

1 Choose the most suitable headings for paragraphs A–G from the list of headings. There is one extra heading.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 The Australian lifestyle _____ | 5 Misunderstandings _____ |
| 2 First day _____ | 6 An exciting moment _____ |
| 3 Changing places _____ | 7 A new campus _____ |
| 4 Feeling homesick _____ | 8 Just like home _____ |

A new life

A Last year I exchanged my job as a lecturer in a British university for a post at the University of Queensland for six months. When I finally landed in Australia, the first thing I noticed was how relaxed and friendly the people were, unlike those at the airport at Heathrow. I suppose that's because there are far fewer of them.

B On the first day, I woke up to bright sunshine, early in the morning. I could hear loud birdsong of a type I had never heard before, and somebody laughing very loudly near my window.

I later found out that it was a kookaburra! Although it was March, the beginning of winter in Australia, the temperature had gone up to thirty degrees by the time I got to the breakfast table. This was the first time I had met up with my new colleagues, and found them to be very helpful and welcoming, although I didn't much like being greeted as the new Pom.

C Walking to the Languages Department, I was struck by the beauty of the gardens and the types of flowers and plants which grew there. Students were sitting around on the grass, chatting or reading, some catching up with a late breakfast before the lectures began. New students were heading for the Admissions Department to enrol.

D As students, however, they are pretty much the same as the ones back home. They turn up to the wrong lectures, forget their books and pens, fall asleep in class and stay up all night having parties. I felt that I was on familiar ground when I held my first tutorial.

E What did I enjoy most? I think it was the outdoor lifestyle, with picnics and barbies even in the winter. Even events such as weddings and birthday parties are often held in the open air. Australians love to get together and have a good time.

F And the greatest problem? For me, it was the language. It took me some time before I could get used to the local accent and get to the meaning, because the vowel sounds are so different from British English. But by the time I left, I could understand perfectly. When I first got back to England, my colleagues even told me I sounded like an Aussie myself.

G Taking up an opportunity like this is something I would certainly recommend. I have wonderful memories of fantastic wildlife, beautiful beaches and endless sunshine. My best memory of all is of skydiving: jumping out of a plane at 2500 metres over the gorgeous Lockyer valley. I never would have plucked up the courage to do that in England!

2 Now read the passage again and choose four letters A–G.

- 1 While she was in Australia, the lecturer ...
- A noticed that the people were less stressed than in England.
B felt very hot and uncomfortable.
C didn't like being called a Pom.
D thought the students were lazier than in England.
E went to an outdoor wedding.
F learned to understand Australian English.
G tried a new sport.



Check your answers.

3 Match the Australian words with the definitions.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1 barbie | A a kind of bird |
| 2 Pom | B an English person |
| 3 kookaburra | C an Australian |
| 4 Aussie | D a barbecue |

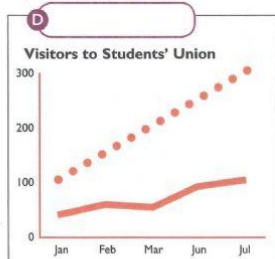
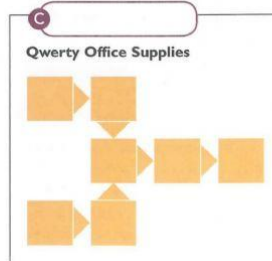
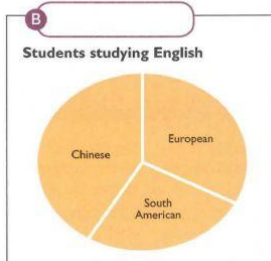
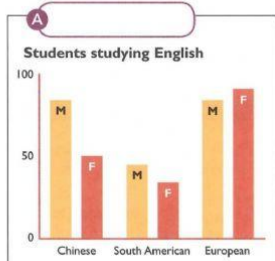


Check your answers.

Vocabulary

1 Label the diagrams. Use these words.

line graph bar chart flow chart table pie chart



E

Students in Department of Business

	Economics	MBA	Accounting
2007	139	59	132
2008	145	62	138
2009	122	50	127
2010	152	64	140
2011	161	72	146
2012	165	68	151



Check your answers.