

Down Under In

Australia

HI GUYS! I AM WILLIAM FROM AUSTRALIA. AND WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

What kind of people live in Australia?

We are a country which has people from all over the world. So if you get tired of being¹ Czech, we will marry you and take you as one of our own!

Is Australia just a large desert?

It is true that most of Australia is desert. That is why we have a small population for how big the country is. Most people live in cities or country towns. So we do not ride kangaroos² to school, or kill crocodiles³ to eat for lunch.

Do Australians speak like the British?

Many people say that when Australians speak we don't open our mouths. This is because there are so many flies⁴ in Australia – they would fly into your mouth! So we don't sound like we are from Britain – we just sound strange.

Are there still some of the original Aborigines?

There are still many of them in Australia. They have strong ties⁵ to Australia. I have become a friend with many indigenous people⁶.

What does a typical day look like?

VERY HOT AND VERY SUNNY! This year in February (which is autumn

here) we had 14 days over 30°C. And this year we had our hottest national day ever on January 7, where the country's national average⁷ temperature was 40.3°C. It was actually quite scary because there were many bush fires⁸.

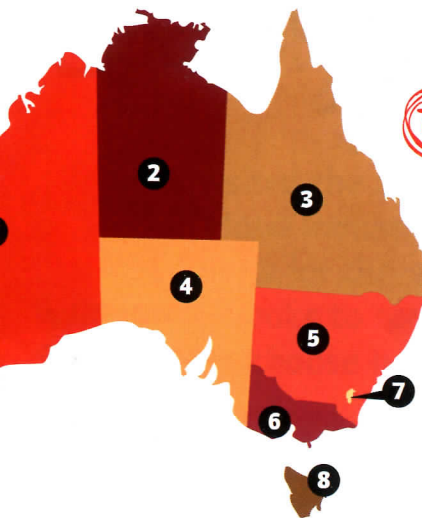
What is best about Australia?

It is a country where you can do whatever you want and come from any background⁹ and you will be accepted. My best friends in school were one boy from Nepal, one boy from Thailand, and one

boy from Malaysia. Australia really is a fantastic place and you should all visit!

VOCABULARY

- ¹ if you get tired of being ['bi:ɪŋ] – když vás unaví být
- ² kangaroo [kæŋgə'ru:] – klokan
- ³ crocodile ['krɒkədəɪl] – krokodýl
- ⁴ fly [flaɪ] – moucha
- ⁵ have strong ties [taɪz] – mít silné vazby
- ⁶ indigenous people [ɪn'dɪdʒɪnəs] – původní obyvatelé
- ⁷ average ['æv(ə)rɪdʒ] – průměrný
- ⁸ bush fires ['bʊʃ faɪəz] – požáry v buši
- ⁹ background ['bækgraʊnd] – původ



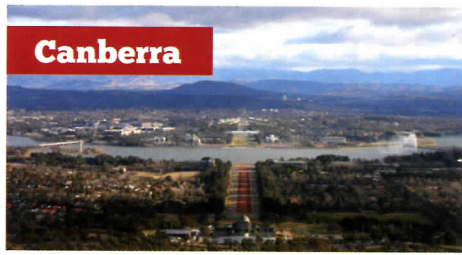
TASK

1 Label the map. Find the state/territory which doesn't belong.

- A** New South Wales **B** Northern Territory
- C** South Australia **D** Western Australia
- E** Austria **F** Australian Capital Territory
- G** Tasmania **H** Victoria **I** Queensland

2 What is the Australian money called?

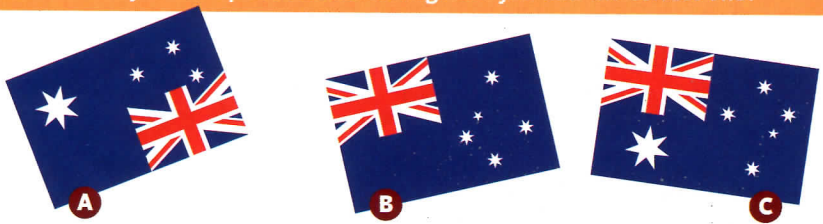
- A** The Australian dollar
- B** The Australian yen



Canberra

Canberra is the capital city of Australia. About 367,000 people live there. It is not a part of any state.

3 Somebody mixed up the Australian flag! Can you find the correct one?



The flag uses three symbols: the Union Jack Flag (symbolizes Australia's relationship to Britain), the Commonwealth Star (seven points are the states/territories) and the Southern Cross, a star constellation (=souhvězdí), which represented Australia when it was a British colony.



Sydney

Sydney has the largest population in Australia – more than four million people. Its most famous building is the Sydney Opera House. It was designed by Danish architect Jorn Utzon. Queen Elizabeth II formally opened it in 1973.



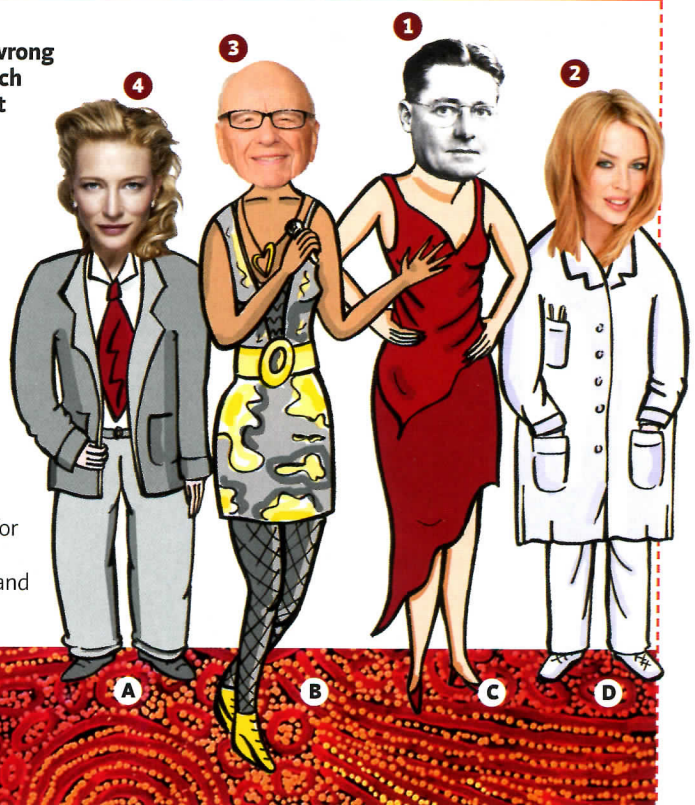
Aboriginal art

Native Australian artists frequently portray nature in their works. They paint on rocks and wood using natural earth pigments.

4 Australian celebrities

These Australian celebrities have the wrong clothes! Can you match them with the correct ones?

- 1** Howard Florey was a scientist who shared a Nobel Prize for his work on penicillin.
- 2** Kylie Minogue is sometimes called the Queen of Pop.
- 3** Rupert Murdoch owns many newspapers and TV stations.
- 4** Cate Blanchett is an actress, most famous for her role as Galadriel in *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* trilogies.



→ SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 3

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Listen to an Australian ballad by Nick Cave & Kylie Minogue "Where The Wild Roses Grow" on our CD.