

# CELEBRATIONS

onestopenglish

## Wild Australia

Teacher's notes

**Age:** Teenagers/Adults

**Level:** Pre-intermediate (A2)

**Time:** 30 minutes +



**Activity:** In this lesson, students will:

1. do a quiz about Australia;
2. discuss whether they would like to visit Australia

**Language focus:** vocabulary associated with Australia (including animals and landscape)

**Preparation:** look at the website suggested in the Tech Tip, chose some images you like, and prepare some interesting facts for a discussion with students

**Materials:** one copy of the worksheet per student

### Procedure

1. Read the following sentences one by one to your class. Students try to guess which place is being described after each sentence.

- It's a big island.
- The national holiday is January 26.
- People speak English.
- It's hotter than England.
- Kangaroos, crocodiles and koalas live there.

*Answer: Australia*

2. Ask what else students know about Australia and if they've ever been there. Would they like to visit? Why or why not?



**TECH TIP:** To prompt discussion, you could show students a series of images related to Australia, eliciting vocabulary and discussion. You could either create your own, or use a pre-made one on the internet, like NBC News' 'Awesome Australia', which shows contemporary photos of Australian landmarks <http://www.nbcnews.com/slideshow/travel/awesome-australia-37434976/>

3. Tell students that they are going to do a quiz on Australia. Divide the class into teams. Tell students that each team is on an expedition in the Australian bush. In turns, one member of each team has to read the question out loud to the class. Each team should discuss the answer (as secretly as they can!) and write down their answer. For every wrong answer, one member of the team will be killed by a wild animal (a snake, a crocodile, etc.)! The winning team will be the one with the most living members left. Hand out copies of the worksheet and start the quiz, checking answers after each question.

**Key:**

1. c
2. b
3. c
4. c
5. a
6. a
7. b
8. a
9. c
10. a) kangaroo; b) koala; c) emu; d) platypus; e) shark; f) crocodile

4. For the second exercise, divide students into two groups – A and B. Ask the As to brainstorm all the reasons people might want to visit Australia. Ask the Bs to brainstorm all the reasons people might not want to visit Australia. Give them five minutes to take notes individually, then ask them to pair up with another student who has the same letter. Can they add anything new to each other's lists?

If students are struggling to think of reasons, you could prompt them to consider:

- weather and seasons
- sports
- animals
- distance to travel/size of Australia
- food

Once students have had a chance to share, open the discussion up to the whole class. Are students convinced by one side of the argument? Take a vote: would your students like to visit Australia?

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Worksheet

### Exercise 1: Wild Australia Quiz



1. What is the capital of Australia?
  - a. Melbourne
  - b. Sydney
  - c. Canberra
2. The native people of Australia are:
  - a. the Maya
  - b. the Aborigines
  - c. the Maori
3. Which of these actors was born in Australia?
  - a. Russell Crowe
  - b. Mel Gibson
  - c. Heath Ledger
4. What is the currency in Australia?
  - a. the Australian pound
  - b. the pelt
  - c. the Australian dollar
5. Australia is a very big country. The majority of Australia is:
  - a. desert
  - b. mountains
  - c. forest
6. Which of these actresses is Australian?
  - a. Nicole Kidman
  - b. Salma Hayek
  - c. Gwyneth Paltrow
7. On Christmas Day in Australia, a typical Australian will:
  - a. go fishing
  - b. go to the beach
  - c. go skiing
8. The Head of State of Australia is:
  - a. the Queen of England
  - b. the Prime Minister
  - c. the President
9. The kangaroo is Australia's most famous animal. How fast can the kangaroo hop?
  - a. 25 miles an hour
  - b. 40 miles an hour
  - c. 75 miles an hour
10. Write the missing letters to complete the names of wild animals.
  - a. K\_\_ N G\_\_ R\_\_
  - b. K\_\_ L\_\_
  - c. \_\_ M\_\_
  - d. P L\_\_ T\_\_ P\_\_ S
  - e. S H\_\_ R\_\_
  - f. C R\_\_ C\_\_ D\_\_ L\_\_

