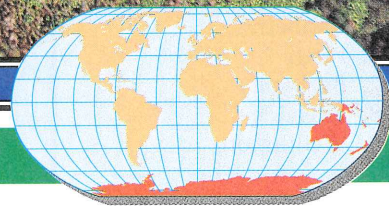
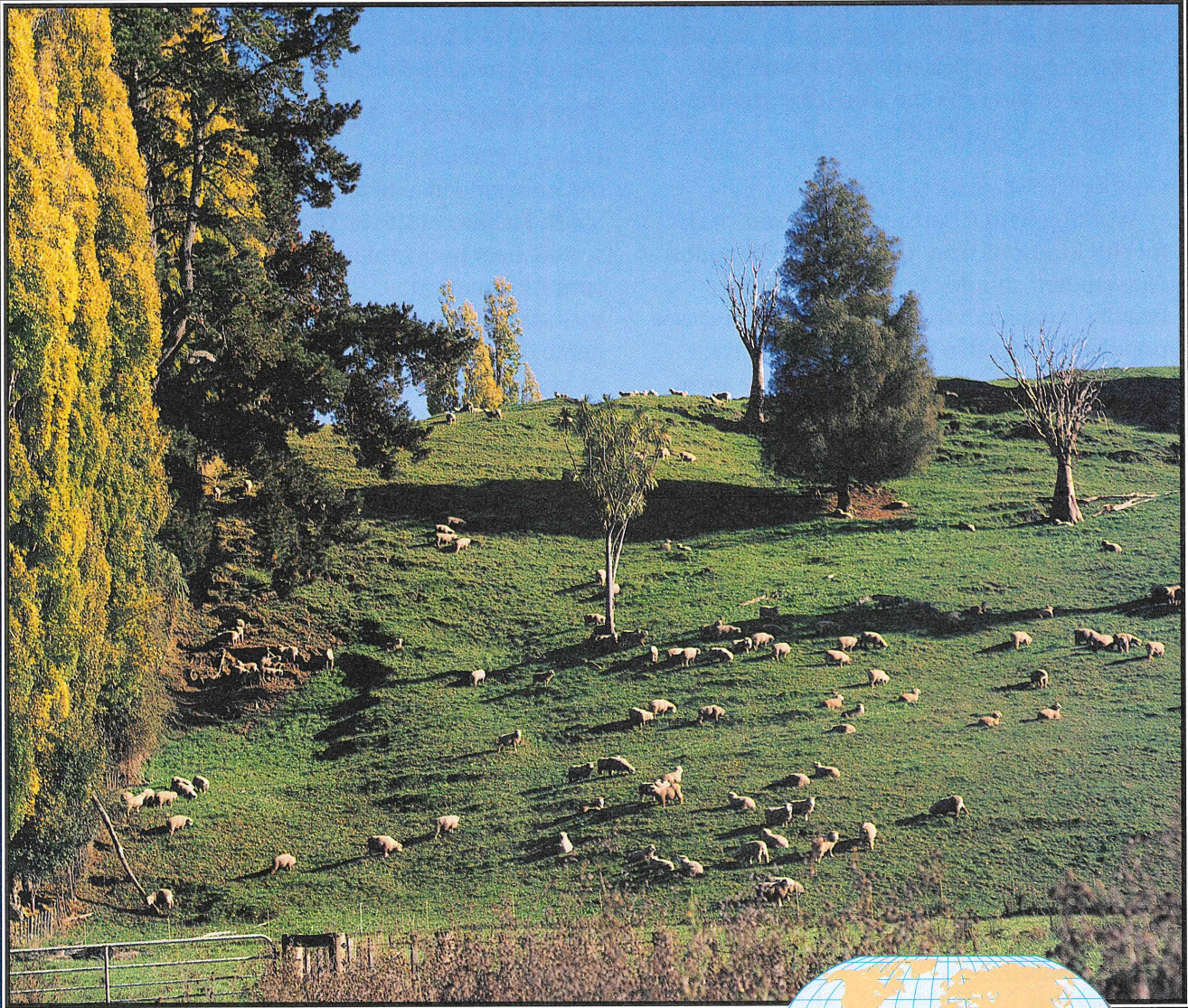


Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica Today



CHAPTER FOCUS

Geographic Setting

Long distances and harsh climates have often posed economic and environmental challenges that Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica have met with varying success.

▲ **Photograph:** Sheep ranch in New Zealand



Geographic Themes

Section 1 Living in Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica

MOVEMENT Modern transportation and communication has brought the Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica culture region closer to the rest of the world.

Section 2 People and Their Environment

LOCATION The unique environment of the South Pacific, no longer protected by distance and isolation, has been damaged by human settlement.

Living in Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica

SETTING THE SCENE

Read to Discover . . .

- the kinds of agriculture practiced in the South Pacific region.
- the reasons for economic interdependence in Australia and Oceania.
- the transportation and communication challenges facing the Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica culture regions.
- the industries that thrive in Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica.

Key Terms

- grazier
- station
- copra
- subsistence farming
- rail gauge

Identify and Locate

St. George Island, Bougainville, Western Australia, Pilbara, Kimberley, Tuvalu, New South Wales, Federated States of Micronesia, the South Island

Wellington, New Zealand

I live in Wellington, which is a hilly city and the capital of New Zealand. We use trains and buses for transportation, and there is even a cable car. I earn money delivering newspapers, which I do on foot because of the steep hills. My country relies on meat and farm produce for income, so there is always a lot of fresh fruit in the stores, and sheep on the hillsides. Dave Ferguson



As Dave Ferguson's postcard reveals, people who live in the Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica culture region produce a variety of food products. Agriculture is by far the region's most important economic activity.

HUMAN/ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

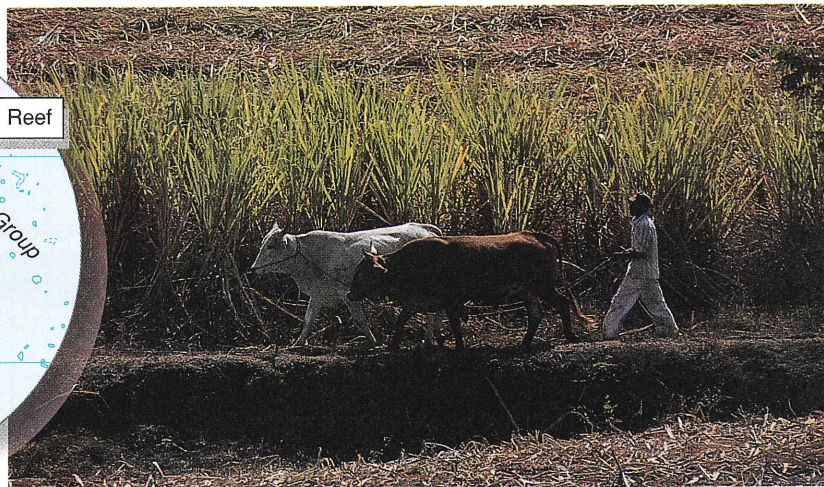
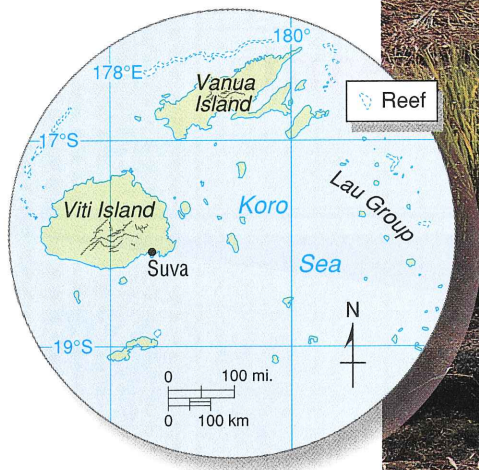
Food Production

Farmers in the culture region vary their agriculture according to geographic conditions. Australian farmers, using scientific

methods and machinery, adapt their farming methods to the generally dry climate. New Zealand and Australia export large quantities of farm products—especially meat, wool, dairy products, and wheat.

Ranching

Sheep and cattle graze over much of the land in Australia and New Zealand. In Australia livestock, tended by cowhands and sheep **graziers**, or herders, must search a large area to find enough vegetation. As a result some Australian **stations**, or ranches, are



Geographic Themes

Human/Environment Interaction: Fiji

Unlike many other Pacific island countries, Fiji has much commercial farming. Sugarcane is one of Fiji's major agricultural exports. *What agricultural items are raised elsewhere in the Pacific area?*

mammoth—as large as 6,000 square miles (15,540 sq. km). The largest stations are almost self-sufficient economic units, complete with stores and post offices.

Australia and New Zealand have used scientific research and advertising to establish new markets for farm products. Improved machinery and fertilizers and innovative packaging have expanded sales to western Europe and Japan.

Subsistence Farming

In much of Oceania, climate and soil conditions do not support widespread commercial farming. On the low Micronesian islands, **copra**, the dried meat from the coconut palms, is often the only farm product exported. Island farmers generally practice **subsistence farming**, growing only enough food to feed themselves.

Farming is more widespread on the high islands of Oceania, where rich volcanic soil and ample rainfall support a variety of crops. Some people produce cash crops including tropical fruits, sugar, coffee, and copra and other coconut products.

Fishing is also an important source of food,

especially on the low islands, and some fish are exported as well.

Because of its harsh climate, Antarctica produces no farm crops. Its icy coastal waters are a rich source of seafood.

HUMAN/ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

Mining and Manufacturing

Scattered unevenly throughout the region are mineral deposits of copper, iron ore, lead, and coal. Australia has many mines and is a leading exporter of diamonds, gold, bauxite, and iron ore. There are also significant Indian Ocean oil deposits.

Most of the region's ore is exported to Japan to be made into cars and appliances. Australia has a growing economic interdependence with nearby Asia.

The other areas of Oceania have only scattered mining industries. Melanesians, for example, mine copper and in Micronesia, phosphate mining has become important. The possibility of one day reaching the large deposits of valuable minerals believed to lie under the Antarctic ice cap also exists.



Domestic Manufacturing

Geography has limited manufacturing in the South Pacific. Importing equipment and raw materials is too difficult and too expensive. In Oceania a lack of skilled workers, modern transportation, and communications systems are also factors. Almost all manufacturing is done in Australia, near Sydney and Melbourne, and in New Zealand, near Auckland.

Challenges to Growth

Many of Oceania's islands are too small to produce large amounts of goods and are located too far from trading markets.

Modern air travel has increased island tourism. Visitors enjoy the region's scenery and beaches, while boosting island economies. Aid from Western nations also helps many Pacific island countries.



MOVEMENT

Transportation and Communication

Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica are partially inaccessible. The region contains thousands of miles of solid ice, endless desert, and vast oceans.

Ground Travel

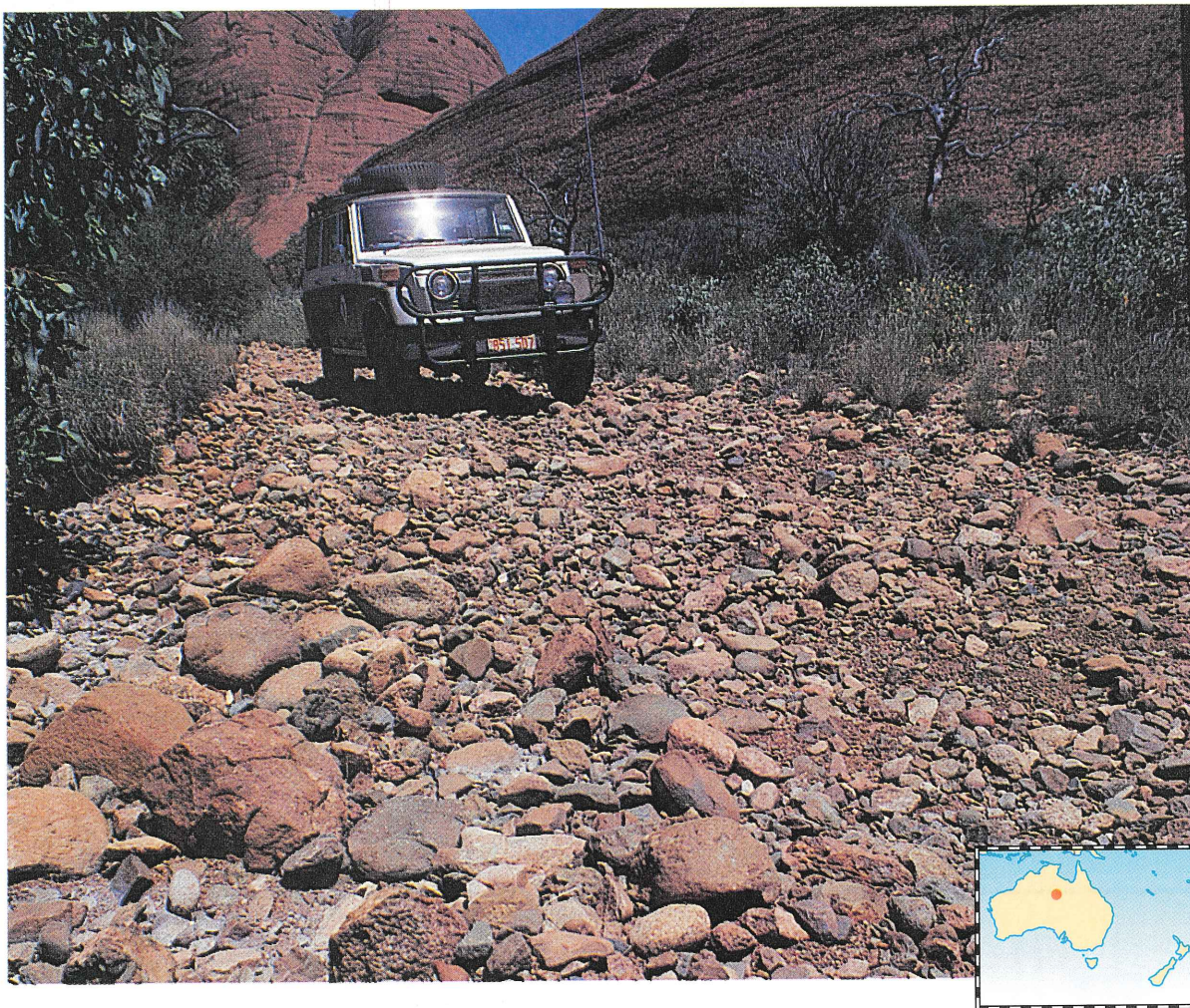
Australia and New Zealand have the most well-developed road and rail systems in the region. Still, large parts of the Australian outback are without any roads.

Travelers on Australia's rail system are sometimes frustrated. Not all of the country's railroads are built to the same standards. The **rail gauge**—or width between the rails—from state to state does not match. This results in the use of different rail cars, so traveling across the country means changing trains.

New Zealand's rail and road system is quite good. Even though the terrain is often mountainous, most of New Zealand can be reached.

In Oceania, entire countries do not have well-developed road or rail systems. Countries are working hard to improve the roads and bridges necessary for industrial growth.

Antarctica poses special problems. Lacking permanent settlements, the icy continent has



Geographic Themes



Region: Australian Outback

A four-wheel-drive vehicle is ideally suited to Australia's rugged outback. Only about 40 percent of Australia's roads are paved, and few roads exist in the outback region. *What is rail travel like in Australia?*





Geographic Themes

Human/Environment Interaction: Antarctica

Air travel is available to Antarctica during the long winter months when ice blocks all forms of water transportation. *Why is air travel an important method of transportation in the Pacific area?*

no need for road or rail systems, and specially designed vehicles are required.

Air and Water Travel

Air and water travel are the most essential to the region. Pacific islanders started traveling by outrigger canoe thousands of years ago. Small wind- or motor-powered boats are still used. New Zealanders ride ferries from the North Island to the South Island.

Scientists in Antarctica's coastal stations depend on cargo ships and airplanes to deliver needed goods. On Australia's large stations, cattle owners use helicopters to reach their cattle. Small airplanes are needed to travel between the islands of Oceania.

The development of modern communication, such as telephones, radios, and the Internet, has had a major effect upon life in Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica. Two-way radios offer people emergency help, education, and social communication.

SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT

Checking for Understanding

- 1. Define** grazier, station, copra, subsistence farming, rail gauge.
- 2. Locating Places** Where in New Zealand does most manufacturing take place?
- 3. Movement** What country is an important trading partner for Australia's mining industry?
- 4. Human/Environment Interaction** Why do many Pacific island countries lack manufacturing centers?

Critical Thinking

- 5. Making Comparisons** How is farming in Oceania different from the agriculture practiced in both Australia and New Zealand?



PRESERVING THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

The Great Barrier Reef is facing major challenges from a growing tourist industry, commercial and recreational fishing pressures, shipping, and rapidly growing urban areas.

Dr. Ian McPhail, chairman of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, 1996

Running along the northeast coast of Australia, the Great Barrier Reef is the largest structure on the earth made by living organisms. Between 500,000 and 1 million years old, the reef is made up of about 2,500 separate coral reefs whose combined length stretches 1,250 miles (about 2,012 km). Most of the reef lies between 10 and 150 miles (16 and 241 km) from the shore of the Australian state of Queensland.

A rich variety of plant life grows in this beautiful underwater garden. The great formation is also home to about 400 species of coral and 1,500 kinds of fish.

THE ISSUE

Because of the richness of its marine environment, the Great Barrier Reef is important to biologists and marine scientists. Its beauty and diverse marine life also attract thousands of tourists and marine enthusiasts each year.

Many kinds of human activities, however, are weakening

the Great Barrier Reef. Wide areas appear to be dead. Scientists fear that if overuse continues, the entire reef may break up.

THE BACKGROUND

The surface of the Great Barrier Reef is living, made up of tiny animals called coral polyps. Coral polyps are the reef's builders as well as its foundation. They, however, are only one part in the Great Barrier Reef's delicately balanced environment of plant and animal life. One change, such as a shift in temperature or a change in the amount of sunlight or salt in the water, can damage one part of the reef or interfere with one of the species living on or around the reef.

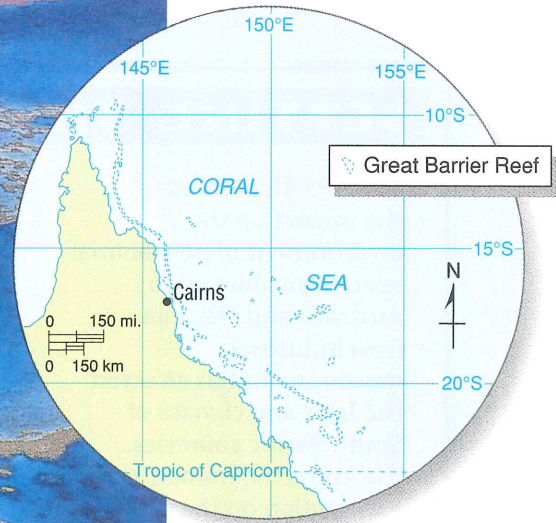
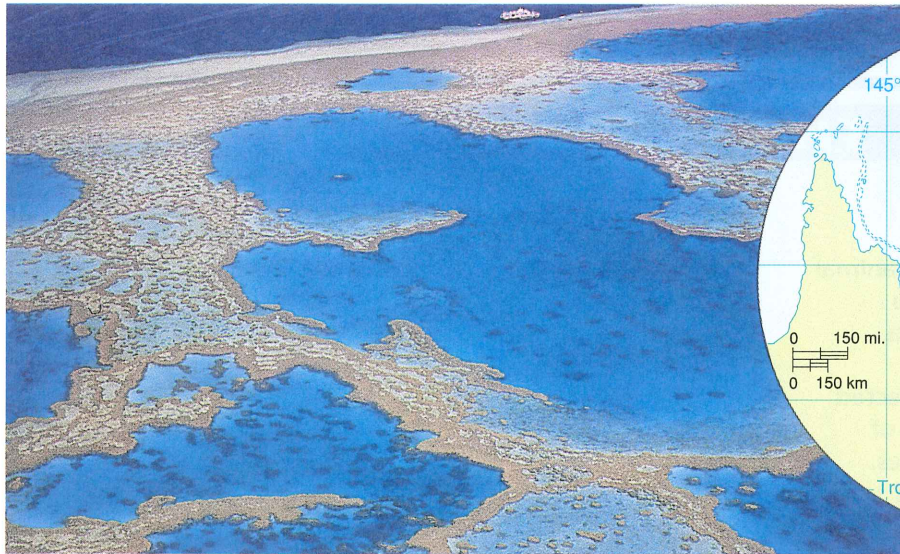
In recent years the Great Barrier Reef has grown in popularity with tourists. Shell hunting, snorkeling, and spearfishing are among the favorite activities of tourists. Unfortunately, such activities harm the reef.

Shell hunters contribute to the destruction of the reef's coral polyps. Snorkelers bump

against or hit the reef with their fins, breaking off pieces or damaging underwater plants. Spearfishers overhunt various species of the reef's fish. Water content is also changing through human activity. Sewage from the resort areas and gasoline from motor boats are polluting the sea. Farmers along the coast use fertilizers that drain into streams and rivers that empty into the Great Barrier Reef's waters. Cities along the coast dump wastes directly into the ocean. Some reefs have been covered with silt and debris from such pollution.

Many kinds of human activities, however, are weakening the Great Barrier Reef. Wide areas appear to be dead.

In the late 1960s, mining companies tried to strip-mine the reef for its limestone content. Oil companies prepared to drill for petroleum they



The Great Barrier Reef lies on the shallow shelf that fringes Australia.

claimed was under the Great Barrier Reef.

THE POINTS OF VIEW

Farmers, city and state governments, and mining and oil companies said that the Australian government should not pass any new laws that would restrict development and growth. Resort owners, shop owners, or other types of tourist-related businesses did not want the Australian government to limit use of the reef. Restrictions, they stated, would decrease the number of people coming to the reef. If the number of tourists dropped off, the area would lose money and jobs.

Environmentalists pointed out that the coral reef could be destroyed easily by tourists. They also warned that sewage and chemicals from farm fields would change the balance of

the coastal waters in which the coral reef grows. With human activity and pollution, the Great Barrier Reef could disappear.

THE ISSUE TODAY

In 1981 the Australian government dedicated the Great Barrier Reef as a World Heritage Site. Most of the reef is still open for general use, but the park management is working on a plan to carefully control use of the reef. About 10 percent of the park is open on a “look-but-don’t-touch” basis.

Some development is permitted. It is contained, however, in areas traditionally used for that purpose. Oil exploration, mining, and spearfishing are banned. Oil shipping is permitted, though the tankers must be guided by trained reef pilots.

Park rangers have increased efforts to improve their relationships with farm and business owners. Some businesses have hired teams of scientists who monitor changes on the reef, as well as giving tours and talks about the reef. Although the Great Barrier Reef is not entirely safe from business concerns, many more businesses are agreeing that they have as much at stake in the reef’s continued existence as scientists and tourists.

Reviewing the Case

1. What changes in the ecosystem can damage the coral reef?

2. **Human/Environment Interaction** What steps have been taken to protect the Great Barrier Reef?



People and Their Environment



SETTING THE SCENE

Read to Discover . . .

- the impact on the environment of new animal species introduced to Australia and Oceania.
- how industrial development has affected the land and climate of South Pacific countries.
- the impact of human exploration on the environment of Antarctica.

Key Terms

- marsupial
- global warming
- ecosystem

Identify and Locate

Bikini Atoll, Queensland,
Banaba, Northern Territory

Distance and isolation make the Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica culture region home to a unique and fragile environment. Separated from the rest of the world by the vast Pacific Ocean, the region abounds with plants and animals not found anywhere else in the world. In many cases the absence of large mammals as predators also helped this special natural world to develop. Now, as modern travel allows humans to visit and settle almost every corner of the region, they have left their footprints on this delicate balance with sometimes devastating effects.

HUMAN/ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

Animal Life

The Europeans introduced a variety of animals and plants—camels, rabbits, sheep, and sugarcane—to Australia. Some were brought and raised for profit, such as sheep. Others, such as camels, were used as beasts of burden.

The plants and animals already in Australia had never been exposed to these new species. While a few flourished, most suffered. Aus-

tralia's most well-known native animals include kangaroos, koalas, wallabies, and other **marsupials**, mammals that give birth to offspring that mature in their mothers' pouches. Only a few of these and other native species have been able to survive newly added predators, such as European foxes and rats. Native grasses were also destroyed by the millions of rabbits brought for use in hunting.

Cane Toad

In the 1930s sugarcane farmers in the Australian state of Queensland tried to solve a crop problem by using the system of predator and prey. They introduced a small number of toads into the sugarcane fields to eat the grubs that were destroying their crops. The toads did eat grubs, but they then moved out of the fields, eating native plants, other insects, garbage, and even pet food. Because they were highly poisonous when eaten, the toads had few predators.

In the 1990s the cane toad moved out of Queensland into neighboring New South Wales and the Northern Territory. In the moist, tropical Northern Territory, the toads



are upsetting nature's balance by killing lizards, snakes, birds, and other animals. So far scientists have been unable to solve this problem.

Animal Overpopulation

In 1837 merchants and shippers hoping to start a fur industry brought the brushtail possum to New Zealand. Without natural predators, it quickly spread throughout the country. Until the 1980s some balance was achieved by trapping thousands of possums each year. Then as possums and other animals came under special protection, the world fur market all but disappeared. Now the possums are everywhere. They eat some of New Zealand's most unique and fragile trees. They also carry a highly contagious disease that is deadly to New Zealand's cattle industry.

HUMAN/ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

Industry and Science

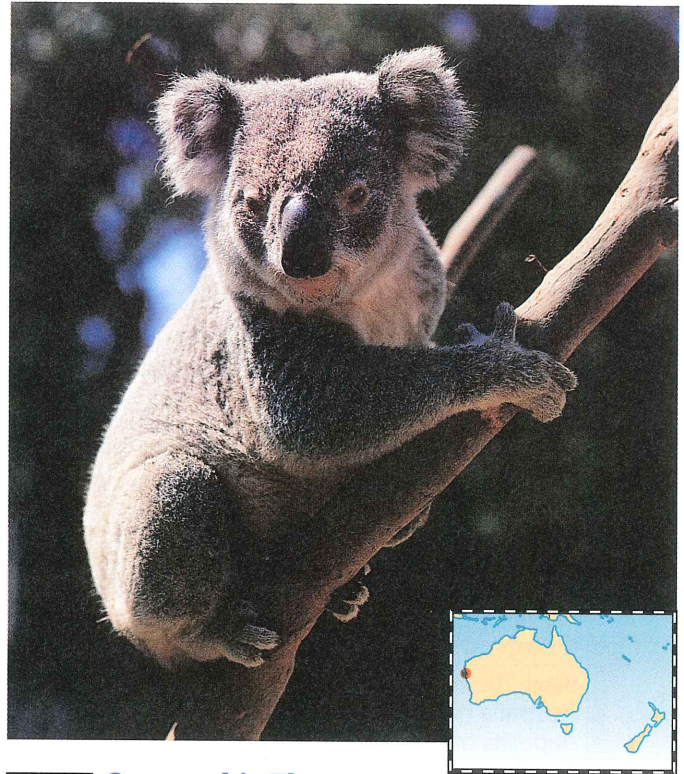
The growth of industry has brought great advantages to Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica. It has brought costs as well. Throughout the region, human efforts to improve conditions, boost economic activity, or carry military experiments also have caused problems that must now be solved.

Phosphate Mining

The people of Nauru have lived a comfortable life financed by enormous phosphate deposits, mined and sold for fertilizer. Now the phosphate is running out and the topsoil has long been destroyed. The Naurans must find a way to reclaim this barren land or their economy will fall apart.

Logging

In other parts of Oceania intense logging has caused problems. The land, once thick with rain forest, now lies exposed to the tor-



Geographic Themes



Region: Australia

The koala bear is one of about 150 marsupials that live in every part of Australia. *What impact has human settlement had on Australia's animal life?*

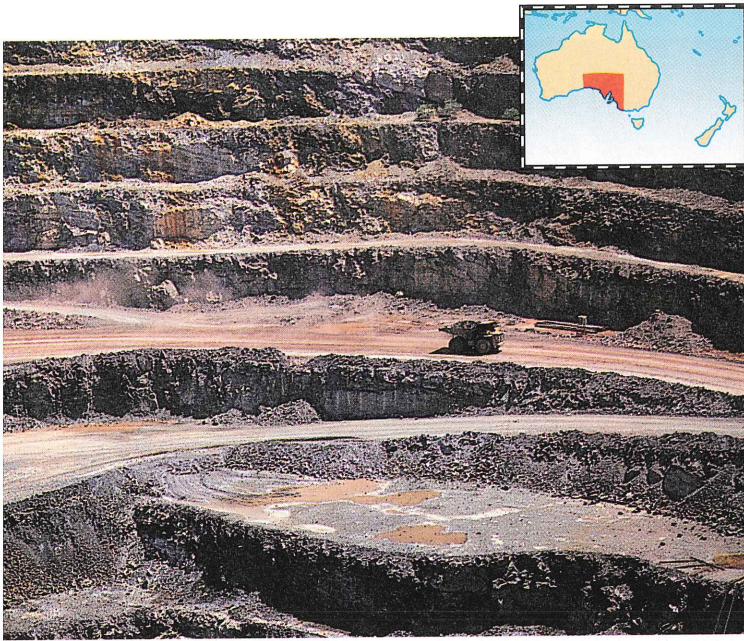
rential rains and the baking sun. In mountainous Papua New Guinea, landslides have washed away the earth. On other islands the soil has been so stripped of nutrients that crops cannot grow.

Nuclear Testing

In the late 1940s and 1950s, the United States and other nations did not recognize the long-term danger from nuclear testing in the South Pacific. The United States government promised the people of Bikini Atoll, in the Marshall Islands, that they would only be leaving their home for a short time while atomic tests were being conducted.

Almost 50 years later Bikini Atoll is still unsafe for human occupation. Although the land may be recovered one day, its people, relocated and supported by the United States government, have lost their livelihood and the traditional structure of their society.





Geographic Themes

Place: Uranium Mine, South Australia

Australia has the world's largest undeveloped deposits of uranium, an important element in creating nuclear weapons. *How has the testing of nuclear weapons affected the Pacific area?*

HUMAN/ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

The Antarctic Wilderness

The British explorer James Cook never reached continental Antarctica in the 1770s; he was defeated by the thick ice. The harsh climate has protected Antarctica. The continent's scientific and economic potential, however, have inspired people to overcome the challenge of reaching it.

What will it mean for Antarctica's environment if people can fly there in a few hours? How will the Antarctic wilderness be protected? These are urgent questions for the nations of the world.

The Scientific Impact

The key to Antarctica's scientific value has always been its isolation. The air and seas are almost untouched by humans, the ice and land almost unchanged for millions of years. This means that experiments about weather

patterns, the ozone layer, ancient glaciers, and the living community that are conducted there are not distorted by humans and the environmental changes they make.

Surprisingly the scientists who cherish Antarctica's relatively untouched environment are now causing some of the problems the continent faces. Along with several thousand tourists who visit the continent each summer, an equal number of scientists are leaving garbage and graffiti behind, and disturbing wildlife nesting sites.

Ozone Hole

Perhaps the greatest danger to Antarctica is the change occurring in the ozone layer. Some scientists believe that pollution has made a hole in this protective covering, allowing more of the sun's radiation to reach the earth's surface.

Kiribati and other low atoll islands face the danger of **global warming**, or greenhouse effect, according to some scientists. Experts claim that global warming, created in part by human pollution, will eventually cause the polar regions to melt, raising sea levels throughout the world and possibly submerging many Pacific islands.

Scientists also worry that this added radiation will seriously harm the fragile Antarctic **ecosystem**, its community of living things that depend on each other for survival.

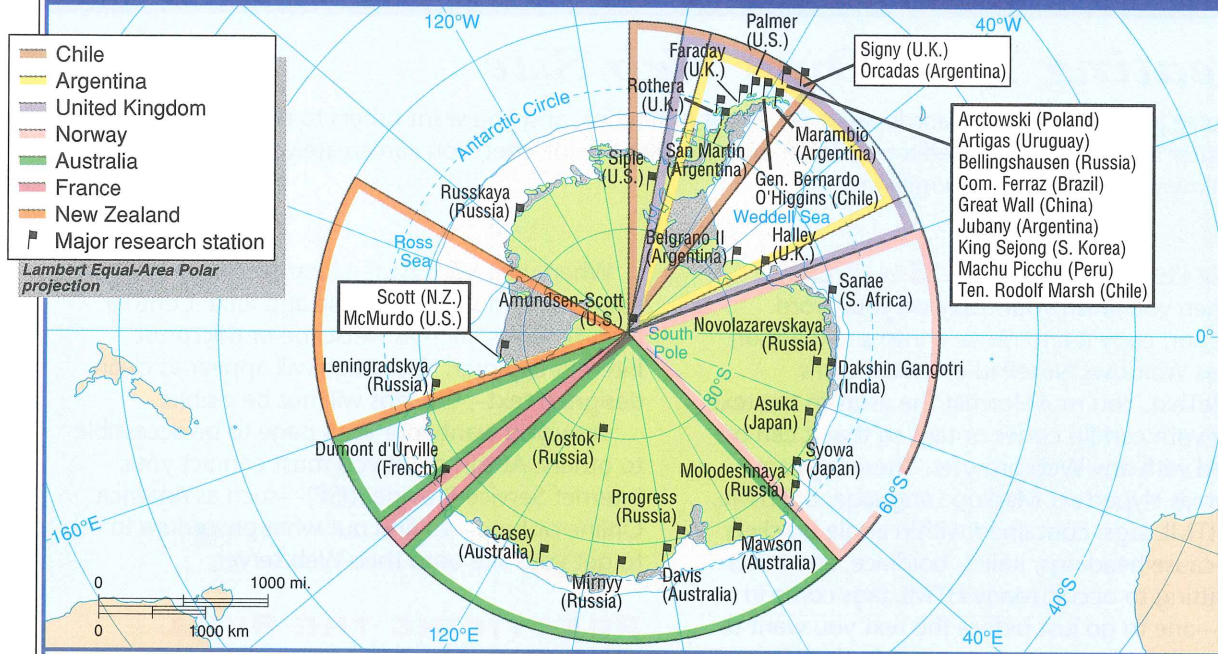
Concern is mostly focused on possible damage to the microscopic plants that feed krill, or tiny crustaceans. Like a falling domino, a reduced krill population will, in turn, cause other changes. Without the krill for food, the number of fish will shrink, leaving less food for the penguins and affecting marine life throughout the Antarctic area.

Solving the Problems

Because no one nation controls Antarctica, protecting its environment is an especially difficult challenge. So far, the nations of the world have mostly worked together to gradu-



ANTARCTICA: NATIONAL CLAIMS AND SCIENTIFIC STATIONS



FOCUS ON GEOGRAPHIC THEMES



- Region:** How many countries maintain research stations in Antarctica?
- Place:** Which research stations are owned by the United States?
- Region:** Which country claims the most territory in Antarctica?
- Place:** Which countries hold conflicting claims?

ally explore Antarctica. The Antarctic Treaty, signed in 1959, defined Antarctica as a “continent for science and peace.” There would be no political borders, no military activity, no nuclear waste or explosions and, most importantly, no national claims to ownership.

Without national claims, however, who owns the resources of the continent and will guide its future? In 1989 France and Australia, and Greenpeace and other environmental groups proposed that the continent become a wilderness reserve, owned and protected by all. While the World Park concept remains challenged, 31 nations did agree in the 1991 Madrid Protocol to ban oil and gas exploration in Antarctica for 50 years. As Antarctica enters the 21st century, it will test the world’s willingness to preserve one of the earth’s last wilderness areas.

SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT

Checking for Understanding

- Define** marsupial, global warming, ecosystem.
- Locating Places** What country claims the Amundsen-Scott research station at the South Pole?
- Human/Environment Interaction** What problems has the cane toad caused in Australia?
- Region** Why are the plants and animals of the South Pacific region unique?

Critical Thinking

- Determining Cause and Effect** How might the hole in the ozone layer threaten Kiribati and Antarctica’s marine life?



TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

Creating Your Own Web Site

You've just written an extraordinary essay about Antarctica, and you want others to read it too. If your computer has a program called a text editor and accesses the Internet, you can create your own Web site and allow your essay to reach millions!

REVIEWING THE SKILL

When you finish your essay on your word processor, copy it and move it into a text editor, such as Windows NotePad or Macintosh's SimpleText. You must format the essay in the text editor with certain codes or tags so that it can be viewed with any Web browser. These tags are known as Hypertext Markup Language, or HTML. The HTML tags, contained within angle brackets (<>), cause headings, italics, boldface, and other formatting to occur. Many HTML tags come in pairs—one to go just before the text you want to format; the other to go immediately after the text.

The following basic tags should be in all HTML documents:

<HTML> </HTML>

These are the first and last codes in your document. Note that the "end" tag includes a forward slash within the brackets.

<HEAD> </HEAD> <TITLE> </TITLE>

These tags frame the document's head, which includes the title and appears at the top of the screen.

<BODY> </BODY>

These tags frame the body of the document, which includes everything after the header but before the closing </HTML> tag.

<H1> </H1> <H6> </H6>

These tags frame the various headings, from H1 (the largest heading) down to H6 (the sixth largest heading).

 <I> </I>

Tags for emphasis include boldface and italics.

<P>

This tag starts a new paragraph, adding one line of space. You do not need a closing tag.

Other kinds of formatting include inserting graphics or images, adding your E-mail address, providing links to other Web pages, and so on.

When your Web page is completed on the text editor, you must save the file and load it onto a Web browser, such as Netscape or Microsoft Internet Explorer. Your page will appear as clean, designed text—the tags will not be visible.

Now you want your Web page to be accessible to others. At this point you must contact your Internet Service Provider (ISP)—such as America Online or Juno—to find out what procedure to use to get your site onto their Web server.

PRACTICING THE SKILL



Study the example of the Web page below, noting the HTML tags. Then compose your own Web page using HTML tags.

```
<HTML>
<HEAD>
<TITLE>My Home Page</TITLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY>
<H1><B>Help Save
Antarctica!</B></H1>
```

```
<P>
In 1959, 12 nations signed the
Antarctica Treaty to preserve the
continent for scientific study for
50 years. As the end of the treaty
period approaches, many nations are
eyeing Antarctica's natural
resources. We must not let mining
occur!
```

```
<P>
<H2><I>Write Your Senator
Now!</I></H2>
</BODY>
</HTML>
```

For additional practice in creating your own Web site, see Practicing Skills on page 700 of the Chapter 34 Assessment.

1

SECTION

Living in Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica

KEY TERMS

grazier (p. 687)
 station (p. 687)
 copra (p. 688)
 subsistence farming (p. 688)
 rail gauge (p. 690)

SUMMARY

- Agriculture is the most important economic activity in the South Pacific.
- Farmers in Oceania farm mostly for their own use while those in Australia and New Zealand produce large farm exports, especially livestock and dairy products.
- Antarctica produces no farm crops and has no mining or manufacturing industries. Its waters are a source of seafood.
- Almost all the South Pacific's major manufacturing centers are in Australia and New Zealand.
- Air and water travel has helped to bridge the distances to bring goods and services to remote parts of the South Pacific.



Airplane flying over Antarctica

2

SECTION

People and Their Environment

KEY TERMS

marsupial (p. 694)
 global warming (p. 696)
 ecosystem (p. 696)

SUMMARY

- Many of the plants and animals in the South Pacific, previously isolated, have suffered from human introduction of new species into the region.
- The efforts of industry and government to pursue political and economic goals in Oceania have caused environmental problems that remain unsolved.
- Antarctica's fragile environment is no longer protected by isolation. Scientists, industry, and tourists alike may be damaging its delicately balanced natural world.



Uranium mine in Australia



Reviewing Key Terms

Choose the vocabulary term that best completes each of the sentences below.

graziers (p. 687)	marsupials (p. 694)
stations (p. 687)	global warming (p. 696)
copra (p. 688)	ecosystem (p. 696)
rail gauges (p. 690)	

SECTION 1

- The _____ do not match throughout Australia's train system.
- _____ raise sheep in Australia and New Zealand.
- Ranches in Australia are called _____.
- _____ can be found on most Pacific islands.

SECTION 2

- Many native Australian mammals, called _____, were killed by foxes.
- Scientists worry that _____ will seriously damage the marine life in Antarctica.
- Antarctica's fragile _____ may suffer from increased tourism.

Reviewing Facts

SECTION 1

- What are the main farm products exported from Oceania?
- Where are most of Australia's manufactured products used?
- How is air travel used in the South Pacific region?

SECTION 2

- Until recently, what human activity helped to control New Zealand's possum population?
- Why is Bikini Atoll now uninhabited?
- What does the Madrid Protocol do?

Critical Thinking

- Determining Cause and Effect** How has the development of modern

communication systems affected life in the South Pacific today?

- Expressing Problems Clearly** How has industrial activity in Oceania affected the region's environment?



Geographic Themes

- Location** Where are the South Pacific's major manufacturing centers?
- Human/Environment Interaction** How have tourists and scientists contributed to the problems facing Antarctica's environment?

Using the Unit Atlas

Refer to the physical geography section of the Unit Atlas on pages 650–651.

- What are Fiji's major exports?
- How do scientists hope to use the Antarctic ice cap?



Practicing Skills

Creating Your Own Web Site

Refer to the skill on page 698 to format the following paragraph in HTML.

The Great Barrier Reef Trouble Down Under

The Great Barrier Reef, the largest structure built by living creatures anywhere in the world, is clearly *visible from space*. More than 1,500 species of fish, 400 types of coral, 4,000 species of mollusks, and 22 types of whales make their home in and around the reef.

It takes only one irresponsible tourist to destroy what it took nature one million years to build.

Visit But Respect!

Projects

Individual Activity

Find out more about the economies of two South Pacific countries. In a short written report, compare the countries' economies and the factors that have contributed to the development of each.

Cooperative Learning Activity

In small groups, role-play a meeting of the Antarctic Treaty countries. Each student will focus on a different issue affecting Antarctica. When the group meets, individual members should present their findings, arguing for or against the World Park concept from the viewpoint of their specific issue.

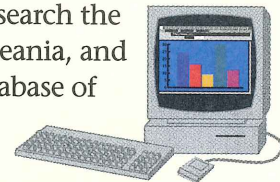
Writing About Geography

Narration Imagine you are developing a newspaper or radio station to link remote

parts of the South Pacific with one another. Write an article describing the impact that improved communication would have on your community. Be sure to consider both positive and negative results of greater interaction between parts of the region—for example, changes to traditional cultures as well as improved economies.

Technology Activity

Using a Database Research the wildlife of Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica. Create a database of your information with separate fields for the following: Animal, Location, Diet, Natural Predators, Introduced Predators, Population Status. Print out and share your database with the rest of the class.

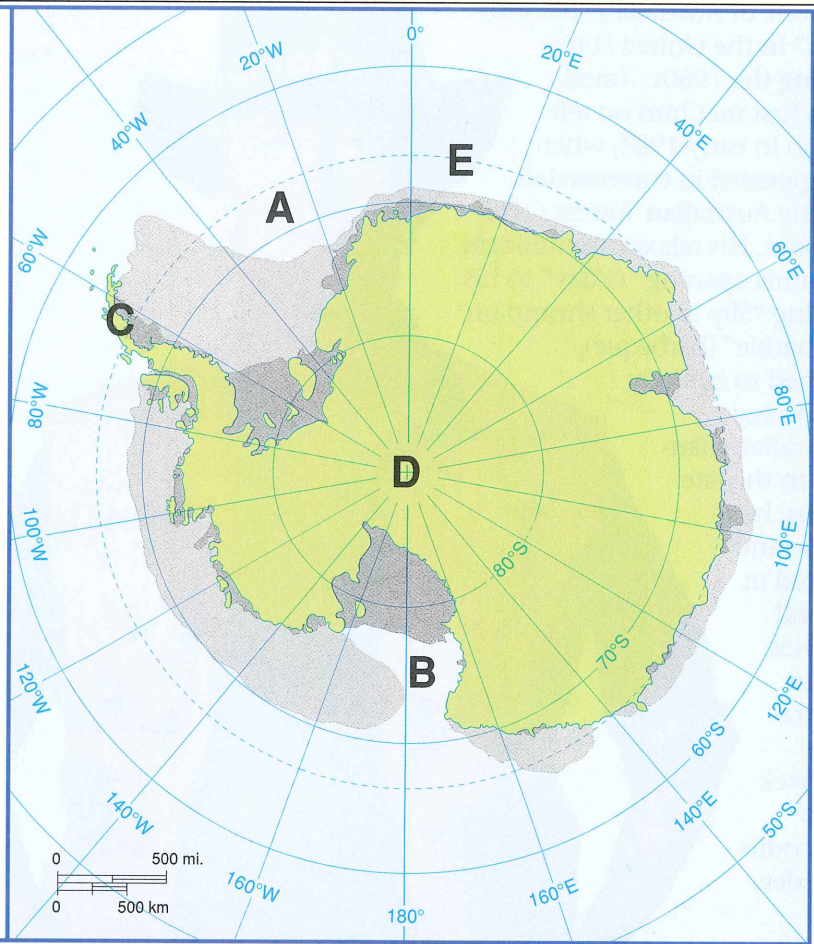


Locating Places

**ANTARCTICA:
PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY**

Match the letters on the map with the places and physical features of Antarctica. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Weddell Sea
2. Antarctic Circle
3. South Pole
4. Ross Sea
5. Antarctic Peninsula



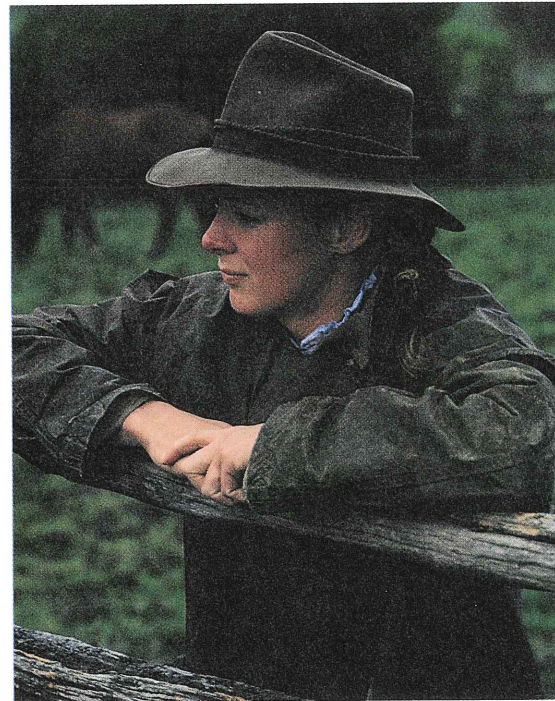
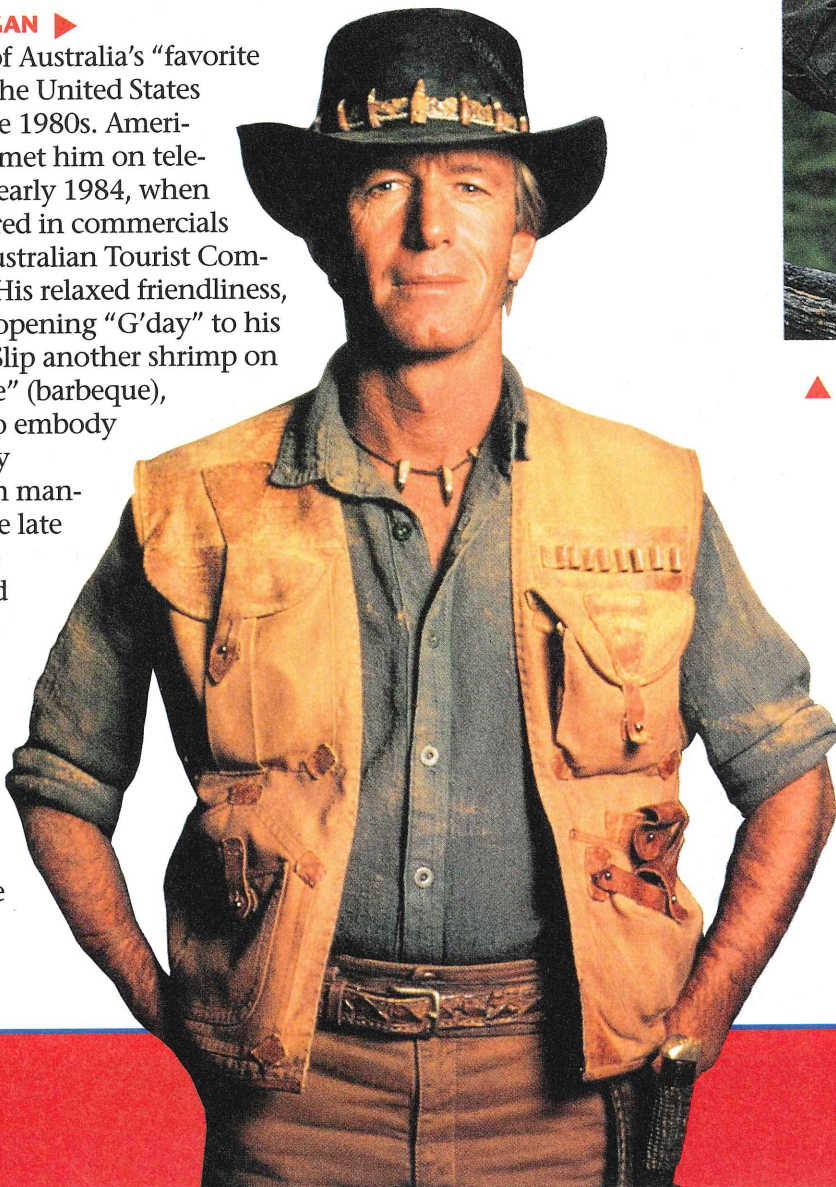
Connections to the United States

AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES

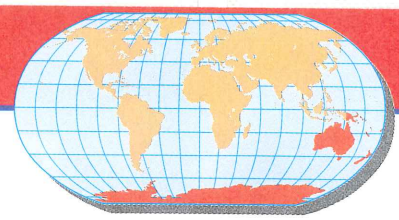
The American fascination with Australia and its people may stem from the undeniably intriguing animal and plant life, the striking similarity in national character and lifestyle, or the shared parentage with the United Kingdom. Whatever its cause, the fascination is real and has influenced American popular culture in several ways.

PAUL HOGAN ▶

was one of Australia's "favorite sons" in the United States during the 1980s. Americans first met him on television in early 1984, when he appeared in commercials for the Australian Tourist Commission. His relaxed friendliness, from his opening "G'day" to his closing "Slip another shrimp on the barbie" (barbeque), seemed to embody the breezy Australian manner. In the late 1980s, he wrote and starred in several movies about Australian outback hero Crocodile Dundee.



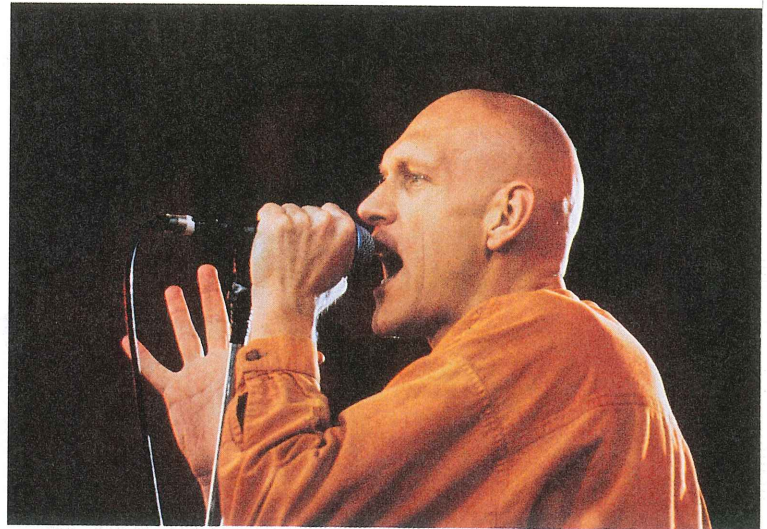
▲ **AUSTRALIAN CLOTHING** has been popular among Americans interested in hiking and other outdoor activities. Outback shorts or pants have pockets aplenty; some have pockets on pockets, some on the sides of the legs. Like the pockets of a kangaroo or a koala, the pants pockets have a hidden fold, so the pockets can expand to hold objects picked up on a trek.



◀ **AUSTRALIAN CINEMA** has thousands of American fans. Whether meeting a feisty heroine such as Muriel in “Muriel’s Wedding” or laid-back crocodile hunter Crocodile Dundee, Americans have come to appreciate Australian films.

AUSTRALIAN MUSICIANS ▶

have been great favorites, too, particularly since the mid-1970s and 1980s. During those years, Olivia Newton John and the BeeGees topped American pop charts continuously. In the 1990s, the group Midnight Oil used their musical talents to warn listeners of the consequences of destroying the earth’s environment.



▼ **THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY “DIGGER” HAT**

is also a popular item. The brim can be worn down all the way around to shed rain, or flipped up on one side, in the more traditional Australian style.



Checking for Understanding

1. In what areas of American culture has Australian influence made a mark?
2. **Movement** What signs of Australian influence can you find in your community? Why?

