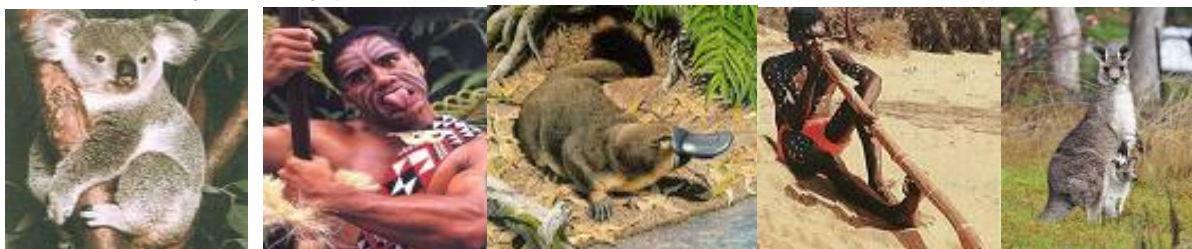


## AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

1. Picture work. Describe what you can see in the picture. Which English speaking country is every picture connected with – Australia or New Zealand?



2. Who are these people and where are they from? How did they become famous?

Ian Thorpe	Nicole Kidman	Edmund Hillary	Cate Blanchett	Peter Jackson
Rupert Murdoch	Elle MacPhearson		Rachel Hunter	Russel Crowe

## AUSTRALIA



### GEOGRAPHY

Australia is the smallest continent in the world. It is **the sixth largest country** in the world after Russia, Canada, China, the USA and Brazil with a total area of 7,682,300 km<sup>2</sup>.

It is situated between the Pacific and the Indian Oceans in the southern hemisphere. The nearest islands are Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Fiji and New Zealand.

There are mostly plains in Australia and because of draught a great part of the surface is desert – the **Great Sandy Desert** and the **Great Victoria Desert**. There is one very special desert with red sand that frequently attracts millions of tourists every year to Australia with its famous **Ayers Rock**, or **Uluru**, which is the largest piece of rock in the world.

Australia has also a mountain range named the **Australian Alps** and the **Great Dividing Range** on the eastern coast. The highest mountain is **Mt. Kosciuszko** 2 228 m. In the centre of the Australian Lowlands lies the Great Artesian Basin. The northeast suffers from heavy rainfalls that's why Cape York Peninsula is covered with **jungles**. Apart from **savannah** or **grassland** you can also find huge forests of **eucalyptus** and other evergreen trees in the southeast.

Important lakes include Lake **Eyre**, Lake **Torrens** and Lake **Gairdner**. In the Lake Eyre there is the lowest point of the continent because it lies 16 metres below sea level. The largest rivers are **the Murray** and **the Darling**.

The climate is opposite to the one we know: summer starts in December and winter in June and it varies **from warm to subtropical**. In the middle there is a huge desert area which is very dry,

north is tropical with very heavy downfalls, summers in southwest are very hot and dry, winters are mild.

Both geologic and climatic events helped to make Australia's fauna unique – animals you can find here such as the **platypus**, **red kangaroo**, **dingo** cannot be found anywhere else.

## HISTORY

Australia was discovered by Captain James Cook in 1770. He landed in Botany Bay (today's Sydney) and explored the eastern coast. The Dutch sailor **Abel Tasman** discovered Tasmania. The first Europeans who arrived in Australia were mostly **convicts** although later in the 19<sup>th</sup> century many settlers from different continents came here to search for gold. The country was proclaimed a part of Commonwealth in 1901. Since 1945 more than 3 million Europeans have entered the country.

## PEOPLE

Population is around **20,090,500**. It is a great mixture of various nationalities nowadays, mainly **European** descendants (British and Irish), **Asian** (Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Malaysian), people from the countries of **Middle East** and the **Indian** subcontinent (Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Turkey) and Aborigines.

Aborigines are the original inhabitants of Australia. They have their special culture and hundreds of dialects. Many of them died in the 18<sup>th</sup> century while protecting their land against white (mostly British) settlers. Out of all inhabitants of Australia they now only make up about 2.7% of the population here.

## ECONOMY

Only 9% of land is arable, Australia is an important exporter of **beef, lamb, wool, milk and wheat**. Other agricultural items are **barley, sugar, wine, fruit and vegetables**. Eucalyptus and pine timber is also exported.

The main industries are **iron, steel, textiles, electrical equipment, chemicals, cars, aircraft, shipbuilding and machinery**. The country is rich in minerals and raw materials such as **coal, oil, natural gas, iron ore, gold, lead and zinc**.

Australia imports industrial machinery, electrical appliances and telecommunication equipment. Currency is the Australian **dollar \$** = 100 cents (1 AU\$ = 16,5 CZK in 2010).



## CITIES

The capital of Australia is **CANBERRA**. Its name is thought to mean "meeting place" from Aboriginal "*Kamberra*" and it has around 400,000 people. The largest city of the country is Sydney with a population of approximately 4.4 million inhabitants. You can find many well-known buildings such as the iconic **Sydney Opera House** or the **Harbour Bridge** here. Generally, most of the Australian population live in urban areas – big cities such as **Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Brisbane** or **Adelaide** are important commercial and cultural centres.



Sydney Opera House



Sydney Harbour



Tasmanian devil



Uluru

## GOVERNMENT

Australia is a constitutional monarchy but in practise a **parliamentary democracy**. The formal head of state is the Queen Elizabeth II., the Queen of the United Kingdom; in practice the Governor General performs all functions. The head of Government is the **Prime Minister** (Kevin Rudd since 2007). **The Parliament** has 2 Houses – **the House of Representatives and the Senate**.

The country is divided into **6 states**: *Western Australia, Southern Australia, Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania* and **2 territories**: *Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory*



## 3. VOCABULARY

platypus	ptakopysk	fauna	zvířena
hemisphere	polokoule	draught	sucho
surface	povrch	dingo	divoký pes
mountain range	pohoří	kangaroo	klokan
lowland	nížina	explore	objevit
grassland	travnaté plochy	coast	pobřeží
savannah	step	convict	trestanec
huge	obrovský	settler	osadník
evergreen	stále zelené	inhabitant	obyvatel
downfall	hustý déšť	iron ore	železná ruda
mild	mírný	barley	ječmen
wheat	pšenice	lead	olovo
pine timber	borovicové dřevo	zinc	zinek

#### 4. FILL IN THE GAPS:

- a) Australia is located between the two oceans, the **P**..... and the **I**.....
- b) The Commonwealth of Australia consists of..... (number) states and ..... territories.
- c) The highest mountain of the country is Mt **K**.....
- d) The Darling and the Murray are **r**.....
- e) The native inhabitants of Australia are called the **A**.....
- f) **J** ..... explored the country in 1770.
- g) **C**..... is the capital of Australia while **S**..... is the largest city in Australia.
- h) **T**..... devil is an animal that cannot be found anywhere else.
- i) Typical plant of the country is **e**.....

#### NEW ZEALAND



#### GEOGRAPHY

New Zealand is situated southeast of Australia and it consists of **2 large islands: North and South** with an area of about 268,000 km<sup>2</sup>. It is situated in southwest Pacific Ocean. The nearest neighbours are Australia, Fiji and Tonga. Each of the 2 islands is hilly, there are also fertile plains on South Island as well such as the large Canterbury Plains. On South Island you can also find several glaciers and mountains higher than 3,000 m, volcanoes, hot springs, mud pools and geysers. The highest mountain is **Mt Cook is 3,754 meters high** and it lies in the Southern Alps.

Unique plants and animals you can see here are: **kiwi** (a bird that doesn't fly), mountain parrot **kakapo** or **tuatara** (a reptile) all of which don't live anywhere else in the world.

#### HISTORY

The original inhabitants are called **Maoris** (meaning "Children of Heaven"). They reached New Zealand before the **14<sup>th</sup>** century. They were cannibals of Polynesian origin and at first hunters, they later became peasants, living off agriculture. Maoris had a complex social structure of **tribes** and their culture, developed over centuries without any outside influence, was hierarchical and often sanguinary. In 1642, the Dutch explorer **Abel Tasman** briefly sailed along the west coast of New Zealand; any thoughts of a longer stay were thwarted when his attempt to land resulted in several of his crew being killed and eaten. During 1769-1770 **Captain James Cook** explored the coasts and soon after the British began their colonisation. NZ became a dominion in 1907 and now it is an independent member of the Commonwealth.

#### PEOPLE

New Zealand has a population of around **3.65 million**. People from a wide range of European countries have made up 75% of the population while Maori make up about 10%. Today, the Maori have adopted western lifestyles but have actively been encouraged to keep alive their culture, language and art. Other ethnic groups have arrived from **Polynesia** (Tonga, Samoa, Cook Islands),



people from **China, Taiwan, Korea, Vietnam** etc have also settled in New Zealand making for a diverse population mix. Officially English is spoken but some people still speak Maori.

## ECONOMY

Food processing, textiles, machinery and forest industry are the main industries, the main crop is grain. NZ is rich in **oil, gas, iron ore and coal**.

## CITIES

The capital of New Zealand is **Wellington** in North Island with 390,000 people is often called Windy Wellington because it is the windiest city of the country. The largest city is **Auckland** with more than 1.4 million inhabitants. Other big cities are **Dunedin, Christchurch** or **Queenstown**.



Mt Cook



Kiwi



Maori warrior



Auckland city

## GOVERNMENT

The head of the state is Queen Elizabeth II. Is represented by the Governor General. The head of government is the **Prime Minister** (John Key since 2008). The country is divided into counties.

## 5.VOCABULARY

**Plain** = rovina, **food processing** = potravinářský průmysl, **grain** = obilí, **influence** = vliv, **sanguinary** = krvavý, **tribe** = kmen, **thwart** = zmařit (plány), **fertile** = úrodný, **reptile** = plaz, **glacier** = horský ledovec, **hot springs** = horké prameny, **mud** = bahno, **geyser** = gejzír, **parrot** = papoušek, **peasant** = rolník, **crew** = posádka, **diverse** = různorodý, **forestry** = těžba dřeva

## 6. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND QUIZ

1. The original inhabitants of NZ are:

- a) Aborigines                      b) Maoris                      c) Celts

2. The highest mountain of Australia is:

- a) Mt Cook                      b) Ben Nevis                      c) Mt Kosciuszko

3. You **CAN'T** find this animal in New Zealand:

- a) emu                      b) kiwi                      c) kakapo

4. Lake Gairdner, Lake Eyre and Lake..... can be found in Australia:

- a) Huron                      b) Ontario                      c) Torrens

5. Australia is smaller than:

- a) Russia                      b) China                      c) Great Britain

6. Great Sandy..... and Great Victoria ..... are:

- a) mountains                      b) plains                      c) deserts

7. The typical plant of Australia is:

- a) eucalyptus                      b) pine                      c) bamboo

8. Ayers Rock has a nickname and it is called:

- a) Table Mountain                      b) Mt McKinley                      c) Uluru

9. Maori people lived in tribes and were:

- a) blood-thirsty                      b) convicts                      c) British settlers

**Solution 2 (people):** I.Thorpe – a swimmer (Australia), N.Kidman – an actress (AU), E. Hillary (New Zealand), C.Blanchett – an actress (AU), P. Jackson – a film director (AU), R. Murdoch – a media magnate (AU), E. McPherson – a model (AU), R. Hunter – an actress and model (NZ), R. Crowe – an actor (NZ)

**Solution 6 (quiz):** 1b), 2c), 3a), 4c), 5a,b), 6c), 7a), 8c), 9a

