

e-lesson

Week starting: 24th April 2006

1. Australia

British sailors first landed in Australia on 29th April 1770, and European colonisation of the continent began eighteen years later with the establishment of the penal colony of New South Wales. In this lesson we're going to learn a few facts about Australia's geography, climate and population (both human and animal), and also pick up a little Australian slang.

Level

Pre-intermediate and above

How to use the lesson

1. Brainstorm what your students know about Australia.
2. Give each student in the class a copy of Worksheet A and ask them to choose an answer from the three possibilities for each question. In some cases the students will probably have to take a guess.
3. Check the answers in open class, but don't give any answers at this stage.
4. Give each student in the class a copy of Worksheet B and ask students to read the text and check the answers to the questions on Worksheet A.

Answers

1. b 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. c 6. c 7. c 8. b 9. b 10. c

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.goway.com/downunder/australia/index.html>

Website of a travel agency specialising in Australia. The language is not too complex: see 'Quickfacts', 'Oz Trivia', etc.

<http://www.koalanet.com.au/australian-slang.html>

A comprehensive dictionary of Australian slang – one of countless such dictionaries available online.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/explorer/australia/abell/2.html>

Superb photographs of Australian people and landscapes from *National Geographic*, each accompanied by texts that are challenging but short.

<http://www.australianfauna.com/>

Information on Australian animals, illustrated with photographs. Categories of animal include 'popular' and 'dangerous'.