

Australia

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- 1 Queensland, New South Wales (NSW), Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory, Northern Territory
- 2 The island continent of Australia lies between the Indian and Pacific Oceans in the region of Oceania in the southern hemisphere. It is often described as the Earth's largest island but smallest continent (the other continents are Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica and Europe, in order of size from largest to smallest). It is also the lowest, the flattest and, apart from Antarctica, the driest continent. The country is unique and varied in every way – in climate, landscape, people, history, culture and animal and plant life.
- 3 Australia's way of life has traditionally been influenced by European culture, but today Australian society is multicultural: in 2011, about 21% of the population had been born in the UK, 9% in New Zealand, 6% in China, just over 5% in India and 3.5% in Italy. More than 85% of Australians live near or on the coast, and 89% of the population live in urban areas (towns or cities), which makes Australia one of the most urbanized countries in the world.

Climate

About 70% of the country is very dry and nearly 40% of the country is desert. Most of the desert areas are in the centre and in the west. Parts of northern Australia are tropical and have heavy rainfall in the summer, but are dry in the winter. In the south-east and the south-west corners the climate is temperate.

- 4 1 g, 2 c, 3 a, 4 j, 5 b, 6 d, 7 i, 8 e, 9 k, 10 h, 11 f
- 5
- 1 The first people arrived in Australia.
 - 2 The first people arrived in Tasmania.
 - 3 The world was starting to come out of the most recent ice age.
 - 4 The land bridge between Australia and Tasmania was flooded.
 - 5 The land bridge with Papua New Guinea was flooded.
 - 6 The arrival of European settlers.

- 6 1 d, 2 e, 3 f, 4 b, 5 c, 6 a

7

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activities performances relationship traditional	ancestor government organized	behaviour established protector

- 8**
- 1 *existed*
 - 2 thought, might exist
 - 3 had suggested
 - 4 started
 - 5 were made
 - 6 made, ordered, find
 - 7 claimed, had, explored
 - 8 was interested
 - 9 would help support, increase
 - 10 planned

- 9**
- 1 *kangaroo*
 - 2 wallaby
 - 3 koala
 - 4 wombat
 - 5 possum
 - 6 foxes
 - 7 dingos

- 8 snakes
- 9 dogs
- 10 cats
- 11 duck-billed platypus
- 12 echidna
- 13 kookaburra

- 10**
- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| <i>beef</i> | pasta |
| bread | pizza |
| cheese | rabbit |
| coffee | snake |
| echidna | tea |
| fish | witchetty grubs |
| honey | wheat |
| kakadu plum | wombat |

- 11**
- a 10 2008
 - b 3 1986
 - c 9 2006
 - d 7 2001
 - e 5 1994
 - f 2 1975
 - g 8 2002
 - h 6 1996
 - i 1 1905
 - j 4 1992

- 12
- 1 oval, oval, Melbourne, 1858, eighteen, Victoria, Final, Saturday, September, Saturday, October
 - 2 1820s, 1830s, 1st January, Australian, Aboriginals, beat, defeat, died, burnt, ashes
 - 3 tournament, Cricket, international, Australasian, Australian, Arena, greatest
 - 4 famous, nation, Tuesday, November, race, TV
 - 5 popular, waters, dangerous, deaths, shark, jellyfish, jellyfish, deaths
 - 6 Sydney, fourth, fifty-eight, honour, flag, ceremony, swimmer
- 13 Finally, a famous Australian who became a popular TV personality after his series of documentary films about crocodiles was first shown on Australian TV in 1996 – the wildlife expert and environmentalist, Steve Irwin.

Irwin came from a family of animal lovers. His parents' hobby was looking after injured animals and in 1970 they both gave up their jobs so that they could start a small reptile park in Queensland. His father Bob used to catch all the crocodiles and snakes for the park himself and, when he saw his son was interested in reptiles too, taught him how to do it. Steve was just nine years old when he caught his first crocodile!

Steve started managing the park in 1991, changing the name to Australia Zoo. In the same year he met Terri Raines, an American wildlife expert, who he married eight months later. They decided to spend the first weeks of their married life catching crocodiles and invited a camera crew to film them doing it. The film later became the first part of their popular television series *The Crocodile Hunter*. The shows were later watched by millions of people all around the world and Steve went on to make a full-length film and several other TV films about crocodiles.

Sadly, in 2006 Irwin was killed by a stingray while filming in the sea near the northern Queensland coast.

Australia is often referred to as 'The Lucky Country' and there are plenty of reasons why that is true. It has friendly people, a good climate, interesting and unique wildlife, beautiful beaches, healthy natural food, a huge amount of important natural resources and a rich cultural and sports calendar. It is not surprising that Australians are very proud of their country and their heritage, and love the lives they lead in this amazing country!