

Geography of Australia

Worksheet 1 - teacher's notes

1. Complete the basic information chart about Australia:

OFFICIAL NAME	The Commonwealth of Australia
CAPITAL	Canberra
CURRENCY	Australian dollar
POPULATION	23.3 mln
LANGUAGE	English
POLITICAL SYSTEM	federal constitutional parliamentary democracy / constitutional monarchy
HEAD OF STATE	HM Queen Elizabeth II
HEAD OF GOVERNMENT	Prime Minister
TIME ZONE	GMT + 10 hours
SURFACE AREA	7 692 024 sq km

<http://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/fs/aust.pdf>

<http://australia.gov.au/topics/australian-facts-and-figures>

2. Draw and explain what it symbolizes:

A coat of arms of Australia	A flag of Australia
 <p>The coat of arms of Australia features a kangaroo on the left and an emu on the right, facing each other. In the center is a shield with a cross, a star, and a bird. Above the shield is a seven-pointed star. The entire emblem is surrounded by a wreath of wheat and cotton, with a banner at the bottom that reads 'AUSTRALIA'.</p>	 <p>The flag of Australia is a defaced Blue Ensign: a blue field with the Union Jack in the canton (upper hoist quarter), and a large white seven-pointed star known as the Commonwealth Star in the lower hoist quarter. The fly contains a representation of the Southern Cross constellation, made up of five white stars – one small five-pointed star and four, larger, seven-pointed stars.</p>

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3. Geography of Australia. Look at the map of Australia and complete with:

cities: Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Alice Springs, Brisbane, Darwin

mountains: Uluru, Mount Kosciuszko, the Blue Mountains

seas: coral sea, Tasman sea, Timor Sea, Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean, Great Barrier Reef

ivers: Murray River, Darling River

islands: Tasmania



Complete the sentences:

Australia has 6 states:

1. Queensland
2. New South Wales
3. Victoria
4. South Australia
5. Western Australia
6. Tasmania

There are two mainland territories:

1. Australian Capital Territory
2. Northern Territory

There is a mistaken belief that Jervis Bay, which is the seaport for the ACT is a separate territory. It is not separate, as it is part of the ACT.

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There are also seven external (offshore) territories:

1. The Australian Antarctic Territory (in Antarctica)
2. Coral Seas Territory or Islands, which are a group of uninhabited islands in the Coral Sea, northeast of Australia
3. Norfolk Island, which is in the Pacific Island off Australia's east coast, between Australia, New Zealand and New Caledonia
4. Territory of Heard and McDonald Islands - these islands are sub-Antarctic, positioned in the Indian Ocean, about two-thirds of the way from Madagascar to Antarctica
5. Territory of Ashmore Reef and Cartier Island, which are in the Indian Ocean in southwest Asia, halfway between northwestern Australia and Timor island
6. Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, which is in the Indian Ocean, about half way between Australia and Sri Lanka.
7. Territory of Christmas Island, which is in the Indian Ocean, about 2600 kilometres northwest of Perth

Read more: http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How_many_states_and_territories_does_Australia_have#ix-zz1jHLL1qgE

4. Let's check what you have learnt. Go online and try one of those quizzes:

<http://lizardpoint.com/geography/australia-quiz.php>

<http://www.sporcle.com/games/psubball1/Australia>

<http://travel.nationalgeographic.com/travel/countries/australia-quiz/>
students' own answers