

1

Answer the following questions.

1. How many people live in Australia? **about 27 million**
2. Australia's largest city is **Sydney** and its capital is **Canberra** .
3. Why is Australia often called "Down Under" ? **it is the only continent that lies wholly south of the equator**
4. When and by whom was Australia discovered? **1788 by the British**
5. Where is the Great Dividing Range? **in the eastern part of the continent**
6. What happens to the rivers that flow to the west of the mountains? **most of them dry up in the Central Lowlands**
7. What is the Western Plateau made up of? **mostly deserts**
8. Which part of Australia offers the most pleasant climate? **the southeastern parts**
9. Which climate does the northern part of Australia have ? **tropical climate with a rainy and a dry season**
10. What does a eucalyptus tree look like? **narrow oily leaves that smell good**
11. Why can't many Australian animals be found elsewhere in the world? **Australia was separated from other continents 200 years ago and developed a different animal life**
12. What are marsupials? **mammals that carry their babies in pouches**
13. What are emus? **large birds that cannot fly**
14. Why do most people live near the coastal regions ? **it has a moderate climate**
15. Up to the beginning of the 20th century most immigrants came from **Great Britain and Ireland**
16. Why is emigrating to Australia very difficult? **you must pass a test and have special skills that Australia needs**
17. Who are the Aborigines and how many live in Australia today? **Australia's native population – over 700,000**
18. What happened to them when the British arrived? **many were killed and the British settlers took away their land**
19. Which city was capital before Canberra was completed? **Melbourne**
20. Name a few raw materials that Australia mines. **bauxite, iron ore, diamonds, uranium, coal, gold**
21. What are the main crops that farmers grow? **wheat, sugar cane**
22. What does the term "outback" mean? Why can living there be very difficult? **very few paved roads, towns are far apart, droughts, bush fires**

DISCOVER AUSTRALIA – KEY

2

Match the words on the left with the definitions on the right.

A	equator		D	raw material from which aluminum is made
B	temperate		R	hard white or pink material formed from the bones of very small sea animals
C	settle		G	long period of dry weather with little or no rainfall
D	bauxite		J	city or town where the government gets together
E	hemisphere		S	piece of land with water on three sides
F	wheat		C	to start living in a place where not many people have lived before
G	drought		A	a line around the middle of the Earth
H	blossom		M	place where you dig out minerals
I	marsupial		L	many nationalities live together
J	capital		I	animal that carries its babies in a skin pocket
K	emigrate		O	meat from sheep
L	multicultural		B	not too hot and not too cold
M	mine		T	pray to
N	suburb		F	plant from which you make white bread
O	mutton		E	a half of the world
R	coral		N	part of a city that is far away from the centre
S	peninsula		K	to go and live in another country
T	worship		H	when a plant produces flowers

DISCOVER AUSTRALIA – KEY

3 TRUE or FALSE

Mark the statements TRUE or FALSE. If the statement is false write a correct statement into the box. The first two have been done for you.

		T	F	Correct Statement
1	The whole continent of Australia lies south of the equator.	✓		
2	from Europe it takes you about 10 hours to get to Australia.		✓	It takes you about 20 hours by plane.
3	The continent's temperate climates can be found in the northern part of the country.		✓	The temperate part of Australia is in the southeastern part.
4	The highest parts of the continent are in the east.	✓		
5	Rivers in the Central Lowlands carry lots of water the whole year round.		✓	During a long period, riverbeds are mostly dry.
6	Marsupials can be found on all continents.		✓	Marsupials can only be found in Australia.
7	Australia is one of the most sparsely populated countries in the world.	✓		
8	After World War II most of the immigrants came from Great Britain and Ireland.		✓	The British and Irish came to Australia before the beginning of the 20th century.
9	British settlers treated native Aborigines very badly when they arrived.	✓		
10	Up to today the government has not apologized to the Aborigines for what they have done to them.		✓	The government made an official apology to the Aborigines in 2008.
11	Melbourne was Australia's capital before Canberra was built.	✓		
12	Canberra became Australia's capital in 1927.	✓		
13	Adelaide became an important city during the gold rush of the 19 th century.		✓	Perth became important because of the gold rush.
14	Only a third of Australia's territory is farmland.		✓	About 60% of Australia's territory is farmland.
15	The Great Barrier Reef is located on Australia's southern coast.		✓	The Great Barrier Reef is located on Australia's northeastern coast.

4

Facts about Australia. Choose the correct word or phrase for each blank to make the sentences true.

1. Australia lies 3,000 km from the mainland of **Asia**.
2. Australia was once **a British** prison colony.
3. The Great Dividing Range is made up of **mountain peaks**.
4. The Western Plateau consists of large **deserts**.
5. The southern and southeastern parts of Australia have **four seasons**.
6. More than 80% of the population live in the **southeast**.
7. Most of Australia's famous animals are **marsupials**.
8. The main crop in Australia is **wheat**.
9. The 2000 Olympic Games were held in **Sydney**.
10. **Melbourne** was the first capital of Australia until 1927.
11. The largest city in Western Australia is **Perth**.

1	South America	Asia	North America	Africa
2	a British	a French	a Japanese	an American
3	plains	wetlands	desert	mountain peaks
4	rivers and valleys	deserts	wetlands	mountains
5	only a winter season	a wet and a dry season	two seasons	four seasons
6	southeast	northeast	west	northwest
7	mammals	reptiles	amphibians	marsupials
8	corn	rice	wheat	sugar cane
9	Melbourne	Sydney	Brisbane	Canberra
10	Melbourne	Sydney	Perth	Brisbane
11	Melbourne	Adelaide	Darwin	Perth

5

Complete the text with the missing words from the list. There are TWO words you will not need.

Australia is the sixth biggest country in the world and the (1) **only** continent that lies completely south of the (2) **equator**. Australia was (3) **discovered** towards the end of the 18th century when James Cook (4) **explored** the southern Pacific Ocean.

Australia started out as a (5) **prison** colony. While the first (6) **immigrants** were from Great Britain and European countries, the past few (7) **decades** have seen waves of immigrants coming from Asia. Today Australia is a truly (8) **multicultural** society.

The country produces many of the (9) **raw** materials that the world needs. Foreign companies come to Australia to invest in the country's (10) **mines**. Agriculture has always played a major role as over half of the country is (11) **farmland**. In the drier areas of central Australia (12) **wheat** is the dominant crop because it needs little rainfall. Many farmers focus on raising (13) **cattle** and sheep.

Apart from the economy, tourism is also important for Australia. Millions of travellers from all over the world come to the country to visit its famous (14) **sights**, such as the Great Barrier Reef or Ayers Rock, and to spend time in Sydney, Melbourne and other Australian cities.

cattle
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6

Match the beginnings of the sentences with the sentence endings. There are TWO endings you will not need.

A	People who want to immigrate to Australia	B	Melbourne was Australia's capital city
B	Before the government moved to Canberra	H	get their medical treatment by plane
C	The western part of Australia is made up of		must show they have relatives in the country
D	More than 80% of all Australians	F	has tried to improve the lives of the Aborigines
E	Many Australians spend their free time	I	a series of mountain ranges
F	In the past few decades, the government		goldminers who came from Europe
G	The first settlers were	A	must pass a special skills test
H	People in the outback	E	with outdoor activities
I	The Great Dividing Range consists of	J	gold was discovered in Australia
J	In the middle of the 19th century	D	live near the southeastern coastline
		G	prisoners who came from England
		C	dry plains

7

Complete the text by filling in the missing sentence parts.

Australia's Stolen Generation

Between 1910 and 1970 the Australian government took 100,000 Aboriginal children **(1) J**. These children, known as the Stolen Generation, were often under five years of age. They were taken away from their families because the government did not believe **(2) C**. They thought it would be better to bring them **(3) F**.

Many methods were used **(4) L** Aboriginal babies and children from their families. Children were simply taken away by government officials and later told **(5) N**. Mothers were often given documents to sign. They could not read or write, and they were told it was some kind of vaccination program. Others were taken to hospitals and **(6) A** again. In most cases, rich white families were given money **(7) G**. Some went to orphanages or church missions.

In 1995 an investigation was started **(8) H** to the topic. The government, however, did not apologize to the victims. The new Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, was the first Australian politician to make a formal apology to the Aborigines in 2008. However, he also said that the government **(9) K** to the victims. He claimed that it was in the interests of the government to raise the children in the best way.

Up to now, only one member of Australia's Stolen Generation has received money **(10) D**. Bruce Trevorrow was taken to hospital on Christmas Day in 1957. His father never saw him again and the government sent him **(11) B**. He came back to his mother when he was ten years old. In his further life he suffered from depression **(12) M**. In 1998, he went to court and succeeded in getting about 500,000 dollars from the Australian government as a form of compensation.

There are many others in Australia **(13) E**. Organizations are being set up to work for the rights of the Aborigines and **(14) I** that nothing like this ever happens again.

A	never seen by their families	H	to bring more truth
B	to a white foster family	I	to make sure
C	in the future of the Aborigines	J	away from their homes
D	from the government	K	would not give any money
E	who suffered the same fate	L	to separate
F	to white families	M	and turned to alcohol
G	to bring them up	N	that they were orphans

8

In most lines there is a word that shouldn't be there. Write that word into the box at the end of the line. If the line is correct tick it off (✓). There are TWO examples at the beginning.

Australia's Population Growth

1	Australia's population has crossed the 25 million	✓
2	mark, then almost a decade earlier than expected.	then
3	Last year, the population rose up by almost	up
4	400,000 - in the past 50 years it has been doubled.	been
5	Since the end of World War II Australia has recorded	✓
6	a steady growth rate of about 1.6% a year ago.	ago
7	About 60% of it comes down from immigration.	down
8	Australia attracts hundreds of thousands of immigrants	✓
9	every year. In the last 20 years, newcomers have not	not
10	been arriving from even South and East Asia.	even
11	As such in many other western countries, some	such
12	politicians have urged the old government to slow	old
13	down immigration. One of the big problems is to	to
14	getting immigrants to move to rural areas, where	✓
15	there is already a shortage of skilled workers yet.	yet

9

Fill in the names of the cities .



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