

Question 1:

Archaeological evidence indicates that Aboriginal people lived in the Illawarra for how many years before the arrival of the Europeans? **At least 30,000 years.**

Question 2:

Beside Aboriginals, which indigenous people inhabited Australia before Europeans arrived? **Torres Strait Islanders. (Both were known as *The First Nations of Australia*)**

Question 3:

What is Australia's capital city? **Canberra.**

Question 4:

How many people live in Australia today? **26 million.**

Question 5:

What is the nickname of Australia? **The Land Down Under. (It derives from the country's position in the Southern Hemisphere, near the antipodes of the United Kingdom.)**

The Land of the Free is the nickname of the US.

America's Hat is the nickname of Canada.

Old Blighty is the nickname of England. (The is commonly used as a term of endearment by the expatriate British community or those on holiday to refer to home and has an ironic connotation in its closeness to the English word "blight" meaning epidemic. It ironically refers to English imperialism.)

Question 6:

What do the stars represent on the Australian flag?

The 5 stars are name the Constellation of the Southern Cross and represent Australia's geographical position in the Southern Hemisphere.

The Commonwealth Star symbolizes the federation of States and Territories: it has 7 points, 6 represent the states and the seventh all the federal territories which together constitute the nation.

Question 7:

What kind of political system is Australia? (*cf. appendix Political System*)

- 1) A Federation
- 2) A constitutional monarchy
- 3) A representative democracy

Question 8:

When did the Europeans (the Dutch) first arrive? **1606**

Question 9:

Why is 26 January 1788 a significant date in Australian history? **The First Fleet landed in Sydney Cove and established the first permanent European settlement.**

Question 10:

In which year did the first free immigrants arrive in Australia from the UK? **1793**

Question 11:

New South Wales was originally used by Europeans as... **a land to send convicts (a penal colony)**

Question 12:

What was the name of the controversial policy that aimed to assimilate Indigenous Australians into mainstream society? **The Stolen Generation**

Question 13:

In which year did Australia become a federation and gain independence from Britain? **1901**

Question 14:

What is the significance of the 1967 referendum in relation to Australian independence? **It granted the Australian government the power to legislate for Indigenous Australians, removing discriminatory laws.**

Question 15:

When were aboriginals counted in the population? **1967 (It was done through a referendum that obtained 91% of yes votes)**

Question 16:

In which year did Australia gain complete legislative independence from the British Parliament?

Question 17:

Which act of the British Parliament granted Australia the power to amend its own Constitution without British involvement? **Australia Act (1986)**

Question 18:

What is the official national day of Australia that commemorates its independence? **Australia Day (January 26th)**

Why is Australia Day controversial today?

Question 19:

Indigenous Australians and supporters mourn what is seen as the invasion of the land – which they had occupied for millennia – by the British and the start of colonisation, protesting its celebration as a national holiday.

Question 20:

What happened in the 1999 Referendum? **Australians refused to become a Republic.**

To pass a referendum, the bill must achieve a double majority: a majority of those voting nationwide, as well as separate majorities in a majority of states (ex: 4 out of 6).

Question 21:

What was the 2023 Voice Referendum about?

It was about whether or not there should be amendments to the constitution to enshrine an Indigenous Voice to Parliament, that is to say a formal body for Indigenous people to give advice on laws.