



# **HISTORY AND CULTURE OF AUSTRALIA**

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## INTRODUCTION

This textbook aims to give students majoring in English Language and Anglophone Cultures an insight into specific features of Australian history and culture.

Unit 1 seeks to familiarise students with the geographical features of the Australian continent. By introducing their location, boundaries, capital cities, rivers, mountains, deserts and world heritage sites, the unit provides students with specific information on Australian states and territories.

Unit 2 introduces the national symbols of Australia. These include the Australian national flag, the Australian national anthem, the Commonwealth coat of arms, the national colours, the gemstone and the floral emblem of Australia.

By guiding students through the period of colonisation, the gold rush era, the establishment of the Commonwealth of Australia, the First and the Second World Wars, the Stolen Generations, and multiculturalism as a basic feature of contemporary Australia, the third unit introduces students to selected historical events which shaped Australia both as a country and society.

Unit 4 focuses on Australian public holidays and other special days. These are celebrated on a national, state and territory basis.

Australian cuisine is the focus of the fifth unit. Students are provided with information on historical events that have made an impact on the development of Australian cuisine and are presented with its staple foods and drinks.

The textbook is not intended to be solely informational. Each unit is designed to provide students with hands-on tasks to apply the information of the unit in a more practical manner. Also, students are given a chance to work on topics beyond those covered in the informational part. With the aim of widening students' interests, students are encouraged to explore specific issues related to the discussed topics and present their findings in presentations.

This combination of theoretical and practical knowledge enables students taking the Australian history and culture course to develop both language skills and intercultural competences. As such, the textbook is a resource that can not only foster students' academic success but also allow effective functioning across cultural borders.



# GEOGRAPHY OF AUSTRALIA

## 2. GEOGRAPHY OF AUSTRALIA

### LEAD-IN

Fill in the correct word to complete sentences about Australia.

Australia is the world's smallest .....

Australia is the world's largest .....

Australia is the world's sixth largest .....

### BASIC FACTS

Official name: The Commonwealth of Australia

Nickname: The Land Down Under

Area: 7,688,126 square kilometres

Location: Below the equator in the southern hemisphere

Surrounding water bodies: The Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean

Neighbouring countries: Indonesia, East Timor, and Papua New Guinea to the north; the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and New Caledonia to the northeast; New Zealand to the southeast

Capital: Canberra

Major cities: Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide, Perth, Darwin

States and territories:

six states: Western Australia – capital Perth; Queensland – capital Brisbane; South Australia – capital Adelaide; New South Wales – capital Sydney; Victoria – capital Melbourne; Tasmania – capital Hobart

two territories: Northern Territory – capital Darwin; Australian Capital Territory – capital Canberra

Highest point on the Australian mainland: Mount Kosciuszko

Lowest point on the Australian mainland: Lake Eyre

Easternmost point of the Australian mainland: Cape Byron, New South Wales

Westernmost point of the Australian mainland: Steep Point, Western Australia

Northernmost point of the Australian mainland: Cape York, Queensland

Southernmost point of the Australian mainland: South Point, Wilsons Promontory, Victoria

## AUSTRALIAN STATES AND TERRITORIES

### QUEENSLAND – THE SUNSHINE STATE

Location: North-eastern Australia

Boundaries: The Coral Sea to the north and east, New South Wales to the south, South Australia to the southwest, the Northern Territory to the west

Capital: Brisbane

Cities and towns: Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Townsville, Cairns

Longest river: Flinders River

Highest mountain: Mount Bartle Frere

Deserts: Simpson Desert, Strzelecki Desert, Sturt Stony Desert

World heritage sites: Australian Fossil Mammal Site, Great Barrier Reef, Gondwana Rainforests of Australia, K'gari, Wet Tropics





## **NEW SOUTH WALES – THE PREMIER STATE**

Location: South-eastern Australia

Boundaries: The Pacific Ocean to the east, Victoria to the south, South Australia to the west, Queensland to the north

Capital: Sydney

Cities and towns: Newcastle, Wollongong, Coffs Harbour, Wagga Wagga

Longest river: Murray River

Highest mountain: Mount Kosciuszko

Deserts: Strzelecki Desert, Sturt Stony Desert

World heritage sites: Gondwana Rainforests of Australia, Greater Blue Mountains Area, Willandra Lakes region, Australian convict sites





## **VICTORIA – THE GARDEN STATE**

Location: South-eastern Australia

Boundaries: New South Wales to the north, South Australia to the west, the Tasman Sea to the east, the Indian Ocean to the south

Capital: Melbourne

Cities and towns: Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo, Melton

Longest river: Goulburn River

Highest mountain: Mount Bogong

World heritage sites: Budj Bim Cultural Landscape, The Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens



## **SOUTH AUSTRALIA – THE FESTIVAL STATE**

Location: South-central Australia

Boundaries: Western Australia to the west, the Northern Territory to the north, Queensland to the north and east, New South Wales to the east, Victoria to the east

Capital: Adelaide

Cities and towns: Gawler, Mount Gambier, Mount Barker, Port Lincoln

Longest river: Murray River

Highest mountain: Mount Woodroffe

Deserts: Great Victoria Desert, Simpson Desert, Strzelecki Desert, Sturt Stony Desert, Tirari Desert, Pedirka Desert

World heritage sites: Naracoorte Caves National Park



## **WESTERN AUSTRALIA – THE WILDFLOWER STATE**

Location: Western Australia

Boundaries: The Timor Sea to the north, the Indian Ocean to the northwest, the Indian Ocean to the west, the Indian Ocean to the south, the Northern Territory to the east, South Australia to the east

Capital: Perth

Cities and towns: Bunbury, Busselton, Geraldton, Albany

Longest river: Gascoyne River

Highest mountain: Mount Meharry

Deserts: Great Victoria Desert, Great Sandy Desert, Little Sandy Desert Tanami Desert, Gibson Desert,

World heritage sites: Purnululu National Park, Ningaloo Coast, Shark Bay

## **TASMANIA – THE NATURAL STATE**

Location: Approximately 240 km south of the Australian mainland

Boundaries: The Great Australian Bight to the west, the Tasman Sea to the east

Capital: Hobart

Cities and towns: Launceston, Devonport, Ulverstone, Burnie

Longest river: South Esk River

Highest mountain: Mount Ossa

World heritage sites: Tasmanian Wilderness, Port Arthur

## **NORTHERN TERRITORY – THE TOP END**

Location: North-central Australia

Boundaries: The Timor Sea to the north, the Arafura Sea to the north, Western Australia to the west, Queensland to the east, South Australia to the south

Capital: Darwin

Cities and towns: Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek

Longest river: Victoria River

Highest mountain: Mount Zeil

Deserts: Tanami Desert, Simpson Desert

World heritage sites: Kakadu National Park, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park

## **AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY – THE NATION'S CAPITAL**

Location: South-eastern Australia

Boundaries: Located in the state of New South Wales

Capital: Canberra

Towns: Williamsdale, Oaks Estate, Uriarra Village, Hall

Longest river: Murrumbidgee River

Highest mountain: Mount Bimberi

National parks: Namadgi National Park

## **FURTHER READING**

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Powell, J.M. 1991. A Historical Geography of Modern Australia. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN 0-521-40829-6.

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## **STUDENT TASKS – GEOGRAPHY OF AUSTRALIA**

### **TASK 1 – Australia's States and Territories**

**1 State the capital of each Australian state and territory.**

***1 The capital of New South Wales is***

- a) Darwin
- b) Sydney
- c) Hobart

***2 The capital of Victoria is***

- a) Melbourne
- b) Perth
- c) Hobart

***3 The capital of Queensland is***

- a) Canberra
- b) Brisbane
- c) Sydney

***4 The capital of Western Australia is***

- a) Canberra
- b) Darwin
- c) Perth

***5 The capital of South Australia is***

- a) Sydney
- b) Melbourne
- c) Adelaide

***6 The capital of Tasmania is***

- a) Hobart
- b) Darwin
- c) Canberra

***7 The capital of the Australian Capital Territory is***

- a) Sydney
- b) Canberra
- c) Brisbane

***8 The capital of the Northern Territory is***

- a) Darwin
- b) Perth
- c) Adelaide

**TASK 2 – State the bordering states, territories and water bodies (where applicable) of each Australian state and territory.**

***New South Wales***

- a) ..... to the north
- b) ..... to the south
- c) ..... to the west

***Queensland***

- a) ..... to the west
- b) ..... to the south-west
- c) ..... to the south

***Victoria***

- a) ..... to the north
- b) ..... to the west
- c) ..... to the south (separated by the Bass Strait)

***Tasmania***

- a) the ..... Ocean to the east
- b) the ..... Ocean to the west

***South Australia***

- a) ..... to the west
- b) ..... to the north
- c) ..... to the north-east
- d) ..... to the east
- e) ..... to the south-east

***Western Australia***

- a) ..... to the north-east
- b) ..... to the south-east

***Northern Territory***

- a) ..... to the west
- b) ..... to the south
- c) ..... to the east

***Australian Capital Territory***

- a) enclave within the state of .....



### **TASK 3 – Fill in the missing words to sum up basic facts about Australia.**

Australia is the world's a)..... island and b) ..... continent situated in the c) ..... hemisphere below the d) ..... . For that reason the country is sometimes colloquially called the e) ..... Australia, officially called the f) ....., is the g) ..... largest country in the world. Australia is divided into six h) ..... and two i) ..... The self-governing states are j) ..... , k) ..... , l) ..... , m) ..... , n) ..... , and o) ..... The two centrally administered territories are the p) ..... and the q) ..... The capital of Australia is r) ..... The capital city was built on a site selected midway between the cities of s) ..... and t) .....

### **TASK 4 – Australia's UNESCO World Heritage Sites**

- 1 Name 10 Australian sites listed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- 2 State the reasons why Macquarie Island is on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- 3 State the reasons for why the Wet Tropics of Queensland are on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- 4 State the reasons why the Greater Blue Mountains Area is on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- 5 State the reasons why the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens are on the UNESCO World Heritage List.
- 6 State the reasons why the Australian Convict Sites are on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

## **TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS**

### **Queensland**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on Brisbane. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, heritage buildings, culture, sport.
- 2 Give a 10min presentation on Cairns. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, tourism.
- 3 Give a 10min presentation on the Gold Coast. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, tourism.
- 4 Give a 10min presentation on Bundaberg. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, economy.

### **New South Wales**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on Sydney. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, heritage buildings, culture, sport.
- 2 Give a 10min presentation on Newcastle. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, economy, education.
- 3 Give a 10min presentation on Wollongong. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, culture, sport.

### **Victoria**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on Melbourne. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, heritage buildings, culture, sport.
- 2 Give a 10min presentation on Geelong. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, economy, culture.
- 3 Give a 10min presentation on Bendigo. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, architecture, tourism.

## **South Australia**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on Adelaide. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, heritage buildings, culture, sport
- 2 Give a 10min presentation on Gawler. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, culture.
- 3 Give a 10min presentation on Mount Gambier. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, culture, sport, tourism.

## **Western Australia**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on Perth. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, heritage buildings, culture, sport.
- 2 Give a 10min presentation on Bunbury. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, economy, tourism.
- 3 Give a 10min presentation on Geraldton. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, economy, tourism.

## **Northern Territory**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on Darwin. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, heritage buildings, culture, sport.
- 2 Give a 10min presentation on Alice Springs. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, culture, arts.
- 3 Give a 10min presentation on Katherine. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, parks and gardens.
- 4 Give a 10min presentation on Tennant Creek. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, tourism, parks and gardens.

## **Tasmania**

1 Give a 15min presentation on Hobart. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, heritage buildings, culture, sport.

2 Give a 10min presentation on Launceston. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, gastronomy, culture, sport, tourism.

3 Give a 10min presentation on Devonport. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, art, sport.

## **Australian Capital Territory**

1 Give a 15min presentation on Canberra. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, culture, sport.





## AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL SYMBOLS

### **3. AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL SYMBOLS**

#### **LEAD-IN**

**Give a 10min talk on Australia's geographic features. Include the following points.**

1. Is Australia a continent or a country?
2. Where is Australia situated?
3. Which bodies of water surround Australia?
4. What are Australia's neighbouring countries?
5. What is Australia's official name?
6. How many states and territories are there in Australia?
7. What is the capital of Australia?
8. What are the capitals of the states and territories?

#### **AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL SYMBOLS**

Australia's national symbols stem from the unique culture and rich history of the Australian continent and its people. Each symbol carries layers of meaning and significance and virtually encloses the essence of the Australian states and territories. Symbols which reflect the character and the values of the Australian nation are the following (<https://www.pmc.gov.au>):

- the Australian national flag
- the Commonwealth coat of arms
- the floral emblem: the golden wattle
- the celebratory national colours: green and gold
- the vibrant gemstone: the Australian opal
- the Australian national anthem



## **The Australian national flag**

The Australian national flag consists of

- the Union Jack
- the Commonwealth Star
- the Southern Cross

The design of the Australian national flag is established by the Flags Act 1953, which states that “The Australian national flag is a blue flag [...]” which consists of the following elements (legislation.gov.au):

- a) the Union Jack occupying the upper quarter next the staff;
- b) a large white star (representing the 6 States of Australia and the Territories) in the centre of the lower quarter next the staff and pointing direct to the centre of St George’s Cross in the Union Jack [...]
- c) 5 white stars (representing the Southern Cross) in the half of the flag further from the staff [...]

## **The Commonwealth coat of arms**

The current design of the Commonwealth coat of arms has been in use since 1912. The official coat of arms of Australia contains the Commonwealth Star, a wreath, shield, two native Australian animals, Australia’s floral emblem and the inscription “Australia”. A centrally positioned shield is composed of the symbols of the Australian states. The shield, which “features the black swan of Western Australia, the lion and stars of New South Wales, Victoria’s Southern Cross, the Maltese Cross and Crown of Queensland, the walking lion of Tasmania and the piping shrike of South Australia” (pmc.gov.au), is supported by a kangaroo and emu, native Australian animals, on both sides. The upper part of the coat of arms depicts the gold Commonwealth Star, which is positioned above a gold and blue wreath. The lower part of the coat of arms displays Australia’s floral emblem, the golden wattle, and a scroll bearing the inscription “Australia”.

## **Australia’s floral emblem**

Australia’s floral emblem is the *golden wattle* (*Acacia pycnantha*). “Wattles are well recognised for their large fluffy, bright yellow, sweet smelling heads almost hidden by long stamens, arranged in dense rounded or elongated clusters. There are over 1300 Acacias worldwide with 960 of these being native to Australia, the most notable of them all being the Golden Wattle” (botanicalgardens.org.au). The golden wattle grows naturally in the states of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia and in the Australian Capital Territory.

### **Australia's national colours**

Green and gold were proclaimed as Australia's national colours by governor-general Ninian M Stephen on 19 April 1984. The two colours encapsulate the distinct shades of Australian flora, fauna, and the unique features of the Australian landscape. While gold is "the symbol of Australia's sporting victories and the colour of [Australia's] mineral wealth, beaches, the golden fleece of Australian wool and the harvests of golden grains across every state", the colour of green symbolises "the Australian forests, gum trees, pastures and the endless horizons of growing crops" (pmc.gov.au).

### **Australia's national gemstone**

Opal was proclaimed as Australia's national gemstone by governor-general Bill Hayden on 23 July 1993. Australian opals come in a wide spectrum of colours and patterns. The most common opals found in Australia are the black opal, white opal, crystal opal and boulder opal.

From ancient times till the present day, opal has held a significant place in Australia's culture and identity. For the Indigenous communities of Australia, the gemstone has carried spiritual importance, which is reflected in the myths and legends of the Aboriginal people. Today, "Australia's opal fields are bigger than those found in the rest of the world combined, and support many communities in South Australia, New South Wales and Queensland" (2022, p.18).

### **The Australian national anthem**

The Australian national anthem is called *Advance Australia Fair*. On 21 May 1977 the National Song Poll was held in which Australians were invited to express their preferences in a referendum. "Of the 4 tunes offered, Advance Australia Fair was the preferred choice of 43 per cent of voters, with Waltzing Matilda preferred by 28 per cent of those voting. God Save the Queen, which was the national anthem in 1977, found support with 18 per cent of voters and just under 10 per cent of voters supported Song of Australia" (2022, p.11).

A proclamation issued on 19 April 1984 (parlinfo.aph.gov.au) stated that:

- a) the anthem "God Save the Queen" shall hence-forth be known as the Royal Anthem and be used in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen or a member of the Royal Family;
- b) the national anthem shall consist of the tune known as "Advance Australia Fair" with the following words:

Australians all let us rejoice,  
For we are one 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.

### **FURTHER READING**

Harper, M., White, R. 2021. Symbols of Australia. Imagining a Nation. Sydney: University of New South Wales Press Ltd. ISBN 9781742249995.

Kwan, E. 2006. Flag and nation: Australians and their national flags since 1901. Sydney: University of New South Wales Press Ltd. ISBN 0 86840 567 1.

## STUDENT TASKS – AUSTRALIA’S NATIONAL SYMBOLS

### TASK 1 – Choose the correct answer.

1 What is the floral emblem of Australia?

- a) waratah
- b) kangaroo paw
- c) golden wattle
- d) Sturt’s dessert pea

2 Which animal appears on Australia’s coat of arms?

- a) koala
- b) kangaroo
- c) dingo
- d) platypus

3 What is the national gemstone of Australia?

- a) opal
- b) sapphire
- c) diamond
- d) topaz

4 Which iconic structure is a symbol of Australia?

- a) Great Barrier Reef
- b) Uluru
- c) Parliament House
- d) Sydney Opera House

5 What is the national anthem of Australia?

- a) Waltzing Matilda
- b) Advance Australia Fair
- c) God Save the Queen
- d) I Still Call Australia Home

6 Which colour is prominently featured on the Australian Aboriginal flag?

- a) red
- b) black
- c) yellow
- d) all of the above

## **TASK 2 - Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 The Commonwealth coat of arms has been utilised in its present form since 1912.
- 2 The coat of arms of Australia displays symbols only of the Australian states.
- 3 The kangaroo and koala flank the shield as supporters in the Australian coat of arms.
- 4 The lower part of the coat of arms depicts the golden wattle.
- 5 Governor-general Ninian M Stephen proclaimed blue and red as Australia's national colours on 19 April 1984.
- 6 Green and gold were chosen as Australia's national colours in 1974 by Prime Minister Bob Hawke.
- 7 Governor-general Bill Hayden declared opal as Australia's national gemstone on 23 July 1993.
- 8 Opal has only recently gained significance in Australian culture and identity.
- 9 The most prevalent types of opal found in Australia include black opal, white opal, crystal opal and boulder opal.
- 10 Australia's opal fields are smaller than those found elsewhere in the world.
- 11 Australia's opal fields mainly support communities in Western Australia and Tasmania.
- 12 The Australian national anthem is known as "God Save the King".
- 13 Australians were asked to indicate their preference for the national anthem in a referendum.
- 14 "Song of Australia" received the highest support in the National Song Poll, which took place on 21 May 1977.

## **TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS**

1 Give a 15min presentation on the symbols of New South Wales. Include the following points: the flag, the coat of arms, the badge, the floral emblem, the animal emblem, the gemstone emblem.

2 Give a 15min presentation on the symbols of Victoria. Include the following points: the flag, the coat of arms, the badge, the floral emblem, the animal emblem, the state mineral.

3 Give a 15min presentation on the symbols of Queensland. Include the following points: the flag, the coat of arms, the badge, the state colour, the floral emblem, the animal emblem, the bird emblem, the gemstone emblem.

4 Give a 15min presentation on the symbols of South Australia. Include the following points: the flag, the coat of arms, the badge, the state colours, the floral emblem, the animal emblem, the gemstone emblem.

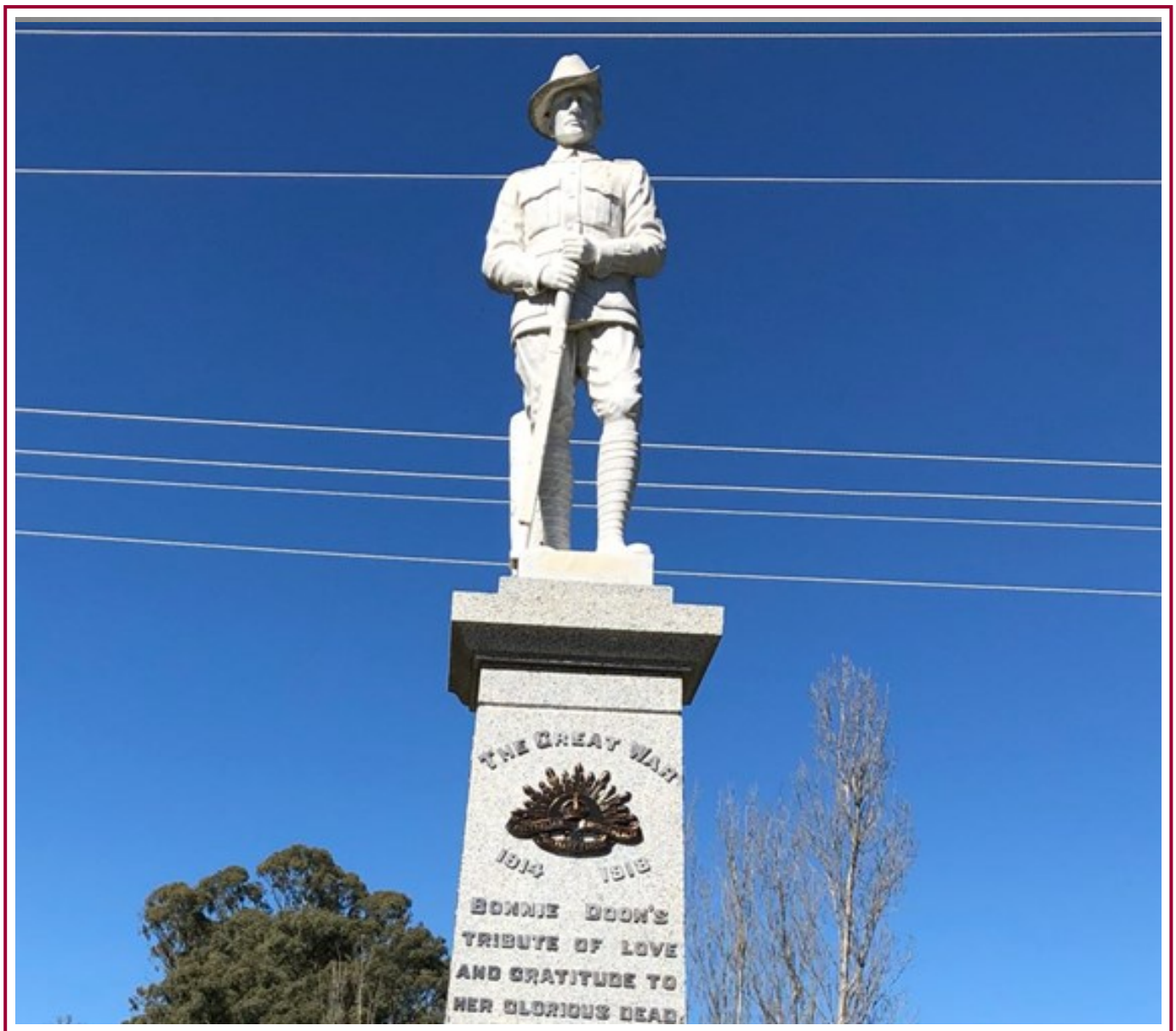
5 Give a 15min presentation on the symbols of Western Australia. Include the following points: the flag, the coat of arms, the badge, the floral emblem, the animal emblem, the bird emblem.

6 Give a 15min presentation on the symbols of Tasmania. Include the following points: the flag, the coat of arms, the floral emblem, the animal emblem, the mineral emblem.

7 Give a 15min presentation on the symbols of the Australian Capital Territory. Include the following points: the flag, the coat of arms, the floral emblem, the animal emblem, the bird emblem.

8 Give a 15min presentation on the symbols of the Northern Territory. Include the following points: the flag, the coat of arms, the floral emblem, the animal emblem, the bird emblem.





## **SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA**

## 4. SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

### LEAD-IN

**Give a 10min talk on the Australian national flag. Include the following points.**

- history of the Australian national flag
- Australian National Flag Day
- protocols for raising the flag

### 4.1. EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT

Before the arrival of the first Europeans, Australia was inhabited by the Aboriginal people. Their unique approach to everyday life was reflected in their social organisation, culture, religion, art and the variety of languages they spoke.

#### European exploration

The first European explorers were about to discover not only the unique attributes of one of the Earth's oldest cultures but also the traits distinctively related to *Terra Australis Incognita*. Before the claiming of the eastern coast of Australia for Great Britain by Captain James Cook, the continent of Australia was explored by the Dutch. "By the middle of the seventeenth century the Dutch had mapped the western half of Australia, which they called New Holland, and traced some fragments of coast further east. In 1066 Willem Janszoon sailed east through the Torres Strait and [...] along the northeast coast of Australia. In 1642 Abel Tasman led an expedition that charted the southern part of the island now named after him [...]" (Macintyre, p.41, 2016).

The commencement of the British settlement of the continent is linked to the English naval lieutenant James Cook, who reached Australia's eastern coast in 1770, claimed the land for the British Crown and named it New South Wales.

#### Early settlement

##### Geopolitical context

The motivating factors behind Britain's interest in the colonisation of Australia were geopolitical, economic and strategic. In the Age of Exploration, Britain was engaged in a competition with other European countries to control trade routes, acquire strategic outposts and establish their presence in overseas territories. "Part of the motivation for sending Cook to claim land in the South Pacific [...] was to prevent the French from claiming it first" (West, 2010, p.41). By colonising Australia, Britain sent out a signal to France, Spain and other European countries that the region of the South Pacific was under British control.

## Overpopulation in Britain

From the 1830s, the Industrial Revolution triggered a rapid movement of people from the agrarian countryside to industrialised towns and cities. The massive influx of people from rural areas resulted in intense population growth in British cities. Settlement of Australia was seen as a “way for Britain to solve its social problems at home, with settlement serving as a pressure valve by which the mother country could address the problem of overpopulation” (Doyle, 2018).

## Penal colonies

The massive influx of people into cities resulted in an increase in the crime rate, which ultimately led to overflowing prisons.

Initially, besides other punishments, prisoners were sentenced to transportation to the American colonies. However, when the War of Independence ended with the signing of the Treaty of Paris in September 1783 and Britain recognised its former colonies as an independent nation, the British government was once again compelled to develop new ideas to cope with the increasing number of convicts. The decision was made to transport convicts to the distant and largely unexplored continent of Australia.

Led by Captain Arthur Phillip, the First Fleet left Portsmouth on Sunday 13 May 1787 with the aim of establishing a new penal colony. “Of the 789 [convicts] who were selected, the men outnumbered the women by three to one. Since they would have to be controlled, four companies of marines were sent with them. Since there was no government, it would be a military colony, but the rule of law would prevail, courts would be established and customary rights would be maintained” (Macintyre, p.53, 2016).

After an eight-month journey, the 11 vessels of the First Fleet reached Australian shores on 20 January 1788. The proposed site for the establishment of the colony was Botany Bay. However, due to its lack of fresh water and poor soil, Captain Phillip found the place unsuitable for settlement and a decision was made to establish a settlement to the north of Botany Bay. Six days later, on 26 January 1788, the British flag was raised in Australia and the first British settlement was established at Sydney Cove. This significant event shaped the course of history of Australia by paving the way for the colonisation and formation of a new nation.

The First Fleet was followed by the arrival of the Second Fleet in mid-1790 and many other fleets afterwards, which resulted in the extension of the number of settlements in the colonies. Gradually, with the arrival of free settlers, voluntary migrants and indentured workers, free settlements were set up in the newly established colonies. The expansion of the colonies resulted in the fact that “between 1606 and 1850 Australia went from being a legend among European seafarers to one of the most prosperous regions of the British Empire” (West, 2010, p.56).

## **FURTHER READING**

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Perkins, R., Langton, M. 2010. First Australians. Carlton: Melbourne University Publishing Limited. ISBN: 978 0 52285 954 6.

West, A.B. 2010. A Brief History of Australia. New York: Facts on File, Inc. ISBN 978-0-8160-7885-1.



## STUDENT TASKS – EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT

### TASK 1 – Choose the correct answer.

1 When did the first British ship land on Australian shores?

- a) 1670
- b) 1760
- c) 1770
- d) 1788

2 Who was the first European explorer to claim possession of Australia for Britain in 1770?

- a) James Cook
- b) Ferdinand Magellan
- c) Christopher Columbus
- d) Marco Polo

3 What was the name of the first British penal colony established in Australia in 1788?

- a) Port Jackson
- b) Botany Bay
- c) Sydney Cove
- d) Port Arthur

4 Which group of people were the first inhabitants of Australia?

- a) Maori
- b) Aborigines
- c) Inuits
- d) Native Americans

5 In what year did the transportation of convicts to Australia officially end?

- a) 1820
- b) 1853
- c) 1788
- d) 1901

6 Which British captain landed the First Fleet in Australia and established the first penal colony?

- a) Captain James Cook
- b) Captain Arthur Phillip
- c) Captain William Bligh
- d) Captain Matthew Flinders

## **Task 2 – Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 The First Fleet departed from Portsmouth on Sunday 13 May 1787 with the intention of establishing a new penal colony.
- 2 The First Fleet was led by Captain James Cook.
- 3 The First Fleet consisted of 14 vessels.
- 4 After an eight-month journey, the First Fleet arrived on Australian shores on 20 January 1788.
- 5 The British flag was raised in Australia on 20 January 1788.
- 6 Botany Bay was considered a suitable place for settlement.

## **Task 3 – Finish the sentences in your own words.**

- 1 Britain's interest in colonising Australia stemmed from ...
- 2 Sending expeditions to claim land in the South Pacific was motivated by ...
- 3 By establishing colonies in Australia, Britain aimed to ...
- 4 The Industrial Revolution brought about ...
- 5 Settling Australia was viewed as ...
- 6 Colonisation served as ...
- 7 The surge in urban populations in 18th-century England led to ...
- 8 Penal colonies emerged as a response to ...

## **TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS— COLONISATION**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on Captain James Cook. In your presentation include the following points: family background, Royal Navy career, discovery of Australia.
- 2 Give a 15min presentation on Captain Arthur Phillip. In your presentation include the following points: family background, voyage to Australia, colonial service.
- 3 Give a 15min presentation on the First Fleet. In your presentation include the following points: ships, convict transports, voyage to Australia.
- 4 Give a 15min presentation on colonial buildings in Sydney. In your presentation include the following points: Hyde Park Barracks, the Mint, Sydney Hospital, St James' Church.

## **4.2. GOLD RUSH**

The beginnings of the first gold rush in Australia are closely linked to Edward Hargraves, who after gaining experience in identifying the gold-bearing areas in the goldfields of California, returned to Australia and discovered gold near Bathurst, New South Wales, in 1851. This discovery of gold marked the beginning of the Australian gold rush era and eventually transformed the social, economic and cultural landscape of Australia.

Besides Bathurst, significant deposits of gold were discovered in other parts of Australia. The gold rush spread throughout Australia with goldfields stretching from Queensland, Victoria, Northern Territory and Western Australia to Tasmania. The newly discovered goldfields attracted a large number of migrants from Europe, America and China. As a result, “between 1851 and 1871 the Australian population quadrupled from 430,000 people to 1.7 million as migrants from across the world arrived in search of gold” ([www.nma.gov.au](http://www.nma.gov.au)). The immense influx of migrants from culturally diverse backgrounds fostered a cosmopolitan atmosphere which consequently transformed the nature of the colonial society. It laid the foundations of a distinctive Australian identity, one that has been created by blending influences from various parts of the world.

The discovery of gold had a significant impact on the economic development of the colonies. With the arrival of fortune seekers the number of settlements around the goldfields increased both in number and size, which directly resulted in the rapid development of towns and cities. The growth of cities inevitably impelled the development of infrastructure, which in turn expanded with the construction of roads and railways which were built to support the mining industry.

The gold rush era also contributed to the establishment of financial institutions. Australia’s first banks were established with the aim of securing the storage and transport of gold. The Bank of New South Wales was the first Australian bank, which opened in Sydney. “On Tuesday 8 April 1817 at 10am, the bank opened in rented rooms in the house of ex-convict Mary Reiby in Macquire Place. The bank moved to larger premises in George Street in 1822. During the 1820s competition increased as more local banks opened but the Bank of New South Wales survived. The 1850s gold rushes led to a major expansion of the bank. From one branch in Sydney in 1851, it grew to 37 branches in Australia and New Zealand 10 years later” (<https://www.nma.gov.au/>).

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## STUDENT TASKS – GOLD RUSH

### TASK 1 - Choose the correct answer.

1 In which year did the first Australian gold rush begin?

- a) 1820
- b) 1849
- c) 1851
- d) 1870

2 In which state of Australia did the first significant gold discovery take place?

- a) New South Wales
- b) Queensland
- c) Victoria
- d) Western Australia

3 What was the primary motivation for many people to participate in the Australian gold rush?

- a) social experiment
- b) agricultural opportunities
- c) economic prosperity
- d) cultural exchange

4 Which immigrant group made up a significant portion of the population during the gold rush era?

- a) Chinese
- b) English
- c) Irish
- d) Italian

5 What impact did the Australian gold rush have on the overall development of the country?

- a) economic boom
- b) population growth
- c) infrastructure development
- d) all of the above



## **TASK 2 - Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 Edward Hargraves played a pivotal role in the first Australian gold rush after discovering gold in California.
- 2 Edward Hargraves discovered gold near Sydney, New South Wales in 1851.
- 3 The Australian gold rush era transformed the country's social, economic and cultural fabric.
- 4 The Australian gold rush era only attracted migrants from Europe and America.
- 5 Due to the massive migration driven by the gold rush era, Australia's population quadrupled from 430,000 to 1.7 million.
- 6 Gold deposits were found in various regions across Australia.

## **TASK 3 - Match the two halves of the sentences.**

- 1 The discovery of gold ...
  - 2 As fortune seekers flocked to the goldfields, ...
  - 3 The urban growth ...
  - 4 The gold rush era played a crucial role ...
  - 5 The first banks in Australia were founded to facilitate ...
- 
- a) ...necessitated the development of infrastructure.
  - b) ...the number and size of settlements surrounding them increased.
  - c) ...the secure storage and transportation of gold.
  - d) ...in the establishment of financial institutions.
  - e) ...had a profound effect on the economic growth of the colonies.

## **TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS – GOLD RUSH**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on Edward Hargraves. In your presentation include the following points: family background, discovery of gold, later life.
- 2 Give a 15min presentation on Bathurst in New South Wales. In your presentation include the following points: location, history, gold rush era.
- 3 Give a 15min presentation on Gulgong in New South Wales. In your presentation include the following points: location, history, gold rush era.
- 4 Give a 15min presentation on the Bank of New South Wales. In your presentation include the following points: history, coat of arms, heritage-listed buildings built by the bank.

### **4.3. THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**

With the arrival of the free settlers, settlements expanded across the whole continent of Australia. As the population grew, the colonies of New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania established their own governments. In the 19th century the idea of creating a single nation from the individual colonies emerged and resulted in a suggestion to establish a federation. "Each of the colonies had developed the same kind of parliamentary and judicial systems, which allowed for the federation of these systems with relative ease. [...] Likewise, an early push for a 'white' Australia had been seen in each colony [...]. The colonies had also established similar land acts and educational policies" (West, p.101, 2010).

Between 1897 and 1898 a series of conventions and meetings were held for the purpose of drafting the Australian constitution. Consequently, the proposed constitution was approved in referendums. The first referendum passed in 1898 in all the colonies besides Queensland and Western Australia, and the second referendum in 1899 passed in all the colonies with the exception of Western Australia. "The parliament of Britain [...] passed the act that introduced the Australian Constitution. It was written by Australians, with Britain trying to 'water it down', but because Australia moved peacefully to independence, that is how it was done" (Macinnis, p.210, 2013).

On the first day of the 20th century, 1 January 1901, the Commonwealth of Australia was officially proclaimed. On the same day, Edmund Barton became Australia's first prime minister.

### **FURTHER READING**

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## STUDENT TASKS – THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

### TASK 1 – Choose the correct answer.

1 In what year did the six Australian colonies unite to form the Commonwealth of Australia?

- a) 1891
- b) 1901
- c) 1910
- d) 1920

2 Who is often referred to as the “Father of the Australian constitution” for his significant role in its drafting?

- a) Captain James Cook
- b) Edmund Barton
- c) Ned Kelly
- d) Sir Henry Parkes

3 What is the capital of Australia?

- a) Sydney
- b) Melbourne
- c) Canberra
- d) Brisbane

4 What is the title of the Australian national anthem?

- a) Waltzing Matilda
- b) Advance Australia Fair
- c) God Save the King
- d) Down Under

## **TASK 2 – Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 A series of conventions and meetings were held between 1897 and 1898 to draft the Australian constitution.
- 2 The proposed constitution was ratified through referendums.
- 3 The first referendum on the Australian constitution was held in 1898.
- 4 The second referendum on the Australian constitution was held in 1899.
- 5 The first referendum on the Australian constitution was not passed in New South Wales.
- 6 The second referendum on the Australian Constitution was not passed in Victoria.
- 7 The Commonwealth of Australia was officially proclaimed on 1 January 1901.
- 8 Edmund Barton assumed office as Australia's first prime minister.

## **TASK 3 – Finish the sentences in your own words.**

- 1 Between 1897 and 1898, a series of conferences and gatherings convened with the aim of ...
- 2 The proposed Australian constitution received approval through ...
- 3 The first referendum secured support from all colonies except ...
- 4 The second referendum secured approval from all colonies except ...
- 5 The enactment of the Australian constitution was facilitated by ...
- 6 The Commonwealth of Australia was officially declared on ...
- 7 The role of Australia's first prime minister was assumed by ...

## **TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS - THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on the history of the Australian constitution. In your presentation include the following points: the first Federation Convention, date, location, participants, aim, Catherine Helen Spence.
- 2 Give a 15min presentation on the history of the Australian constitution. In your presentation include the following points: the second Federation Convention, date, location, participants, aim.
- 3 Give a 15min presentation on the history of the Australian constitution. In your presentation include the following points: the third Federation Convention, date, location, participants, aim.

#### 4.4. AUSTRALIA AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR

The First World War, also known as the Great War, erupted in 1914 after Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia. The conflict between the two countries was ignited after the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary in Sarajevo on 28 June 1914. A complex set of political, economic and social factors brought other nations into the conflict. The major powers formed two alliances. Germany joined Austria-Hungary, who were collectively known as the Central Powers. Against them were France, Russia and the United Kingdom, together known as the Allies.

In the early 20th century, a sense of loyalty to the British Empire was strongly present across Australian society. When Britain declared war on Germany on 4 August 1914 “representatives of all major segments of Australian society joined together to affirm their support for Britain and the Empire. At an overflow meeting in the Melbourne Town Hall on 6 August, Sir Alexander Peacock, the Liberal Premier of Victoria, addressing his audience as ‘my fellow Britishers’ declared that ‘When the day came that the British Empire would be endangered, its children in the far-out dependencies would be prepared with any sacrifice for Empire and peace’” (Meaney, p.22, 2009). The desire to demonstrate loyalty and the call to defend their mother land resonated deeply, and the majority of Australians felt obliged to defend Britain. Enlistment was voluntary and thousands of Australians felt strongly motivated to join the armed forces.

In 1915, the Australians and New Zealanders joined forces to create the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. The widely used acronym ANZAC originated from this title and laid the basis for the Anzac, “signifying a citizen soldier with the distinctive qualities of the settler societies from which he sprang, resourceful and willing” (Macintyre, p.159, 2016). On 25 April 1915, the Anzac troops landed at what is today known as Anzac Cove on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey. The mission the Anzacs were to fulfil in the Ottoman Empire was to take control of the key positions along the peninsula in order to secure the Dardanelles Strait and open a supply route to Russia. However, the rough conditions together with “a combination of bad planning and a total misreading of the Turkish forces’ capabilities” (West, 2010, 107), which was displayed in the fierce resistance of the Ottoman defenders, resulted in intense, eight-month-long trench warfare. Despite their determination, the Anzacs suffered significant casualties with thousands of lives lost in the battle. Eventually, the allied forces of Britain, France and Russia realised the impossibility of victory in the Ottoman Empire and the Anzac troops evacuated Gallipoli in January 1916.

Within a year from the landing of the Anzac troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula the Australians commemorated the bravery, resilience, commitment and sacrifice the Anzacs displayed in the battle. Since then, the Anzac spirit is remembered and honoured every year on 25 April, the day known as Anzac Day.

## FURTHER READING

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## STUDENT TASKS – AUSTRALIA AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR

### TASK 1 – Choose the correct answer.

1 When did Australia officially enter World War I?

- a) 1913
- b) 1914
- c) 1915
- d) 1916

2 What event triggered Australia's entry into the war?

- a) the arrival of American troops in France
- b) the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand
- c) the invasion of Belgium
- d) the British declaration of war on Germany

3 Which major battle became synonymous with the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps during World War I?

- a) Battle of the Somme
- b) Battle of Jutland
- c) Battle of Verdun
- d) Battle of Gallipoli

4 What was the primary objective of the Gallipoli Campaign?

- a) capture Berlin
- b) open a new front against the Ottoman Empire
- c) secure the Suez Canal
- d) establish a naval blockade

5 Which treaty formally ended World War I?

- a) Treaty of Versailles
- b) Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
- c) Treaty of Trianon
- d) Treaty of Sevres

6 What enduring symbol emerged from Australia's involvement in World War I?

- a) Union Jack
- b) Southern Cross Constellation
- c) Anzac Spirit
- d) Advance Australia Fair

## **TASK 2 – Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 Australians and New Zealanders collaborated to establish the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps in 1915.
- 2 The term Anzac symbolises a soldier characterised by resourcefulness and willingness to serve.
- 3 On 25 May 1915 Anzac troops landed at Anzac Cove on the Gallipoli Peninsula.
- 4 The Anzac troops were tasked with securing the Suez Canal and establishing a supply route to Russia.
- 5 The intense trench warfare at Gallipoli lasted for 10 months.
- 6 The allied forces evacuated Gallipoli in January 1917.

## **TASK 3 – Fill in the missing words and phrases.**

**enlistment / declaration / solidarity / resonated / sense of loyalty /  
profoundly motivated / sectors / society / support / exhibit loyalty**

In the early 20th century, a strong 1..... to the British Empire pervaded Australian 2..... Upon Britain's 3..... of war against Germany on 4 August 1914, representatives from various 4..... of Australian society united to express their 5..... with Britain and the Empire. The desire to 6..... and the wish to defend their homeland 7..... deeply, compelling the majority of Australians to feel duty-bound to 8..... Britain. Voluntary 9..... surged, with thousands of Australians feeling 10..... to enlist in the armed forces.

## **TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS – AUSTRALIA AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. In your presentation include the following points: location, history, collection, research activities.
- 2 Give a 15min presentation on the Shrine of Remembrance in Brisbane. In your presentation include the following points: location, history, architectural design.



#### 4.5. AUSTRALIA AND THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The major powers fighting in the Second World War, which spanned from 1939 to 1945, were Great Britain, the United States, the Soviet Union, Germany, Italy and Japan. Germany, Italy and Japan formed an alliance called the Axis. In turn, the most powerful members of the alliance called the Allies were Great Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union.

The circumstances the Australians faced at the beginning of the war were similar to the ones that occurred at the beginning of the First World War. When Britain entered the Second World War on 3 September 1939, Sir Robert Gordon Menzies, prime minister of Australia, announced in a speech broadcast on every radio station in Australia that Australia, as a member of the British Empire, had joined the conflict.

*Fellow Australians, it is my melancholy duty to inform you officially that, in consequence of the persistence of Germany in her invasion of Poland, Great Britain has declared war upon her, and that, as a result, Australia is also at war. No harder task can fall to the lot of a democratic leader than to make such an announcement. Great Britain and France, with the cooperation of the British Dominions, have struggled to avoid this tragedy. They have, as I firmly believe, been patient; they have kept the door of negotiation open; they have given no cause for aggression. But in the result their efforts failed and we are, therefore, as a great family of nations, involved in a struggle which we must at all cost win, and which we believe in our hearts we will win...* (awm.gov.au)

At the beginning of war, the Australian nation demonstrated support and commitment to the Allied forces. Australian troops were fighting alongside British troops in Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and the Mediterranean.

In 1941 attitudes towards Australia's involvement in the war changed. Prime Minister Robert Menzies was replaced by John Curtin, who saw Australia's participation in the war from a different angle. Curtin realised the lack of reciprocity in the involvement of the two countries in terms of mutual defence: while Australian forces were deployed on various fronts to support Britain, Britain was not able to provide the same extent of defence and support to Australia. Another significant aspect Curtin needed to face was the fact that a large body of professionally trained Australian forces fought overseas; as such, leaving Australia without adequate defence in case of potential attacks. In response to the situation Curtin, ordered the Australian Imperial Force to return to Australia.

After Japan entered the war, Australia felt under immediate threat. The threat became real on 19 February 1942 when Australia experienced direct attacks by Japanese forces. Darwin, the capital of the Northern Territory was bombarded, leading to significant casualties and damage. At about the same time, the cities of Broome, Townsville, Katherine, Derby and Port Hedland also came under Japanese attack. On 31 May 1942 Japanese submarines entered Sydney Harbour.

All these events had a direct impact on Australia's foreign policy, which was reflected in a number of steps taken by the Australian government. In addition to recalling Australian troops, Prime Minister Curtin decided to put the Australian forces under the command of the United States, which resulted in a decisive political shift from Britain towards the United States. The direct effect of the diversion was the adoption of the Statute of Westminster. "With the adoption of the Statute of Westminster later in 1942, Australia consummated its constitutional independence. The Australian Broadcasting Commission stopped playing 'The British Grenadiers' before its news bulletin in favour of 'Advance Australia Fair'" (Macintyre, 2009, p.193). The Statute of Westminster legally established Australia's independence from Britain.

During World War II, Australian soldiers participated in battles across Europe, the Middle East and the Pacific. From 1942 to 1945, Australian soldiers joined forces with the United States army in the Pacific war.

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## **STUDENT TASKS – AUSTRALIA AND THE SECOND WORLD WAR**

### **TASK 1 – Choose the correct answer.**

1 When did Australia officially enter the Second World War?

- a) 1938
- b) 1939
- c) 1940
- d) 1941

2 What was the primary reason for Australia's involvement in the Second World War?

- a) social improvement
- b) defence of the British Empire
- c) economic interests
- d) territorial expansion

3 Which country posed a direct threat to Australia during the Second World War?

- a) the Soviet Union
- b) Germany
- c) Japan
- d) Italy

4 Which Australian city was bombarded during the first direct attack on Australia by the Japanese forces in 1942?

- a) Sydney
- b) Melbourne
- c) Darwin
- d) Perth

5 When did the Second World War officially end for Australia?

- a) 1944
- b) 1945
- c) 1946
- d) 1947

## **TASK 2 – Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 The circumstances Australia faced at the beginning of the Second World War were similar to those experienced at the onset of the First World War.
- 2 On 3 September 1940, Sir Robert Gordon Menzies, the prime minister of Australia, announced Australia's entry into the Second World War.
- 3 The prime minister's speech announcing Australia's entry into the Second World War was broadcast on every television channel in the country.
- 4 At the start of the war, Australia demonstrated strong support and commitment to the Allied forces.
- 5 Australian troops were deployed alongside British forces in Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and the Mediterranean.
- 6 John Curtin did not succeed Robert Menzies as prime minister until after the Second World War.

## **TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS – AUSTRALIA AND THE SECOND WORLD WAR**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on the Hobart War Memorial (Cenotaph). In your presentation include the following points: location, architects, history, design.
- 2 Give a 15min presentation on the State War Memorial Cenotaph in Perth. In your presentation include the following points: location, history, design.

#### **4.6. THE STOLEN GENERATIONS**

In the past, Aboriginal people were stripped of fundamental rights granted to other Australian citizens. They were excluded from welfare benefits, barred from voting, and denied land ownership.

With the aim to assimilate Aboriginal people into white Australian society, Aboriginal children were removed from their families and placed with white families to be raised as white children. This process of removal led to the Stolen Generations. “The Stolen Generations refers to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were removed from their families between 1910 and 1970. This was done by Australian federal and state government agencies and church missions, through a policy of assimilation” ([commonground.org.au](http://commonground.org.au)).

In order to review the eligibility of the process of removal, the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families was conducted between 1995 and 1997 by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission. The findings of the inquiry were published in the Bringing Them Home report. “A key recommendation of the Bringing them home report was the need for an official acknowledgement of, and apology for, the forcible removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children” ([aiatsis.gov.au](http://aiatsis.gov.au)). In response, the public’s reaction to the recommendations led to the establishment of National Sorry Day, the first one held on 26 May 1998. At state and territory level, all state and territory parliaments expressed their apology to the Stolen Generations between the period of 1997 and 1999. At the national level, Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd made a national apology on behalf of the Australian parliament on 13 February 2008. In 2012, the Australian parliament passed the Act of Recognition Bill, which acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s place in Australian history.

Today, there is an evident effort to enhance Aboriginal culture and traditions, preserve Aboriginal languages and improve Aboriginal education in Australian society.

#### **FURTHER READING**

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## STUDENT TASKS – THE STOLEN GENERATIONS

**Choose the correct answer.**

1 What was the aim behind the removal of Aboriginal children from their families in Australia?

- a) to reduce the number of Aboriginal people
- b) to protect them from harm
- c) to provide them with better education
- d) to assimilate them into white Australian society

2 What term is used to refer to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were removed from their families between 1910 and 1970?

- a) Lost Generations
- b) Stolen Generations
- c) Forgotten Generations
- d) Assimilated Generations

3 Which organisations were responsible for the removal of Aboriginal children from their families?

- a) community groups
- b) international organisations
- c) federal and state government agencies and church missions
- d) non-governmental organisations

4 What was the purpose of the national inquiry conducted between 1995 and 1997?

- a) to punish those responsible for the removals
- b) to review the eligibility of the removal process
- c) to find missing Aboriginal children
- d) to apologise for the removal of Aboriginal children

5 What was the name of the report published with the findings of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families?

- a) the Stolen Generations report
- b) the Lost Generations report
- c) the Bringing Them Home report
- d) the Forgotten Generations report

6 What was the key recommendation of the report?

- a) to stop the removal of children
- b) to return all removed children to their families
- c) to compensate the affected families financially
- d) to officially apologise for the forcible removal of the children

7 When was the first National Sorry Day held?

- a) 26 January 1998
- b) 26 May 1998
- c) 13 February 2008
- d) 1 January 1997

8 Between which years did all state and territory parliaments express their apology to the Stolen Generations?

- a) 1995 – 1997
- b) 1997 – 1999
- c) 1998 – 2000
- d) 2000 – 2002

9 Who made a national apology on behalf of the Australian parliament in 2008?

- a) John Howard
- b) Julia Gillard
- c) Kevin Rudd
- d) Tony Abbott

10 Which significant bill was passed by the Australian parliament in 2012?

- a) The Apology Bill
- b) The Land Rights Act
- c) The Reconciliation Bill
- d) The Act of Recognition Bill

## **TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS – THE STOLEN GENERATIONS**

1 Give a 15min presentation on the Stolen Generations Memorial in Sydenham. In your presentation include the following points: the location, the name of the artist, the design, the inscription.

2 Give a 15min presentation on the Stolen Generations Memorial in the Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan. In your presentation include the following points: the location, the name of the artist, the design.

3 Give a 15min presentation on National Sorry Day. In your presentation include the following points: history, the date, events.





## 4.7. AUSTRALIA TODAY

Throughout the course of its history, Australia has welcomed and embraced migrants from all over the world. Arriving either in the migration waves of the gold rush era, the post-war period after the Second World War, or present-day refugees arriving to Australia through refugee programmes, migrants have shaped the characteristic feature of the Australian society, which is multiculturalism.

Multiculturalism, reflected in the cultural and racial diversity of Australian society, is fully acknowledged by the Australian government in Australia's multicultural statement. In the foreword to Australia's multicultural statement, Malcolm Turnbull, who served as prime minister of Australia from 2015 to 2018, claims that

*"Australia is the most successful multicultural society in the world.*

*We are as old as our First Australians, the oldest continuing human culture on earth, who have cared for this country for more than 50,000 years.*

*And we are as young as the baby in the arms of her migrant mother who could have come from any nation, any faith, any race in the world.*

*Australia is an immigration nation. Almost half of our current population was either born overseas or has at least one parent born overseas.*

*And we come from every culture, every race, every faith, every nation.*

*We are defined not by race, religion or culture, but by shared values of freedom, democracy, the rule of law and equality of opportunity – a "fair go".*

*The glue that holds us together is mutual respect – a deep recognition that each of us is entitled to the same respect, the same dignity, the same opportunities.*

*And national security – a resolute determination to defend our nation, our people and our values – is the foundation on which our freedoms have been built and maintained.*

*At a time of growing global tensions and rising uncertainty, Australia remains a steadfast example of a harmonious, egalitarian and enterprising nation, embracing its diversity.*

*Multicultural Australia: United, Strong, Successful renews and reaffirms the Government's commitment to a multicultural Australia, in which racism and discrimination have no place.*

*I commend Multicultural Australia: United, Strong, Successful to all Australians."* (<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au>)

By emphasising the shared values of respect, equality and freedom and outlining the rights and responsibilities of all of those who wish to become part of Australian society, Australian governments are committed to building an inclusive society where each member of society, might be it in schools, workplaces or communities, feels valued and respected.

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## **STUDENT TASKS – AUSTRALIA TODAY**

### **TASK 1 – Choose the correct answer.**

1 What are the defining factors of Australia's identity?

- a) race and equality
- b) religion and the rule of law
- c) democracy and equality of opportunity
- d) freedom and respect

2 How old is Australia as a multicultural society?

- a) less than 100 years
- b) more than 50,000 years
- c) around 1,0000 years
- d) approximately 200 years

3 What is Australia's response to global tensions and uncertainty?

- a) nationalistic policies and favouritism
- b) xenophobia and isolationism
- c) social conformity and mutual respect
- d) cultural diversity and mutual respect

4 What is the common bond among Australians?

- a) language
- b) ethnicity
- c) shared values
- d) Nationality

### **Task 2 – Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

1 The Indigenous culture of Australia emerged in the last few centuries.

2 Australia is primarily defined by its dominant Anglo-Saxon culture and values.

3 Almost half of Australia's current population either originates from overseas or has immigrant parents.

4 Australia has failed to integrate diverse communities.

5 The Indigenous people have safeguarded their culture and land for over 50,000 years.

6 Australia is renowned for its multicultural society.

7 Australia's multiculturalism is considered a failure.

8 Australia is celebrated for its inclusivity and diversity.

## **TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS – AUSTRALIA TODAY**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on the Australian education system.
- 2 Give a 15min presentation on the Australian system of government.
- 3 Give a 15min presentation on mass media in Australia.
- 4 Give a 15min presentation on sport and sporting events in Australia.



## FINAL TASK - SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

### TASK 1 - Choose the correct answer.

1 What year did Captain James Cook first land on the east coast of Australia?

- a) 1770
- b) 1788
- c) 1801
- d) 1856

2 Which group of Indigenous people are the traditional owners of Sydney?

- a) Maori
- b) Aboriginal
- c) Torres Strait Islanders
- d) Noongar

3 What is the significance of January 26<sup>th</sup> in Australian history?

- a) Foundation Day
- b) Independence Day
- c) Anzac Day
- d) Australia Day

4 Who were the first European settlers to arrive in Australia in 1788?

- a) French
- b) Spanish
- c) British
- d) Dutch

5 Which iconic rock formation in the Northern Territory is sacred to the Anangu people?

- a) Uluru
- b) Ayers Rock
- c) Kata Tjuta
- d) The Olgas

6 What event is commemorated on April 25<sup>th</sup> in Australia and New Zealand?

- a) Australia Day
- b) Anzac Day
- c) Reconciliation Day
- d) Federation Day

7 During which war did Australian and New Zealand soldiers serve in the Anzac forces at Gallipoli?

- a) World War I
- b) World War II
- c) Korean War
- d) Vietnam War



8 Who was the first Prime Minister of Australia?

- a) Sir Robert Menzies
- b) Edmund Barton
- c) John Curtin
- d) Harold Holt

9 In what year did Australia become a federation?

- a) 1867
- b) 1901
- c) 1920
- d) 1945

10 Which famous Australian outlaw and bushranger was captured and hanged in 1880?

- a) Ned Kelly
- b) Ben Hall
- c) Captain Thunderbolt
- d) Robin Hood





## AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL DAYS

## **5. AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL DAYS**

### **LEAD-IN**

**1 Give a 10min talk on the colonisation of Australia. Include the following points.**

- the First Fleet
- 11 convict ships
- Sydney Cove
- Captain Arthur Phillip
- 26 January 1788
- the Union Jack

**2 Give a 10min talk on Australia's participation in World War I. Include the following points.**

- World War I
- Australia, New Zealand and Britain
- Australia and New Zealand Army Corps
- 25 April 1915
- Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey
- Eight months
- over 10,000 Anzacs
- 25 April 1916



## **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

Public holidays are non-working days when banks, offices and some shops are closed. A number of public holidays are applied at the national level, while other public holidays are observed at the state, territory or even regional level.

### **NATIONAL PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

National public holidays observed in all states and territories are:

New Year's Day – 1 January

Australia Day – 26 January

Good Friday – observed on the Friday before Easter

Easter Monday – observed on a different day each year

Anzac Day – 25 April

Christmas Day – 25 December

Boxing Day – 26 December

#### ***New Year's Day***

New Year's Day is a national public holiday which is observed on 1 January. The first day of the year is celebrated by attending parties, enjoying live performances, relaxing on the beach, having barbeques in the park, and visiting museums and galleries.

#### ***Australia Day***

Australia Day is a national public holiday which is observed annually on 26 January. The day commemorates the arrival of the 11 ships of the First Fleet at Sydney Cove and the establishment of the first British colony on Australian soil on 26 January 1788.

Today, Australia Day is devoted to celebrations of the cultural diversity and multiculturalism of Australian society, as well as to acknowledging and honouring the contributions of individuals by presenting the Australian of the Year Awards. Citizenship ceremonies are held to formally welcome new Australian citizens.

In all states and territories, the day is celebrated with a wide variety of events, including live music performances, community barbecues and fireworks displays.

### ***Good Friday***

Good Friday is a religious and national public holiday which is observed on the Friday before Easter. The day commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Christians follow a number of religious traditions such as attending church services, holding vigils, and spending the day fasting. One of the traditional foods consumed on Easter is hot cross buns, which are flavoured with raisins, currants and spices and typically served with coffee, tea or juice.

Besides religious activities, the day is also spent attending sporting events. Among the most significant ones are the Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race, the Sydney Easter Race Carnival and the Australian Three Peaks Race, which is held every Easter in Tasmania.

### ***Easter Monday***

Easter Monday is a movable Christian feast which is observed as a national public holiday in Australia. The day is spent with family and friends attending music festivals and sporting events. Traditionally, children participate in Easter egg hunts and are rewarded with Easter bilbies.

### ***Anzac Day***

Anzac Day is a national public holiday which is observed annually on 25 April. The day commemorates the landing of Anzac (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps) troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey on 25 April 1915. Despite suffering heavy losses in the battle, the acts of courage, self-sacrifice, endurance and loyalty of the Anzac soldiers laid down the basic attributes of what is known as the “Anzac spirit”.

Today, commemorative services start at dawn with the Commemorative Address, laying of wreaths at war memorials, holding of a minute’s silence and reciting the ode. The Dawn Services are followed by Anzac Day parades.

Anzac Day is an integral part of Australia’s war commemoration which honours not only all those who lost their lives at the Battle of Gallipoli but also those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving Australia in times of conflict.

### ***Christmas Day***

Christmas Day is a national public holiday which is observed on 25 December. As a religious holiday, Christians celebrate Christmas Day by attending church services. Part of Christmas Day is celebrated by holding a barbeque in the backyard with family and friends.

## **Boxing Day**

Boxing Day is a national public holiday which is observed on 26 December. Traditional activities enjoyed by Australians are going to the beach, having a barbeque and attending sporting events.

## **STATE AND TERRITORY PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

The dates of state and territory public holidays are determined by state and territory governments. These dates are set in addition to the dates of national public holidays, and in general the dates vary between states and territories.

In addition to state and territory public holidays, other celebrations and events are related to specific regions and communities.

The following table shows holidays observed as public holidays in states, territories and regions of the states and territories.

<b>STATE/TERRITORY</b>	<b>HOLIDAY</b>	<b>MONTH</b>
<b>New South Wales</b>	King's Birthday	June
	Labour Day	October
<b>Queensland</b>	Labour Day	May
	Royal Queensland Show (Brisbane area only)	August
	King's Birthday	October
<b>Victoria</b>	Labour Day	March
	King's Birthday	June
	Melbourne Cup	November
<b>South Australia</b>	Adelaide Cup Day	March
	King's Birthday	June
	Labour Day	October
	Proclamation Day	December

<b>Western Australia</b>	Labour Day	March
	Western Australia Day	June
	King's Birthday (some regional areas in WA celebrate the King's Birthday public holiday on a different date)	September
<b>Tasmania</b>	Royal Hobart Regatta (only observed in certain areas of the state)	February
	Eight Hours Day	March
	King's Birthday	June
	Recreation Day (all parts of the state which do not celebrate the Royal Hobart Regatta)	November
<b>Australian Capital Territory</b>	Canberra Day	March
	King's Birthday	June
	Labour Day	October
<b>Northern Territory</b>	May Day	May
	King's Birthday	June
	Picnic Day	August

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## STUDENT TASKS – AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL DAYS

### TASK 1 – Choose the correct answer.

1 When is New Year's Day celebrated in Australia?

- a) 25 December
- b) 1 January
- c) 26 January
- d) 25 April

2 What event does Australia Day commemorate?

- a) the landing of Anzac troops at Gallipoli
- b) the victory of Anzac troops at Gallipoli
- c) the arrival of the First Fleet at Sydney Cove
- d) the birth of Jesus Christ

3 What is a traditional food eaten on Good Friday?

- a) hot cross buns
- b) chocolate eggs
- c) roast lamb
- d) fish and chips

4 What is the significance of Anzac Day in Australia?

- a) It commemorates the landing of Anzac troops in Gallipoli.
- b) It celebrates the victory of Anzac troops in Gallipoli.
- c) It celebrates the arrival of the First Fleet at Sydney Cove.
- d) It marks the establishment of the first British colony in Australia.

5 Which holiday is devoted to acknowledging and honouring individual contributions with the Australian of the Year Awards?

- a) Christmas Day
- b) New Year's Day
- c) Australia Day
- d) Anzac Day

### **Task 2 – Decide whether the statements are true or false.**

- 1 Australian public holidays are decided by federal and state governments.
- 2 The Royal Hobart Regatta is a state holiday observed all over Tasmania.
- 3 Good Friday is a state holiday observed all over Australia.
- 4 Australia Day and Anzac Day are nationwide public holidays.
- 5 Labour Day is celebrated on the same day in Queensland and Western Australia.
- 6 Canberra Day is a national public holiday.
- 7 The King's Birthday is celebrated in June in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania.
- 8 The Royal Queensland Show is held in South Australia in August.

### **Task 3 – Match the dates with the traditional Australian holidays.**

<b>HOLIDAYS</b>	<b>DATES</b>
Remembrance Day	1 January
New Year's Day	26 January
April Fool's Day	1 April
Proclamation Day	26 April
Anzac Day	11 November
Boxing Day	25 December
Australia Day	26 December
Christmas Day	27 December

### **TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS**

- 1 Give a 15min presentation on the Royal Queensland Show. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, exhibition, activities.
- 2 Give a 15min presentation on the Melbourne Cup. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, race, prize.
- 3 Give a 15min presentation on Proclamation Day. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, text of the proclamation, public holiday.
- 4 Give a 15min presentation on the Royal Hobart Regatta. Include the following points in the presentation: location, history, events, public holiday.



## AUSTRALIAN CUISINE

## 6. AUSTRALIAN CUISINE

### LEAD-IN

**Match the two halves of the sentences to characterise the staple foods of Australian cuisine.**

1 Anzac biscuit is ...

2 Lamington is ...

3 Pavlova is ...

4 Chiko roll is ...

5 Meat Pie is ...

6 Vegemite is ...

.... a biscuit made from rolled oats, flour, syrup and coconut.

.... a crispy-fried tube-shaped pastry filled with beef, cabbage, carrot, celery and onion.

.... a thick, dark brown spread made from concentrated yeast extract.

.... a hand-sized pie filled with minced meat, vegetables and gravy.

.... a sponge cake covered with thin chocolate icing and rolled in desiccated coconut.

.... a meringue-based cake, usually served with whipped cream and fresh fruit.

### AUSTRALIAN FOOD

Before the arrival of European settlers, the Aboriginal people were hunter-gatherers who lived off bush foods consisting of fruits, berries, nuts and local game, which included kangaroos, possums, goannas, crocodiles, emus, as well as seafood such as fish, oysters and others. All members of Indigenous society participated in the food collection process in which “men hunted large marsupials and emus with woomera and spear, boomerang and throwing stick, and women gathered natural vegetables products, the honey of the native bee, shellfish and crustaceans, but also caught reptiles and small mammals” (Farrer, 2005, p.3).

The food habits of the first British colonists varied immensely from the nomadic way of life of the Aboriginal people. The first settlers brought the traditions of Georgian England, which were reflected in their need to cultivate and develop the land to secure food. The settlers brought various types of domestic animals with them, which served as a food source.



The presence of cows, sheep, goats, poultry and horses, which provided the settlers with meat and dairy products, consequently caused the British staple foods of mutton, lamb chops and meat pies to become staples in Australian food consumption also.

The first attempt to establish Australian cuisine is related to the publication of the first cookbook, named the *English and Australian Cookery Book* in 1864. However, until the 1950s, Australian cuisine was derived from British traditions, with the Sunday roast being considered iconic Australian food.

Several truly Australian foods were introduced in the period between the beginnings of British colonisation and the beginning of World War II. The first record of the damper, a bread baked in a pot in hot ashes, comes from 1825; Anzac biscuits were created in 1915; lamington, a sponge cake covered with chocolate and rolled in coconut, was invented in Queensland in 1896; Vegemite was developed by Cyril Percy Callister, a food technologist at the Fred Walker Company, in Melbourne in 1923.

Australian culinary habits began to diverge from traditional British cuisine after World War II. The dietary changes of the population were the result of massive immigration, with migrants arriving from Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

Another decisive moment in the history of Australian migration and which resulted in the arrival of waves of non-European migrants was the abolition of the White Australia Policy, which was first relaxed by Minister of Immigration Arthur Augustus Calwell after WWII. The immigration scheme had primarily favoured the British and was gradually extended to other continental European countries. The immigrants from these countries were referred to as “new Australians” and were expected to assimilate into Australian society. With the abolition of the White Australia Policy in 1965 “multiculturalism served as the settlement policy from the 1970s for a country that took in large numbers of newcomers from around the world” (Macintyre, 2009, 284). The effect of the new settlement policy was greater diversity, including diversity in food. Migrants brought their traditional eating habits with them, and consequently different migrant food cultures became an integral part of Australian food culture. As a result, at present, a wide array of restaurants offer the traditional foods of Italian, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, Vietnamese, Mexican, Turkish, Indian, Lebanese and many other nationalities.

By following their own eating habits and maintaining those habits in traditional restaurants, migrants have made a lasting impact on Australian cuisine. The integration of culturally diverse foods resulted in the fact that “the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> into 21<sup>st</sup> century [...] saw the rise of what is known as ‘Modern Australian’ cuisine, an eclectic and innovative style drawing on multiculturalism, ‘fusion food’ that is fast acquiring a unique Australian identity” (Sharp, 2009, p.262). Today, Australian cuisine is considered the most culturally diverse in the world.

## AUSTRALIAN WINE

Wine growing has been an integral part of Australian culture since the beginnings of the British settlement. “Amongst the many shrubs and plants carried by the eleven ships of the First Fleet were the seeds of the ‘claret’ grape and several rooted vines, which were planted within a few days of arrival in a makeshift garden next to the Governor’s tent in a spot thought to be a few metres from the eastern end of what is now Bridge Street in the business heart of Sydney” (Beeston, 2001, p.2).

After overcoming all the primary difficulties of wine growing, Australia’s wine industry developed in five cycles: the first cycle lasted from 1855 to 1882, the second cycle 1882 to 1915, the third cycle 1915 to 1967, the fourth cycle 1967 to 1986, the fifth and current cycle started in 1986 (Anderson, 2015). Today, with the production of world-class wines in different grape-growing regions, Australia is firmly established on the international wine landscape.

Wine-growing regions are located throughout mainland Australia and Tasmania.

The Hunter Valley, with more than 150 wineries, is the oldest wine region in Australia. The region is located in northern New South Wales at just over a two-hour drive from Sydney.

South Australia, the home of world-class wines produced in 18 wine regions, has been named as one of the nine wine capitals of the world. Among other regions, premium wines are produced in the regions of the Barossa Valley, the McLaren Vale, the Adelaide Hills region and the Coonawarra region, which is a renowned top producer of red wines.

The most famous wine region of Western Australia is the Margaret River region, which is located south of Perth. Wineries offering exclusive wines can also be found in the Swan Valley area, which is located just 25 minutes from Perth.

More than 800 wineries are spread across five wine regions in the state of Victoria. With its first grapes planted in 1838, the Yarra Valley region is considered the oldest grape-growing region in Victoria. Similarly to the Yarra Valley region, Mornington Peninsula, another wine-making region of the state, is located just one hour from Melbourne.

Tasmania’s cool climate characterised by mild summers and long autumn days creates perfect conditions for wine growing and wine making. The wine-growing regions located near the capital city of Hobart are the Derwent Valley, Coal River and Huon Valley.

In addition to wines like Merlot from the Barossa Valley, Shiraz from McLaren Vale, Cabernet Sauvignon from Coonawarra and Margaret River, Pinot Noir from Tasmania, the Yarra Valley and Mornington Peninsula, and Semillon from the Hunter Valley, Australian wineries offer a wide array of spectacular events, ranging from private wine tasting, bush tucker tasting and vineyard tours to enjoying food in fine-dining restaurants with a unique selection of wines which are carefully chosen to accompany the menu.

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## STUDENT TASKS

### TASK 1 – Choose the correct answer.

1 Which Australian food dates back to 1825?

- a) Anzac biscuits
- b) Lamington
- c) Vegemite
- d) Damper

2 Who invented Vegemite?

- a) Arthur Augustus Calwell
- b) Cyril Percy Callister
- c) Fred Walker
- d) Ned Kelly

3 Which event marked the beginning of dietary changes in Australia after World War II?

- a) massive immigration from Europe, Asia and the Middle East
- b) the introduction of Anzac biscuits
- c) the invention of Vegemite
- d) the abolition of the White Australia Policy

4 Which policy favoured British immigrants primarily?

- a) Assimilation policy
- b) Immigration Act
- c) Multiculturalism policy
- d) White Australia policy

5 What term was used to describe immigrants from non-British backgrounds?

- a) Traditional Australians
- b) European settlers
- c) British immigrants
- d) New Australians

6 Which cuisine style emerged in Australia at the turn of the 20th into the 21st century?

- a) Classic Australian
- b) Modern Australian
- c) Fusion Australian
- d) Traditional Australian

7 What is the characteristic feature of Modern Australian cuisine?

- a) It primarily features British dishes.
- b) It excludes traditional migrant foods.
- c) It is eclectic, innovative and draws on multiculturalism.
- d) It focuses solely on Indigenous Australian ingredients.

8 How has the integration of culturally diverse foods impacted Australian cuisine?

- a) It has made Australian cuisine less diverse.
- b) It has led to the disappearance of traditional Australian dishes.
- c) It has caused a decline in the popularity of migrant foods.
- d) It has resulted in the rise of Modern Australian cuisine.

9 What is a significant aspect of Australian cuisine today?

- a) Its strict adherence to traditional British dishes.
- b) Its limited variety due to geographical isolation.
- c) Its reputation as the most culturally diverse cuisine in the world.
- d) Its focus on Indigenous Australian ingredients exclusively.

**TASK 2 – Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 The Hunter Valley is the oldest wine region in Australia.
- 2 The Hunter Valley is located in southern New South Wales.
- 3 South Australia has been recognised as one of the nine wine capitals of the world.
- 4 South Australia is home to 15 wine regions.
- 5 The Margaret River region is located south of Perth.
- 6 The Swan Valley is located 25 minutes from Adelaide.
- 7 The Yarra Valley is the oldest grape-growing region in Victoria.
- 8 Tasmania is known for its warm climate, which is ideal for wine production.



## TASKS FOR STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

- 1 Give a 10min presentation on the history of the Australian damper. Include the following points in the presentation: origins of the name, history, recipe, significance today.
- 2 Give a 10min presentation on the history of lamingtons. Include the following points in the presentation: origins of the name, history, recipe, significance today.
- 3 Give a 10min presentation on the history of Anzac biscuits. Include the following points in the presentation: origins of the name, history, recipe, significance today.
- 4 Give a 10min presentation on the history of Vegemite. Include the following points in the presentation: origins of the name, history, recipe, significance today.
- 5 Give a 10min presentation on the history of Pavlova. Include the following points in the presentation: origins of the name, history, recipe, significance today.





## ANSWER KEY

## ANSWER KEY

### 1 GEOGRAPHY OF AUSTRALIA

#### LEAD-IN

Australia is the world's smallest continent.

Australia is the world's largest island.

Australia is the world's sixth largest country.

#### TASK 1 - Australia's States and Territories

##### 1 Define the capital city of each Australian state and territory.

New South Wales – Sydney

Victoria – Melbourne

Queensland – Brisbane

Western Australia – Perth

South Australia – Adelaide

Tasmania – Hobart

Australian Capital Territory – Canberra

Northern Territory - Darwin

##### TASK 2 - State the bordering states, territories and water bodies (where applicable) of each Australian state and territory.

###### ***New South Wales***

a) Queensland to the north

b) Victoria to the south

c) South Australia to the west



**Queensland**

- a) Northern Territory to the west
- b) South Australia to the south-west
- c) New South Wales to the south

**Victoria**

- a) New South Wales to the north
- b) South Australia to the west
- c) Tasmania to the south

**Tasmania**

- a) the Pacific Ocean to the east
- b) the Indian Ocean to the west

**South Australia**

- a) Western Australia to the west
- b) Northern Territory to the north
- c) Queensland to the north-east
- d) New South Wales to the east
- e) Victoria to the south-east

**Western Australia**

- a) Northern Territory to the north-east
- b) South Australia to the south-east

**Northern Territory**

- a) Western Australia to the west
- b) South Australia to the south
- c) Queensland to the east

**Australian Capital Territory**

- a) enclave within the state of New South Wales

**TASK 3 - Fill in the missing words to sum up the basic facts about Australia.**

- a) largest
- b) smallest
- c) southern
- d) equator
- e) Land Down Under
- f) Commonwealth of Australia
- g) sixth
- h) states
- i) territories
- j) New South Wales
- k) South Australia
- l) Western Australia
- m) Queensland
- n) Victoria
- o) Tasmania
- p) Australian Capital Territory
- q) Northern Territory
- r) Canberra
- s) Sydney
- t) Melbourne

## 2 AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL SYMBOLS

### TASK 1 – Choose the correct answer.

- 1 What is the floral emblem of Australia? Golden Wattle
- 2 Which animal appears on Australia's coat of arms? Kangaroo
- 3 What is the national gemstone of Australia? Opal
- 4 Which iconic structure is a symbol of Australia? Sydney Opera House
- 5 What is the national anthem of Australia? Advance Australia Fair
- 6 Which colour is prominently featured on the Australian Aboriginal flag? All of the above

### TASK 2 - Decide whether the sentences are true or false.

- 1 The Commonwealth Coat of Arms has been utilized in its present form since 1912. TRUE
- 2 The coat of arms of Australia displays symbols of only the Australian states. FALSE
- 3 The kangaroo and koala flank the shield as supporters in the Australian coat of arms. FALSE
- 4 The lower part of the coat of arms depicts the golden wattle. TRUE
- 5 Governor-General Ninian M. Stephen proclaimed blue and red as Australia's national colours on 19<sup>th</sup> April 1984. FALSE
- 6 Green and gold were chosen as Australia's national colours in 1974 by Prime Minister Bob Hawke. FALSE
- 7 Governor-General Bill Hayden declared opal as Australia's national gemstone on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1993. TRUE
- 8 Opal has only recently gained significance in Australian culture and identity. FALSE
- 9 The most prevalent types of opals found in Australia include black opal, white opal, crystal opal and boulder opal. TRUE
- 10 Australia's opal fields are smaller than those found elsewhere in the world. FALSE
- 11 Australia's opal fields mainly support communities in Western Australia and Tasmania. FALSE
- 12 The Australian national anthem is known as "God Save the King". FALSE
- 13 Australians were asked to indicate their preferences of the national anthem in a referendum. TRUE
- 14 "Song of Australia" received the highest support in the National Song Poll, which took place on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1977. FALSE

## **3 SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA**

### **COLONISATION AND SETTLEMENT**

#### **TASK 1 - Choose the correct answer.**

- 1 When did the first British ship land on Australian shores? 1770
- 2 Who was the first European explorer to claim possession of Australia for Britain in 1770?  
James Cook
- 3 What was the name of the first British penal colony established in Australia in 1788?  
Botany Bay
- 4 Which group of people were the first inhabitants of Australia? Aborigines
- 5 In what year did the transportation of convicts to Australia officially end? 1853
- 6 Which British captain landed the First Fleet in Australia and established the first penal colony? Captain Arthur Phillip

#### **Task 2 - Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 The First Fleet departed from Portsmouth on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 1787 with the intention of establishing a new penal colony. TRUE
- 2 The First Fleet was led by Captain James Cook. FALSE
- 3 The First Fleet consisted of fourteen vessels. FALSE
- 4 After an eight-month journey, the First Fleet arrived at the Australian shores on 20<sup>th</sup> January 1788. TRUE
- 5 The British flag was raised in Australia on 20<sup>th</sup> January 1788. FALSE
- 6 Botany Bay was considered a suitable place for settlement. FALSE

### 3 SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

#### GOLD RUSH

##### **TASK 1 - Choose the correct answer.**

- 1 What year did the Australian Gold Rush begin? 1851
- 2 In which state of Australia did the first significant gold discovery take place? Victoria
- 3 What was the primary motivation for many people to participate in the Australian Gold Rush? Economic prosperity
- 4 Which immigrant group made up a significant portion of the population during the Gold Rush era? Chinese
- 5 What impact did the Australian Gold Rush have on the overall development of the country? all of the above

##### **TASK 2 - Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 Edward Hargraves played a pivotal role in the Australian Gold Rush after discovering gold in California. FALSE
- 2 Edward Hargraves discovered gold near Sydney, New South Wales in 1851. FALSE
- 3 The Australian Gold Rush transformed the country's social, economic and cultural fabric. TRUE
- 4 The Australian Gold Rush only attracted migrants from Europe and America. FALSE
- 5 Due to the massive migration driven by the Gold Rush, Australia's population quadrupled from 430,000 to 1.7 million. TRUE
- 6 Gold deposits were found in various regions across Australia. TRUE

##### **TASK 3 - Match the two halves of the sentences.**

- 1 The discovery of gold had a profound effect on the economic growth of the colonies.
- 2 As fortune seekers flocked to the goldfields, the number and size of settlements surrounding them increased.
- 3 The urban growth necessitated the development of infrastructure.
- 4 The Gold Rush era played a crucial role in the establishment of financial institutions.
- 5 The first banks in Australia were founded to facilitate the secure storage and transportation of gold.

### 3 SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

#### THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

##### **TASK 1 - Choose the correct answer.**

- 1 In what year did the six Australian colonies unite to form the Commonwealth of Australia?  
1901
- 2 Who is often referred to as the 'Father of the Australian Constitution' for his significant role in its drafting? Sir Henry Parkes
- 3 What is the capital of Australia? Canberra
- 4 What is the title of the Australian national anthem? Advance Fair Australia

##### **TASK 2 - Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 A series of conventions and meetings were held between 1897 and 1898 to draft the Australian Constitution. TRUE
- 2 The proposed constitution was ratified through referendums. TRUE
- 3 The first referendum on the Australian Constitution was held in 1898. TRUE
- 4 The second referendum on the Australian Constitution was held in 1899. TRUE
- 5 The first referendum on the Australian Constitution was not passed in New South Wales. FALSE
- 6 The second referendum on the Australian Constitution was not passed in Victoria. FALSE
- 7 The Commonwealth of Australia was officially proclaimed on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1901. TRUE
- 8 Edmund Barton assumed office as Australia's first Prime Minister. TRUE

### 3 SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

#### AUSTRALIA AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR

##### TASK 1 - Choose the correct answer.

- 1 When did Australia officially enter World War I? 1915
- 2 What event triggered Australia's entry into the war? The British declaration of war on Germany
- 3 Which major battle became synonymous with the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps during World War I? Battle of Gallipoli
- 4 What was the primary objective of the Gallipoli Campaign? Open a new front against the Ottoman Empire
- 5 Which treaty formally ended World War I? Treaty of Versailles
- 6 What enduring symbol emerged from Australia's involvement in World War I? ANZAC Spirit

##### TASK 2 - Decide whether the sentences are true or false.

- 1 Australians and New Zealanders collaborated to establish the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps in 1915. TRUE
- 2 The term ANZAC symbolizes a soldier characterized by resourcefulness and willingness to serve. TRUE
- 3 On 25<sup>th</sup> May 1915 ANZAC troops landed at Anzac Cove on the Gallipoli Peninsula. FALSE
- 4 The ANZAC troops were tasked with securing the Suez Canal and establish a supply route to Russia. FALSE
- 5 The intense trench warfare at Gallipoli lasted for ten months. FALSE
- 6 The allied forces evacuated Gallipoli in January 1917. FALSE

##### TASK 3 - Fill in the missing words and phrases.

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, a strong 1 sense of loyalty to the British Empire pervaded Australian 2 society. Upon Britain's 3 declaration of war against Germany on 4 August 1914, representatives from various 4 sectors of Australian society united to express their 5 solidarity with Britain and the Empire. The desire to 6 exhibit loyalty and the wish to defend their homeland 7 resonated deeply, compelling the majority of Australians to feel duty-bound to 8 support Britain. Voluntary 9 enlistment surged, with thousands of Australians feeling 10 profoundly motivated to enlist in the armed forces.

### 3 SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

#### AUSTRALIA AND THE SECOND WORLD WAR

##### **TASK 1 - Choose the correct answer.**

- 1 When did Australia officially enter the Second World War? 1939
- 2 What was the primary reason for Australia's involvement in the Second World War? Defense of the British Empire
- 3 Which country posed a direct threat to Australia during the Second World War? Japan
- 4 Which Australian city was bombarded during the first direct attack on Australia by the Japanese forces in 1942? Darwin
- 5 When did the Second World War officially end for Australia? 1945

##### **TASK 2 - Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 The circumstances Australia faced at the beginning of the Second World War were similar to those experienced at the onset of the First World War. TRUE
- 2 On 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1940, Sir Robert Gordon Menzies, the Prime Minister of Australia, announced Australia's entry into the Second World War. FALSE
- 3 The Prime Minister's speech announcing Australia's entry into the Second World War was broadcasted on every television channel in the country. FALSE
- 4 At the start of the war, Australia demonstrated strong support and commitment to the Allied forces. TRUE
- 5 Australian troops were deployed alongside British forces in Europe, the Middle East, North Africa and the Mediterranean. TRUE
- 6 John Curtin did not succeed Robert Menzies as Prime Minister until after the Second World War. FALSE



### 3 SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

#### THE STOLEN GENERATIONS

- 1 What was the aim behind the removal of Aboriginal children from their families in Australia?  
to assimilate them into white Australian society
- 2 What term is used to refer to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders children who were removed from their families between 1910 and 1970? Stolen generations
- 3 Which organizations were responsible for the removal of Aboriginal children from their families? federal and state government agencies and church missions
- 4 What was the purpose of the National Inquiry conducted between 1995 and 1997? to review the eligibility of the removal process
- 5 What was the name of the report published with the findings of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children? the Bringing Them Home Report
- 6 What was the key recommendation of the Bringing Them Home report? to officially apologize for the forcible removal of the children
- 7 When was the first National Sorry Day held? 26th May 1998
- 8 Between which years did all state and territory parliaments express their apology to the Stolen Generations? 1997 – 1999
- 9 Who made a national apology on behalf of the Australian parliament in 2008? Kevin Rudd
- 10 What significant bill was passed by the Australian parliament in 2012? The Act of Recognition Bill

### 3 SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

#### AUSTRALIA TODAY

##### **TASK 1 - Choose the correct answer.**

- 1 What is the defining factor of Australia's identity? democracy and equality of opportunity
- 2 How old is Australia as a multicultural society? more than 50,000 years
- 3 What is Australia's response to global tensions and uncertainty? cultural diversity and mutual respect
- 4 What is the common bond among Australians? shared values

##### **Task 2 - Decide whether the sentences are true or false.**

- 1 The indigenous culture of Australia emerged in the last few centuries. FALSE
- 2 Australia is primarily defined by its dominant Anglo-Saxon culture and values. FALSE
- 3 Almost half of Australia's current population either originates from overseas or has immigrant parents. TRUE
- 4 Australia has failed to integrate diverse communities. FALSE
- 5 The indigenous people have safeguarded their culture and land for over 50,000 years. TRUE
- 6 Australia is renowned for its multicultural society. TRUE
- 7 Australia's multiculturalism is considered a failure. FALSE
- 8 Australia is celebrated for its inclusivity and diversity. TRUE

### 3 SELECTED EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

#### FINAL TASK

**Choose the correct answer.**

- 1 What year did Captain James Cook first land on the east coast of Australia? 1770
- 2 Which group of Indigenous people are the traditional owners of Sydney? Aboriginal
- 3 What is the significance of January 26<sup>th</sup> in Australian history? Australia Day
- 4 Who were the first European settlers to arrive in Australia in 1788? British
- 5 Which iconic rock formation in the Northern Territory is sacred to the Anangu people? Uluru
- 6 What event is commemorated on April 25<sup>th</sup> in Australia and New Zealand? Anzac Day
- 7 During which war did Australian and New Zealand soldiers serve in the Anzac forces at Gallipoli? World War I
- 8 Who was the first Prime Minister of Australia? Edmund Barton
- 9 In what year did Australia become a federation? 1901
- 10 Which famous Australian outlaw and bushranger was captured and hanged in 1880? Ned Kelly

## 4 AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL DAYS

### TASK 1 - Choose the correct answer.

- 1 When is New Year's Day celebrated in Australia? January 1st
- 2 What event does Australia Day commemorate? The arrival of the First Fleet at Sydney Cove
- 3 What is a traditional food eaten on Good Friday? Hot cross buns
- 4 What is the significance of Anzac Day in Australia? It commemorates the landing of Anzac troops in Gallipoli.
- 5 Which holiday is devoted to acknowledging and honouring individual contributions with the Australian of the Year Awards? Australia Day

### Task 2 - Decide whether the statements are true or false.

- 1 Australian public holidays are declared by the federal and state governments. TRUE
- 2 Royal Hobart Regatta is a state holiday observed all over Tasmania. FALSE  
(observed only in certain parts of Tasmania)
- 3 Good Friday is a state holiday observed all over Australia. FALSE  
(Good Friday is a national holiday.)
- 4 Australia Day and Anzac Day are nationwide public holidays. TRUE
- 5 Labour Day is celebrated on the same day in Queensland and Western Australia. FALSE  
(Labour Day is celebrated in May in Queensland.  
Labour Day is celebrated in March in Western Australia.)
- 6 Canberra Day is a national public holiday. FALSE  
(Canberra Day is celebrated in the Australian Capital Territory.)
- 7 King's Birthday is celebrated in June in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. TRUE
- 8 The Royal Queensland Show is held in South Australia in August. FALSE

### Task 3 - Match the dates with the traditional Australian holidays.

- New Year's Day – January 1<sup>st</sup>  
Australia Day – January 26<sup>th</sup>  
April Fool's Day – April 1<sup>st</sup>  
Anzac Day – April 25<sup>th</sup>  
Remembrance Day – November 11<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas Day – December 25<sup>th</sup>  
Boxing Day – December 26<sup>th</sup>  
Proclamation Day – December 27<sup>th</sup>

## 5 AUSTRALIAN CUISINE

### Lead-in

- 1 Anzac biscuit is a biscuit made from rolled oats, flour, syrup and coconut.
- 2 Lamington is a sponge cake covered with thin chocolate icing and rolled in desiccated coconut.
- 3 Pavlova is a meringue-based cake, usually served with whipped cream and fresh fruit.
- 4 Chiko roll is a crisp-fried tube-shaped pastry filled with beef, cabbage, carrot, celery and onion.
- 5 Meat Pie is a hand-sized pie filled with minced meat, vegetables and gravy.
- 6 Vegemite is a thick dark brown bread spread made from concentrated yeast extract.

### TASK 1 - Choose the correct answer.

- 1 Which Australian food dates back to 1825? Damper
- 2 Who invented Vegemite? Cyril Percy Callister
- 3 What event marked the beginning of dietary changes in Australia after World War II? Massive immigration from Europe, Asia and Middle-east
- 4 Which policy favoured British immigrants primarily? White Australia Policy
- 5 What term was used to describe immigrants from non-British backgrounds? New Australians
- 6 Which cuisine style emerged in Australia at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> into the 21<sup>st</sup> century? Modern Australian
- 7 What is the characteristic feature of Modern Australian cuisine? It is eclectic, innovative and drawing on multiculturalism.
- 8 How has the integration of culturally diverse foods impacted Australian cuisine? It has resulted in the rise of Modern Australian cuisine.
- 9 What is a significant aspect of Australian cuisine today? Its reputation as the most culturally diverse cuisine in the world.

### TASK 2 - Decide whether the sentences are true or false.

- 1 The Hunter Valley is the oldest wine region in Australia. TRUE
- 2 The Hunter Valley is located in southern New South Wales. FALSE
- 3 South Australia has been recognized as one of the nine wine capitals of the world. TRUE
- 4 South Australia is home to fifteen wine regions. FALSE
- 5 The Margaret River region is located south of Perth. TRUE
- 6 The Swan Valley is located 25 minutes from Adelaide. FALSE
- 7 The Yarra Valley is the oldest grape-growing region in Victoria. TRUE
- 8 Tasmania is known for its warm climate, which is ideal for wine production. FALSE



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