EARLY PEOPLES – Aboriginal Peoples of Australia Activity Sheet



Dictionary: Click or tap and hold on the selected word. Then select the Dictionary option from the Quick Menu to see the word's definition.

Glossary: There is a glossary on pages 60-61. Terms defined in the glossary are in bold type on their first appearance on any spread (two facing pages).

Find the answers to the Matching exercise using the Glossary.

MATCHING: Match the word to the meaning.

Answers:	Word:	
	1.	Dreamtime
	2.	Elders
	3.	Shell mounds
	4.	Clan
	5.	Songlines
	6.	Caribberie
	7.	Firestick
	8.	Woomera
	9.	Boomerang
	10	. Nomadic

Meaning:		
A.	A slow-burning branch used for warmth or to light fires.	
В.	Large piles of discarded shells, animal bones, and ash built up	
	over hundreds of years.	
C.	An important Aboriginal festival. Called a cooroboree by	
	Australian settlers.	
D.	Tracks left on the landscape by the spirit beings during the	
	Dreamtime.	
E.	A group of people who are related through a common	
	ancestor.	
F.	An Aboriginal throwing stick used as a weapon.	
G.	An older and more influential member of a tribe, or	
	community.	
Н.	Moving from place to place in search of food.	
I.	The age when spirits called Dreamings created the landscape,	
	plants, animals, and human beings.	
J.	A device used to throw spears.	

MULTIPLE CHOICE: (Circle the correct answer.)

11. Go to Chapter: WHO WERE THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLES OF AUSTRALIA?

When an Aboriginal tribe needed to make important decisions, these decisions were made by:

- a. The leader of the tribe alone.
- b. A group of Aboriginal peoples elected by the rest of their tribe.
- c. The tribal head priest.
- d. The tribal elders.

12. Go to chapter: LIMITED CONTACT

Which of the following did the Aboriginal peoples, as a result of trade, introduce to Australia?

- a. Wallaby
- b. Dingo
- c. Kangaroo
- d. Trepang

13. Go to Chapter: THE FAMILY

Which of the following statements is **NOT** true of Aboriginal families?

- a. They often did not have many children.
- b. Men considered women's roles in daily life to be inferior.
- c. Elders and children were always fed before the others could eat.
- d. Men would often take a second wife when they were about 50.

14. Go to Chapter: THE DREAMTIME

According to Aboriginal religious belief, the age of creation was called the Dreamtime. Which of the following is **NOT** an Aboriginal Dreamtime belief?

- a. The spirit takes on the human form by entering a baby's body.
- b. Sorcerers had links with the spirit beings of the Dreamtime.
- c. The first plants, animals, and human beings were created in a great waterfall.
- d. Spirit beings called dreamings made human beings the guardians of the land.
- 15. The Noongar people of southwestern Australia believed that their land had been shaped by a spirit being called the Waugal. According to tradition, the Waugal formed rivers, sand dunes, trees, and mountain ridges. What type of creature did the Waugal resemble?
 - a. Snake
 - b. Kangaroo
 - c. Dragon
 - d. Emu

16. Go to Chapter: ABORIGINAL ROCK ART

What was the purpose of Aboriginal paintings and carvings?

- a. They were used to mark sacred sites and carried secret information about the Dreamtime.
- b. They were used for decorations or enjoyment.

17. Go to Chapter: MAGIC AND SORCERY

Aboriginal sorcerers often carried around a small bag of charms, including crystals, bones, and small, button- or lens-shaped pieces of glass called:

- a. Australites
- b. Mother-of-pearl
- c. Ocher
- d. Cycads

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS:				
18. Go to Chapter: ABORIGINAL RESISTANCE				
Read the chapter.				
Who led the Eora Aboriginal people in their struggle against the first British settlers?				
Go to Chapter: ABORIGINAL PEOPLES TODAY				
Read the chapter.				
19. In what year were Aboriginal peoples allowed to vote in national elections?				
20. What event took place in 2008 that many Aboriginal peoples welcomed?				

ANSWER SHEET:

Answer:	Word:		
1	1.	Dreamtime	
G	2.	Elders	
В	3.	Shell mounds	
Е	4.	Clan	
D	5.	Songlines	
С	6.	Caribberie	
Α	7.	Firestick	
J	8.	Woomera	
F	9.	Boomerang	
Н	10	. Nomadic	

- 11. d. The tribal elders.
- 12. b. Dingo
- 13. c. Elders and children were always fed before the others could eat.
- 14. c. According to the Aboriginal peoples it was Dreamings who created the first plants, animals, and human beings.
- 15. a. Snake
- 16. a. They were used to mark sacred sites and carried secret information about the Dreamtime.
- 17. a. Australites
- 18. Pemulwuy
- 19. 1962
- 20. Australia's prime minister publicly apologised for the wrongs done to them by white Australians.