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Find It!

Use the World Book “Search” tool to find the answers to the questions below. Since this activity is about Australia, it is recommended you start by searching the key word “Australia.” Write the answers on the lines provided or in the space below the question.

1. Examine the map “Australia (country).” What are the names of Australia’s states and other major political divisions? (Hint: the names of states and territories appear on the map in red!)

2. Why is Australia often referred to as being “down under”?

3. *Australia* comes from the Latin word _____, which means _____.

4. Look at the image “Australia flag and coat of arms.” What do the stars on the flag represent?

5. How long have people lived in Australia?

6. _____ were the first inhabitants of Australia.

Get to Know: Australia

The history of Australia has been shaped by two distinct groups of people. From one of the oldest continuing cultures in human history to the comparatively newly settled, each community plays a vital part in shaping the complex history of Australia. Let’s get look at the unique history of the land “down under!”

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7. When the British first settled Australia in 1788, what kind of colony did they establish?
8. Until the mid-1900's, the majority of Australia's immigrants came from _____ and _____.
9. What is the name given to Australia's remote, rugged interior?
10. What is the most famous Australian sporting event?
11. The Sydney Opera House is one of the world's most iconic buildings. Who designed it, and when was it complete?
12. Australia is surrounded by water, like an island. Why do geographers consider it a continent?
13. What is the name of the vast, dry, treeless plateau that lies along the border between Western Australia and South Australia? What does its name mean?
14. What is the highest point in Australia, and for whom is it named? (Hint: For the second part of this question see the article on the place you named.)
15. Uluru is one of Australia's most famous sites. What other name is it known by, and to whom does that name refer? (Hint: For this question see the "Uluru" article.)
16. What is Australia's biggest water conservation project? What are its benefits? Are there any drawbacks?
17. Australia is home to the world's largest coral reef. What is its name?
18. Some of the most well-known animal species found in Australia include kangaroos, koalas, wallabies, and wombats. What kind of animals are these?
19. Who represents the British monarch in the Australian government? (Hint: For this question see the "Australia, Government of" article.)
20. For whom is the state of Tasmania named? (Hint: For this question see the "Tasmania" article.)

21. How did the aboriginal people of Tasmania become isolated?
(Hint: For this question see the “Aboriginal people of Tasmania” article.)

22. Ned Kelly was an outlaw known as a *bushranger*. Although some people consider him a cruel and vicious criminal, others celebrate him as a folk hero. Why is this? (Hint: For this question see the “Kelly, Ned” article.)

23. Bushfires are wildfires common throughout Australia. Although they can be extremely destructive, some plants flourish in the aftermath of the fires. Explain why this happens.
(Hint: For this question see the “Bushfires in Australia” article.)

Look for the answers to the following questions in the “Australia, History of” article.

24. Who claimed Australia for the British, and what did he call it?

25. The first British settlers to arrive in Australia traveled in a group of ships known as the _____.

26. When did the Commonwealth of Australia come into being?

27. What was the name given to the period of economic growth that followed the discovery of gold in the 1850's and 1860's?

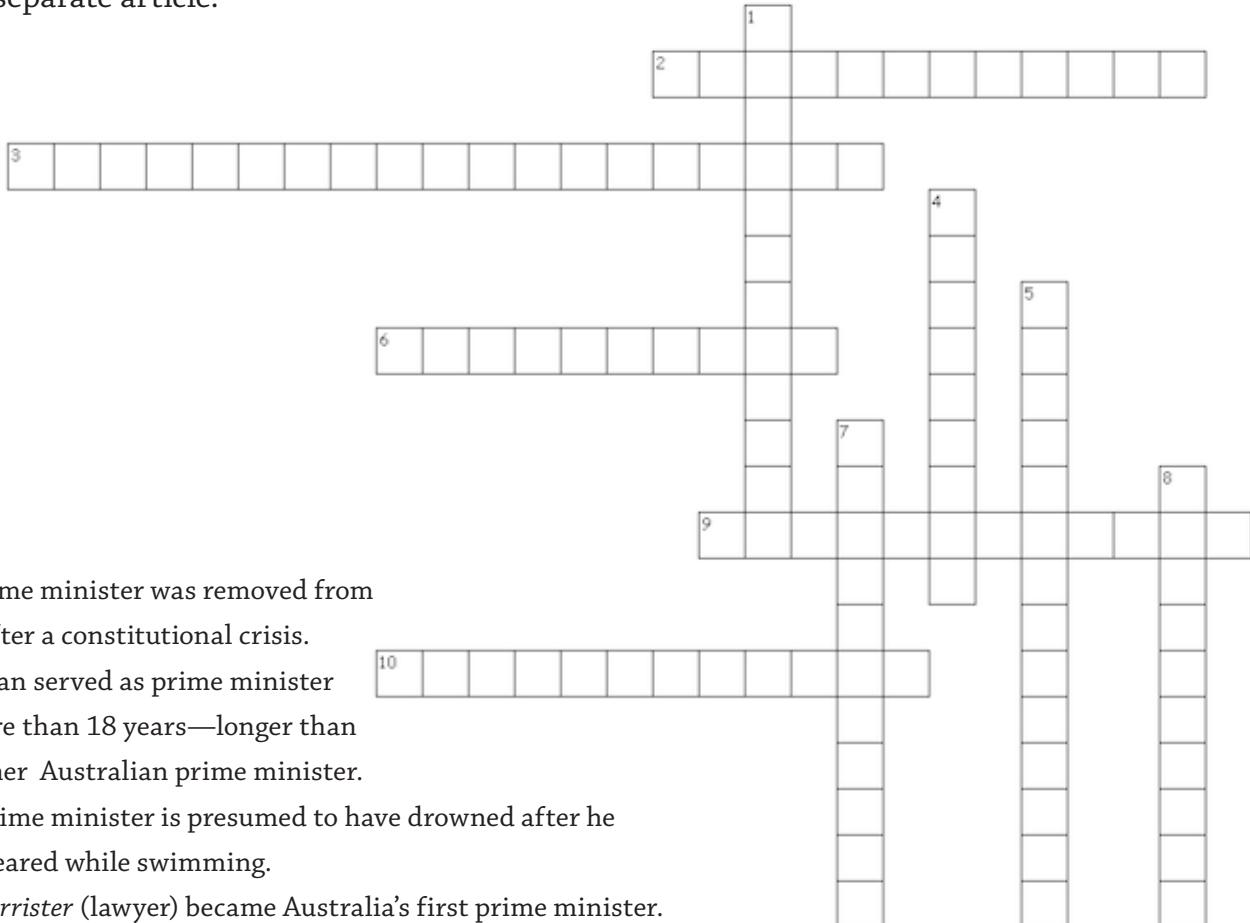
28. What term refers to Aboriginal children who were taken from their parents and put in government-run institutions and foster homes?

29. What does ANZAC stand for? What made the ANZAC's reputation legendary?



Prime Ministers crossword

For this activity, you may want to consult the table “Australian prime ministers” featured in the article “Australia, Government of,” as well as the article “Australia, History of.” Each prime minister also has a separate article.



Across

2. This prime minister was removed from office after a constitutional crisis.

3. This man served as prime minister for more than 18 years—longer than any other Australian prime minister.

4. This prime minister is presumed to have drowned after he disappeared while swimming.

5. This *barrister* (lawyer) became Australia's first prime minister.

6. This prime minister promised Australia would support the British in World War I with “our last man and our last shilling.”

Down

1. She was the first woman to serve as Australia's prime minister.
 4. This prime minister issued a formal apology to Australia's indigenous peoples for the wrongs done by previous governments.
 5. This prime minister introduced *conscription* (mandatory military enlistment) during World War I.
 7. This prime minister's famous "Redfern Speech" was the first formal acknowledgment by an Australian prime minister that European settlement had caused problems for Australia's native peoples.
 8. This prime minister committed Australia's armed forces to serve in the U.S.-led war against Iraq, which began in 2003.