



# Australia, the International Nation

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ Over a quarter of the people who live in Australia were born in another country: about 6.7 million people out of a total population of around 25 million. More than 40 percent of Australians have at least one parent who was born in another country.

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ A little more than 200 years ago, Australia was inhabited by about 350,000 native people of many different cultural groups. Then, in 1770, the explorer James Cook sailed along the coast and brought back information about the "new" land to England. Soon after this, Australia became part of Great Britain. In 1787, the British government started sending criminals and poor people to Australia. Later, free **settlers** came to Australia to start farms. In 1850, **gold** was discovered there, so more and more people came from Europe and China hoping to get rich. Most of them never returned home, so the population began to grow.

(c) \_\_\_\_\_ In the 1940s, the government decided that the best way to develop the country was to invite more settlers to come from Europe. To attract immigrants, they offered money and other forms of help. More than one million people from Britain

moved to Australia, along with several hundred thousand Europeans who had lost their homes in the Second World War.

(d) \_\_\_\_\_ In 2017, more than 262,000 people went to Australia to stay permanently. Four main types of people settle there: Some go there because employment and business opportunities are better than in their home country. Others are the children, parents, or other relatives of immigrants who have already become Australian **citizens** themselves. A third group is refugees who are escaping war or political problems in their home countries. Finally, there is a small number of Australians who previously migrated to another country and now want to come home.

(e) At the same time, Australia also sends immigrants to other countries—a smaller number. Each year, about 60,000 Australians go to live permanently in other countries. With people from so many cultures migrating in and out, Australia is truly a diverse nation.

**settlers** people who move to live in a new country or area, usually the first to do so

**gold** an expensive metal commonly used to make jewelry

**citizens** people who have become legal members of a country

**A** Read the article. Then match the sentences to paragraphs (a–d).

1. In a sense, nearly all Australians are immigrants.
2. Migration is still growing.
3. Australia has a huge amount of land.
4. Australia is one of the most multicultural countries.

**B** Circle the correct answers.

1. The main idea of the article is that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. migration is very important in Australia
  - b. Australia still needs more people
  - c. the first immigrants to Australia came from Britain
2. The first people from outside Australia arrived in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. 1770
  - b. 1787
  - c. 1850
3. The article talks about \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. people who migrate to Australia
  - b. people who migrate from Australia
  - c. both a and b
4. According to the article, about \_\_\_\_\_ Australians originally came from another country.
  - a. 40 percent of
  - b. 350,000
  - c. 6.7 million

**D** Complete the text with one word in each space.

There are so (1) \_\_\_\_\_ people living in Australia who were not born there that Australia is one of the most diverse countries in the world. The arrival of people from other countries started a little more than 200 years ago. At the time, about 350,000 (2) \_\_\_\_\_ people lived there. Australia became part of Great Britain. In 1787, the British started sending people who were not welcome in their country, such as criminals and poor people, to Australia. Immigration started later, first when settlers went there to farm, and then after gold was found there in 1850.

In the 1940s, the government felt that the country was so big, and had so (3) \_\_\_\_\_ people to develop it, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ it decided to attract immigrants with money or other types of help. People went, and are still going. The reasons (5) \_\_\_\_\_ been the same since then: People leave their homes because they think life will be better in their new country. Sometimes they want to join relatives who moved there and have become Australian citizens. The result is that, except for the grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren of those 350,000 original inhabitants, everybody else in Australia is an immigrant or the child, grandchild, or great-grandchild of (6) \_\_\_\_\_.