## What do you know about Australia?

### 1. Circle Australia on the map. How far do you think it is between Australia and the Sir John Monash Centre in France?

There is 15,000km between Australia and France.

### 2. Which countries are larger in size than Australia?

- **Belgium** 30,528 km² (11,787 sq mi)
- **Canada** 9,984,671 km² (3,855,103 sq mi)
- **France** 643,801 km² (248,573 sq mi)
- **Germany** 357,376 km² (137,984 sq mi)
- **Ireland** 70,273 km² (27,133 sq mi)
- **Netherlands** 41,543 km² (16,040 sq mi)
- **New Zealand** 268,021 km² (103,483 sq mi)
- **South Africa** 1,221,037 km² (471,443 sq mi)
- **UK** 243,610 km² (94,058 sq mi)
- **USA** 9,833,517 km² (3,796,742 sq mi)

Australia’s size is 7,692,024 km² (2,970,000 sq mi). For purposes of comparison, here is an image of Europe contained within Australia.
3. Which countries have a larger population than Australia?

- Belgium 11,371,928
- Canada 36,286,378
- France 64,668,129
- Germany 80,523,746
- Ireland 4,713,993
- Netherlands 16,955,444
- New Zealand 4,565,185
- South Africa 55,193,919
- UK 65,111,143
- USA 324,118,787

Australia’s population reached 24 million in 2013, which is about a third the population of the UK and France.

4. What is the main language spoken in Australia?

- Dutch
- Australian
- English
- French
- Spanish

English – even though Australia’s western coast was originally discovered by the Dutch in 1606!

5. What is the capital city of Australia?

- Hobart
- Canberra
- Sydney
- Melbourne
- Alice Springs

Canberra – Originally there was a feud between Sydney and Melbourne over which city would be the capital, so Canberra was built mid-way between them as a compromise!

6. Which of the following climates types does Australia not possess?

- Tropical
- Desert
- Temperate
- Arctic
- Equatorial

Arctic – Though Australia is predominantly dry, it has a diverse range of climate types.

7. Which one of the following people is not Australian?

- Kylie Minogue (Singer)
- Tina Arena (Singer)
- Heath Ledger (Actor)
- Daniel Ricciardo (Athlete)
- Mile Jedinak (Athlete)
- Sir John Monash (General)
- Chris Hemsworth (Actor)
- Sir Ian Hamilton (General)

Sir Ian Hamilton – Despite being a British general, he commanded the Australian troops on the Gallipoli campaign. Australia, as a Dominion, was part of the Imperial forces led by Britain.
8. Which one of these animals is **not** native to Australia?

- Crocodile
- Koala
- **Cane Toad**
- Great White Shark
- Emu
- Echidna

Cane Toads. An invasive species introduced by the Queensland Government as a biological control measure in 1935, the cane toad (*Bufo marinus*) has had a large impact on the local ecosystem.

9. Who are the original inhabitants of Australia?

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who arrived some 50,000 years ago

10. Which of the following historical events happened closest to the date Australia was colonised?

- The end of the Hundred Years War between England and France (1447)
- Invention of the Printing Press (1450)
- Mexico conquered for Spain (1521)
- Thirty Years War commences in Germany (1618)
- Fall of the Bastille, start of the French revolution (1789)
- Beginning of the Boer War in South Africa (1899)

### What do you know about the First World War?

1. **When was the First World War?**

- 1900-1904
- 1908-1912
- **1914-1918**
- 1939-1945

2. **Why did the First World War take place?** *(Write your own response)*

   This is an complicated question that scholars have discussed for years, but the generally accepted answer is:
   - Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the crown prince of the Austro-Hungarian Empire was assassinated by a Serbian nationalist.
   - The Empire, in response, issued an ultimatum to Serbia to submit or face war.
   - Russia decided to intervene, declaring it would guarantee Serbia’s independence.
   - Austria declared war anyway.
   - France honoured its alliance with Russia and declared war on Austria.
   - Germany honoured its alliance with Austria and declared war on Russia and France.
   - Germany wanted to defeat France quickly, so it invaded Belgium to get around French defensive positions.
   - Britain guaranteed Belgium’s independence so Britain declared war on Germany.
   - The British Empire, including Australia and India, were automatically brought into the war along with Britain.

3. Were there any European countries that did not fight in the First World War? If so, which ones?

Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Spain and Switzerland were the only European countries not involved in the First World War. All others were involved in the fighting.

4. Where did fighting take place in the First World War?

The First World War was truly a global conflict. Battles were fought over German colonies in Africa, while warships engaged in Asia. Campaigns against the Ottomans took place in the Middle East, and large sections of Russia saw fighting. The Italian border with the Austro-Hungarian mountains was also the scene of particularly bloody conflict, but the most commonly remembered theatre of the war was the Western Front in France – though Gallipoli has a special resonance for Australia in particular.
What form did the fighting take in the First World War?
- Guns
- Bows and arrows
- Grenades
- Helicopters
- Tanks
- Aeroplanes
- Poison darts
- Poison gas
- Nuclear bombs
- Trebuchets
- Trench warfare

Guns, grenades, tanks, aeroplanes and poison gas were all used in the First World War. Tanks, aeroplanes and gas were first used to large-scale effect during this conflict. Special mention should go to trench warfare and underground mining – while these techniques had seen service to varying degrees throughout Europe’s history, the combination of indirect artillery, barbed wire and machine guns made entrenched positions uniquely lethal – so much so that one of the few effective ways to break a trench was by tunnelling below to plant underground explosives.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>What do you know about Australia’s involvement in the First World War?</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1. Why do you think Australia was involved in the First World War?</strong></td>
<td>Australia was involved because, as a Dominion of the British Empire, it did not maintain an independent foreign policy. If Britain was at war, so was Australia.</td>
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| **2. How many Australians fought in the First World War?** | Around 4,000
- Around 40,000
- Around 400,000
- Around 4,000,000
416,809 Australians enlisted in the First World War, or nearly 10 per cent of the population. |
| **3. How many Australians died in the First World War?** | 60,000
- 900
- 6,000
- 40,000
60,000 Australians died in the war – and 156,000 more were wounded, gassed or taken prisoner. That means fewer than one in two men who enlisted came home unscathed. Australia at the time had a population of 5 million which meant that nearly 5 per cent of the entire population died or was wounded in the war. For this reason, they became known as The Lost Generation. |
| **4. Where did Australians fight in the First World War?** | Australia
- Belgium
- England
- France
- Germany
- New Guinea
- New Zealand
- Russia
- Turkey
- The Middle East |
| **5. Which side did Australia fight on?** | The Quadruple Entente
- The Allies
- The Central Powers
- The Western Group |