

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## BLENDED LEARNING LESSON

# Australia's Underground Homes!

### Vocabulary Preview

- Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.

- |                    |          |  |
|--------------------|----------|--|
| 1. desert          | <u>E</u> | A. to rise or increase; to go up         |
| 2. climb           | _____    | B. a kind of beautiful blue stone        |
| 3. opal            | _____    | C. to make a hole in the ground          |
| 4. dig             | _____    | D. a kind of machine that makes cold air |
| 5. absolutely      | _____    | E. a hot, dry, sandy place               |
| 6. air conditioner | _____    | F. a person who lives in a certain place |
| 7. resident        | _____    | G. completely; 100%                      |
| 8. confused        | _____    | H. not able to understand something      |

- Use the above words to complete the sentences. Change the forms of verbs and nouns when necessary.

1. Are you absolutely sure that we have a holiday next Monday?
2. It's very hot in this room. Let's turn on the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I'm \_\_\_\_\_. I don't understand how to use this computer.
4. My aunt is lives in London. She is a British \_\_\_\_\_.
5. What can you find when you \_\_\_\_\_ into the ground?
6. There is a large, hot, dry \_\_\_\_\_ in Australia.
7. The temperature is \_\_\_\_\_. Soon it will be too hot to go outside.
8. Many of the world's beautiful, blue \_\_\_\_\_ come from Australia.

- Choose any two of the above words and write your own sentences.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

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TOPICS: Australia / Apartments & Houses

When you think of Australia, [REDACTED] the first things that you think about are the Sydney Opera House, the Sydney Harbour Bridge, or perhaps Ayers Rock, or even kangaroos – and if you are like many [REDACTED], you may not know about a very special [REDACTED] in the Australian state of South Australia. The name of this [REDACTED] town is Coober Pedy. Not many people live in Coober Pedy. [REDACTED] than 2000 people live there. One reason that not many people live there is because in the summer the temperature can [REDACTED] to as high as 52 degrees Celsius! That's 127 degrees Fahrenheit! However, it's not the weather or its small [REDACTED] that makes Coober Pedy special. [REDACTED], there are two other things that really make Coober Pedy different from most other places. The first of these things is a kind of rock called **opal**<sup>3</sup>. Opals are very [REDACTED], but they are hard to find, so they are very [REDACTED]. People in Coober Pedy must work very hard to [REDACTED] them out of the ground. Coober Pedy is also special for its homes. This is because most of the homes there are not above ground. Instead, about 1000 of its homes are [REDACTED] homes. These homes are called dugouts. Can you [REDACTED] why people make their homes underground? If you guessed that it has something to do with the hot weather, then you are [REDACTED] correct! The underground homes in Coober Pedy are so cool that there is no need to use **air conditioners**<sup>6</sup>, even in summer! [REDACTED] to homes, there are underground churches, underground hotels, and even underground stores. However, Andy Sheils, a [REDACTED] of Coober Pedy, says there is a small problem. He says when visitors first come to his town, they don't see any houses. They feel [REDACTED] and they say: "Where is the place? I don't [REDACTED]. Is anyone here?"





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### How Much Do You Understand?

- **Complete the statements.**

- |                                |                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Coober Pedy is a small      | A. into the ground to get opals.   |
| 2. People there dig holes      | B. cool in the summer.             |
| 3. The people there also       | C. they first come to Coober Pedy. |
| 4. The homes are very          | D. churches, hotels and stores.    |
| 5. There are also underground  | E. town in South Australia.        |
| 6. Visitors feel confused when | F. dig homes underground.          |

### Discuss

- **Discuss the following questions with your classmates.**

1. The article says the underground homes are cool in summer. What other advantages are there to living in an underground home?
2. What disadvantages can you think of to living underground?
3. Would you like to live in an underground home? Why? / Why not?

### Write

- **Write one good thing about living underground (your own idea). Then, write one bad thing about living underground (your own idea).**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_