



The Australian's Flag

Australia

CAPITAL : Canberra

PRIME MINISTER : Julia Gillard

POPULATION : 20 million



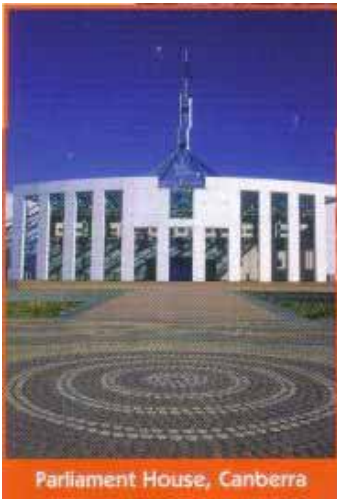
Workers on the Sydney Harbour Bridge. In front, you can see the Opera House.



Australia is an enormous country and continent. It is approximately the same size as the United States (minus Alaska). There are six states and two territories. The states and territories have capital cities, too (see map).



When it's winter in Europe, it's summer in Australia



Parliament House, Canberra



Many Australian animals are unique: koalas, kangaroos, wombats, platypus, dingoes and more!



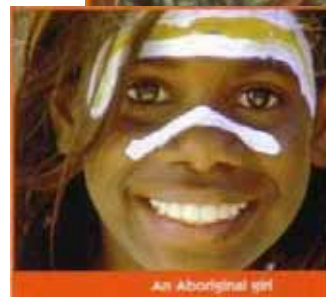
Kangaroos are marsupials.



Koalas eat eucalyptus leaves.



Aborigines were the first Australians. They arrived 40 million years ago. In 1788, Captain James Cook declared Australia British colony. Today, it is an independent nation. A quarter of the population are recent immigrants.



An Aboriginal girl