

North Island and South Island. In contrast to the generally flat, dry landscape of Australia, New Zealand is mountainous and green. As in Australia, however, most New Zealanders live in urban areas along the coasts. About 70 percent of New Zealanders live on North Island, which has warmer weather, more rainfall, and fewer high mountains than South Island.

Resources. The coastal rims of both islands are fertile and have plenty of water. The sloping lands provide excellent pasture for sheep and cattle. Much of New Zealand's foreign earnings comes from exporting wool and meat. Many American markets sell frozen New Zealand lamb. New Zealand also exports vegetables, fruits, and grains. Many of these crops are grown on the Canterbury Plain of South Island.

New Zealand has limited mineral resources, with only small deposits of coal, natural gas, and gold. Because it has no oil resources, New Zealand has tried to develop sources of **geothermal energy**. This energy comes from heat that is released naturally in geysers, hot springs, and volcanoes.

SECTION 1 REVIEW

- Locate:** (a) Australia, (b) Western Plateau, (c) Great Dividing Range, (d) New Zealand, (e) North Island, (f) South Island.
- Identify:** Outback.
- Define:** geothermal energy.
- (a) How has location affected the development of Australia? (b) How has climate influenced population and economic patterns?
- List the major natural resources of Australia and New Zealand.
- Comparing** Describe two similarities and two differences between the geography of Australia and that of New Zealand.
- Writing Across Cultures** Write a letter to a sheep rancher in the interior of Australia asking for a summer job. Describe why you would like to visit the rugged interior of Australia.

2 GROWTH OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

FIND OUT

- How did Australia's location affect the Aborigines?
 What changes did Europeans bring to Australia and New Zealand?
 How have European ideas shaped the government and economies of Australia and New Zealand?
 What roles have Australia and New Zealand played in international affairs?
Vocabulary penal colony, suffrage, nuclear free zone

“**L**ook to the dawn, dark brother . . .
 Rise to the call of justice . . .
 Rise to the call of land right
 Rise to the blackman's song
 Rise to the blood-red dawn of truth
 At last to right the wrongs.”

Kevin Gilbert is an outspoken Aboriginal poet. In “Look, Koori,”* he urges Australia's Aboriginal people to take pride in their ancient heritage and demand justice from the government that denied them rights for so long.

The First Migrations

Australia was peopled by two waves of migrations. The first Australians arrived about 40,000 years ago, probably from Southeast Asia. They spread across the continent, where they lived in isolation from the rest of the

* When Europeans reached Australia, they called the dark-skinned people they met Aborigines, which means the earliest people to live in a place. Today, many Aborigines call themselves Kooris.

Aboriginal Art The art of Australian Aborigines often combines colorful realistic and abstract elements, as seen in this painting. Many Aboriginal paintings, drawings, and carvings also have religious meaning and are done as part of religious rites. **Culture** Why does the Aborigines' art often depict animals and other aspects of nature?



world. A little more than 200 years ago, a second wave of immigrants began to settle the continent, forcibly displacing the original inhabitants.

Adapting to the environment. The Aborigines were nomadic hunters and gatherers. Along the coastal rim and river valleys, they hunted small game and gathered berries, nuts, and eggs. Some learned to hunt and find water in the forbidding dry lands of the Outback.

The Aborigines lived in small groups and spoke as many as 250 distinct languages. While customs varied from one group to another, they had some common features. Aborigines felt a deep religious bond with nature. “We see all things natural as part of us,” explained a present-day Aborigine. “All the things on Earth we see as part human.”

The Aborigines had few material possessions, but they had a rich oral tradition that preserved their religious beliefs and explained how their ancestors created the world. According to tradition, long ago in “Dreamtime,” the ancestors of the Aborigines roamed the Earth, forming mountains, valleys, and rivers as well as plants and animals. Aboriginal artists have left records of these and other stories and dances on rock paintings and carvings. Today, Aborigines have adapted ancient artistic traditions to modern ideas and methods.

The Maoris of New Zealand. Compared with the Aborigines, the Maoris of New Zealand are relative newcomers. Their ancestors were seafaring people from Southeast Asia. About 800 years ago, these seafarers reached New Zealand in 100-foot-long ocean-going canoes.

Unlike the nomadic Aborigines, the Maoris were farmers who settled in villages. The center of village life was the *marae*. At this ceremonial gathering place, the Maoris celebrated religious occasions with song and dance. The Maoris decorated the marae with intricate woodcarvings. (See Connections With Literature, page 805, “Land of the Long White Cloud: Maori Myths, Tales and Legends.”)

The First European Settlers

In 1769, British explorer Captain James Cook landed in New Zealand. The next year, he explored the east coast of Australia and claimed the land for Britain.

The British first used Australia as a **penal colony**, a place where they could send people who had been convicted of crimes. In 1787, the first shipment of convicts set sail for Australia. The First Fleet, as it was later called, included 776 men, women, and children. More than 160,000 more would follow before the British



government ended its transportation policy in 1867. People were transported for a variety of crimes ranging from murder and robbery to stealing bread or failing to repay a debt.

Up Close

Condemned to Transportation

On a hot July day in 1784, a frightened boy stood before the judge in London's Old Bailey court. The government accused 14-year-old Marthew Everingham of stealing two books for the purpose of pawnning, or selling, them.

"The prisoner's defense?" asked the judge.

"I was in great distress," the defendant replied in a whisper.

"Guilty," the judge proclaimed. He sentenced the boy to seven years' transport to Australia.

Marthew was one of countless people trapped in the harsh poverty of Britain's growing cities. Some, like Marthew, turned to crime to survive. After his conviction, Marthew spent three years on a prison ship on the Thames River. Then, in June 1787, he was forced on board the ship *Scarborough*, part of the First Fleet. Packed into airless holds, many prisoners died on the brutal eight-month voyage to Australia.

When Marthew staggered ashore at Botany Bay, he faced a hard life as part of a work

gang. Despite hunger, illness, and brutal beatings by overseers, however, he held on to his hopes for the future.

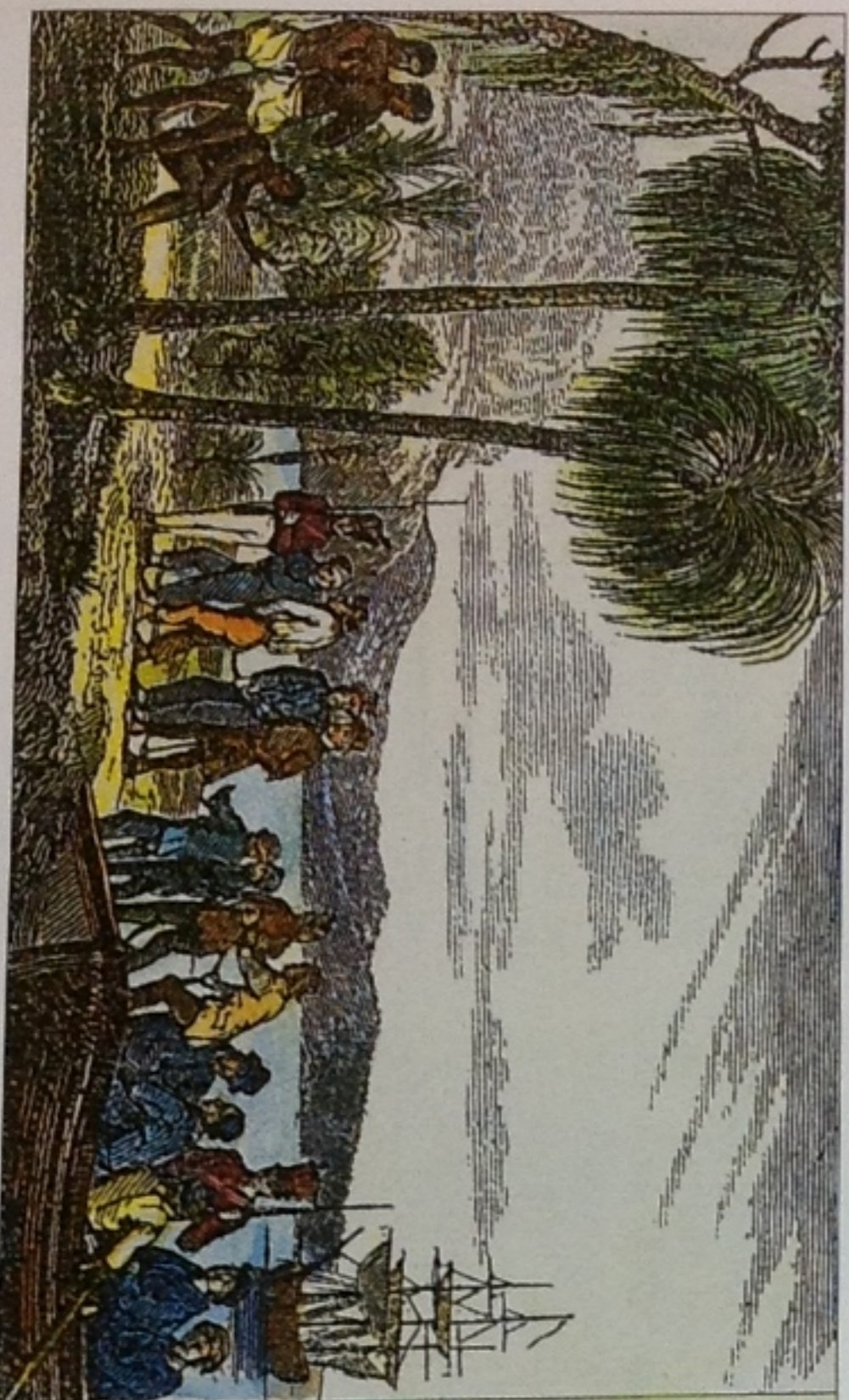
“I have now two years and seven months to remain a convict and then I am at liberty to act as a free-born Englishman ought to. . . . I am yet but young, only 19. If my health is spared, I shall not be one jot the worse for being transported.”

The next year, the Second Fleet brought 700 more convicts. Among them was 17-year-old Elizabeth Rimes, transported for stealing a blanket and a sheet. Within a year, she and Marthew married.

When Marthew's term of punishment ended, the couple decided to stay on in Australia as settlers. He and Elizabeth suffered incredible hardships. "The first six months," he wrote, "everything seemed to run against me. My crop failed. My daughter died, and my wife hung on my hands very ill."

Marthew and Elizabeth moved farther into the highlands. There, they farmed, and raised nine children in a rough hut. Despite floods and conflicts with Aborigines, they survived and prospered.

Today, more than 7,000 Australians, including an Aboriginal branch, trace their family roots to Marthew and Elizabeth Everingham. ■



Convicts Arriving

Beginning in the 1780s, Britain sent many convicts to Australia. It did this mainly to ease overcrowding in English prisons. The problem had become worse after the Revolutionary War, when Britain lost its American colonies, where it also had shipped convicts.

Citizenship Why are many Australians proud to trace their ancestry to convict immigrants?

Impact of European Settlement

During the 1800s, an increasing number of free men and women emigrated to Australia. Settlers fanned out along the eastern rim of the continent. Slowly, they learned to make the land productive. Many raised merino sheep, prized for their fine wool. On wide-scattered ranches in the Outback, settlers respected the frontier virtues of individualism and self-sufficiency.

The gold rush in 1851 brought tens of thousands of people to Australia. The eastern colonies of Victoria and New South Wales boomed. Many gold seekers stayed on to build farms and sheep ranches. Others tried their luck in new settlements on the west coast, around Perth. (See Connections With Literature, page 805, "The Boy in the Bush.")

An outpost of British culture. Most settlers who poured into Australia and later New Zealand came from Great Britain. They brought the English language to the new lands. They also transplanted British customs, holidays, and ideas about government. Despite vast distances, they maintained strong family and economic ties to Britain.

Impact on the Aborigines. British colonization spelled disaster for the Aborigines. Their Stone Age weapons were no match for European military technology. The newcomers drove the Aborigines off the best lands and into the arid interior. Many Aborigines were forced to work on white-owned sheep ranches. About 10,000 Aborigines died in wars. Many more died from European diseases such as smallpox and measles.

Until recently, many white Australians looked down on the Aborigines. In her autobiography, *My Place*, Sally Morgan, who is part Aborigine, related a conversation with a white woman at a bus stop.

“You're very beautiful, dear,” she said. “What nationality are you, Indian?”
“No,” I smiled, “I'm Aboriginal.”
“Oh you poor thing,” she said . . . “what are you going to do?”

Today, the remaining 200,000 Aborigines make up only about 1 percent of the

Australian population. Modern Aboriginal leaders and writers are struggling to protect their rights and preserve their rich heritage.

In New Zealand, the Maoris also lost their lives and land in wars with white settlers. By the 1870s, their numbers had shrunk from 250,000 to fewer than 50,000. Today, the population has recovered somewhat. Maoris are fighting in court to regain lands illegally taken by British settlers.

Political and Economic Development

By the mid-1800s, settlers in both Australia and New Zealand were calling for greater self-government. At first, Britain granted them some rights, but by the early 1900s, both nations had won complete independence. They kept close ties with Britain, and in time joined the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Democratic traditions. Australia and New Zealand set up governments that reflected European traditions of democracy. Both countries adapted British models, but they also borrowed ideas from the United States. Each developed a written constitution that set up a federal system of government. Power rests in the hands of a parliament, made up of a senate and a house of representatives. Members of the majority party in the parliament choose the prime minister, who is the chief executive. Australia and New Zealand have made their own contributions to democratic traditions. For example, Australia introduced the secret ballot. New Zealand and later Australia were also the first nations to grant women **suffrage**, or the right to vote.

Economic patterns. Economic interests link Australia and New Zealand to the world economy. As you have read, both nations export agricultural products such as wool, lamb, and beef. Australia is also the world's largest producer of coal, and it exports huge amounts of iron ore. It calls itself the “Quarry and Mine of the World.”

Most people in Australia and New Zealand enjoy a high standard of living, thanks in part to the widespread use of machinery in farming and mining. Success has

had its drawbacks, however. Overgrazing threatens some lands. Growing demands on scarce water resources create frequent pollution and stripped the land of many resources. Mining also threatens lands that the Aborigines hold sacred. In both nations, conservationists have taken active stands.

Regional and Global Issues

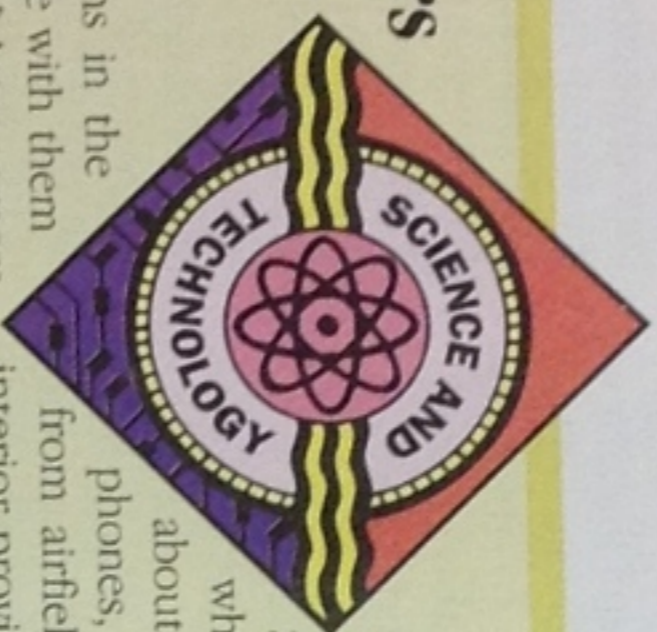
With their strong ties to Britain, both Australia and New Zealand joined the Allied powers in World War I and World War II. After 1945, however, British influence in the region as well as in the world declined. During the Cold War, both nations developed closer ties with the United States. Australian troops

helped battle communist forces in the Korean and Vietnam wars.

In recent years, Australia and New Zealand have worked more closely with their Pacific Rim neighbors. Both countries recognize their economic and political futures are linked to those of Asian nations. Japan, for example, is Australia's chief trading partner. Japan needs Australian mineral resources, while Australia benefits from Japanese investment.

Australia has helped Vietnam and other Southeast Asian nations to rebuild after many years of war. It has backed projects to promote regional cooperation and economic growth. Students in Australian high schools learn about Southeast Asian history and culture so that they can recognize the importance of that region to their lives.

Scanning the Stars From the Land “Down Under”



Are there other civilizations in the universe? Can we communicate with them or at least detect their presence? Astronomers hope to answer these and many more questions as they probe the universe. Their tool is a new and extremely powerful radio telescope called the Australia Telescope, or AT. The AT consists of a series of radio dishes spread out over 180 miles (290 km). The signals or waves collected at separate dishes are combined to produce a single image.



Australia, or the land “down under” the Equator, offers the best vantage point in the Southern Hemisphere from which to gather information about the universe. Far from cars, phones, electric motors, and radar from airfields, the vast, rugged Australian interior provides a perfect setting for the AT. The AT can collect data from 16 billion light-years away without interference. (One light-year equals 5.88 trillion miles.)

It is still too early to say what impact the AT will have. Currently, scientists are using the new telescope to study the radiation both in areas where stars are born and in areas where they are dying. They hope to learn how stars are formed. Astronomers are also collecting long-hidden facts about the workings of our own galaxy, the Milky Way. Aimed at the stars in distant galaxies, the AT also awaits a signal from other living beings.

1. Why is the Australian Outback an ideal place in which to build a radio telescope?
2. **Drawing Conclusions** Why do you think scientists want to find out more about distant parts of the universe?

Mining in Australia Minerals are one of Australia's major exports. Australian mines also produce nearly all of the world's finest opals—semiprecious stones used in jewelry. To strengthen its economy, the government requires that Australians own at least 50 percent of every mining operation. *Change* How did the gold rush of the 1850s affect Australia?



Immigration. For most of its history, Australia welcomed Europeans but excluded Asians and other nonwhite immigrants. The government has eased this policy somewhat. Many Asians have sought safety in Australia, including “boat people” from war-torn mainland Southeast Asia. Other immigrants have come from Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, and Indonesia. These newcomers are often skilled people seeking greater economic opportunities.

Nuclear tensions. New Zealand has declared itself a **nuclear free zone**, an area where nuclear weapons are banned. This policy created tensions with its longtime ally, the United States. New Zealand banned American warships armed with nuclear weapons from its harbors. As Cold War tensions eased during the 1990s, the United States removed nuclear weapons from its ships, ending the dispute.

SECTION 2 REVIEW

1. **Define:** (a) penal colony, (b) suffrage, (c) nuclear free zone.
2. (a) How did the Aborigines adapt to the Australian environment? (b) How did the Maoris live in New Zealand?
3. (a) How did Britain colonize Australia? (b) What effect did colonization have on the Aborigines?
4. How did Australia and New Zealand adapt British democratic traditions?

5. What ties have Australia and New Zealand developed with other nations?
6. **Drawing Conclusions** Why do you think the people of Australia and New Zealand came to prize individuality and democracy?
7. **Writing Across Cultures** Jot down arguments that you might give in a debate if you had to defend or criticize New Zealand's decision to ban American warships from its harbors.

OCEANIA— ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC

FIND OUT

How has geography influenced the peoples of Oceania?
What different traditions have shaped Pacific island cultures?
How have world events affected the peoples of Oceania?

Bellona is one of the thousands of islands that make up Oceania. On a map, it looks like a tiny dot in the South Pacific. For centuries,