

Countries

Australia — famous places

Ayers Rock (also called **Uluru**) is the largest rock in the world. It takes two hours to walk around it. Uluru changes colour at different times of day and in different weather. To see an orange rock visitors must get up early as this is the colour usually seen at dawn. During the day, the rock can be blue or silver. At sunset, it becomes red.



Sydney's most famous building is **Sydney Opera House**. The roof looks like the sails of a ship blowing in the wind. People have enjoyed concerts and plays here since 1973. The Opera House overlooks Sydney Harbour and is close to the **Sydney Harbour Bridge**, one of the world's biggest bridges.

**The Great Barrier Reef,**

on the eastern coast of Australia, is the world's largest coral reef. The reef is so big, you can see it from outer space!



The reef has many different animals, from tiny brightly-coloured fish to great white sharks and whales. The warm, clear water around the reef brings two million tourists each year. These visitors can see marine life close up by snorkelling or diving. Boat cruises are also popular. Glass-bottomed boats allow tourists to see beneath the waves without getting wet.



Located on the east coast, the **Gold Coast** is a major tourist destination. Visitors come for the sunny weather and beautiful beaches, where they can go surfing or watch penguins and whales. There are also theme parks and exciting nightlife.



Date: _____



B Read the encyclopaedia entry again. Finish the postcard using words from the entry.

Hi Granny,

Now we are in Sydney. It is like Hong Kong because they both have a busy ① _____ with lots of boats.

We watched two ② _____ at Sydney Opera House. The shows were ③ _____.

Love,

Joe



Mrs Wong
Flat 10C
Sunshine Towers
Kowloon Bay
Hong Kong



C Blacken ● the circles.

1 Where can visitors enjoy water sports?

① Uluru

③ the Gold Coast

☐ A. ② only

☐ C. ②, ③ and ④

② the Great Barrier Reef

④ Sydney Opera House

☐ B. ② and ③

☐ D. ①, ②, ③, ④

2 Which word means 'the start of the day, when the sun comes up'?

☐ A. sunset

☐ C. sails

☐ B. dawn

☐ D. sunny



First find these four words in the text. Then see if the definition makes sense in the context.

3 Read the section on the Great Barrier Reef: ... you can see it from outer space! Why does the writer say this?

☐ A. He wants to say that he has been to outer space.

☐ B. He wants to show how big the Great Barrier Reef is.

☐ C. He thinks the readers should go to outer space.

☐ D. He is explaining why there are so many animals.

☆ 4 Which sentence is true?

☐ A. If you want to see Uluru change colour, you must walk around it.

☐ B. Two million people go snorkelling at the Great Barrier Reef every year.

☐ C. Tourists can watch concerts from Sydney Harbour Bridge.

☐ D. The Gold Coast has a variety of attractions.