wide [isthmus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isthmus) of [Eaglehawk Neck](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eaglehawk_Neck) that was the only connection to the mainland was fenced and guarded by soldiers, man traps and half-starved [dogs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Working_dog).

Contact between visiting [seamen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sailor) and prisoners was barred. Ships had to check in their sails and oars upon landing to prevent any escapes. However, many attempts were made, and some were successful. Boats were seized and rowed or sailed long distances to freedom.



Panorama of the Port Arthur site

Port Arthur was sold as an inescapable prison, much like the later [Alcatraz Island](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alcatraz_Island) in the [United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States). Some prisoners were not discouraged by this, and tried to escape. [Martin Cash](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_Cash) successfully escaped along with two others. One of the most infamous incidents, simply for its bizarreness, was the escape attempt of one George "Billy" Hunt. Hunt disguised himself using a [kangaroo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kangaroo) hide and tried to flee across the Neck, but the half-starved guards on duty tried to shoot him to supplement their meager rations. When he noticed them sighting him up, Hunt threw off his disguise and [surrendered](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surrender_(military)), receiving 150 lashes.

Port Arthur was also the destination for juvenile convicts, receiving many boys, some as young as nine. The boys were separated from the main convict population and kept on Point Puer, the [British Empire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Empire)'s first boys' prison. Like the adults, the boys were used in hard labour such as stone cutting and construction. One of the buildings constructed was one of Australia's first non-denominational [churches](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_(building)), built in a [gothic style](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gothic_architecture). Attendance of the weekly Sunday service was compulsory for the prison population.

Despite its reputation as a pioneering institution for the new, enlightened view of imprisonment, Port Arthur was still in reality as harsh and brutal as other penal settlements. Some critics might even suggest that its use of psychological punishment, compounded with no hope of escape, made it one of the worst. Some tales suggest that prisoners committed [murder](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Murder) (an offence punishable by death) just to escape the desolation of life at the camp. The Island of the Dead was the destination for all who died inside the prison camps. Of the 1646 graves recorded to exist there, only 180, those of prison staff and military personnel, are marked. The prison closed in 1877. Before Port Arthur was abandoned as a Prison in 1877, some people saw the potential tourist attraction.

After the Prison closed much of the property was put up for auction. However, most of the property was not sold until 1889. By this time, the area had become increasing popular and the prison buildings were in decay.

In place of the Prison Port Arthur, the town of Carnarvon was born. The town was named after the British Secretary of State and the population was said to be “refined and intellectual”. The town brought in many visitors as they encouraged boating, fishing and shooting in the natural beauty of the Peninsula. They again wished to remove the negative connotation attached to the area.

Despite this wish, the haunting stories of Port Arthur prisoners and circulating ghost stories brought popularity to the remaining prison ruins. This was helped by the popular novels “[For the Term of His Natural Life](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/For_the_Term_of_His_Natural_Life)” (1874) by [Marcus Clarke](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus_Clarke) and “The Broad Arrow” (1859) by Caroline Leakey, which concerned themselves about convicts in Port Arthur.

The mass graves on The Isle of the Dead also attract visitors. The air about the small bush-covered island is described as possessing "melancholic" and "tranquil" qualities by visitors.

After entering the Historic Site, visitors can either survey the site for themselves, or participate in guided tours of the Site, a harbour cruise, tours to the Isle of the Dead and Point Puer and evening Historic Ghost Tours. There is also a museum, containing written records, tools, clothing and other curiosities from convict times, a Convict Gallery with displays of the various trades and work undertaken by convicts, and a research room where visitors can check up on any convict ancestors.

***Task 1. Comprehension Check.***

1.What is the administrative division of Australia?

2. What is special about Tasmania as a state of Australia?

3. What is the difference between a state and a territory in Australia?

4. Ennumerate Australian states and territories. Name their capitals.

5.Which architectural masterpiece was conceived and largely built by Danish architect [Jørn Utzon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J%C3%B8rn_Utzon)?

6.Which period of Australia’s history is called “the Victorian [gold rush](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gold_rush)”? Which consequences did it have for the population of the country?

7. What is Parliament House in Canberra like?

8. What were the reasons of complete destruction of Kaurna culture and language?

9. Which famous [Noongar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noongar) fighters for freedom and independence do you know?

10. Why were songlines of vital importance for Indigenous people?

11. What is Port Arthur famous for?

***Task 2. Match column A with column B.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **A** | **B** |
| 1. New South Wales | a) often nicknamed the Sunshine State. |
| 2. Queensland | b) promoted as the *natural state.* |
| 3. South Australia | c) the most densely populated. |
| 4.Tasmania | d) shares borders with all of the mainland states and the [Northern Territory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Territory). |
| 5. Victoria | e) the least populous. |
| 6.Western Australia | f) Australia's largest state. |
| 7. Northern Territory | g) the most populous state. |
| 8. Australian Capital Territory | h) 53 per cent of the total area preserved as parks and reserves. |

***Task 3. Choose the key words from the text that best characterize the region and add them to the lines. Speak about each region using the key words.***

**Sydney:** [most populated city](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Australia_by_population), Sydneysiders, iconic [Sydney Opera House](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sydney_Opera_House), 4,000 –8,000 Aboriginal people,"[Eora](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eora)", … .

**Melbourn:** Melbournians, the Yarra River, [Victorian gold rush](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victorian_gold_rush),"cultural capital of Australia", … .

**Canberra:** [capital city](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Australian_capital_cities) of [Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia),Canberran,entirely [planned city](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_town), seat of the [government of Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government_of_Australia), largest single employer, … .

**Adelaide:** Adelaidean,the [River Torrens](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Torrens),[Kaurna](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaurna_people) people,free immigrants, ….

**Perth:** the [Swan River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swan_River_(Western_Australia)), [Captain James Stirling](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Stirling_(Australian_governor)),"City of Light", hunter-gatherers,  [Scotland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perth,_Scotland), … .

**Darwin:** the [Timor Sea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timor_Sea), the [Top End](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Top_End)'s regional centre, tropical climate, [songlines](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Songlines), Dutch names, Charles Darwin, … .

**Brisbane:** “the City of Sun Days”, Brisbanian, a [penal colony](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penal_colony), [Thomas Brisbane](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Brisbane), German Station, … .

**Hobart:** a [penal colony](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penal_colony), Hobartian, the [Derwent River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Derwent_River,_Tasmania), [Lord Hobart](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Hobart,_4th_Earl_of_Buckinghamshire), violent conflict, … .

***LAGUGE FOCUS: Australian Place Names of Aboriginal Origin***

Place names in Australia have names of [Aboriginal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_Australian) origin for three main reasons:

1. Historically, white explorers and surveyors may have asked local Aboriginal people the name of a place, and named it accordingly. Where they did not ask, they may have heard the place was so-named. Due to language difficulties, the results were often misheard and misunderstood names, such as the name of the [Yarra River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yarra_River). There are a suspicious number of place names which translate as *pretty* and *resting* place, which may imply European romanticism, and no doubt a good deal of mispronunciation and corruption in general.

2. Australian governments have officially named many places, particularly suburbs, after Aboriginal people or language groups, such as [Aranda](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aranda,_Australian_Capital_Territory) or [Tullamarine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tullamarine).

3. The place name has always been called thus by Aboriginal people, and Aboriginal people still live in the area. This is particularly so for Aboriginal communities, such as Maningrida in the Northern Territory. This is more frequent where white settlement has been less dense, particularly in Central Australia and the [Top End](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Top_End).

***Task 4. On Australia map find the places with Native Australian names.***

1.**Adaminaby –** a small town near the [Snowy Mountains](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snowy_Mountains) located north-west of [Cooma](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cooma,_New_South_Wales), [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales).

2. **Akuna Bay** - a locality in [Sydney](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sydney), [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales).

3. **Aranda -** a suburb in the [Canberra](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canberra) district of [Belconnen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belconnen).

4. **Bamaga** - a town near the northern tip of Cape York in the north of [Queensland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queensland).

5. **Ballarat -** a city in the state of Victoria.

6. **Buronga** - a town in [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales) on the [Murray River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Murray_River).

7. **Canberra** - the capital city of Australia.

8. **Dungog** - a country town on the [Williams River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Williams_River_(New_South_Wales)) in the upper [Hunter Valley](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hunter_Region) in [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales).

9. **Echuca** – a town located on the banks of the Murray River and Campaspe River in Victoria.

10. **Kalamunda** - a town and eastern suburb of [Perth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perth,_Western_Australia), [Western Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Australia).

11. **Kurri Kurri** - a small town in the [Hunter Region](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hunter_Region) of [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales).

12. **Malanda** - a medium-sized town in [Far North](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Far_North_Queensland), [Queensland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queensland).

13. **Manilla** - a small town in [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales).

14. [**Pa**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panania,_New_South_Wales)**ringa** - a small [town](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Town) in the Riverland of South Australia.

15. **Tanunda** - a town situated in the [Barossa Valley](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barossa_Valley) region of [South Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Australia).

16. **Trayning -** a town located in the north-eastern Wheatbelt region of [Western Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Australia).

17. **Wee Waa** - a town located on the north-western slopes of the [New England](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_England_(Australia)) region in [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales).

18. **Yamma Yamma -** an [ephemeral](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ephemeral) [lake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake) on the [Cooper Creek](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cooper_Creek) system in the [arid](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desert_climate) [Channel Country](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Channel_Country) of south-western [Queensland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queensland).

19. **Yarra** - a [river](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River) in east-central [Victoria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_(Australia)).

20. **Mount Baw Baw** - a mountain in [Victoria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_(Australia)).

21. **Kata Tjuta** - a group of large domed rock formations located about 365 km southwest of [Alice Springs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alice_Springs,_Northern_Territory), in the southern part of the [Northern Territory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Territory).

22. **Tanami Desert**  - a [desert](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desert) in northern [Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia) situated in the [Northern Territory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Territory).

23. **Tirari Desert** is a 15,250 square kilometres [desert](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desert) in the eastern part of the [Far North](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Far_North,_South_Australia) region of [South Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Australia).

**UNIT 3. EARLY HISTORY**

**Pre-reading activity**

***How much do you know about Indigenous Australians?***

1.Where did the Aborigines come from?

2.In which parts of Australia did they live?

3.What did they do?

4. What was their lifestyle like?

5. Where did they live?

6.Can you guess the number of languages spoken by Indigenous Australians?

7.Which tools did they invent?

**1. Aboriginal Australia**

People have lived in [Australia](file:///C:\wiki\Australia) for about 40,000-60,000 years. The first people who arrived in what is now Australia are called the Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders. The Aborigines are believed to have come by boat from the [islands](file:///C:\wiki\Island) of what is now [Indonesia](file:///C:\wiki\History_of_Indonesia). The earliest definite human remains found to date are that of [Mungo Man](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mungo_Man), which have been dated at about 40,000 years old, but the time of arrival of the ancestors of Indigenous Australians is still uncetain, with estimates dating back as far as 125,000 years ago.

The first Aboriginals found an Australia with a better environment than today. Large animals, now extinct, provided more meat than the animals with which we are familiar. Some parts of the continent were richer in vegetable foods, but the land contained no cultivated crops, or animals that could be domesticated, such as cattle and sheep.

Aboriginals lived in all parts of Australia. Their lives were simple, they had very few needs. They lived by [hunting](file:///C:\wiki\Hunting), [fishing](file:///C:\wiki\Fishing) and gathering food. Each clan grouping occupied a well-defined area of land, their "clan" territory with which they had close and dependent relationship. The group belonged with, or to, the land - like the animals and plants of the area; man was an integral part of a relatively unchanging environment. They had no concept of being able to buy or sell land, the land was given long ago in the Dreamtime. Land was not something to be bartered, and the future of the group was tied closely with the continued ability of the land to provide food for gathering, animals to kill, and fresh water.

They spoke many different [languages](file:///C:\wiki\Language). Although there were over 250–300 spoken languages with 600 dialects at the start of European settlement, fewer than 200 of these remain in use – and all but 20 are considered to be endangered. Aboriginal people today mostly speak English, with Aboriginal phrases and words being added to create [Australian Aboriginal English](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Aboriginal_English). The population of Indigenous Australians at the time of permanent European settlement has been estimated at between 318,000 and 1,000,000 with the distribution being similar to that of the current Australian population, with the majority living in the south-east, centred along the [Murray River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Murray_River).

Aborigines invented tools like the [boomerang](file:///C:\wiki\Boomerang) and spear, but did not farm. They moved around their clan country, from place to place, depending on the season and the availability of food. In coastal areas, and the more fertile parts of the continent, groups were relatively static, because food was readily obtainable, but in the desert areas vast tracts of land could support only a few people, and these had to travel long distances in their endless quest for food.

The necessity to be mobile meant that Aboriginals could afford only those possessions that were essential to their way of life. Many belongings were multipurpose - like the coolamon, a curved wooden dish, which was used to dig, to carry water or the baby; to toss seeds or collect the plant food gathered daily by the women.

As Aboriginals had to make use of the natural materials available in their area, huts were often made from bark and boughs, sometimes flimsy and sometimes more substantial, depending on the climate, the time of year, and the length of time that the group forced to remain in one camp.

Tradition was very important in their lives. When an Aboriginal child was born, he began to learn how to cope with the material and non-material elements of his world. He had been born into the group, and had to learn to become a full member with a knowledge of how to keep alive and also the rules and traditions that governed his nomadic society.

When very young, children were indulged - played with and loved by all members of the group. But soon, each child had to begin to fend for himself. Shortly after he could walk, he began to handle small spears, followed his father and the other men, watching while they fished, made tools. Little girls began to follow their mother, helping her and trying to copy what she was doing.

As well as the practical side of life, they began to join in spiritual matters. They were taught the rhythms of dances in preparation for later participation in sacred and non-sacred rituals. Children began to learn songs and stories that embodied knowledge to be passed on from generation to generation.

As children reach puberty they began to take on greater responsibilities. To mark the transition from childhood special ceremonies were held. For girls these were fairly simple, although they could be spectacular. For boy's initiation ceremonies extended over several years, and were associated with the intensive training in the traditions and mythology of the clan - in many clans the focal point of initiation was circumcision. From the point of view of the group, the boy was entering upon membership of society. However, he did not learn everything at his initiation, it merely open the door of adulthood, and to the sacred life of the group.

After a boy's final initiation ceremonies, he could marry, and it was only when he had a wife, and sometimes a child, that the community regarded him as a fully-grown man. He now had an obligation, obtaining food by using hunting skills learned in childhood, skills used for the group's survival.

Old people in Aboriginal society were cared for, and respected for their wisdom and knowledge. When a person died the mourning custom and burial rights were complex and varied from region to region. The mourners freely expressed their sorrow and distress, sometimes covering themselves in ochre and clay. The dead were either buried, cremated, placed on platforms in trees, or left in caves or rock shelters. Sometimes the bones were recovered and part, such as the bone of the forearm, kept as relics for long periods.

From early childhood to death, the Aboriginal was continuously learning more about the traditions of the past. Religion was related to the past, the present and future. Man identified with animals, plants and other natural phenomenon, and grouped himself according to this identification - his totem. Relationship with a totem meant a responsibility towards that totem - for example, people of a kangaroo totem might not kill kangaroos, and carry out special ceremonies to ensure the continued increase of the kangaroo.

Their religion is called the [Dreamtime](file:///C:\wiki\Dreamtime), which has lots of stories about the creation of the world by spirits. [Aboriginal art](file:///C:\wiki\Aboriginal_art) started at least 30,000 years ago and there are lots of Dreamtime stories painted on walls and cut in rocks all around Australia. Rocks were engraved and became one of the few art forms to survive. Designs were painted on the walls of rock shelters; these were perishable, and relied upon regular re-touching for preservation.

Bodies were painted for ceremonies; the markings and designs have totemic significance and were taught to the young. 

Bark painting is probably the most well known Aboriginal art form but this could be done only in areas where trees with suitable bark were available, such as Arnhem Land. Pigments were made from rocks, clay and charcoal, a narrow range of colours that produced characteristic red, brown, black and white of Aboriginal art.

[Aboriginal music](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Aboriginal_music&action=edit&redlink=1) has songs about the Dreamtime, sometimes with special instruments like the [didgeridoo](file:///C:\wiki\Didgeridoo).

Aboriginal Art has been a part of Australian Aborpgpnal culture for years

***Task 1. Answer the questions of Pre-reading activity.***

***LANGUAGE FOCUS: Aboriginal Australians***

The word "aboriginal" means "the first" or "earliest known". The word was first used in Italy and Greece to describe people who lived there, natives or old inhabitants, not newcomers, or invaders.

The word “[aboriginal](http://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/aboriginal)” was used in Australia to describe its [Indigenous peoples](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_peoples) in 1789. It soon became capitalised and employed as the common name to refer to all Indigenous Australians.

The word has been in use in English since at least the 17th century, to mean "first or earliest known, indigenous". It comes from Latin, Aborigines, derived from *ab* (from) and *origo* (origin, beginning). Strictly speaking, Aborigine is the noun and Aboriginal the adjectival form; however the latter is often also employed to stand as a noun. Aboriginal(s) in this sense, i.e. as a noun, has acquired negative connotations in some sectors of the community, who regard it as insensitive, and even offensive. The more acceptable and correct expression is *Aboriginal Australians*or *Aboriginal people*, though even this is sometimes regarded as an expression to be avoided because of its historical associations with colonialism. Indigenous Australians has found increasing acceptance, particularly since the 1980s.

***CULTURAL FOCUS: The Dreaming***

Many Aboriginal cultures refer to the ‘The Dreaming’ . The Dreaming tells of the journey and the actions of Ancestral Beings who created the natural world. The expression ‘Dreamtime’ is most often used to refer to the ‘time before time’, or ‘the time of the creation of all things’. Beings such as the "Fertility Mother", the "Great Rainbow Snake", the Djanggawul brothers and sisters, survive in stories and ceremonies that have been passed down from generation to generation.

The Dreaming is the dimension of sacred, eternal time in Australia when Ancestral Spirits created all the people, animals and plants that were to live in the country and laid down the laws, customs and codes of conduct their lives were to follow.

The term ‘Dreaming’ is also often used to refer to an individual’s or group’s set of beliefs or spirituality. For instance, an Aboriginal Australian might say that they have Kangaroo Dreaming, or Shark Dreaming, or Honey Ant Dreaming, or any combination of Dreamings pertinent to their ‘country’. Traditional Aboriginal Law is passed on through stories, sometimes referred to as Dreaming Stories that have been handed down through the ages.

Some sacred aspect of these stories and ceremonies were available only to initiated adult males. Women had their own sacred ceremonies from which they excluded men, but there were ceremonies and songs in which the whole group joined men, women and children.

### 2. European Exploration of Australia

The European exploration of Australia encompasses several waves of seafarers and land explorers. Although Australia is often loosely said to have been discovered by Royal Navy Lieutenant (later Captain) James Cook in 1770, he was merely one of a number of European explorers to have sighted and landed on the continent prior to English settlement, and he did so 164 years after the first such documented encounter.

### Early European explorers referred to Australia as “Terra Australis Incognita”, which meant the Unknown Southern Land. They were unsure if the land even existed, and if so, how big is it?

### In 1606, the first European, a [Dutch](file:///C:\wiki\Netherlands) explorer [Willem Janszoon](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Willem_Janszoon&action=edit&redlink=1), visited the west coast of [Cape York Peninsula](file:///C:\wiki\Cape_York_Peninsula) in [Queensland](file:///C:\wiki\Queensland) aboard the [*Duyfken*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duyfken)and described the natives as "...savage, cruel, black barbarians who slew some of our sailors".

### A Spanish explorer, [Luis Vaez de Torres](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Luis_Vaez_de_Torres&action=edit&redlink=1) sailed through the water between Australia and [Papua New Guinea](file:///C:\wiki\Papua_New_Guinea) later in October that year. He described the natives as "...very corpulent and naked. Their arms were lances, arrows, and clubs of stone ill fashioned".

### A [Dutch](file:///C:\wiki\Netherlands) explorer Jan Carstenz in 1623 described several armed encounters with Aboriginals, and judged the country "...the most arid and barren region that could be found anywhere on earth; the inhabitants too, are the most wretched and poorest creatures that I have ever seen in my age or time". As a result of such reports the Dutch government decided the land that was not suitable for colonisation.

### Other Europeans then began to map or visit the north and west coast - which they called [New Holland](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=New_Holland&action=edit&redlink=1). This was dry and apparently uninhabitable land, and they found no [economic](file:///C:\wiki\Economic) reasons to stay.

### In 1697, the Englishman William Dampier had published his "New Voyage Round the World" in which he described Aboriginals on the Western Australian coast as "the miserablest people in the World ... they were tall, straight bodied, and thin, with small long limbs. They have great heads, round foreheads and great brows. Their eyelids are always half closed, to keep the flies out of their eyes." His observations remained the most detailed description of the Western Australian Aboriginals for well over a century.http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/4c/William_Dampier_-_Project_Gutenberg_eText_15675.jpg/250px-William_Dampier_-_Project_Gutenberg_eText_15675.jpg

### Throughout the 18th century, knowledge of Australia's coastline increased gradually. Explorers such as the Englishman William Dampier, who became the first Englishman to reach Australia, contributed to this understanding, especially through his two-volume publication *A Voyage to New Holland* (1703, 1709).

### http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/90/Thevenot_-_Hollandia_Nova_detecta_1644.png/220px-Thevenot_-_Hollandia_Nova_detecta_1644.pngIn 1768 British Lieutenant [James Cook](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Cook) was sent from England on an expedition to the Pacific Ocean to observe the transit of Venus from Tahiti, sailing westwards in HMS *Endeavour* via [Cape Horn](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape_Horn) and arriving there in 1769. On the return voyage he continued his explorations of the South Pacific, in search of the postulated continent of Terra Australis.

Hollandia Nova, 1659

### He first reached New Zealand, and then sailed further westwards to sight the south-eastern corner of the Australian continent on 20 April 1770. In doing so, he was to be the first documented European expedition to reach the eastern coastline. He called it [New South Wales](file:///C:\wiki\New_South_Wales). This was unjust because he saw the campfires and tents of unknown people. He continued sailing northwards along the east coast, charting and naming many features along the way.

### http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/thumb/1/1d/Cook%27sFirstVoyage54.png/600px-Cook%27sFirstVoyage54.png

### The route of Cook's first voyage

He identified Botany Bay as a good harbour and one potentially suitable for a settlement, and where he made his first landfall on 29 April. Continuing up the coastline, the *Endeavour* was to later run aground on shoals of the Great Barrier Reef (near the present-day site of Cooktown), where she had to be laid up for repairs.

The voyage then recommenced, and the expedition returned to England via the Indian Ocean and [Cape of Good Hope](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape_of_Good_Hope).

Captain Cook's observations of the Aboriginals were numerous and detailed; "these people may truly be said to be in the pure state of nature, and may appear to some to be the most wretched upon the earth; but in reality they are far happier than ... we Europeans."

Cook's expedition carried botanist Joseph Banks, for whom a great many Australian geographical features and at least one native plant are named. The reports of Cook and Banks in conjunction with the loss of England's [penal colonies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Penal_colonies) in America after they gained [independence](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Revolutionary_War) and growing concern over French activity in the Pacific, encouraged the later foundation of a colony at Port Jackson in 1788.

***Task 2. Comprehension Check.***

1. What was the Aboriginal concept of land?

2. Why did the Aboriginal people have to be mobile?

3. What is known about the art of the Aboriginal people?

4. What is the correct way to call native Australians?

5. What is the idea of the Dreaming?

6. When did the European exploration of Australia begin?

7. Who was the first European to step onto the continent? Where did he come from?

8. What were the first recorded impressions of the Native people?

9. What was the first name given by Europeans to Australia? Why?

10. Why did Europeans not want to settle there for so long?

11. Why is Captain James Cook considered to be the discoverer of Australia?

12. What were the reasons of transportation of British criminals to Australia?

***Task 3. Correct the false statements.***

1.The First people supposedly arrived in Australia from Africa.

2. The first people found an Australia with a worse environment than today.

3. They lived in groups called tribes.

4. They soon learnt how to cultivate the land and domesticate animals.

5. Aboriginals lived on the south-eastern part of Australia only because of its favourable climatic conditions.

6. They never built any housing because of their mobile lifestyle.

7. Boys and girls were brought up in the same way.

8. The Dreaming is an ancient tradition of guessing the meaning of one’s dreams.

9. Captain James Cook was the first European to step on the land of Australia.

10. Aboriginals seemed friendly and hospitable to the first European explorers.

***Task 4. Vocabulary Growth. State the meaning of the derivatives and fill in the gaps.***

**ancestor, ancestral, ancestry**

1. He knew enough about the life of his … in Paris to wish to know more.

2. With all this pride of … they looked ridiculous.

3. She has not favored her … village or immediate family.

**estimate, estimation, estimative**

1.This virtue is held in higher … .

2.Scientists can … the ages of these dinosaurs.

3.The three types of finished intelligence are: basic, current, and estimative.

**extinct, extinction**

1. His findings suggested that the number of … butterfly species increased.
2. There are now serious actions taken for the survival of this majestic beast at the brink of … .

**familiar, familiarize, familiarity**

1. There is more poetry around, and people are more … with it, than they believe.

2. Even more important, however, is … of the text.

3. … yourself with the agreement and sign it.

**cultivate, cultivator, cultivation**

1. As soon as people start to … the land they will be able to eat.

2. They were engaged in cattle raising and the … of rice.

3. We don't have to maintain the field … and other machinery either.

**domesticated, domesticate, domestic**

1. These … animals have a reputation for eating everything in sight.

2. [What causes … violence?](http://app.reference.com/click/jl79qz?clksite=dict&clkquery=8FCD8AE83A370C98C2B6B545F41280A8&clkpage=dic&clkimpr=T986IC7TDOYPtrVE&clkld=0&clkref=http%3A%2F%2Fdictionary.reference.com%2Fbrowse%2Fdomestication%3Fqsrc%3D2446&clken=rlqwm&clkord=1&clkblk=rq&clktemp=lrl&clkmod=rq&clkitem=What%20causes%20domestic%20violence%3F&clkdest=http%3A%2F%2Fanswers.reference.com%2FWellness%2FMisc%2Fwhat_causes_domestic_violence)

3. At some point in evolutionary history dogs diverged from wolves thanks to … by humans.

**availability, availably, available**

1. There are a number of benefits that come with the new technology that aren’t … today.

2. In learning to write … , a newspaper-office is a capital preparatory school.

3. In the developing world, reuse of syringes spreads disease, and lack of refrigeration limits the … of vaccines.

***Task 5. Choose the right variant.***

1. The Aborigines are believed to have come by [boat](file:///C:\wiki\Boat) from … .

a) [Indonesia](file:///C:\wiki\History_of_Indonesia);

b) Africa;

c) South America.

2. Aboriginal people lived in … .

a) the south-eastern part of Australia;

b) the south-western part of Australia;

c) all over the territory of Australia.

3. They had to be mobile because … .

a) they were afraid of fires;

b) they didn’t cultivate land and domesticate animals;

c) their culture made them find new sources for inspiration.

4. In coastal areas the groups were relatively static because … .

a) they were stronger;

b) the lands were more fertile;

c) they wanted to travel by sea to other continents.

5. Aborigines invented tools like … .

a) the spade and rakes;

b) the plough and axe;

c) the [boomerang](file:///C:\wiki\Boomerang) and spear.

6. Their huts were often made from bark and boughs because … .

a) it was too hot;

b) they didn’t stay long at the same place;

c) they were not afraid of wild animals.

7. People of a kangaroo totem … .

a) killed kangaroos to wear their leather and sculps;

b) bred kangaroos;

c) carried out special ceremonies to ensure the continued increase of the kangaroo.

8. Captain James Cook … .

a) was one of other European explorers who travelled to Australia;

b) was the first European who discovered Australia;

c) never reached the shores of Australia.

9. The first European in Australia was … .

a) British;

b) Dutch;

c) Spanish.

10. The majority of first European explorers … .

a) admired the Aborigines;

b) considered them frightening and savage;

c) didn’t see any Aborigines at all.

**UNIT 4. COLONIAL AUSTRALIA**

**Pre-reading activities**

The colonization of Australia began at the end of the 18th century. Taking into account historical and economical situation in the world, state the possible causes and motives of establishing the colony in Australia by the British. Who were the first immigrants? Why did they like or have to settle there?

**1. The Foundation of Australia**

[Poverty](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poverty), [social injustice](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_injustice), [child labor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Child_labor), harsh and dirty living conditions and long working hours were prevalent in the late 18th-19th-century Britain. [Dickens](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Dickens)' novels perhaps best illustrate this; even some government officials were horrified by what they saw. According to Robert Hughes in *The Fatal Shore*, the population of England and Wales, which had remained steady at 6 million from 1700 to 1740, rose dramatically after 1740. By the time of the revolt of the American colonies, London was overcrowded, filled with the unemployed, and flooded with cheap [gin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gin). Crime had become a major problem.

Due to the [Bloody Code](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bloody_Code), by the 1770s, there were 222 crimes in Britain which carried the [death penalty](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Death_penalty), almost all of them for crimes against property. Many even included offences such as the stealing of goods worth over 5 shillings, the cutting down of a tree, stealing an animal or stealing from a rabbit warren. The Bloody Code died out in the 1800s because judges and juries thought that punishments were too harsh. Since the law makers still wanted punishments to scare potential criminals, but needed them to become less harsh, transportation became the more common punishment.

The Industrial Revolution saw an increase in petty crime in Europe due to the displacement of much of the population, leading to pressures on the government to find an alternative to confinement in overcrowded gaols. The situation in Britain was so dire in fact, that hulks left over from the Seven Years War were used as makeshift floating prisons.

Transportation was a common punishment handed out for both major and petty crimes in Britain from the 17th until well into the 19th century. At the time it was seen as a more humane alternative to execution. Around 60,000 convicts were transported to the British colonies in North America in the 17th and 18th centuries.

The British decided to use the land visited by Captain Cook as a prison colony. Britain needed a place to send its convicts (people who had been sent to jail for theft and other crimes) because its gaols were full and it had just lost its American colonies in the American War of Independence. Alternatives to the American colonies were investigated and the newly discovered and mapped East Coast of New Holland was proposed. The details provided by James Cook during his expedition to the South Pacific in 1770 made it the most suitable.

Therefore, during the late 18th and 19th centuries, large numbers of convicts were transported to the various Australian penal colonies by the British government. One of the primary reasons for the British settlement of Australia was the establishment of a penal colony to alleviate pressure on their overburdened [correctional](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaol) facilities. Over the 80 years more than 165,000 convicts were transported to Australia. The last convicts to be transported to Australia arrived in Western Australia in 1868.

On 18 August 1786 the decision was made to send a [colonisation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colonisation) party of convicts, military, and civilian personnel to [Botany Bay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Botany_Bay). There were 775 convicts on board six transport ships. They were accompanied by officials, members of the crew, marines, the families thereof and their own children who together totaled 645. In all, eleven ships were sent in what became known as the [First Fleet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Fleet). Other than the convict transports, there were two naval escorts and three storeships.

The fleet arrived at Botany Bay on 20 January 1788. It soon became clear that it would not be suitable for the establishment of a colony, and the group relocated to [Port Jackson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_Jackson). There they established the first permanent European colony on the Australian continent, [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales), on 26 January. The area has since developed into Sydney. This date is still celebrated as [Australia Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia_Day).

There was initially a high [mortality rate](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mortality_rate) amongst the members of the first fleet due mainly to shortages of food. The ships carried only enough food to provide for the [settlers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Settler) until they could establish agriculture in the region. Unfortunately, there were insufficient skilled farmers and domesticated livestock to do this, and the colony waited on the arrival of the Second Fleet. The second fleet was an unprecedented disaster that provided little in the way of help and upon its delivery in June 1790 of still more sick and dying convicts, which actually worsened the situation in Port Jackson.

Arthur Phillip, first Governor of New South Wales

Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Bourke (the ninth [Governor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governors_of_New_South_Wales) of the Colony of New South Wales between 1831 and 1837) appalled by the excessive punishments doled out to convicts, passed 'The Magistrates Act', which limited the sentence a magistrate could pass to 50 lashes (previously there was no such limit).

Later on Bourke continued his reforms by combating the inhumane treatment handed out to convicts, including limiting the number of convicts each employer was allowed to have, as well as granting rights to freed convicts, such as allowing the acquisition of property and service on juries.

It took another 10 years, but transportation to the colony of New South Wales was finally officially abolished on 1 October 1850.

If a convict was well behaved, he could be given a ticket of leave, granting some freedom. At the end of the sentence, seven years in most cases, the convict was issued with a Certificate of Freedom. He was then free to become a settler or to return to England. Convicts that misbehaved, however, were often sent to a place of [secondary punishment](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Secondary_punishment&action=edit&redlink=1) like Port Arthur, Tasmania or Norfolk Island, where they would suffer additional punishment and solitary confinement.

The colony of Port Jackson was originally mostly a penal colony with a minority of free [settlers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Settler_colonialism). From the very first days of settlement, it was necessary to obtain leave to migrate to Australia. Since the cost of travelling from Europe was much higher than going from there to the United States, the colonies found it difficult attracting migrants. In the 1840s this was overcome by using the ideas of Edward Wakefield, who proposed to keep land prices and to use the money to subsidise immigrants. This continued until self-government was achieved, when the electors refused to sanction tax money being used to provide competitors for available jobs.

**2. The Relations between the First Settlers and the Aboriginals**

In 1788 when the British [First Fleet](file:///C:\wiki\First_Fleet) of 11 ships, carrying about 1500 people arrived at [Sydney](file:///C:\wiki\Sydney), the country was inhabited by an estimated 300,000 Aboriginals. [Arthur Phillip](file:///C:\wiki\Arthur_Phillip) led them as the first [Governor of New South Wales](file:///C:\wiki\Governor_of_New_South_Wales). About 160 000 convicts were brought to Australia from 1788 until 1868. Free immigrants began arriving in the 1790s.

For the first few years they did not have much [food](file:///C:\wiki\Food), and life was very hard. But soon they began to [farm](file:///C:\wiki\Farm), and more people came. Sydney grew, and new towns were started. [Wool](file:///C:\wiki\Wool) brought good money. By 1822, many towns had been set up and people from the towns often visited Sydney for additional economic resources.

Soon people from [Sydney](file:///C:\wiki\Sydney) found other parts of Australia. [George Bass](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=George_Bass&action=edit&redlink=1) and [Matthew Flinders](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Matthew_Flinders&action=edit&redlink=1) sailed south to [Tasmania](file:///C:\wiki\Tasmania) and a colony was started at [Hobart](file:///C:\wiki\Hobart) in 1803. [Hamilton Hume](file:///C:\wiki\Hamilton_Hume) and [William Hovell](file:///C:\wiki\William_Hovell) went south from Sydney by land. They found the [Murray River](file:///C:\wiki\Murray_River), and good land in [Victoria](file:///C:\wiki\Victoria). [Thomas Mitchell](file:///C:\wiki\Thomas_Mitchell) went inland, and found more rivers. In 1826, the first [British military](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=British_military&action=edit&redlink=1) outpost was set up at [King George Sound](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=King_George_Sound&action=edit&redlink=1) in [Western Australia](file:///C:\wiki\Western_Australia). The [Swan River Colony](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Swan_River_Colony&action=edit&redlink=1) was started in 1829, with townsites at [Fremantle](file:///C:\wiki\Fremantle,_Western_Australia) and [Perth](file:///C:\wiki\Perth,_Western_Australia). In 1836, a free-settler colony was started in [South Australia](file:///C:\wiki\South_Australia), where no convicts were ever sent. [Queensland](file:///C:\wiki\Queensland) became a separate colony in 1859.

The British did not wish harm the Aboriginals - in fact, Governor Phillip began the penal settlement with the good intentions of "reconciling the Aboriginals to live amongst us, and to teach them the advantages they will reap from cultivating the land". But the newcomers assumed that their ways were superior to those of the Aboriginals, and that a people who were not Christians and who did not try to "improve" the land of their birth by agriculture were not only inferior beings, but also deserve to have their country take over.

Few attempts were made to understand the Aboriginals, their beliefs or their customs, or to understand how the Aboriginals had come to terms with an often-harsh environment - an environment that ruined many early settlers and cause the death of some white "explorers". Governor Macquarie in 1816 invited the natives to "relinquish their wandering, idle and predatory habits of life, and to become industrious and useful members of a community where they will find protection and encouragement".

Not surprisingly, the Aboriginals did not want to give up their way of life and enthusiastically embrace the ways of the newcomers, who in turn found their reluctance only further proof of the Aboriginals inferiority.

There were no treaties to regulate the movement of the British on to Aboriginals Land, and the attitudes of the two groups towards Land differed greatly. To the Aboriginals, to whom the Land was part of this life and the future of his group, land was not something to be bought and sold - it was not a commodity for exchange. The British believed that land could not only be bought and sold, but taken to be exploited by productive agriculture, and that those who carry out this obligation had some kind of "moral right" to the land.

As the towns and farms spread across Australia, the Aboriginals began to lose their hunting grounds, their watering holes, in fact their source of life. Some were [killed](file:///C:\wiki\Kill), some contracted diseases to which they had no resistance; they suffered from hunger, the effects of alcohol, and from fighting between the groups.

Soon, Australia's Aborigines were outnumbered by Europeans, and many were made to live on reserves.

1. **The Gold Rush in Australia**

The number of convicts pales in comparison to the immigrants who arrived in Australia in the [1851-1871 gold rush](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_gold_rushes). In 1852 alone, 370,000 immigrants arrived in Australia. People from all over Europe, America, the Middle East, and China brought nothing but a will to work hard and the skills they had attained in their home countries. Many of them never saw any gold but their skills proved to be invaluable to the formation of Australia as a country that could stand up on its own.  
By 1871 the total population had nearly quadrupled from 430,000 to 1.7 million people.

The population grew across south east Australia and made great wealth and industry. By 1853 the goldrushes had made some poor people very rich.

1. **Establishing Democracy**

Convict transportation ended in the 1840s and 1850s and more changes came. The people in Australia wanted to run their own country, and not be told what to do from London. The first governments in the colonies were run by Governors chosen by London. Soon the settlers wanted local government and more democracy. The [New South Wales Legislative Council](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=New_South_Wales_Legislative_Council&action=edit&redlink=1) was created in 1825 to advise the [Governor of New South Wales](file:///C:\wiki\Governor_of_New_South_Wales), but it was not chosen by voters. [William Wentworth](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=William_Wentworth&action=edit&redlink=1) established the [Australian Patriotic Association](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Australian_Patriotic_Association&action=edit&redlink=1) (Australia's first political party) in 1835 to demand [democratic government](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Parliamentary_democracy&action=edit&redlink=1) for New South Wales. In 1840, the [Adelaide City Council](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Adelaide_City_Council&action=edit&redlink=1) and the [Sydney City Council](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Sydney_City_Council&action=edit&redlink=1) were started and some people could vote for them (but only men with a certain amount of money). Then, Australia's first [parliamentary](file:///C:\wiki\Parliament) elections were held for the New South Wales Legislative Council in 1843, again with some limits on who could vote. *The Australian Colonies Government Act* (1850) allowed constitutions for New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. In 1850 elections for legislative councils were also held in the colonies of Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania.

In 1855, limited self government was granted by London to New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. A new [secret ballot](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Secret_ballot&action=edit&redlink=1) was introduced in Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia in 1856, allowing people to vote in private. This system was copied around the world. In 1855, the [right to vote](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Right_to_vote&action=edit&redlink=1) was given to all men over 21 in [South Australia](file:///C:\wiki\South_Australia). The other colonies soon followed. Women were given the vote in the [Parliament of South Australia](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Parliament_of_South_Australia&action=edit&redlink=1) in 1895 and they became the first women in the world allowed to stand in elections. In 1897 [Catherine Helen Spence](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Catherine_Helen_Spence&action=edit&redlink=1) became the first female political candidate.

Australians had started parliamentary democracies all across the continent. But voices were getting louder for all of them to come together as one country with a national parliament.

***Task 1.Complete the table and speak about the growth of population in Australia in the 19th century.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Group of People | Reasons for Immigration |
| British convicts |  |
|  | to find gold |
| German missionaries |  |
|  | to find available jobs |

***Task 2. Comprehension Check.***

1. What was life in Britain like in the second half of 18th - 19th century?

2. What the major problem for authorities?

3. Why was the system of laws and punishments in England between 1688 and 1815 called the Bloody Code?

4. What was the situation with prisons like?

5. Why was Australia chosen as a penal colony?

6. Who were the first British settlers to Australia?

7. What is the First Fleet known for?

8. When and why is Australia Day celebrated?

9. What was the life of the settlers like for the first few years?

10. What did [Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Bourke](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Bourke) do to improve the convicts’ life conditions?

11. What were [Port Arthur, Tasmania](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_Arthur,_Tasmania) and [Norfolk Island](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norfolk_Island) known for in the 19th century?

12. What was the initial attitude of the newcomers to the Aboriginal people? How did they feel about them?

13. How did the attitude change with time?

14.What was the Aboriginal reaction?

15.It was not only criminals who made the population of Australia quadruple in the 19th century, was it?

16. Which democratic changes took place in Australia in the 19th century?

***Task 3.***

**prevalent, prevalence, prevail**

1. In that limited geography, the bicycle is the … form of transport.

2. They've had to go underground a few times, but in the end reason and logic … .

3. The … of sweet flavors in children's candy is evident.

[**execution**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Execution_(legal))**, execute**

1. He was … at midnight.

2.[If I were asked to chose between … and life in prison I would, of course, chose the latter.](http://app.reference.com/click/k3p087?clksite=dict&clkquery=0EB093A37A204E414DB3344811D63F02&clkpage=dic&clkimpr=T+FfeS7TDOYUyw9d&clkld=0&clkref=http%3A%2F%2Fdictionary.reference.com%2Fbrowse%2Fprevalence%3Fqsrc%3D2446&clken=qumod&clkord=0&clkblk=quot&clktemp=rr1&clkmod=qumod&clkitem=%22If%20I%20were%20asked%20to%20chose%20between%20execution%20and%20life%20in%20prison%20I%20would%2C%20of%20course%2C%20chose%20the%20latter.%20It's%20better%20to%20live%20somehow%20than%20not%20at%20all.%22&clkdest=http%3A%2F%2Fquotes.dictionary.com%2FIf_I_were_asked_to_chose_between_execution%3F__utma%3D1.1597351542.1338727495.1340028296.1340169873.3%26__utmb%3D1.12.9.1340170101648%26__utmc%3D1%26__utmx%3D-%26__utmz%3D1.1338727495.1.1.utmcsr%3D(direct)%7Cutmccn%3D(direct)%7Cutmcmd%3D(none)%26__utmv%3D-%26__utmk%3D111794692)

**alleviate, alleviation**

1. There could be no comfort in their mourning, no … to their sorrow.

2. There was nothing in the whole world to alleviate his pain.

**appalled, appalling**

1. She was … by the poverty they lived in.

2. It is … that you recommend a world without fish.

**petition (n, v)**

1. [In the moment when you make the least … to God you must exclude all other beings from your thought](http://app.reference.com/click/k3p087?clksite=dict&clkquery=DFF6351B619B3C7AC92C2F6B57926672&clkpage=dic&clkimpr=T+Fi3C7TDOYrO47o&clkld=0&clkref=http%3A%2F%2Fdictionary.reference.com%2Fbrowse%2Fappall%3Fs%3Dt&clken=qumod&clkord=0&clkblk=quot&clktemp=rr1&clkmod=qumod&clkitem=%22In%20the%20moment%20when%20you%20make%20the%20least%20petition%20to%20God%2C%20though%20it%20be%20but%20a%20silent%20wish%20that%20he%20may%20approve%20you%2C%20or%20add%20one%20moment%20to%20your%20life%2C%E2%80%94do%20you%20not%2C%20in%20the%20very%20act%2C%20necessarily%20exclude%20all%20other%20beings%20from%20your%20thought%3F%20In%20that%20act%2C%20the%20soul%20stands%20alone%20with%20God%2C%20and%20Jesus%20is%20no%20more%20present%20to%20your%20mind%20than%20your%20brother%20or%20your%20child.%22&clkdest=http%3A%2F%2Fquotes.dictionary.com%2FIn_the_moment_when_you_make_the_least%3F__utma%3D1.1597351542.1338727495.1340028296.1340169873.3%26__utmb%3D1.38.9.1340170969127%26__utmc%3D1%26__utmx%3D-%26__utmz%3D1.1338727495.1.1.utmcsr%3D(direct)%7Cutmccn%3D(direct)%7Cutmcmd%3D(none)%26__utmv%3D-%26__utmk%3D68399889).

 2. They decided to petition Parliement on this issue.

**minority, minor (adj, v)**

1. The … takes another step in blocking majority rule.

2. At University he majored in sociology and … in [art](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/art) history.

3. [Even a … event in the life of a child is an event of that child's world and thus a world event.](http://app.reference.com/click/k3p087?clksite=dict&clkquery=09A186573A72689C68A8BC67297567C6&clkpage=dic&clkimpr=T+Fj2y7TDOYLQh5X&clkld=0&clkref=http%3A%2F%2Fdictionary.reference.com%2Fbrowse%2Fminorite%3Fqsrc%3D2446&clken=qumod&clkord=0&clkblk=quot&clktemp=rr1&clkmod=qumod&clkitem=%22Even%20a%20minor%20event%20in%20the%20life%20of%20a%20child%20is%20an%20event%20of%20that%20child's%20world%20and%20thus%20a%20world%20event.%22&clkdest=http%3A%2F%2Fquotes.dictionary.com%2FEven_a_minor_event_in_the_life_of%3F__utma%3D1.1597351542.1338727495.1340028296.1340169873.3%26__utmb%3D1.44.9.1340171224848%26__utmc%3D1%26__utmx%3D-%26__utmz%3D1.1338727495.1.1.utmcsr%3D(direct)%7Cutmccn%3D(direct)%7Cutmcmd%3D(none)%26__utmv%3D-%26__utmk%3D72455955)

**subsidise, subsidy**

1. Sceptics therefore doubt that the … is a good use of public money.

2. The higher fees they pay at university … domestic students.

**relinquish, relinquishment**

1. The … must be in writing, and the signature of the parent or guardian must be notarized.

2.Sorry you had to … your dog to a rescue group.

***Task 4. Match the words and word combinations with their definitions.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1.convict | a) a person who presides over court proceedings |
| 2.crime | b)a document of parole issued to convicts who had shown they could now be trusted with some freedoms |
| 3.judge | c) a person found guilty of a [crime](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crime) and sentenced by a court or a person serving a sentence in prison |
| 4.jury | d) a correctional institution used to detain persons who are in the lawful custody of the government |
| 5.petty offence | e) the breach of rules or [laws](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law) for which some [governing authority](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government) can ultimately prescribe a [conviction](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conviction) |
| 6.death penalty | f) legal process whereby a person is put to death by the state as a punishment for a crime |
| 7.gaol | g) a minor crime, the maximum punishment for which is generally a fine or a short term in a prison or a house of correction |
| 8.sentence | h) a penalty applied to a person or entity found guilty of a criminal act |
| 9.ticket of leave | i) a sworn body of people convened to set a [penalty](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sentence_(law)) or [judgment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judgment_(law)) |

***Task 5. Choose the right variant.***

1. After 1740 the population of England … .

a) decreased;

b) increased;

c) fluctuated.

2. The Bloody Code died out in the 1800s because … .

a) there were a lot uprisings;

b) judges and juries thought that punishments were too harsh;

c) there was a political scandal.

3. The most common punishment after abolishing the Bloody Code was … .

a) death penalty;

b) transportation;

c) imprisonment.

4. The first colony in Australia was established in … .

a) Port Jackson;

b) New South Wales;

c) Victoria.

5. The first [Governor of New South Wales](file:///C:\wiki\Governor_of_New_South_Wales) was … .

a) Arthur Phillip;

b) Sir Richard Bourke;

c) Captain James Cook.

6. Magistrates and employers … “The Magistrates Act” by Sir Richard Bourke.

a) approved;

b) disapproved;

c) didn’t care for.

7. Australia was not the most attractive destination for immigrants because … .

a) they didn’t like its harsh climatic conditions and lack of water;

b) it was too far geographically from the rest of the continents;

c) they were afraid of convicts.

8. To solve the problem with lack of immigrants [Edward Gibbon Wakefield](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Gibbon_Wakefield) proposed … .

a) to keep land prices high, and to use the money subsidise immigrants;

b) to reduce taxes for immigrants;

c) to deposit money to immigrants for opening their business.

9. The new settlers and the Aboriginals couldn’t find a compromise because … .

a) their attitude to land differed greatly;

b) their religious views were different;

c) there were a lot of diseases brought by newcomers.

***LANGUAGE FOCUS: The Origins of Australian English***

**Pre-reading activity**

***Which factors might have influenced the formation of Australian English?***

Australian English started diverging from [British English](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_English) after the founding of the [colony](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colony) of [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales) in 1788 and was recognised as being different from [British English](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_English) by 1820. It arose from the intermingling of children of early settlers from a great variety of [mutually intelligible](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mutual_intelligibility) dialectal regions of the [British Isles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Isles) and quickly developed into a distinct variety of English.

The earliest form of Australian English was first spoken by the children of the colonists born into the colony of [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales). This very first generation of children created a new dialect that was to become the language of the nation. The Australian-born children in the new colony were exposed to a wide range of different dialects from all over the [British Isles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Isles), in particular from [Ireland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ireland) and [South East England](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_East_England).

The native-born children of the colony created the new dialect from factors present in the speech they heard around them, and provided an avenue for the expression of [peer solidarity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peer_pressure). Even when new settlers arrived, this new dialect was strong enough to deflect the influence of other patterns of speech.

A large part of the convict body were the [Irish](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_people), with at least 25% directly from Ireland, many who did not speak English, and others indirectly via Britain. There were other significant populations of convicts from non-English speaking areas of Britain, such as the [Scottish Highlands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scottish_Highlands) and [Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wales).

Records from the early 19th century survive to this day describing the distinct dialect that had surfaced in the colonies since [first settlement](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Fleet) in 1788, with [Peter Miller Cunningham's](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Miller_Cunningham) 1827 book *Two Years in New South Wales*, describing the distinctive accent and vocabulary of the native born colonists, different from that of their parents and with a strong [London](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London) influence.

The first of the [Australian gold rushes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_gold_rushes), in the 1850s, began a large wave of [immigration](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immigration_to_Australia), with approximately two per cent of the population of the [United Kingdom](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom) emigrating to the colonies of [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales) and [Victoria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_(Australia)).

This great influx of immigrants caused the integration of numerous new patterns into the local speech. By this time several words of Irish origin had been adopted into the language, some of which are also common elsewhere in the Irish diaspora, such as

*tucker* for "food", "provisions" (from Irish *tacar*: "support, provisions");

*goog / googy* "egg" (Gaelic *gog / gug* "cluck", "egg" (baby-talk);

*chook* "chicken" (Gaelic *tsiug / tsiuc / tsiucaí / tsiugaí* "come!" (call to chickens), "chicken" (baby-talk);

*duffer* "rustler" (Gaelic *dubhfhear* "dark(-haired) man, highwayman, man involved in "dark" deeds);

*bum* "bottom (of person)" (Gaelic *bun* "bottom, base");

*galoot* "fool, idiot" (Gaelic *galltuata* "foreign simpleton");

*sheila* "young woman, woman" (Gaelic *síle* "tomboy / mannish woman" - an idiomatic use of *Síle* "Sheila");

*gob* "mouth" (Gaelic *gob* "beak, pointy nose");

*puss* "face" (Gaelic *pus* "mouth");

*slog* (of whiskey) Gaelic *slog* "swallow");

*blob* (Gaelic *blab*);

*slob* (Gaelic *slab* "slime, mud, goo");

*hooligan* (from the Gaelic family name *Ó hUallacháin*, from *uallachán* "howler, rowdy person, rioter");

*gab* (Gaelic *geab* (a slang word) "speak, say");

*cack / cacky / kicky* "excreta" (baby-talk) (Gaelic *cac* "excreta", *cacaí / caicí* "excreata" (baby-talk));

Moreover, the meaning of one or two native English words may have changed under Gaelic influence, such as*paddock* for "field", cf. Irish *páirc* "field".

Some elements of [Aboriginal languages](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Aboriginal_languages) have been [adopted by Australian English](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_English_words_of_Australian_Aboriginal_origin) - mainly as names for places, flora and fauna (for example, [*dingo*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dingo)) and local culture. Many such are localised, and do not form part of general Australian use, while others, such as *kangaroo*, *boomerang*, *budgerigar*, *wallaby* and so on have become international. Other examples are [*cooee*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cooee) and *hard yakka*. The former is used as a high-pitched call, for attracting attention, (pronounced /kʉː.iː/) which travels long distances. *Cooee* is also a notional distance: *if he's within cooee, we'll spot him*. *Hard yakka* means *hard work* and is derived from *yakka*, from the [Jagera](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turrubal_language)/Yagara language once spoken in the Brisbane region.

Also from there is the word *bung*, from the Sydney [pidgin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pidgin) English (and ultimately from the Sydney Aboriginal language), meaning "dead", with some extension to "broken" or "useless".

Many towns or suburbs of Australia have also been influenced or named after Aboriginal words. The most well known example is the capital, Canberra named after a local language word meaning "meeting place".

Among the changes brought by the 19th century gold rushes was the introduction of words, spellings, terms and usages from [North American English](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_American_English). The words imported included some later considered to be typically Australian, such as *dirt* and *digger* and *bonzer*. The influx of American military personnel in [World War II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II) brought further American influence; seen in the enduring persistence of *okay*, *you guys* and *gee*. The American influence on [North Queensland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Queensland) during and after World War II led to the localised adoption of terms such as [*bronco*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bronco)for the native [*brumby*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brumby) meaning wild horse, and [*cowboy*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cowboy) for the native [*drover*](http://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/drover) and *stockman* for a cattle or sheep herder, though such words are still overtly felt to be "Americanisms".

Since the advent of [film](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Film), however, the American influence on language in Australia has mostly come from popular culture and media. Where [British and American vocabulary differs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_and_British_English_differences), Australians sometimes favour an Australian usage as in [capsicum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capsicum), also used in India (for US bell pepper, UK red or green pepper), sometimes shares a term with America, as with [eggplant](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eggplant) for UK aubergine, and sometimes shares the British usage, such as [mobile phone](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mobile_phone) for US cell phone.

***Task 6. State the meaning and origin of the following words. Group them by the categories (people, clothing, vehicles, sport, food and drink, environment, flora and fauna, Aboriginal culture).***

[*outback*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Outback)*,* [*Jackaroo*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jackaroo_(trainee))*,* [*creek*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stream)*, paddock, bush, dingo,* [*kangaroo*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kangaroo)*,* [*sheila*](http://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/sheila)*, bludger, bluey, jumper, singlet, sunnies, bikkies, thongs,* [*capsicum*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capsicum)*,*[*flat white*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flat_white)*, footy, short black, ute, Macka's, shrimp, black marias, overseas.*

[*boobook*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_boobook)*,* [*billabong*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billabong)*,* [*bogey*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bogey_(disambiguation))*,* [*coolibah*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coolibah)*,* [*dingo*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dingo)*,* [*koala*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Koala)*,* [*boondie*](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Boondie&action=edit&redlink=1)*,* [*min-min*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Min-min)*lights, willy willy,* [*boomerang*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boomerang)*,* [*coolamon*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coolamon_(vessel))*,* [*kangaroo*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kangaroo)*,* [*kookaburra*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kookaburra)*,* [*taipan*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taipan)*,* [*humpy*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humpy)*,* [*lubra*](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Lubra&action=edit&redlink=1)*, yarndi.*

**UNIT 5. AUSTRALIA IN THE 20TH CENTURY**

**Pre-reading activity**

***Answer the following questions***

1. Which colonies were established on the territory of Australia?

2. What form of government existed in the colonies?

3. What might have been the reasons of their desire to make up one state?

Until 1901, Australia was not a [nation](file:///C:\wiki\Nation), it was six separate [colonies](file:///C:\wiki\Colony) governed by Britain. This worked well when everybody was British and there were only a few people. But now there were thousands of people and many of them had never been to Britain, an eight-month journey away by sea. If people in one colony wanted to buy or sell things to people in another colony, they had to ask permission. A desire to facilitate cooperation on matters of mutual interest, especially intercolonial tariffs, led to proposals to unite the separate [British](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom) [colonies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crown_colony) in Australia under a single federation.

However, the smaller colonies feared domination by the larger ones. [Victoria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_(Australia)) and [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales) disagreed over the ideology of [protectionism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protectionism). The then-recent [American Civil War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Civil_War) also hampered the case for federalism. These difficulties led to the failure of several attempts to bring about federation in the 1850s and 1860s.

#### 1. A Nation is Born

By the 1880s, fear of the growing presence of the [Germans](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Germany) and the French in the Pacific, coupled with a growing Australian identity, created the opportunity for establishing the first inter-colonial body, the [Federal Council of Australasia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_Council_of_Australasia), established in 1889. The Federal Council could legislate on certain subjects. The absence of [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales), the largest colony, also diminished its representative value.

[Henry Parkes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Parkes), the [Premier of New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Premier_of_New_South_Wales), was instrumental in pushing for a series of conferences in the 1890s to discuss federalism attended by colonial leaders. By the 1891 conference, significant momentum had been built for the federalist cause, and discussion turned to the proper system of government for a federal state. Under the guidance of [Sir Samuel Griffith](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_Samuel_Griffith), a draft constitution was drawn up. However, these meetings lacked popular support.

In 1895, the six premiers of the Australian colonies agreed to establish a new Convention by popular vote. The Convention met over the course of a year from 1897 to 1898. The meetings produced a new draft which contained substantially the same principles of government as the 1891 draft, but with added provisions for [responsible government](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Responsible_government). To ensure popular support, the draft was presented to the electors of each colony. After one failed attempt, an amended draft was submitted to the electors of each colony except [Western Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Australia). After ratification by the five colonies, the Bill was presented to the [British Imperial Parliament](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Imperial_Parliament) with an Address requesting [Queen Victoria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen_Victoria) to enact the Bill.

Finally, the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act was passed by the British Parliament in 1900. [Western Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Australia) agreed to join the Commonwealth in time for it to be an original member of the Commonwealth of Australia, which was officially established on 1 January 1901.

Therefore, the Commonwealth of Australia was formed in 1901 through the federation of six states under a single constitution. The non-Indigenous population at the time of Federation was 3.8 million. Half of these lived in cities, three-quarters were born in Australia, and the majority were of English, Scottish or Irish descent.

Australia soon had its own money, and its own Army and Navy. The founders of the new nation believed they were creating something new and were concerned to avoid the pitfalls of the old world. They wanted Australia to be harmonious, united and egalitarian, and had progressive ideas about human rights, the observance of democratic procedures and the value of a secret ballot.

But Australia was still part of the British Empire, and still felt very close to Britain and the British Kings and Queens. Over 77 percent of the Population had been born to British parents and of these, 18 percent had actually been born in Britain.

Therefore, Australian society had been massively influenced by the British ideas and tradition, and this was reflected in all aspects of Australian life. Parliaments and laws were modeled on those of Britain, and the newly founded Australian House of Representatives bore a striking resemblance to the Lower House of Britain, and the Senate likewise to the House of Lords. Schools taught British history and literatrure as a major priority.

**2. The White Australia Policy**

The white Australia policy originally developed during the 1800s because many Australians came from English stock and as a result felt that they were superior. They didn't even officially recognise the existence of Aboriginals. They felt that by allowing other races into the country that their position would be swamped by ensuring cheap labour market and that they would become an unemployed minority in their own country.

Some Australians wanted a "White Australia" policy and they believed Federation would enable the development and maintenance of a "White Australia", by toughening immigration laws. There was lingering resentment over the Chinese who had come during the gold rush, made their fortune (as they were far more industrious than Australians) and then returned to their own country, taking their fortune with them. Some stayed and set up businesses in towns, but they were always looked down upon. It was hoped by some (not all) that a White Australia policy would ensure employment for Australians. Some colonies were opposed to this policy as they used foreign labour, which was often much cheaper than local labour. An example of this is Queensland, which employed Kanakas (people from the Cook Islands). Under the new constitution, not only the Kanakas, but also the much-feared Chinese, who came to Australia during the gold rush, would not be allowed into Australia. Thus Federation would eliminate unwanted foreigners, providing more employment for Australians.

Therefore in 1901 the Immigration Restriction Act was introduced by the new Federal Parliament. It aimed at excluding all non-European migrants. The mechanism restricting immigration could not be based on race as this was opposed by Britain. Instead, the basis of literacy, assessed by a Dictation Test.

The Immigration Restriction Act enabled the government to exclude any person who failed to write out a dictation of 50 words in a European language. The Dictation Test could be administered to any immigrant during the first year of residence.

It was initially proposed that the Test would be in English, but this could discourage European migration and advantage Japanese people, and Americans of African descent. Instead, any European language was specified. From 1932 the Test could be given during the first five years of residence, and any number of times.

The Dictation Test was administered 805 times in 1902-03 with 46 people passing and 554 times in 1904-09 with only six people successful. After 1909 no person passed the Dictation Test and people who failed were refused entry or deported.

***Task 1. Express your opinion on the White Australia Policy. Was it mostly a wise governmental decision? Why does the policy not work any longer?***

**3. Australia in the First World War**

In 1914 the [First World War](file:///C:\wiki\World_War_I) started in Europe. Australia joined in on the side of Britain, [France](file:///C:\wiki\France) and [Russia](file:///C:\wiki\Russia), against [Germany](file:///C:\wiki\Germany), [Austria-Hungary](file:///C:\wiki\Austria-Hungary) and [Turkey](file:///C:\wiki\Turkey).

The War had a devastating impact on Australia. In 1914 the male population of Australia was less than 3 million, yet almost 400 000 of them volunteered to fight in the war. As many as 60 000 died and tens of thousands more were wounded.

Australian soldiers were sent to [Gallipoli](file:///C:\w\index.php?title=Gallipoli&action=edit&redlink=1), in Turkey. They fought bravely, but were beaten by the Turks. Out of this experience was born one of Australia’s most enduring values: the ‘Anzac’ (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps) ethos of courage and spirit. Every year on 25 April, Australia commemorates the brave but devastating battle. The day also commemorates all Australian soldiers who have fought in wars since then.

Australian women volunteered for service in auxiliary roles, as cooks, nurses, drivers, interpreters, munitions workers, and skilled farm workers. While the government welcomed the service of nurses, it generally rejected offers from women in other professions to serve overseas. Australian nurses served in Egypt, France, Greece, and India, often in trying conditions or close to the front, where they were exposed to shelling and aerial bombardment.

The effect of the war was also felt at home. Families and communities grieved following the loss of so many men, and women increasingly assumed the physical and financial burden of caring for families. Anti-German feeling emerged with the outbreak of the war, and many Germans living in Australia were sent to internment camps. Censorship and surveillance, regarded by many as an excuse to silence political views that had no effect on the outcome of war, increased as the conflict continued. Social division also grew, reaching a climax in the bitterly contested (and unsuccessful) conscription referendums held in 1916 and 1917. When the war ended, thousands of ex-servicemen, many disabled with physical or emotional wounds, had to be re-integrated into a society keen to consign the war to the past and resume normal life.

**4. Australia in the Second World War**

Between World War I and World War II, Australia suffered greatly from the [Great Depression](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Depression). Social and economic divisions widened during the Depression years when many Australian financial institutions failed. This limited Australian defence expenditure and led to a decline in the size and effectiveness of the armed forces during the late 1920s and early 1930s. In the years leading up to the war, Australia followed Britain's policy towards [Nazi Germany](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nazi_Germany), supporting first its [appeasement of Hitler](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Appeasement_of_Hitler) and then its guarantee of Polish independence.

Australia entered the war against Germany on 3 September 1939, shortly after Britain declared war when its ultimatum for Germany to withdraw from Poland expired. The Government's decision to immediately enter the war was primarily made on the grounds that Australia's interests were inextricably linked to those of Britain, and that a British defeat would destroy the system of imperial defence which Australia relied upon for security against Japan. This position received almost universal public support, though there was little enthusiasm for war.

At the time war was declared, the Australian armed forces were less prepared than at the outbreak of [World War I](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_I) in August 1914. However, a million Australians had served in the [armed forces](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Defence_Force), whose military units fought primarily in the [European theatre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Theatre_of_World_War_II), [North African campaign](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_African_campaign), and the [South West Pacific theatre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_West_Pacific_theatre_of_World_War_II). In addition, Australia [came under direct attack](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Attacks_on_Australia_during_World_War_II) for the first time in its history.

In fact, Australia fought two wars between 1939 and 1945 – one against Germany and Italy as part of the [British Commonwealth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commonwealth_of_Nations)'s war effort and the other against Japan in alliance with the United States and Britain.

In late 1941, as Japan struck at Pearl Harbor, most of Australia’s best forces were committed to the fight against Hitler in the [Mediterranean Theatre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mediterranean_Theatre). Australia was ill-prepared for an attack, lacking armaments, modern fighter aircraft, heavy bombers, and aircraft carriers. The Australian Prime Minister [John Curtin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Curtin) called for American support.

Australia had been shocked by the speedy collapse of British Malaya and [Fall of Singapore](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fall_of_Singapore) in which around 15,000 Australian soldiers became prisoners of war. Many people feared that Japan would invade Australia. Curtin predicted that the "[battle for Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_for_Australia)" would now follow. The Japanese established a major base in the Australian [Territory of New Guinea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Territory_of_New_Guinea) in early 1942. On 19 February, [Darwin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darwin,_Northern_Territory) suffered a devastating [air raid](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Air_raids_on_Darwin,_19_February_1942), the first time the Australian mainland had been attacked. Over the following 19 months, [Australia was attacked from the air](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_air_attacks_on_Australia,_1942-43) almost 100 times. But with help from the [United States](file:///C:\wiki\United_States), the Japanese were stopped. After the war, Australia became a close friend of the United States.

On 7 May 1945 the German High Command authorised the signing of an unconditional surrender on all fronts: the war in Europe was over. The surrender was to take effect at midnight on 8–9 May 1945. On 14 August 1945 Japan accepted of the Allied demand for unconditional surrender. For Australia it meant that the Second World War was finally over.

Its casualties from enemy action during the war were 27,073 killed and 23,477 wounded.

World War II led to significant changes to Australian society. Economically, the war accelerated the development of Australia's manufacturing industry and led to a large fall in unemployment. The impact of World War II changed Australian society, and contributed to the development of a more cosmopolitan society in which women were able to play a larger role. The war also resulted in a greater maturity in Australia's approach to international affairs, as demonstrated by the development of a more independent foreign policy and the encouragement of [mass immigration](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Post_war_immigration_to_Australia) after the war.

#### 5. Post-War Prosperity

After the war Australia entered a boom period but it felt that it needed many more people to fill the country up and to work. So the government said it would take in people in Europe who had lost their homes in the war. Millions of refugees and migrants arrived in Australia, many of them young people happy to embrace their new lives with energy and vigour. They came from [Italy](file:///C:\wiki\Italy), [Greece](file:///C:\wiki\Greece), [Yugoslavia](file:///C:\wiki\Yugoslavia), [Poland](file:///C:\wiki\Poland) and other countries in Europe. Later they also came from countries like [Turkey](file:///C:\wiki\Turkey) and [Lebanon](file:///C:\wiki\Lebanon).

The number of Australians employed in the manufacturing industry had grown steadily since the beginning of the century. Many women who had taken over factory work while men were away at war were able to continue working in peacetime.

The economy developed strongly in the 1950s with major nation-building projects such as the Snowy Mountains Scheme, a hydro-electric power scheme located in Australia’s southern alps. Suburban Australia also prospered. The rate of home ownership rose dramatically from barely 40 per cent in 1947 to more than 70 per cent by 1960.

Other developments included the expansion of the social security net and the arrival of television. Melbourne hosted the Olympic Games of 1956, shining the international spotlight on Australia.

In the 1960s the White Australia Policy was ended. Many people came to Australia from [China](file:///C:\wiki\China), [Vietnam](file:///C:\wiki\Vietnam), [Malaysia](file:///C:\wiki\Malaysia) and other countries in [Asia](file:///C:\wiki\Asia). Some Australians began to think of their country as being a part of Asia for the first time. But other Australians did not like this and said that Australia should keep its European character. Others thought Australia could be [multicultural](file:///C:\wiki\Multicultural) and accept all cultures.

***Task 2. Comprehension Check.***

1. What was the reason of uniting the colonies into Confederation?

2. Which historical events hampered the foundation of the Dominion in the 19th century?

3. Why did the smaller colonies not want to enter the Confederation?

4. Which model did Australian government accept? Why?

5. Why did the idea of the White Australia Policy appear?

6. What was the procedure of allowing immigrants enter the country according to the Immigration Restriction Act?

7. On which side did Australia enter the First and the Second World Wars? Why?

8. What does the ‘Anzac’ mean for Australians?

9. How did the attitude to women change after the First World War? Why?

10. Why was Australia not well financially prepared for the Second World War?

11. Why is Australia considered to have fought in two wars in 1939-1945?

12. What were the significant changes to Australian society after World War II?

13. How did immigration policy change after World War II?

***Task 3. Vocabulary Growth. State the meaning of the words and fill in the gaps.***

**facilitate, cooperation, tariffs, ideology, hamper , identity, legislate, diminish, ethos**

1. The report cited a lack of … between state and local officials.

2. Nothing could … the importance of his contributions.

3. The company made environmental awareness part of its business … .

4. He says that the election is not about … .

5. Cutting taxes may … economic recovery.

6. His art reflects his cultural … .

7. They are attempting to … morality.

8. Today … on electricity are growing.

9. The project was … by budget restraints.

***Task 4. Choose the right variant.***

1. By the beginning of the 20th century the population of Australia was predominantly … .

a) Aboriginal;

b) British;

c) American.

2. The Immigration Restriction Act aimed at … .

a) excluding all non-European migrants;

b) inviting more immigrants;

c) setting up friendly relations between Australians and immigrants.

3. ‘Anzac’ is … .

a) a Turkish town;

b) Australian and New Zealand Army Corps;

c) the name of a document.

4. World War II … .

a) accelerated the development of Australia's manufacturing industry and led to a large fall in unemployment;

b) suppressed the sense of national identity of Australians;

c) destroyed Australian economy.

**UNIT 6. A CHANGING SOCIETY**

**Pre-reading activity**

***In groups discuss the main events of the second half of the 20th century.Which of them do you consider the most important for Australia? Why?***

The 1960s was a period of change for Australia. The ethnic diversity produced by post-war immigration, the decline of the United Kingdom and the Vietnam War (to which Australia sent troops) all contributed to an atmosphere of political, economic and social change.

In the 1960s and 1970s Australia became one of the richest countries in the world, because it could [mine](file:///C:\wiki\Mining) a lot of [iron](file:///C:\wiki\Iron) and other things from the ground and produce [wool](file:///C:\wiki\Wool) which was good for export. Australian traded with Britain then more and more with the United States and Japan. Australia also supported the United States in wars against [dictatorships](file:///C:\wiki\Dictatorship) in [Korea](file:///C:\wiki\Korea) and [Vietnam](file:///C:\wiki\Vietnam) and later [Iraq](file:///C:\wiki\Iraq). Some Australians protested against these wars. Australia's [democracy](file:///C:\wiki\Democracy) meant that both sides could say what they thought and did not have to fight if they did not want to. Australian soldiers also helped the [United Nations](file:///C:\wiki\United_Nations) in countries like [Cambodia](file:///C:\wiki\Cambodia), [Rwanda](file:///C:\wiki\Rwanda) and [East Timor](file:///C:\wiki\East_Timor).

In 1967 the Australian people voted overwhelmingly in a national referendum to give the federal government the power to pass legislation on behalf of Indigenous Australians and to include Indigenous Australians in future censuses. The referendum result was the culmination of a strong campaign by both Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. It was widely seen as a strong affirmation of the Australian people’s wish to see its government take direct action to improve the living conditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Today Australia is one of the most cosmopolitan and dynamic societies in the world. Over 200 languages are spoken, with English the common language. The nation has thriving ethnic media, an international business reputation, an innovative artistic community, diverse religious and cultural activities and variety in foods, restaurants, fashion and architecture.

Today Australia is a rich, peaceful and democratic country. But it still has problems. Some people are still poor, mainly those who do not have jobs (around 4-5% of Australians could not get a job in 2010), or whose farms do not make enough money (but not many Australians work on farms). A lot of land in Australia (like [Uluru](file:///C:\wiki\Uluru)) has been returned to Aboriginal people, but in some places Aboriginal people want to get back control of land where other Australians are living, which is hard to deal with. Australians do not always agree about what to do about this. But most Australians live in cities where this is not a problem.

Every year the government chooses a big number of new people from all around the world to come as [immigrants](file:///C:\wiki\Immigrant) to live in Australia. These people may come because they want to do business, or to live in a democracy, to join their family, or because they are [refugees](file:///C:\wiki\Refugee) (people trying to get away from war and bad governments around the world). All the main leaders think this is a good idea and so Australia took 6.5 million immigrants in the 60 years after [World War Two](file:///C:\wiki\World_War_Two), including around 660,000 refugees. But - some people who say they are refugees want to come to Australia by boat without asking the government first. They travel in very dangerous boats organized by people smugglers and lots of people have drowned on the way. Many Australians disagree on what to do with these types of immigrants - some want to let them stay and live in Australia, others do not want to let them in and others are worried that more people will drown if the government just lets smugglers organize things.

**1. Celebrations and Festivals**

Australians are happy and festive people, and the warm [climate](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-climate.html) in [Australia](http://www.gondwananet.com/) allows them to celebrate all year around. There are some Australian celebrations, festivals and events that get Australians together at various times of the year.

In January, it is summer and Australians celebrate [Big Day Out](http://www.bigdayout.com/) - a huge open-air rock concert a day each in [Sydney](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales-sydney.html), [Melbourne](http://www.gondwananet.com/melbourne.html), [Adelaide](http://www.gondwananet.com/adelaide.html), [Perth](http://www.gondwananet.com/perth.html)and the [Gold Coast](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-queensland-gold-coast.html); [Australian Country Music Festival](http://www.tamworthcountrymusic.com.au/) in Tamworth in New South Wales; [Midsumma Festival](http://www.midsumma.org.au/) - Melbourne’s yearly gay festival, from Mid-January to mid-February; and [Chinese New Year](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/CNY/) in Sydney. On 26 January which was the day when the First Fleet arrived from England in Sydney and Captain Arthur Phillip docked his boats in Circular Quay, Australians all over the country celebrate [Australia Day](http://www.australiaday.org.au/experience/).

February's festivities are International Surfing Competition on Bells Beach; [Adelaide Festival](http://www.adelaidefestival.com.au/) from mid-February to mid-March in [Adelaide](http://www.gondwananet.com/adelaide.html); and Australian oldest cultural festival - [Festival of Perth](http://www.perthfestival.com.au/) in mid-February to mid-March in Perth. There's the colourful gay festival of [Sydney](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales-sydney.html) - [Mardi Gras](http://www.mardigras.org.au/); and the [Tropfest](http://www.tropfest.com/) which is a short-film festival hold in [Sydney](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales-sydney.html), [Melbourne](http://www.gondwananet.com/melbourne.html), [Canberra](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-australian-capital-territory-canberra.html), [Brisbane](http://www.gondwananet.com/brisbane.html), [Perth](http://www.gondwananet.com/perth.html) and [Hobart](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-tasmania-hobart.html) in the last Sunday in February.

 In **March**, autumn begins and they celebrate St Patrick’s Day on 17 March with that green beer; but there are also the [Australian Formula One Grand Prix](http://www.grandprix.com.au/) in [Melbourne](http://www.gondwananet.com/melbourne.html); [Targa Tasmania](http://www.targa.org.au/) - a six-day exotic car rally on 2000km of roads in [Tasmania](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-tasmania.html); and Ten Days on the Island - a Tasmanian cultural festival, celebrated in odd-numbered years.

In **April**, there are [Royal Easter Show](http://www.eastershow.com.au/) in [Sydney](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales-sydney.html); [International Flower and Garden Show](http://www.melbflowershow.com.au/index.php?section=1) in [Melbourne](http://www.gondwananet.com/melbourne.html) (five days during Easter); [Melbourne International Comedy Festival](http://www.comedyfestival.com.au/season/2009/) during the first three weeks of April; and [ANZAC Day](http://www.anzacday.org.au/) on 25 April which is celebrated all over the country.

In **May**, there are the [Australian Celtic Festival](http://www.australiancelticfestival.com/) in Glen Innes; the Italian Festival in Ingham; and the Sorry day on 26 May when Australians acknowledge the suffering of [Aboriginal people](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-aboriginal-history.html) from the last century’s Aboriginal stolen generation.

In **June**, it is winter and they celebrate Darling Harbour Jazz Festival in [Sydney](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales-sydney.html) (mid-June to mid-July); Aboriginal Dance Festival in [Cape York](http://www.gondwananet.com/cape-york-australia.html) (every second year); Sydney Film Festival and [Melbourne Film Festival](http://www.melbournefilmfestival.com.au/) (both during two weeks in the middle of June).

It's mid-winter in **July** and Australians celebrate [Yulefest](http://www.yulefest.com/) - Australians' "White Christmas" in the [Blue Mountains National Park](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales-blue-mountains-national-park.html) west of Sydney; [Cairns Show](http://www.cairnsshow.com.au/) in [Cairns](http://www.gondwananet.com/cairns.html); Naidoc Week, - National Aboriginal and Islander Day of Celebration; and [Alice Springs Camel Cup](http://www.camelcup.com.au/) in [Alice Springs](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-northern-territory-alice-springs.html) during the last weekend in July.

**August** is often the coldest month in Australia when they celebrate City Surf Race in [Sydney](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales-sydney.html) (which is a race from city to Bondi Beach on second Sunday in August); Shinju Matsuri Festival in [Broome](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-western-australia-broome.html) - a pearl festival in last weekend in August; [Almond Blossom Festival](http://www.willungafestivals.com/) in Mount Lofty; and the biggest rodeo in Australia - [Mount Isa Rodeo](http://www.isarodeo.com.au/) last weekend in August in [Mount Isa](http://www.gondwananet.com/mount-isa-mine-city.html) in the [outback Queensland](http://www.gondwananet.com/outback-in-australia.html).

In **September**, the weather starts warming up and they celebrate Festival of the Winds on Bondi Beach in Sydney (second Sunday in September); [Royal Melbourne Show](http://www.royalshow.com.au/) (last two weeks in September); the funny [Henley on Todd Regatta](http://www.henleyontodd.com.au/) (last weekend of September) in [Alice Springs](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-northern-territory-alice-springs.html); [Australian Rugby League Grand Final](http://www.nrl.com/) (last weekend in September) in [Sydney](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales-sydney.html); and [Australian Football League Grand Final](http://www.afl.com.au/) on last Saturday in September in[Melbourne](http://www.gondwananet.com/melbourne.html).

In **October**, the spring is truly there and they celebrate Lygon Street Fiesta - Melbourne’s Italian Festival; Tulip Festival in Bowral (first two weeks in October) in [New South Wales](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales.html); Leura Garden Festival in [Blue Mountains](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales-blue-mountains-national-park.html); Melbourne Writers Festival; [Melbourne Marathon](http://www.melbournemarathon.com.au/) (first weekend in October in Melbourne); [Carnival of Flowers](http://www.toowoombacarnivalofflowers.com.au/) in Toowoomba in [Queensland](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-queensland.html); and the famous [Floriade](http://www.floriadeaustralia.com/) during the first three weeks in October in [Canberra](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-australian-capital-territory-canberra.html).

In **November**, it's getting really hot and Australians celebrate Rose Festival (first two weeks in November) in Benalla in [Victoria](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-victoria.html); Great Mountain Race of Victoria (first Saturday in November) in Mansfield; Maldon Folk Festival (first weekend in November); and the [Melbourne Cup](http://www.melbournecup.com/) on the first Tuesday in November.

In **December**, it's all about Christmas and the celebrations include [Carols by Candlelight](http://www.carolsbycandlelight.com.au/) in the bigger cities on Christmas Eve; [Australian Christmas Celebrations](http://www.gondwananet.com/christmas-in-australia.html) on Christmas Day; [Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race](http://rolexsydneyhobart.com/) and the Cricket Test Match in [Melbourne](http://www.gondwananet.com/melbourne.html) on the Boxing Day (26 December); and the New Years Celebrations all over the country, but one to recommend is the New Years Eve in [Sydney](http://www.gondwananet.com/australia-facts-newsouthwales-sydney.html) Harbour with fireworks on the Harbour Bridge and lots of picnickers having a drink and watching the fireworks from surrounding parks.

**2. Cultural Life**

The culture of Australia is essentially a [Western culture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_culture) influenced by the unique geography of the [Australian continent](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_continent), the diverse input of [Aboriginal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aboriginal_Australians) and [Torres Strait Islander](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Torres_Strait_Islander) peoples, the [British colonisation of Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_colonisation_of_Australia), and the various waves of multi-ethnic migration which followed. In the two-and-a-quarter centuries since British settlement, however, Australian culture has diverged significantly, forming a distinct culture.

***Arts***

The [arts in Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arts_in_Australia)—[film](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cinema_of_Australia), [music](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_of_Australia), [painting](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art_of_Australia), [theatre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theatre), [dance](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dance_in_Australia) and crafts — have achieved international recognition. While much of Australia's cultural output has traditionally tended to fit with general trends and styles in Western arts, the arts as practiced by [indigenous Australians](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_Australians) represent a unique Australian cultural tradition, and Australia's landscape and history have contributed to some unique variations in the styles inherited by Australia's various migrant communities.

Australia's capital cities each support traditional "[high culture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High_culture)" institutions in the form of major art galleries, ballet troupes, theatres, symphony orchestras, opera houses and dance companies. Leading Australian performers in these fields have included the opera Dames [Nellie Melba](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nellie_Melba)and [Joan Sutherland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joan_Sutherland), dancers [Edouard Borovansky](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edouard_Borovansky) and [Sir Robert Helpmann](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Helpmann), and choreographer/dancers such as [Graeme Murphy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graeme_Murphy) and [Meryl Tankard](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meryl_Tankard). [Opera Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Opera_Australia) is based in Sydney at the world renowned [Sydney Opera House](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sydney_Opera_House). The [Australian Ballet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Ballet), [Melbourne](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melbourne_Symphony_Orchestra) and [Sydney](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sydney_Symphony_Orchestra) symphony orchestras are also well regarded cultural institutions.

***Literature***

Australian writers who have obtained international renown include the [Nobel winning](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nobel_Prize_for_Literature) author [Patrick White](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_White), as well as authors [Peter Carey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Carey_(novelist)), [Thomas Keneally](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Keneally), [Colleen McCullough](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colleen_McCullough), [Nevil Shute](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nevil_Shute) and [Morris West](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morris_West).

Novelists of classic Australian works include [Marcus Clarke](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcus_Clarke) ([*For the Term of His Natural Life*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/For_the_Term_of_His_Natural_Life)), [Rolf Boldrewood](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolf_Boldrewood) ([*Robbery Under Arms*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robbery_Under_Arms)), [Miles Franklin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miles_Franklin) ([*My Brilliant Career*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Brilliant_Career)), [Mary Durack](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mary_Durack) ([*Kings in Grass Castles*](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Kings_in_Grass_Castles&action=edit&redlink=1) and *Keep Him My Country*) and [Jeannie Gunn](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeannie_Gunn) ([*We of the Never Never*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/We_of_the_Never_Never)). Franklin, Durack and Gunn are notable for their accounts of Outback living from a female perspective. [Ruth Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruth_Park), author of [*The Harp in the South*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Harp_in_the_South), contributed a number of iconic fictional works about urban living.

In terms of children's literature, [Norman Lindsay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norman_Lindsay) ([*The Magic Pudding*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Magic_Pudding)) and [May Gibbs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/May_Gibbs) ([*Snugglepot and Cuddlepie*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snugglepot_and_Cuddlepie)) are among the Australian classics.

***Theatre***

The ceremonial dances of [indigenous Australians](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_Australians) which recount the stories of the [Dreamtime](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dreamtime), comprise theatrical aspects and have been performed since time immemorial. European traditions came to Australia with the [First Fleet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Fleet) in 1788, with the first production being performed in 1789 by convicts. Two centuries later, the extraordinary circumstances of the foundations of Australian theatre were recounted in *Our Country's Good* by[Timberlake Wertenbaker](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timberlake_Wertenbaker): the participants were prisoners watched by sadistic guards and the leading lady was under threat of the death penalty.

The [Theatre Royal, Hobart](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theatre_Royal,_Hobart), opened in 1837 and it remains the oldest theatre in Australia.

The [National Institute of Dramatic Art](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Institute_of_Dramatic_Art) was created in Sydney in 1958. This institute has since produced a list of famous alumni including [Cate Blanchett](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cate_Blanchett), [Mel Gibson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mel_Gibson) and [Baz Luhrmann](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baz_Luhrmann).

***Cinema***

Australia has a long history of film production. Australia's first dedicated film studio, the [Limelight Department](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limelight_Department), was created by [The Salvation Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Salvation_Army) in Melbourne in 1898, and is believed to have been the world's first. The world's first feature-length film was the Australian production [*The Story of the Kelly Gang*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Story_of_the_Kelly_Gang) of 1906. After such early successes, Australian cinema suffered from the rise of [Hollywood](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hollywood).

The first Australian Oscar was won by 1942's [*Kokoda Front Line!*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kokoda_Front_Line!), directed by [Ken G. Hall](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ken_G._Hall).

During the late 1960s and 1970s an influx of government funding saw the development of a new generation of film makers telling distinctively Australian stories, including directors [Peter Weir](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Weir), [George Miller](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Miller_(filmmaker)) and [Bruce Beresford](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruce_Beresford). Films such as [*Picnic at Hanging Rock*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Picnic_at_Hanging_Rock) and [*Sunday Too Far Away*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunday_Too_Far_Away) had an immediate international impact. The 1980s is often regarded as a golden age of Australian cinema, with many successful films, from the historical drama of [*Gallipoli*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gallipoli_(1981_film)), to the dark science fiction of [*Mad Max*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mad_Max), the romantic adventure of [*The Man From Snowy River*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Man_from_Snowy_River_(1982_film)) or the comedy of [*Crocodile Dundee*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crocodile_Dundee).

A major theme of Australian cinema has been survival in the harsh Australian landscape. A number of thrillers and horror films dubbed "outback gothic" have been created, including [*Wake in Fright*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wake_in_Fright), [*Walkabout*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walkabout_(film)), [*The Cars That Ate Paris*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Cars_That_Ate_Paris) and [*Picnic at Hanging Rock*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Picnic_at_Hanging_Rock) in the 1970s, [*Razorback*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Razorback_(film)) and [*Shame*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shame_(1988_film)) in the 1980s, and [*Japanese Story*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_Story), [*The Proposition*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Proposition) "[Van Diemen's Land](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Van_Diemen%27s_Land_(film))and the world-renowned [*Wolf Creek*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wolf_Creek_(film)) in the 21st century. These films depict the Australian bush and its creatures as deadly, and its people as outcasts and psychopaths. These concepts are combined with futuristic post-apocalyptic themes in the [Mad Max series](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mad_Max_(franchise)).

During the 1990s, a new crop of Australian stars were successful in Hollywood, including [Russell Crowe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russell_Crowe), [Cate Blanchett](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cate_Blanchett) and [Heath Ledger](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heath_Ledger) who all rose to international prominence and critical acclaim.

The domestic film industry is also supported by US producers who produce in Australia following the decision by Fox head [Rupert Murdoch](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rupert_Murdoch) to utilise new studios in Melbourne and Sydney where filming could be completed well below US costs. Notable productions are [*The Matrix*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Matrix), [*Star Wars*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star_Wars) episodes [II](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star_Wars_Episode_II:_Attack_of_the_Clones) and [III](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Star_Wars_Episode_III:_Revenge_of_the_Sith), and [*Australia*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia_(2008_film)) starring [Nicole Kidman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicole_Kidman) and [Hugh Jackman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugh_Jackman).

***Music***

Aboriginal song was an integral part of Aboriginal culture. The most famous feature of their music is the [didgeridoo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Didgeridoo). This wooden instrument, used amongst the Aboriginal tribes of northern Australia, makes a distinctive droning sound and its use has been adopted by a wide variety of non-Aboriginal performers.

The early [Anglo-Celtic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglo-Celtic) immigrants of the 18th and 19th centuries introduced folk ballad traditions which were adapted to Australian themes: "[Bound for Botany Bay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Botany_Bay_(song))" tells of the voyage of British convicts to Sydney, "[The Wild Colonial Boy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Wild_Colonial_Boy)" evokes the spirit of the [bushrangers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bushranger), and "[Click Go the Shears](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Click_Go_the_Shears)" speaks of the life of Australian shearers. The lyrics of Australia's best known folk song, "[Waltzing Matilda](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waltzing_Matilda)", were written by the bush poet [Banjo Paterson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Banjo_Paterson) in 1895.

the didgeridoo

[Bush dance](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bush_dance) is a traditional style of dance from Australia with strong Celtic roots, and influenced [country music](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Country_music). It is generally accompanied by such instruments as the [fiddle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiddle), [accordion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accordion),[concertina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concertina" \o "Concertina) and [percussion instruments](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percussion_instruments). A well-known Bush band is [The Bushwackers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Bushwackers).

The [national anthem](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_anthem) of Australia is "[Advance Australia Fair](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advance_Australia_Fair)".

Unofficial pop music anthems of Australia include [Peter Allen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peter_Allen)'s "[I Still Call Australia Home](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I_Still_Call_Australia_Home)", [Men at Work](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Men_at_Work)'s "[Down Under](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Down_Under_(song))", and [Icehouse](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Icehouse_(band))'s "[Great Southern Land](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Southern_Land).

The earliest Western musical influences in Australia can be traced back to two distinct sources: the first free settlers who brought with them the European classical music tradition, and the large body of convicts and sailors, who brought the traditional folk music of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The practicalities of building a colony mean that there is very little music extant from this early period although there are samples of music originating from [Hobart](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hobart) and Sydney that date back to the early 19th century.

By the beginning of the 1960s, Australian classical music erupted with influences, with composers incorporating disparate elements into their work, ranging from Aboriginal and south-east Asian music and instruments, to American [jazz](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jazz) and [blues](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blues), to the belated discovery of European atonality and the [avant-garde](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avant-garde). Composers like [Don Banks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Don_Banks), [Don Kay](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Don_Kay_(composer)), [Malcolm Williamson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malcolm_Williamson) and [Colin Brumby](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin_Brumby) epitomise this period. In recent times composers including [Liza Lim](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liza_Lim), [Nigel Westlake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigel_Westlake), [Ross Edwards](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ross_Edwards), [Graeme Koehne](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graeme_Koehne), [Georges Lentz](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georges_Lentz), [Elena Kats-Chernin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elena_Kats-Chernin), [Richard Mills](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Mills), [Brett Dean](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brett_Dean) and [Carl Vine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Vine)have embodied the pinnacle of established [Australian composers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Australian_composers).

Australia has produced a large variety of popular music from the internationally renowned work of the [Bee Gees](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bee_Gees), [AC/DC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AC/DC), [INXS](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/INXS), [Nick Cave](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nick_Cave) or [Kylie Minogue](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kylie_Minogue) to the popular local content of [John Farnham](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Farnham) or [Paul Kelly](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Kelly_(musician)).

***Television***

Experiments with television began in Australia in the 1930s and television was officially launched on 16 September 1956, in Sydney. Colour TV arrived in 1975. The [Logie Awards](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logie_Awards) are the major annual awards for Australian TV.

While US and British television is popular in Australia, locally produced content has had many successes. Successful local product has included [*Homicide*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homicide_(Australian_TV_series)) and [*Division 4*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Division_4) in the late 1960s and early 1970s, [*Skippy the Bush Kangaroo*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skippy_the_Bush_Kangaroo) in the late 1960s, [*Number 96*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Number_96_(TV_series))and [*The Box*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Box_(soap_opera)) in the 1970s, [*Prisoner*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prisoner_(TV_series)) in the 1980s and [*A Country Practice*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Country_Practice) (1981–1993), [*Neighbours*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neighbours) and [*Home and Away*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Home_and_Away) in the 1980s and 1990s.

American dramas and comedies rate well on Australian TV. While Australian soap operas have found huge success in Britain, British comedies have been consistently popular in Australia, with programs such as [*Fawlty Towers*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fawlty_Towers), [*The Goodies*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Goodies), [*Blackadder*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blackadder) and [*The Office*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Office_(UK_TV_series)) appealing to the Australian sense of humour.

**3. Sports in Australia**

The Australian is a hard competitor, considered one of the most competitive people in the world in any area, and also in relation to work. Surfing for instance, they broke the long year’s hegemony of Hawaiian and Californian surfers and they brought several world titles to Australia. Many types of sports are practiced in Australia, and most of them are outdoor sports due to favorable climate.

The country has a sporting history dating back to the mid 1800s. By the 1920s, a number of sports were being played by both men and women, including cricket, badminton, judo, swimming, tennis, netball, lacrosse, golf, hockey and various codes of football.

Many Australians participate in sport, including association football (soccer), athletics, Australian rules football, baseball, basketball, cricket, cycling, golf, gymnastics, horse racing, motor racing, netball, rugby league, rugby union, shooting, swimming, tennis and tenpin bowling. Australia's climate lends itself to some sports, such as swimming, more than others, such as snowboarding.

Rugby is one of the most popular sports in Australia. The great majority of the Australians calls Rugby of "Footy", that means, all of them are Footy. Rugby has the same importance for an Australian than the Soccer has for a Brazilian.

Cricket is maybe the second most popular practiced sport, with long and endless departures being transmitted by television on the weekends. The Australian youths in the school practice it in the breaks, and it is also very common to see whole families playing at parks and beaches.

Golf is the third sport more practiced, and the number of fields of golf in each Australian city is of crooking the stick. They are several clubs to be associated with, and they also accept paying players. Those clubs are true companies, with inside stores offering all gear and materials for players, besides specific areas for training or game. Golf in Australia is practiced by people of all social classes.

Cycling is another sport that captures the attention of the Australians and it is practiced in any city. The amount of people practicing is quite big, and it is difficult one morning that doesn't see the cyclists, individually or in groups of up to 200 at the same time. It is practiced in the streets and for both sexes and ages. There are so many Bike stores only losing in quantity for Surfing and Fishing shops.

Bowling is practiced by an enormous amount of people in dispersed clubs for all and any city size. This game is one of the favorite pastimes of the retired people, and everyday they are in the clubs in the period of the morning for practicing.

The two more popular sports in Australia are [Surf](http://www.yesaustralia.com/Outros-Guia-SurfIng.htm)and the amateur Fishing. The impression you may have is that the whole Australian population is already born knowing how to speak the two words, Fish & Surfboard. Maybe one of the factors is that those sports’ gear doesn't cost a lot. The Australians seem to have longs for salt in the blood, and all the nautical and linked sports are quite popular. For many bridge fishermen, the first thing that do when having a financial rest, it is to buy a powerboat. The result is that, maybe in nowhere in the world, you could see so many motorized boats as in Australia. Each area may differ in preference mainly in relation to the climate.

**4. Education in Australia**

Education in Australia is primarily the responsibility of the [states and territories](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_and_territories_of_Australia). Each state or territory government provides funding and regulates the public and private schools within its governing area. The [federal government](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government_of_Australia) helps fund the public universities, but is not involved in setting curriculum. Generally, education in Australia follows the three-tier model which includes [primary education](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primary_education) (primary schools), followed by [secondary education](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secondary_education) (secondary schools/high schools) and [tertiary education](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tertiary_education) which is post-compulsory (universities and/or [TAFE](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Technical_and_further_education) (vocational education and training) colleges).

Education in Australia is compulsory between the ages of five and fifteen to seventeen, depending on the state or territory, and date of birth.

The academic year in Australia varies between states and institutions, but generally runs from late January/early February until mid-December for primary and secondary schools and from late February until mid-November for universities with seasonal holidays and breaks for each educational institute.

Pre-school in [Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia) is relatively unregulated, and is not compulsory. The first exposure many Australian children have to learn with others outside of traditional parenting is [day care](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Day_care) or a parent-run [playgroup](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pre-school_playgroup#Playgroups_in_Australia). This sort of activity is not generally considered schooling, as pre-school education is separate from primary school in all states and territories, except Western Australia and Queensland where pre-school education is taught as part of the primary school system.

Pre-schools are usually run by the state and territory governments, except in Victoria, [South Australia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Australia) and [New South Wales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_South_Wales) where they are more often run by local councils, community groups or private organisations. Pre-school is offered to three- to five-year-olds; attendance numbers vary widely between the states, but 85.7% of children attended pre-school the year before school. The year before a child is due to attend primary school is the main year for pre-school education. This year is far more commonly attended, and may take the form of a few hours of activity during weekdays.

School education in Australia is compulsory between certain ages as specified by state or territory legislation. Depending on the state or territory, and date of birth of the child, school is compulsory from the age of five to six to the age of fifteen to seventeen. In recent years, over three quarters of students stay at school until they are seventeen. A small portion of students are legally home-schooled, particularly in rural areas.

Government schools (also known as public schools) are free to attend for Australian citizens and permanent residents, while Catholic and independent schools usually charge attendance fees. However in addition to attendance fees, stationery, textbooks, uniforms, school camps and other schooling costs are not covered under government funding. The additional cost for schooling has been estimated to be on average $316 per year per child.

Regardless of whether a school is part of the Government, Catholic or independent systems, they are required to adhere to the same curriculum frameworks of their state or territory. The curriculum framework however provides for some flexibility in the syllabus, so that subjects such as [religious education](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religious_education) can be taught. Most school students wear uniforms, although there are varying expectations and some Australian schools do not require uniforms.

Students may be slightly younger or older than stated below, due to variation between states and territories. The name for the first year of primary school varies considerably between states and territories, e.g. what is known as kindergarten in ACT and NSW may mean the year preceding the first year of primary school or [preschool](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Preschool_education) in other states and territories.

#### Primary

* Kindergarten (QLD) 3–4 year olds
* Pre-school / kindergarten / prep
* Kindergarten / preparatory / pre-primary

[National Curriculum](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Curriculum_(Australia)) this year-level will be renamed: Foundation Year.

Secondary

* Grade/Year 1: 5–6 year olds
* Grade/Year 2: 7–8 year olds
* Grade/Year 3: 8–9 year olds
* Grade/Year 4: 9–10 year olds
* Grade/Year 5: 10–11 year olds
* Grade/Year 6: 11–12 year olds
* Grade/Year 7: 12–13 year olds

Middle school

* Year 7: 12–13 year olds
* Year 8: 13–14 year olds
* Year 9: 14–15 year olds

High school

* Year 10: 15–16 year olds
* Year 11: 16–17 year olds
* Year 12: 17–19 year olds.

The Australian higher education sector offers a complete range of programs leading to highly regarded and internationally recognised qualifications. Among the most well-known Universities are: *University of Western Sydney* (UWS) Sydney, NSW with over 32,000 students; *Victoria University* Melbourne, Victoria; *Deakin University Melbourne*, Victoria; *Bond University* Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia's first and largest private Australia university; *The University of Adelaide* Adelaide, South Australia; *Southern Cross University* Gold Coast and Coffs Harbour, Queensland; *Griffith University*, Brisbane and the Gold Coast, Queensland; *The University of Southern Queensland* (USQ) Toowoomba, Queensland; *Swinburne University of Technology* Melbourne, Victoria; *The University of Tasmania* Hobart - Launceston - Burnie, Tasmania; *Queensland University of Technology* Brisbane; *Macquarie University* Sydney, NSW; *Edith Cowan University* Perth, Western Australia; *The University of Technology, Sydney* (UTS) Sydney, NSW; *The University of Canberra* Canberra, ACT; *Monash University* Melbourne, Victoria; *The University of Notre Dame*, *Australia* Perth, Western Australia.

***Task 2. Comprehension Check.***

1. In which wars did Australia participate in the 1960s – 1970s?

2. What is the 1967 national referendum famous for?

3. Why is Australia considered one of the most cosmopolitan and dynamic societies in the world today?

4. Which home problems does Australia face today?

5. What kind of immigrants are welcome in Australia?

6. Which factors have led to formation of Australian unique culture?

7. Which famous Australian writers do you know?

8. Which is the oldest theatre in Australia?

9. Which famous Australian musicians do you know?

10.Which is the most famous feature of Aboriginal music?

11.Which two sports are associated with Australia? Why?

12.Which are the top three sports in Australia?

13. What is the compulsory schooling age in Australia?

14. Which famous Australian Universities do you know?

***Task 3. Choose the correct variant.***

1. In the 1960s and 1970s Australia became one of the richest countries in the world, because … .

a) it exported a lot of raw materials;

b) it was in friendly relations with the USA;

c) it invited a lot of immigrants.

2. A unique Australian cultural tradition is represented by … .

a) immigrant population;

b) convicts;

c) [indigenous Australians](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_Australians).

3. Australia's first dedicated film studio, the [Limelight Department](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limelight_Department) is believed to have been … .

a) the most successful one;

b) the first one in the world;

c) the most technically equipped one.

4. The world's first feature-length film was … .

a) the Australian production [*The Story of the Kelly Gang*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Story_of_the_Kelly_Gang);

b) the British production *The Pickpocket;*

c) the Italian production *The Fall of Troy.*

5.The [didgeridoo](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Didgeridoo) is … .

a) a [musical instrument](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Musical_instrument) played by means of a [keyboard](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Musical_keyboard);

b) a wind wooden instrument which makes a distinctive droning sound;

c) a musical instruments of the [percussion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percussion_instrument) group, which is technically classified as the [membranophones](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Membranophones).

6. Tralitional Australian [Bush dance](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bush_dance) is … .

a) a style of dance with strong Celtic roots, and influenced [country music](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Country_music);

b) a style of dance which includes a wide range of styles notably [breaking](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/B-boying), [locking](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Locking_(dance)), and [popping](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Popping);

c) a [ballroom](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ballroom_dance) and [folk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folk_dance) [dance](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dance) in [triple](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6f/3-4_rhythm_metre_meter_time_measure.ogg) [time](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Time_signature), performed primarily in [closed position](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Closed_position).

***LANGUAGE FOCUS: Australian Vocabulary***

Australian English has many words and idioms which are unique to the dialect and have been written on extensively, with the [Macquarie Dictionary](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macquarie_Dictionary), widely regarded as the national standard, incorporating numerous Australian terms.

Internationally well-known examples of Australian terminology include [*outback*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Outback), meaning a remote, sparsely populated area, [*the bush*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_bush), meaning either a native forest or a country area in general, and *g'day*, a greeting. *Dinkum*, or *fair dinkum* means "true", or "is that true?", among other things, depending on context and inflection. The derivative *dinky-di* means 'true' or devoted: a 'dinky-di Aussie' is a 'true Australian'.

[Australian poetry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_performance_poetry), such as [The Man from Snowy River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Man_from_Snowy_River_(poem)), and [folk songs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_folk_music), such as [*Waltzing Matilda*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waltzing_Matilda), contain many historical Australian words and phrases that are understood by Australians even though some are not in common usage today.

Australian English, in common with several British English dialects (for example, [Cockney](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cockney), [Scouse](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scouse), [Glaswegian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glasgow_patter) and [Geordie](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geordie)) use the word [*mate*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mate_(colloquialism)). Many words used by Australians were at one time used in [England](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/England) but have since fallen out of usage or changed in meaning.

[Litotes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Litotes), such as "not bad", "not much" and "you're not wrong", are also used, as are [diminutives](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diminutive), which are commonly used and are often used to indicate familiarity. Some common examples are *arvo* (afternoon), *barbie* (barbecue), [*smoko*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smoko) (cigarette break), *Aussie* (Australian) and *pressie* (present/gift). This may also be done with people's names to create [nicknames](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nickname) (other English speaking countries create [similar diminutives](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_diminutive)). For example, "Gazza" from Gary, or "Smitty" from John Smith. The use of the suffix *-o* originates in Irish Gaelic, thus Irish Gaelic *ó*, which is both a postclitic and a suffix with much the same meaning as in Australian English.

In informal speech, incomplete comparisons are sometimes used, such as "sweet as". "Full", "fully" or "heaps" may precede a word to act as an intensifier. This is more common in regional Australia and South Australia. The suffix "-ly" is sometimes omitted in broader Australian English. For instance "real good" in lieu of "really good."

As in most English speaking countries, there is no official governmental regulator or overseer of correct spelling and grammar. The [*Macquarie Dictionary*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macquarie_Dictionary) is used by [universities](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University) and other organisations as a standard for Australian English spelling. The *Style Manual: For Authors, Editors and Printers* is the most prominent style guide, serving as the standard for Australian governments.

Australian spelling is similar to [British spelling](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_and_British_English_spelling_differences). As in British spelling, the "u" is retained in words such as *honour* and *favour*, and "re" is preferred over "er" in words such as *theatre* and for metric units such as *metre*, *litre*. The "-ise" ending is used in words such as *organise* and *realise*, although "-ize" also exists, but is far less common. Words spelled differently from British spelling, according to the *Macquarie Dictionary* include "program" as opposed to "programme", "jail" as opposed to "gaol", "medieval" as opposed to "mediaeval", "encyclopedia" as opposed to "encyclopaedia", and "analog" as opposed to "analogue" when used in a technical or electronic sense. Both "acknowledgment" and "acknowledgement", as well as "abridgment" and "abridgement" are used, with the shorter forms being endorsed by Australian governments. In addition to these words, the dictionary also notes an increased tendency within Australia to replace the 'ae' in words such as "palaeontology" and "faeces", and the 'oe' in words such as "foetus" and "diarrhoea" with 'e', as with American practice. [Single quotation marks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quotation_mark) with logical punctuation and unspaced em-dashes are preferred, and the DD/MM/YYYY [date format](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calendar_date) is used.

Different spellings have existed throughout Australia's history. A pamphlet entitled *The So-Called "American Spelling"*, published in Sydney some time in the 19th century, argued that "there is no valid etymological reason for the preservation of the *u* in such words as *honor*, *labor*, etc."

This influence can be seen in the spelling of the [Australian Labor Party](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_Labor_Party), spelt without a "u", with the atypical American spelling that was more common at the time of its formation in 1912. For a short time during the late 20th Century, [Harry Lindgren](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry_Lindgren)'s 1969 spelling reform proposal ([*Spelling Reform 1* or *SR1*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SR1)) was popular in Australia and was adopted by the [Australian government](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government_of_Australia). SR1 calls for the short /e/sound (as in *bet*) to be spelt with E (for example *friend→frend, head→hed*).

***Waltzing Matilda***

"Waltzing Matilda" is Australia's most widely known [bush ballad](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bush_ballad). A [country](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Country_music) [folk song](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Folk_music), the song has been referred to as "the unofficial national anthem of Australia".

The title is Australian slang for travelling by foot with one's goods in a "Matilda" (bag) slung over one's back. The song narrates the story of an itinerant worker, or "[swagman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swagman)", making a drink of tea at a bush camp and capturing a sheep to eat. When the sheep's owner arrives with three police officers to arrest the worker for the theft, the worker commits suicide by drowning himself in the nearby watering hole, after which his ghost haunts the site.

Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong  
Under the shade of a coolibah tree,  
And he sang as he watched and waited till his billy boiled  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me."  
  
Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me"  
And he sang as he watched and waited till his billy boiled,  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me."  
  
Down came a jumbuck to drink at that billabong,  
Up jumped the swagman and grabbed him with glee,  
And he sang as he shoved that jumbuck in his tucker bag,  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me."  
  
Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me"  
And he sang as he shoved that jumbuck in his tucker bag,  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me."  
  
Up rode the squatter, mounted on his thoroughbred,  
Down came the troopers, one, two, three,  
"Where's that jolly jumbuck you've got in your tucker bag?"  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me."  
  
Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me"  
"Where's that jolly jumbuck you've got in your tucker bag?",  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me."  
  
Up jumped the swagman and sprang into the billabong,  
"You'll never take me alive", said he,  
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by that billabong,  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me."  
  
Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me"  
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by that billabong,  
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me."

**waltzing**derived from the German term [*auf der Walz*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wanderjahre), which means to travel while working as a [craftsman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artisan) and learn new techniques from other masters before returning home after three years and one day, a custom which is still in use today among [carpenters](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carpentry).

**Matilda**a romantic term for a swagman's bundle.

**Waltzing Matilda**from the above terms, "to waltz Matilda" is to travel with a swag, that is, with all one's belongings on one's back wrapped in a blanket or cloth. The exact origins of the term "Matilda" are disputed; one fanciful derivation states that when swagmen met each other at their gatherings, there were rarely women to dance with. Nonetheless, they enjoyed a dance, and so they danced with their swags, which was given a woman's name. However, this appears to be influenced by the word "waltz", hence the introduction of dancing. It seems more likely that, as a swagman's only companion, the swag came to be personified as a woman.

Another explanation is that the term also derives from German immigrants. German soldiers commonly referred to their [greatcoats](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greatcoat) as "Matilda", supposedly because the coat kept them as warm as a woman would. Early German immigrants who "went on the waltz" would wrap their belongings in their coat, and took to calling it by the same name their soldiers had used.

[**swagman**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swagman)a man who travelled the country looking for work. The swagman's "[swag](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swag_(bedroll))" was a bed roll that bundled his belongings.

[**billabong**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billabong)an [oxbow lake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxbow_lake) (a cut-off river bend) found alongside a meandering river.

[**coolibah tree**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eucalyptus_coolabah)a kind of [eucalyptus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eucalyptus) tree which grows near billabongs.

[**jumbuck**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jumbuck)a sheep.

[**billy**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billycan)a can for boiling water in, usually 2–3 [pints](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pint).

[**Tucker bag**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tucker_bag)a bag for carrying food ("tucker").

[**troopers**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trooper_(police_rank))policemen.

[**squatter**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squatting_(pastoral))Australian squatters started as early farmers who raised livestock on land which they did not legally have the right to use; in many cases they later gained legal use of the land even though they did not have full possession, and became wealthy thanks to these large land holdings. The squatter's claim to the land may be as uncertain as the swagman's claim to the jumbuck.

The original lyrics were written in 1895 by poet [Banjo Paterson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Banjo_Paterson). It was first published as sheet music in 1903. Extensive folklore surrounds the song and the process of its creation, to the extent that the song has its own museum, the Waltzing Matilda Centre in [Winton, Queensland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winton,_Queensland). In 2012, to remind Australians of the song's significance, Winton organised the inaugural Waltzing Matilda Day to be held on 6 April, the anniversary of its first performance.

***Task 3.Write in British English spelling the following Australian English words.***

*frend, hed, mediaeval, gaol,* *encyclopaedia***,** *program*, *analog,* *paleontology, feces, fetus, diarrhoea*

## *CULTURAL FOCUS: Top 10 incorrect Australian stereotypes*



Some stereotypes do exist. For instance, in Australia, the men are definitely tall, beefy and brawny, thanks to their love for footy. Melbourne does have unpredictable weather, just as it has the best coffee.

In spite of that, there are some age-old perceptions that pop culture convinces people to believe about the Aussies and their land. Here’s a list of myths that have been exaggerated and blown largely out of proportion.

1)   **Kangaroos**: Nobody rides to school on a Kangaroo. The kids don’t wait at the Kangaroo stop and people do not struggle to find a good spot to park their Kangaroos. Australians, walk (not hop) – they hop on to trams though, and they use trains and taxis as well. Some Aussies own a Swift or a Honda and some of them have Audis and Ferraris. However, nobody has a Kangaroo, in fact they never even get to see one in the city.

2)   **Fosters Beer:**It is one of the least popular beers in Australia. Fosters has gained popularity largely through exports thus leading to the false notion that Australians survive on Fosters.

**3) Crocodile Wrestling:**There have been some significant crocodile and alligator references to Australia on an international level; nevertheless, this is not a sport kids learn at age 4 or at any age as a matter of fact.

4)   **Fashion:**People do not wear singlets, thongs, bikinis and hats with corks dangling from it. They might wear it to the beach, but no one wears it to work, parties or the mall. Melbourne and Sydney have established themselves as fashion and shopping hotspots with various brands of clothes, handbags and shoes that are not just Quicksilver, Billabong or Rip Curl. The fashion standard is easily comparable to New York and London.

**5) Desert:**Yes, a large portion of the Australian land is a desert, however, those are not places where Aussies live or most travellers would visit. Australian cities and beaches are developed enough to be a highlight of the country besides the dry barren land.

**6) Sparsely populated:**Australia undoubtedly has a low population and yes the outback and suburban areas might be scanty. However, the developed cities and tourist spots are far from it.

**7) Vegemite:**It is not the staple diet after barbecue. Vegemite is available everywhere and is probably in the pantry of every household, however, it is by far not the most popular spread. Jams, butter, cheese, dips are more commonly consumed by kids and adults.

**8) Self-Absorbed:**In spite of their unique history, Australians are not as self-absorbed as expressed by the media. The cities celebrate Indian, Chinese, Malaysian and American holidays. Halloween is increasingly popular and the Chinese New Year celebration in Melbourne is extravagant.

**9) Life by the beach:**All Australians don’t live by the beach and go surfing at 11 AM on a Monday morning. Going to the beach is indeed a luxury and an activity to be done on a holiday or a free weekend that people find difficult to arrange because of demanding work schedules.

**10) It never rains:** Yes, Australia has the lowest precipitation of any of the world’s inhabited continents (Antarctica gets less) but it still rains.

Stereotypes certainly have some truth or history to it, but globalisation and development of cities have hazed these features over time.

***Task 4. “Stereotypes certainly have some truth or history to it, but globalisation and development of cities have hazed these features over time”. What do you understand by the quotation?***

***Task 5. Explain the origin of the above-mentioned stereotypes.***

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