

Australia

<http://thierry.raguier.free.fr/4Aus1.htm>

1/ An ancient people.

Australia's first inhabitants were the Aborigines, who came to Australia about 40.000 years ago. Scientists say this people is the oldest on the planet ! This very clever people invented the most famous "boomerang" a very long time ago: they used it to hunt kangaroos in the desert.



How long ago was Australia peopled ?

Who were Australia's first inhabitants ?

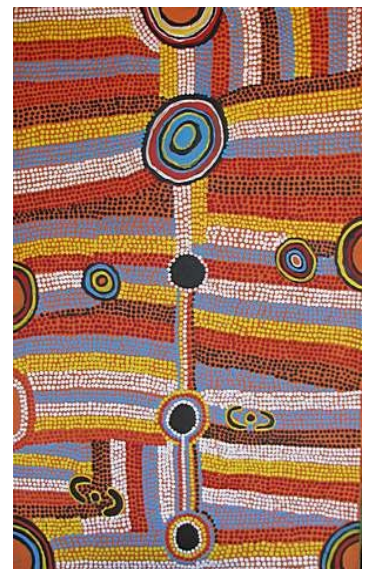
<http://thierry.raguier.free.fr/4Aus4.htm>



Aborigines have their religion: the "Dream Time". They are part of Nature, and a lot of things (animals, trees, rocks, etc) are sacred. Ancestors are important. Aborigines paint on rock to re-create harmony in the family, or to tell stories and legends.

When White people arrived in Australia (1770, Captain James Cook from England), they began to kill Aborigines to take the land.

Today, native Australians are a minority (about 2%) of Australia's population. They are usually very poor and live in small groups in the vast desert (the Outback) in the centre of Australia. Today, Aboriginal paintings on show in galleries in New York, London or Paris are very expensive !



What is the "Dream Time" ?

How long ago did White people first arrive to Australia ?

Where did they come from ?

Where do most Aborigines now live ?

II/ the «Red centre». <http://thierry.raguier.free.fr/4Aus7.htm>

If you go to the centre of Australia (the Outback), you will see Uluru (the Aboriginal name) or: Ayer's Rock). This rock is the biggest in the world ! It is about 60 million years old ! Of course, it is sacred to Aborigines.



Complete:

The two names for the centre of Australia are the or the Just in the middle of the country, there is the b..... rock in the world: / This place is the m..... s..... for Aboriginal people.

III/ The Royal Flying Doctor Service.



Because Australia is so big (about 17 times as big as France !!!), doctors go by plane to visit their patients in the Outback. At a maximum, about 45 minutes will go between a phone call and the arrival of a doctor. This system (unique in the world) was created in 1928.

Why do doctors have to fly to visit their patients in the Outback ?

How long ago was this service created ?

IV/ The School of the Air.

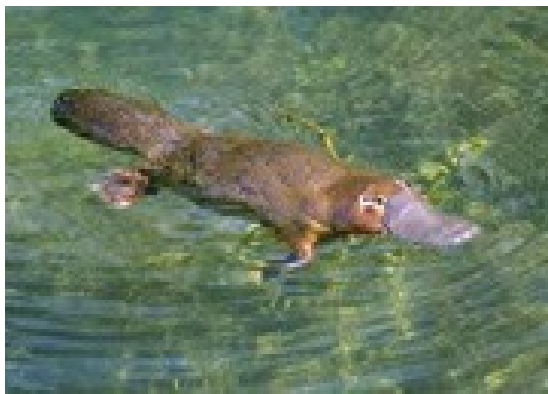
How do you go to school when you live about 500, 700 or 900 km from any people ? You get school by radio and the internet every day ! This unique system was begun in 1954 and is for about 800 pupils who live in the Outback on stations (=farms).



Complete:

For some c..... / k..... who l..... on s..... in the Red Centre, it is impossible to go to school everyday! Why? Because the n..... school is very far (500 km or more!). The o..... solution is to get lessons by radio and the internet. This system w..... c..... in 1954.

V/ Sydney, Canberra, the flag, animals, etc.



Australia: the biggest island and the smallest continent in the world ! Australia was separated from the rest of the world millions of years ago: its animals and plants are now unique: more than 50 sorts of

kangaroos (from 60 cm to 2 m high), the sea crocodiles (the "salties") are 7 meter long!, The platypus (photo) is a strange animal. The world's most dangerous snakes live in Australia ! The Great Barrier Reef (2.700 km long) : the only natural element visible from the moon ! Koalas : they can die from a heart attack if you take them too quickly in your hands !



Why are Australia's animals so special ?



A lot of people think Australia's capital is Sydney: it isn't ! The capital of Australia is Canberra. There are 6 states and 2 territories in Australia.

Most 18 million Australians live near the coasts in the big cities. The very first White people were convicts (from the London prison)

who arrived in the Bay of Sydney in 1778.

What is Australia's capital ?

Who were Australia's first English people ?



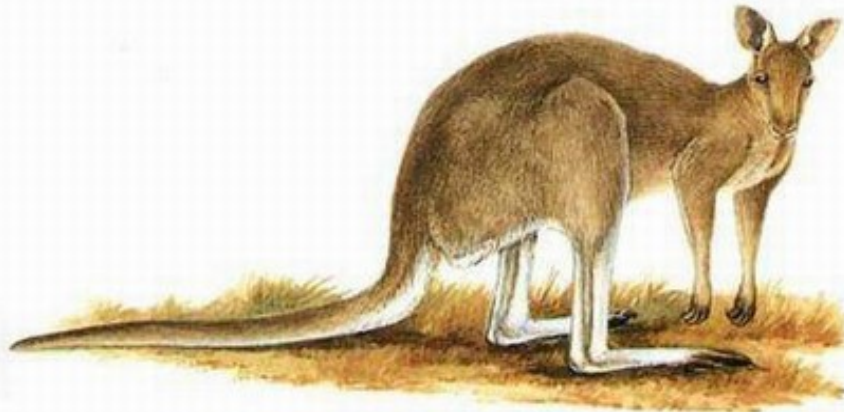
(A road-train)



(Uluru, the oldest rock in the world)

DID YOU KNOW

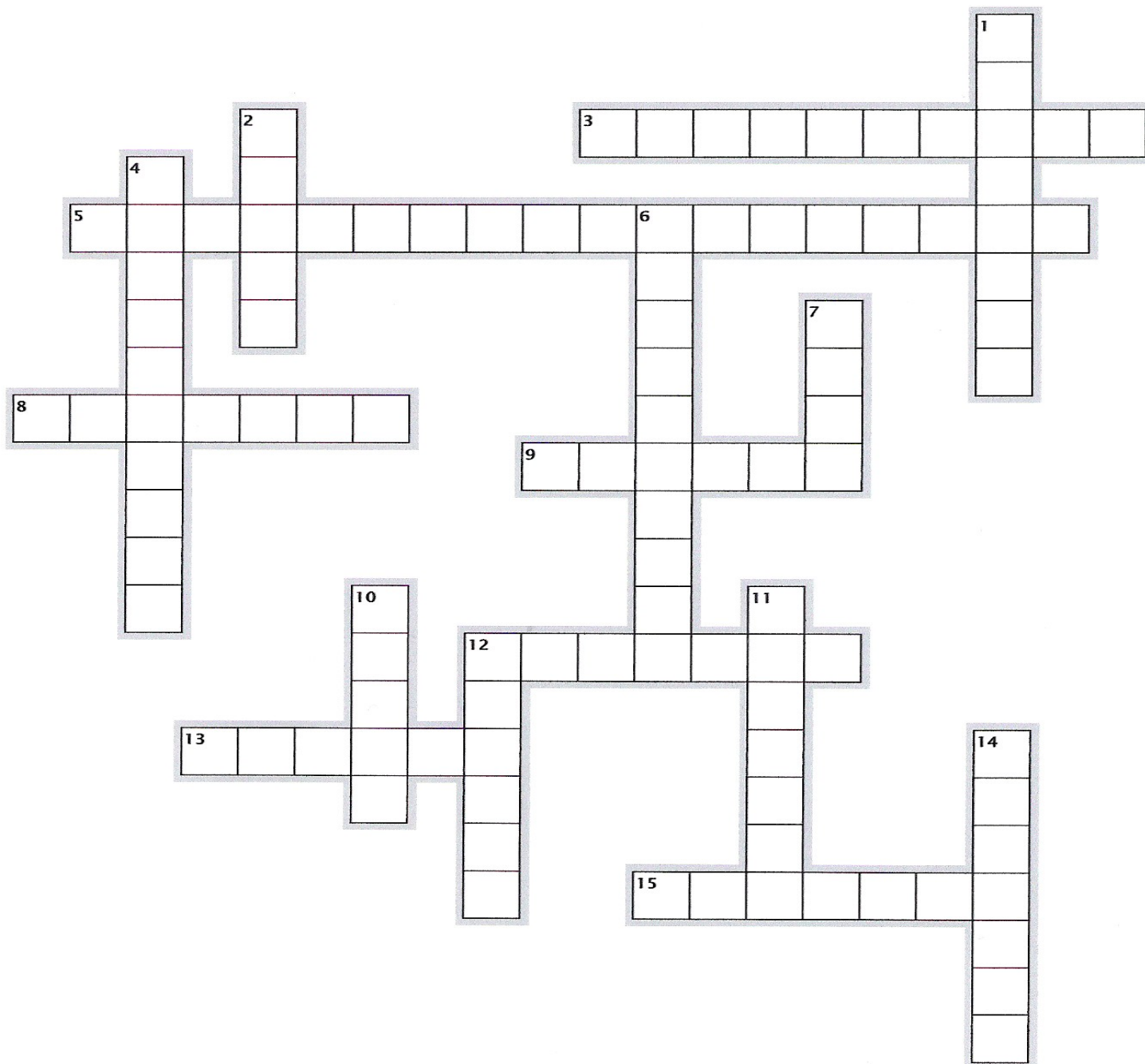
When the English settlers landed in Australia, they noticed a strange animal that jumped extremely high and far. They asked the aboriginal people using body language and signs trying to ask them about this animal. They responded with "Kan Ghu Ru" the english then adopted the word kangaroo. What the aboriginal people were really trying to say was "we don't understand you", " Kan Ghu Ru".



Australia: the b..... island but the s..... continent in the world ! It was p..... by the A.....(Australia's first i.....) a very l..... t..... a.... They i..... the boomerang to h..... kangaroos. T..... religion is the "d..... -t.....", and Australia's b..... rock (Uluru), in the centre of the country (the O..... / R..... C.....) is sacred. The English arrived in 1770, and they brought c..... from London in 1778.

The inside of Australia is big: the School of the Air w.... c..... in 1954 to s..... / b..... isolated children on "s....." (= farms) their lessons (by radio and the internet). The Royal Flying doctors f..... (= go by plane) to visit their patients, because of distances.

Today, about million people l..... in Australia, on the c.....



Across

- 3. Australia's first people. (10)
- 5. The is the only natural thing you can see from the moon ! (18)
- 8. chasser (7)
- 9. = object (6)
- 12. Name of a farm in Australia. (7)
- 13. sacré (6)
- 15. The is the large desert in Australia's centre. (7)

Down

- 1. Australia's capital. (8)
- 2. côte, littoral (5)
- 4. The is the aboriginal religion. (10)
- 6. = people , person who lives in a country. (10)
- 7. The initials of the unique doctor service by plane. (4)
- 10. Name of the oldest rock in the world. (5)
- 11. = prisoner (7)
- 12. Australia's largest city. (6)
- 14. tuer (7)

