



# AUSTRALIA



Complete the text using the given words

joey outback bushwalking boomerang multicultural dogs bark

Opera House hemisphere colonists pouch Aussies mammal marsupial

Dreamtime indigenous



Australia is an island continent in the southern \_\_\_\_\_. It is a huge country and is far from everywhere. It is also called 'Oz' and its people like to call themselves '\_\_\_\_\_'. Australia is a \_\_\_\_\_ society and there are people from all over the world. It is a peaceful and wealthy country.

Australia is a land of oddities. There are many unusual animals and plants that can be found nowhere else in the world. You have probably heard about the kangaroos that carry their young in their \_\_\_\_\_. A baby kangaroo is called a \_\_\_\_\_. And there are those cute koalas that spend about 18-20 hours a day sleeping in tree forks. There are other \_\_\_\_\_ animals such as the wombat, the wallaby or the possum. Do you know the name of the egg-laying \_\_\_\_\_ that has a bill like a duck? It is called a platypus. The first Europeans could hardly believe their eyes when they first saw it. And there are of course those wild \_\_\_\_\_ that are called dingoes in Australia. Mind you, they are not native to this country. They probably came from Asia a long time ago.



The \_\_\_\_\_ people of Australia are known as the Aborigines. They have lived on this island for more than 40,000 years. That is why they are often referred to as the 'first Australians'. Their lifestyle and culture changed drastically with the arrival of the British \_\_\_\_\_ in 1788. They were deprived of their land and were forced to adapt to an entirely different way of life. They used to throw the \_\_\_\_\_ to hunt for food and their world centred around their \_\_\_\_\_ mythology. Those legends of the Dreaming gave meaning to their lives.

Australia offers a lot both in the way of cultural and natural attractions. There are world-class performances in the Sydney \_\_\_\_\_ but if you are more interested in the local flora and fauna then you should go \_\_\_\_\_ in one of the many national parks. Eucalypt tree forests have a peculiar atmosphere. These trees are special because they shed their \_\_\_\_\_ not their leaves. Some eucalypt tree varieties are called gum trees. If you are in for some more adventure then the \_\_\_\_\_ is probably the place for you. In this part of Australia almost everything is red: the soil, the rocks and even the kangaroos! Amazing, isn't it?

