

Read the text below. Choose from (A – H) the one which best fits each space (1 – 5). There are three choices you don't need to use.

When asked about the capital city of Australia, many people mistakenly think of Sydney with its landmark Opera House. However, in actual fact, the capital of Australia is a much smaller city called Canberra, situated 240 km southwest of Sydney. Lying at the foot of the Australian Alps, (1) _____, although snow in the region is not common. Summers are typically warm, with temperatures reaching around 28 C.

It was not until 1909 that Canberra was chosen as the new Australian capital. In 1911 a competition (2) _____ for the new capital, which was won by the well-known American architect, Walter Burley Griffin. Work on the building started in 1913, but the outbreak of World War One put construction on hold until, eventually, in 1927, the new capital took over from its predecessor, Melbourne.

As a new city, Canberra was carefully planned and designed in a wheel-shaped pattern by Burley Griffin, after whom the lake, central to the city, was named. Lake Burley Griffin, created in 1963, runs through the very heart of the city, dividing it in two, and offers visitors the opportunity to enjoy the city while kayaking or boating. Canberra is also a very green city, (3) _____.

There is much to be enjoyed in a city boasting one of the best lifestyles in the world. Being only the eighth largest city in Australia, Canberra has the vibe of a small city but is surprisingly packed with things to do and see, like iconic buildings, exhibitions of Aboriginal art and sculpture gardens. For those who love nature, Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve is a must! Located just 45

minutes from the capital by car, it offers (4) _____ where you can spot Australia's famed and unique wildlife: koalas, kangaroos, wallabies and emus, and, if you are very lucky, maybe even a platypus! Visitors to the city can enjoy panoramic views of its design from the summit of Mount Ainslie, especially spectacular at dawn for any early birds.

Canberra is host to a variety of annual events, the most famous of which is the Enlighten Festival, held every autumn. As its name suggests, the Enlighten Festival lights up the night skies over the city with a variety of projections. Another part of the festival is the Canberra Balloon Spectacular, (5) _____ when the sky is full of colourful hot-air balloons. The whole festival is marked by a buzz of activity in the city, including live bands, delicious international cuisine and interactive installations. So, what are you waiting for? Come and visit Canberra, the star down under.

- A a range of trails and hikes
- B were organized between architects
- C characterized by extensive regions of barren landscape
- D which sees a whole nine days
- E was held for the best design
- F Canberra enjoys relatively cool winters
- G that is a scenic event
- H featuring large areas of natural vegetation

Answer the questions using information from the text.

Would you like to visit Canberra? Why? / Why not?

Which piece of information from the text about Canberra did you find most interesting?