

Complete the text with ONE word that fits into each gap.

Most people in Oceania live on the continental islands of Australia and New Zealand. Geographically, New Zealand (1) _____ part of Polynesia. Unlike most other islands of Oceania, New Zealand and Australia are populated mostly (2) _____ Europeans. The recent histories of these nations are similar, as are their economies. English is the official (3) _____ in each nation.

One of the similarities (4) _____ Australia and New Zealand is the importance of sheep to the economies of both nations. In addition to its domestic animals, Australia and New Zealand (5) _____ also home to many forms of wildlife found nowhere (6) _____ in the world.

One animal found only in Australia is the koala, (7) _____ is often referred to as a bear. However, it is not a bear at all but a marsupial, an animal with a pouch. Unlike bears, koalas do (8) _____ eat meat. They only (9) _____ leaves from the eucalyptus tree.

(10) _____ a koala is born, it is about as thick as a pencil and only one inch long. This tiny creature crawls into (11) _____ mother's pouch, where it stays for about six months.

New Zealand also has unusual forms of wildlife. The kiwi, for (12) _____, is a bird that cannot (13) _____. Instead, it runs very fast. The kiwi has whiskers (14) like a cat and a long, straight bill (15) _____ digging up worms and insects. The kiwi is the national symbol of New Zealand, and its picture appears on stamps, coins, and the national seal.