

Focus Area 4: Australia in its regional and global contexts

## Australia's regional and global links



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# Overview

*Australia's regional and global links* investigates the ways that Australia interacts with other countries.

You have the opportunity to learn about:

- Australia's connections with other countries
- some of the agreements and treaties between Australia and other countries

You have the opportunity to learn to:

- collect information from a range of sources
- make notes
- create a media portfolio.

## Outcomes

By completing the activities and exercises in this unit, you are working towards achieving the following outcomes.

- 5.1 identifies, gathers and evaluates geographical information
- 5.2 analyses, organises and synthesises geographical information
- 5.3 selects and uses appropriate written, oral and graphic forms to communicate geographical information
- 5.9 explains Australia's links with other countries and its role in the global community

Source: Adapted from outcomes of the *NSW Geography Years 7–10 syllabus*  
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# Resources

Resources used in this unit are:

- newspapers, magazines, Internet websites, radio and television commentary.
- scissors and paste for the exercises at the end of the first section.

## Icons

Here is an explanation of the icons used in this unit.



Write a response or responses as part of an activity. An answer is provided so that you can check your progress.



Compare your response for an activity with the one in the suggested answers section.



Complete an exercise in the exercises section that will be returned to your teacher.



Think about information or ideas. You need to pause and reflect. You may need to make notes.

---

# Glossary

The following words, listed here with their meanings, are found in the learning material in this unit. They appear in bold the first time they occur in the learning material.

Term	Definition
<b>aid</b>	the assistance provided by a government to other countries. It can include goods, food and expertise.
<b>asylum seekers</b>	people seeking protection because of fear for their lives or loss of freedom in their home country. There is no legal definition.
<b>bilateral</b>	an adjective describing agreements and treaties between two countries.
<b>bilateral aid</b>	monetary or other assistance between two countries
<b>bilateral treaty</b>	an agreement between two countries
<b>culture</b>	the beliefs, attitudes, language, food, customs, dress and other features that make a group identifiable
<b>defence</b>	the men and women in the military such as the army, navy and air force that protect Australia
<b>developed countries</b>	nations such as the US, UK, Japan and Australia which have a highly developed industrial sector and a high proportion of the population living in urban areas
<b>developing countries</b>	nations such as Indonesia, Malaysia, India and Argentina where industrial development is continuing and most of the population still lives in rural areas
<b>donor</b>	the country giving aid
<b>economic</b>	the description of matters to do with the ways people, countries and businesses make an income
<b>emergency aid</b>	urgent assistance provided after an incident such as a fire, earthquake or famine
<b>emigrant</b>	a person who leaves the place where they were born for another country
<b>emigration</b>	the process of people leaving one country to live in another

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<b>flow</b>	the movement of people, information, goods and services between different locations
<b>food aid</b>	assistance in the form of milk powders or cattle or vegetables
<b>geopolitical</b>	an adjective that describes links that have political and geographic advantage due to location. Eg Australia tries to keep on good terms with New Zealand, the island nations of the Pacific, New Guinea, East Timor and Indonesia because these countries are close to Australia and Australia is safer if they are friendly.
<b>GNP</b>	acronym for Gross National Product. GNP is a measure of the wealth of individual countries.
<b>humanitarian</b>	a description of issues or reasons that include concern for the welfare of people
<b>illegal migrants</b>	persons moving from or into a new country without official permission
<b>immigrant</b>	a person who travels to live in another country for an extended period of time
<b>immigration</b>	the process of persons entering a country with the intention of living there for an extended period of time
<b>link</b>	an interaction or connection that Australia has with other countries through agreements related to aid, communications, defence, culture, migration, tourism, trade and sport.
<b>media</b>	plural for different mediums of communication such as television, radio, newspapers and journals
<b>migrants</b>	people who leave one country to settle permanently in another
<b>migrate</b>	the verb from migration, meaning to move within a country or from one country to another
<b>migration</b>	the movement of people from one area to another. It may be permanent (a long-term move) or temporary (for a short time such as a year or two).
<b>MNC</b>	acronym for multinational corporation
<b>monetary aid</b>	assistance in the form of money

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<b>multilateral</b>	an adjective describing agreements and treaties between more than two countries.
<b>multinational corporation</b>	a large business that operates across national boundaries; also called MNC or transnational (TNC)
<b>NGOs</b>	the abbreviation for (NGOs) Non-Government Organisations. These are often charities and exist on donations, subscriptions and voluntary labour.
<b>poverty</b>	the noun for being poor
<b>pull factors</b>	the features that attract migrants or refugees to another place
<b>push factors</b>	the events or circumstances that make people want to leave a place
<b>recipient</b>	the person or country receiving aid
<b>refugees</b>	persons who are unable to live in their home country because of civil war, natural disasters or persecution
<b>security</b>	the safety of a person or country from attack
<b>signatory</b>	someone who has signed and is bound by a treaty or other document
<b>technical aid</b>	assistance through the provision of experts
<b>technology</b>	the science of engineering and machines
<b>‘tied’ aid</b>	assistance for specified projects such as setting up health clinics or building a school
<b>trade</b>	the sale and exchange of goods and services between countries
<b>trading bloc</b>	a group of nations that act in unison (as one) on trade, favouring member nations ahead of outsiders
<b>‘untied’ aid</b>	assistance that can be used however a country chooses to use it
<b>webquest</b>	a strategy for investigating a topic using information collected via the Internet and other sources



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# Bibliography

Australian Department of the Environment and Heritage website at:  
<http://www.deh.gov.au/heritage/worldheritage>

Links to Australian and international newspapers, some radio and television program at:  
<http://hsc.csu.edu.au/pta/gtansw/links/media.htm>

National Library of Australia Australian newspapers online at:  
<http://www.nla.gov.au/npapers/>

Worldwide Online Newspapers at:  
<http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/>  
(SBS World Guide)

Key facts about every country in the world, including membership of different international organisations, agreements and treaties at:  
<http://www.theworldnews.com.au/Worldguide/index.php3?country=103>

All viewed 19<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

Australia's regional and global links

# Australia's interactions with other nations



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# Australia's interactions with other nations

## Introduction

Imagine life without television, radio, telephones, the Internet and magazines. It would be very different! You wouldn't know about lots of things happening in the world — the latest movies and their stars, concerts and performers, the latest video games, sports events and elite athletes, natural disasters and wars.

We take this information and many of these international connections and interactions with other countries for granted.

In Australia's regional and global links we investigate the ways in which Australia interacts with other countries and you get the opportunity to communicate your findings.

## The regional and global context

Australia's region is the Asia-Pacific and the global context is the world.

This has real significance for Australia. During early white settlement interactions were mainly with Britain, unlike later years, when Australia developed more connections with the USA and Europe.

At the beginning of the twenty-first century, Australia's attention is focused on neighbouring nations: the countries of Asia and the island nations of the Pacific. Australia also has strong links with the USA.

## Links and flows

**Links** and **flows**. These two words will recur repeatedly throughout this unit so make sure you know what they mean.

'Links' are the connections that Australia has with other countries.

Australia exports steel products, coal and wheat to various countries in the Asia-Pacific and other parts of the world. This is a trade link.

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Communications networks are another link. Telephones, fax machines, emails, mobile phones and the Internet link Australia to the world.

Transport is another link. People travel between countries for leisure, sport and business. Some move to re-settle permanently in new countries.

Every time there is a link, there are also flows of people, goods, ideas and expertise.

In the trade examples just provided, the flows are goods. With communications, the flows are information and ideas. With leisure, sport and business links, the flows can be people, goods and expertise.

Associated with these links are flows of people, goods and services. People may travel between countries for leisure, sport or business. Some move to re-settle permanently in new countries.

Goods such as cars, televisions, mobile phones and food flow between countries as part of international trade.

Services such as business expertise flow via Internet and satellite communications as well as through business people. For example, in 2006 many of the operators for Australian call centres are answering the telephones and responding to your complaints from India. People buy items from all over the world using online shopping websites.

Basically we are interested in how Australia 'fits' into today's world. What you see and hear on television, on the radio and in the newspapers provides much of the source material.

## More terms

There are some more terms that you need to know.

'Nature' refers to the type of link, for example, trade, defence, aid or sport.

'Formal' means the link is a signed, legally-binding agreement that can be tested in a court of law. For example, Australia has signed the United Nations agreements that have required our government to protect World Heritage sites.

'Informal' refers to something more casual such as many Australians travelling to visit the United Kingdom because they have relatives there. This is an informal cultural link.

'**Bilateral**' agreements are between two countries.

'**Multilateral**' agreements are between more than two countries.

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The nature of the links refers to the type of link. For example, it could be trade or aid. It could be a formal link such as a signed, legally-binding agreement, or informal such as many Australians travelling to visit relatives in the United Kingdom. They could be bilateral agreements, that is, between two countries or multilateral, meaning between more than two countries.

## Your task

Exercises 1 to 4 give you some practice finding and organising data about Australia's links. Your main task in Exercise 6 is to create a **media** portfolio. A media portfolio is a collection of articles and references to stories in the news. They can be organised by topic and provide you with an update of what's happening currently within an area of interest as well as a range of opinions or viewpoints on that topic.

You could have newspaper articles, and notes of reports of radio or television programs that mention all different ways that Australia interacts with other countries.

You can:

- collect data from media sources such as newspapers and the Internet
- organise data that describes Australia's links with other countries
- map selected links between Australia and other countries
- present the data in a media portfolio.

Once you start paying attention to what's happening in the news, you will become more aware of just how many countries Australia interacts with on a regular basis.



Go to the exercises beginning on the following page.

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# Exercises

## Exercise 1 – Explain the meaning

Use the lines provided to explain what is meant by ‘Australia in its regional and global context’.

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## Exercise 2 – A simple survey

Let's survey what countries are mentioned in the news and the issues that are reported.

Choose:

- a newspaper (local, state or national)

OR

- a television program guide

OR

- a news program on television or the radio.

For one week, keep a tally of the countries and the issues in the news and record your findings in the table on the next page.

For example, Australia may be mentioned twice in relation to a trade treaty with Japan. Record this with two vertical strokes. (Five mentions would be recorded with 4 vertical strokes and 1 diagonal).

Note: The circulation tells us how many people buy a newspaper. It is usually written on the front page near the title. Information about the areas where the newspaper or guide is sold is usually within the first couple of pages. If you are watching a television program or listening to a radio station, the station identification may give you clues as to how far the channel broadcasts, otherwise an adult may be able to help you.

Begin your tally. (use extra paper if you need to.)

<b>Name of news source:</b> _____ <b>Week from:</b> _____ <b>to</b> _____ <b>Area of circulation:</b> _____ <b>Circulation no.:</b> _____		
<b>Country</b>	<b>No. of mentions</b>	<b>Issue</b>
Australia		Trade with Japan
USA		

From your survey, which country, apart from Australia, was mentioned most frequently?

\_\_\_\_\_

From your own knowledge, is the country you wrote above a **developed** or **developing** country?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[illegible][illegible]

If you wanted another country's perspective on Australia's international involvement, which of the following would be most useful? Explain why.

Tick your answers.

- |   |                             |   |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
|  | CNN.com/WORLD               | An American news channel  |
|  | Time Australia              | The Australian version of an American magazine                        |
|  | The International Guardian  | A European-based newspaper with news from Europe and around the world |
|  | The Age                     | An Australian newspaper   |
|  | Australian Financial Review | An Australian newspaper with special focus on business and finance    |
|  | Sydney Morning Herald       | A Sydney-based newspaper  |

[illegible]

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## Exercise 3 – Select and organise geographical information

You will need a pair of scissors and paste for this exercise. Find the section called ‘Selected data’ on the following pages.

It has selected data about Australia’s links with other countries. The data includes statements, quotes, statistics, maps and tables presented in random order.

Also find the page of headings following Selected data:

- General comments
- aid
- communications
- culture
- defence
- migration
- tourism
- trade
- sport
- other.

Your task is to select the data that relates to the link identified in each heading and to organise it by pasting it onto the page with the appropriate heading.

Here’s how:

- Cut out the headings, glue each one on a separate sheet of paper and spread them out. Think about the types of links that could belong to each heading.
- Cut out each box of data from the Selected data pages.
- Match the data with appropriate link. For example, ‘Athletes from over 220 countries and territories, including Australia, were involved in the Athens Olympic Games’ describes a sport link. It can be grouped with other data on the ‘sport’ page.
- Within each link, organise the data in an appropriate sequence, from general statements to more detailed information such as statistics and examples of links.
- When you are happy with your selections, paste the selected data under the appropriate links.

Begin when you are ready.

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## Selected data

Australia has many interactions with other countries in the Asia-Pacific region and throughout the world. These links include communications such as through the Internet, telephone and satellite connections and flows of people, information and goods through business and trade.

APEC is the organisation for Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation.

### APEC member countries

Australia	Republic of Korea	Russia
Brunei	Malaysia	Singapore
Canada	Mexico	Taipei (China)
Chile	New Zealand	Thailand
China	Papua New Guinea	USA
Indonesia	Peru	Vietnam
Japan	Philippines	

ASEAN acts as a **trading bloc** where the member nations favour each other in the exchange of goods and services.

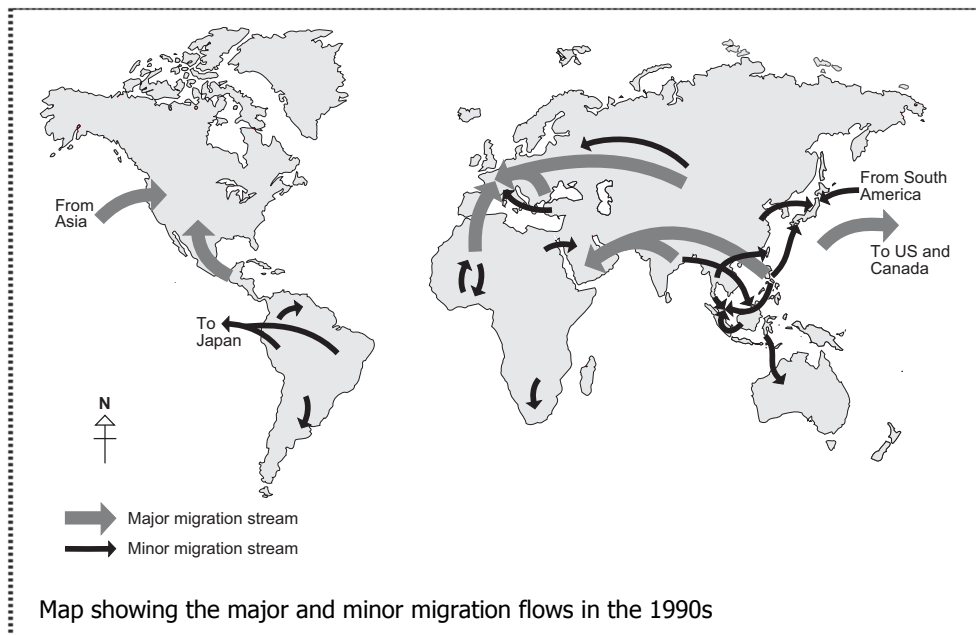
With international migration, the links are more than just the people moving between countries. Migration includes the language, beliefs, skills, talents and wealth that are part of migrants' experience and which create on-going connections between Australia and the countries of their birth.

Every day, Australians use communications networks such as the Internet, and satellite links to connect to other countries.

Australia signed the United Nations Convention on Refugees in 1951. This agreement means that Australia is bound by international law to accept refugees. Australia has also signed the Law of the Sea Convention in which international vessels are required to assist other ships in distress.

Non-Government Organisations (**NGOs**) play an important role in aid. These organisations such as *Care Australia*, *Amnesty International* and *Oxfam International* exist through donations, subscriptions and membership fees. They can organise fund-raising among Australians and the distribution of food and clothing to countries disrupted by wars and natural disasters. They also lobby governments for support.

When an agreement is between more than two countries, it is called a **multilateral** agreement. Most countries are signatories to both bilateral and multilateral agreements, on a range of different issues from trade to defence to human rights.



APEC members discuss trade, investment and factors affecting economic stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Royal Australian Navy sends ships and crews to defence exercises with navies from other countries such as Japan, South Korea, Singapore and the USA.

Due to satellite links, an estimated 3.7 billion people watched the Sydney Olympic Games on television and the Internet.

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Athletes from over 220 countries and territories were involved in the Athens Olympic Games.

Aeroplanes, cars, trains and ships can move people long distances over land and sea.

Phones, emails and faxes, audio conferences (where participants hear each other) or video conferences (where participants hear and see each other) mean people can interact in real-time.

ANZUS began as a multilateral agreement but is now between Australia and the USA for defence and Australia and New Zealand for trade.

In 1997–98, international tourists to Australia consumed \$12.8 billion worth of goods and services.

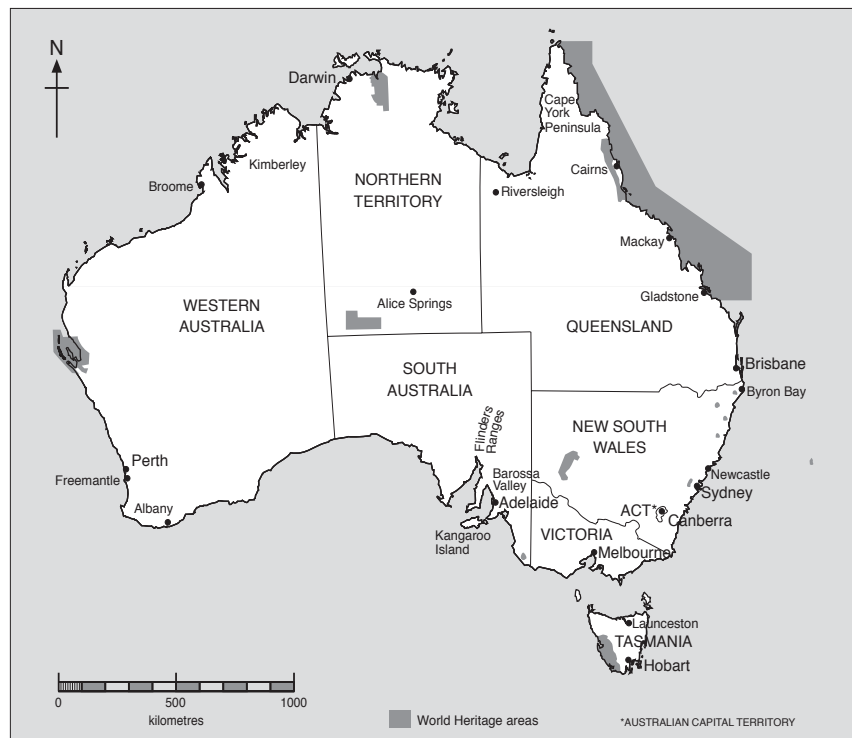
In 2001 there were 4.8 million international visitors to Australia.

The UN declared 2002 as the International Year of Ecotourism as a way of promoting environmentally-friendly tourism practices worldwide.

Aid can be in the form of money, expertise, workers, and equipment such as farm machinery.

The goods, information and people that move between places are flows.





World Heritage areas in Australia

Some social scientists regard the influence of the media and particularly American-based multinationals such as *McDonald's*, *Coca-Cola*, *Disney*, *Nike* and *MTV*, as an attack on the lifestyle and unique identity of individual countries. Through multinationals such as these, Australian culture has become 'Americanised'.

---

The Federal government supports aid agencies such as *CARE Australia* and *Oxfam Community Aid Abroad* because these funnel funds to local projects in overseas countries. This has proven to be a more reliable way of getting funds to the people in need, unlike giving funds to overseas governments which sometimes use them for their armies.

Monetary aid is often distributed through NGOs that are close to the people in need. Other aid is given in conjunction with other governments, Australian companies, the United Nations and NGOs.

Worldwide, approximately 3 million people **migrate** each year. About 1.2 million arrive in developed countries, among them, Australia.

In 2002-03, Australia contributed 0.25% of **GNP** as aid to developing countries. When tax deductions to individuals offering donations is added, this amounts to 0.44% of GNP (dfat).

Aid is generally channelled through NGOs, other governments, Australian companies and the United Nations.

The Australian government provides aid mostly to countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Australia also supports free trade so that all developing countries can sell their produce in global markets.

ANZUS was formerly a defence link between Australia, NZ and the USA. It is now between just Australia and NZ.

Australian culture now reflects global influences as well as the diversity of cultures and cultural practices brought to Australia by migrants.

International travel is made possible by the international transport and communications networks and the relative wealth of many millions of people. Worldwide, it has become a multi-billion dollar industry.

As a relatively small country, Australia does not have a big influence in world affairs yet it is very much affected by what is happening in the region and the world. By aligning itself with other countries, it is hoping to gain more influence, more favourable terms of trade, and assistance in times of conflict.

---

Since the terrorist attacks of 2001 and 2002, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has nominated security in the Asia-Pacific region as a priority. As a result, Australia has re-affirmed its defence link with the USA under the ANZUS agreement.

Japan remains as Australia's most important trading partner and East Asia and South America have very large potential markets for information **technology** and computers.

Australia has signed international agreements on everything from human rights to the protection of wilderness areas. Treaties and regional and global agreements mean that Australia is able to influence economic, defence and environmental decisions beyond what one would expect for a country with a relatively small population. Bilateral and multilateral arrangements mean that Australia has support in a world where issues are beyond the ability of one nation alone to solve.

The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAid) lists 49 countries as least developed. These countries have been identified by the UN as worthy of international aid.

Sustainability is an issue for everyone. It arose out of the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 and was confirmed at the follow-up meeting in Johannesburg in 2002. *Agenda 21* is the programme all nations need to adopt for the twenty-first century.

Currently there is a bilateral trade agreement between Australia and Japan.

ASEAN is the Association of South-East Asian Nations and includes Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Australia has an international reputation for producing top athletes in a range of sports that includes cricket, swimming, tennis, golf, football and motorcycling. Our athletes compete in regional and world championships on a regular basis.

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Australia's regional and global links

General comments

Aid

Communications

Culture

Defence

Migration

Tourism

Trade

Sport

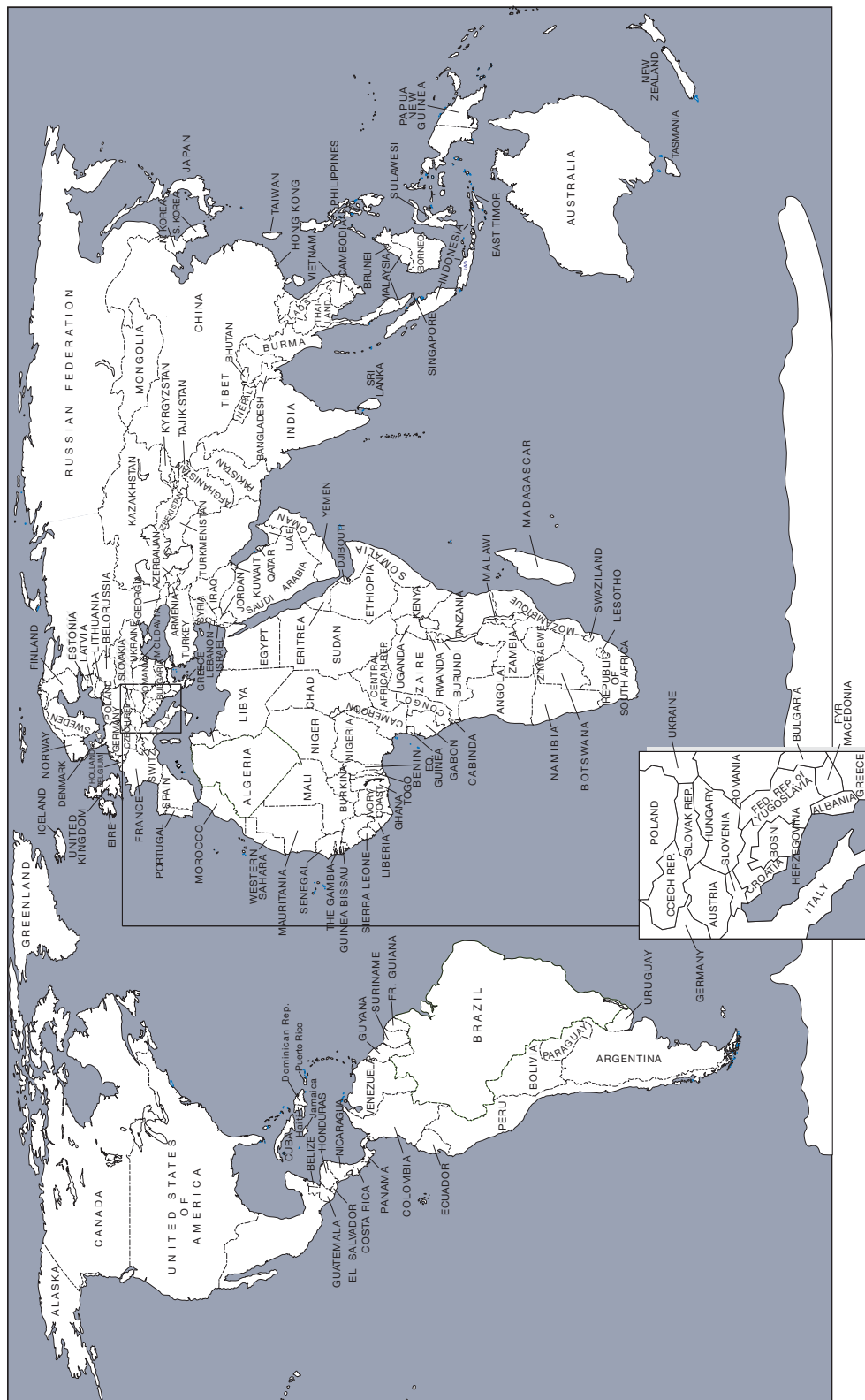
Other

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## Exercise 4 – Map work

On the map provided:

- create a key by drawing suitable symbols to identify at least five different links, (such as trade, aid, defence).
- locate and circle some of the countries Australia has links with
- link Australia and these countries with arrows
- include a suitable title.



World Map

---

## Exercise 5 – Meaning from context

Often we can work out the meaning of unfamiliar words from the words around them. That is, from their context.

Let's see if you can work out the meaning of the words that are underlined in the extracts on the following pages.

Tick the correct alternative for the words underlined in the extracts and presented here in a to g:

a 'across national boundaries' means

- ☐ across borders between countries
- ☐ within single countries or nations

---

b 'least-cost location' means

- ☐ cheaper block of land
- ☐ the location where a firm can produce goods at the lowest cost.

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c 'capital is mobile' means

- ☐ money can flow freely across the world
- ☐ capital cities can change.

---

d '**multinational corporations**' are

- ☐ companies with workers from all different countries
- ☐ companies which operate across national boundaries.

---

e 'unable to integrate' means

- ☐ not able to complete maths functions
  - ☐ not able to merge or interact
-

- 
- f 'promoting and protecting human rights' means
- ☐ encouraging and ensuring that the basic treatment of people is fair and just
  - ☐ encouraging and ensuring that people can do as they choose without restriction
- 
- g 'underpins Australia's broader security and economic interests' means
- ☐ is a way of making sure that Australia is protected
  - ☐ is a way of making sure that Australia is safe and businesses are doing well
- 

## Extracts

'Companies operating across national boundaries are able to seek out the least-cost locations for producing their goods, and sell where they will pick up the highest prices.'

Source: A British businessman

'Capital is mobile and can be used to negotiate where companies will locate.'

Source: Adapted from an address by Klaus Gretschmann,  
Director-General, Council of the European Union, Brussels

'Increasingly, the governments of individual countries have less power internationally. Democratic decision-making, where individuals have a say in how they are governed, is also being undermined by the power of multinational corporations and a small group of wealthy nations.'

Source: Geography teacher

'The gap between rich and poor is growing larger and 2 billion people live in countries which are unable to integrate into the world economy.'

Source: Adapted from an address by Trevor Manuel, Minister of  
Finance, South Africa

'...the treatment of individuals is of itself a matter of concern to Australians and...promoting and protecting human rights underpins Australia's broader **security** and **economic** interests.'

Source: From the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website at  
[http://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/australia/aus\\_world.html](http://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/australia/aus_world.html)



Check your choices using the suggested answers on the following page.



---

## Suggested answers

- ‘Across national boundaries’ means across borders between countries.
- ‘Least-cost location’ means the location where a firm can produce goods at the lowest cost.
- ‘Capital is mobile’ means that money can flow freely across the world.
- ‘Multinational corporations’ are companies which have headquarters and operations in different countries.
- ‘Unable to integrate’ means not able to merge or join together.
- ‘Promoting and protecting human rights’ means encouraging and ensuring that the basic treatment of people is fair and just.
- ‘Underpins Australia’s broader security and economic interests’ means that it is a way of making sure Australia is safe and businesses are doing well.
- ‘Poverty in a world of plenty’ means being poor in a world where everyone else is rich.
- ‘Is ethically, politically and economically indefensible’ means it is not something anyone can agree with for reasons of right or wrong, politics or business.

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## Exercise 6 – A media portfolio

Over the course of two to three weeks, look for articles that provide evidence of Australia's links with other countries and store them in your own media portfolio.

Try to find at least five articles about different links. They can be from local, state, national and international newspapers.

The links you are looking for include:

- **aid** (donations of food, money, clothing or equipment to another country disrupted by war, famine, cyclones or floods)
- communications (the Internet, satellites, email, telephone and mobile phone links)
- **culture** (Australian TV programs shown in overseas countries, Australian actors, musicians and other entertainers working overseas, educational, art, language and other programs shared with other countries)
- **defence** (Australian troops serving overseas, treaties or agreements with other countries)
- **migration (migrants, refugees and asylum seekers** entering Australia)
- tourism (Australians travelling overseas, others travelling to Australia)
- **trade** (Australian produce and goods sold overseas and foreign goods imported into Australia)
- sport (Australian athletes travelling overseas for competitions such as Wimbledon, Pan-Pac Games, Olympics and World Cups)

Your interest is the geographic and civics and citizenship perspectives.

That is,

- What links does Australia have with other countries?
- What are the names of these other countries?
- Where are these countries located?

---

Write the name of the news source, the date and the page number on each article and store them in a plastic sleeve until you are ready to use them.

Use the lines below to tell your teacher which news sources you will be using. If you have difficulty accessing newspapers, tell your teacher here.

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Return the media portfolio to your teacher after two to three weeks.

Australia's regional and global links

## Case study: Australian aid



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Hyland, Tom and Murdoch, Lindsay (2002) "*Brave new nation*", *Sydney Morning Herald News Review*, May 18-19, pp 33, 36.

Pages 15, 16

Photograph of Timorese children, ©Lara Mckinley/OxfamAUS  
www.caa.au/world/asia/east\_timor

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# Overview

*Case study: Australian aid* investigates the ways in which Australia supports the development of other countries through international aid.

Students are asked to complete an inquiry-based research task (**WebQuest**) to investigate aid to East Timor, the world's newest nation.

## Outcomes

By the end of this unit you'll be able to:

- identify, gather and evaluate geographical information
- analyse, organise and synthesise geographical information
- select and use appropriate written and graphic forms to communicate geographical information
- analyse the impact of different perspectives on geographical issues at local, national and global scales
- explain Australia's links with other countries and its role in the global community
- apply geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to demonstrate informed citizenship.

By learning to:

- use geographic terms to explain Australia's international aid policies
- 'unpack' information in a paragraph using the strategy of visualisation
- 'unpack' information in an article using the strategies of seeking meaning from context, focusing on key information through short questions and answers, and highlighting word groups
- conduct a WebQuest to investigate Australia's aid to East Timor
- create a presentation containing geographic information in appropriate written, oral or graphic form.

Source      Adapted from outcomes of the *NSW Geography Years 7-10 syllabus*  
<[www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/)  
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# Icons



When you see this icon you will be able to check your own answers. Always read the answers after you have completed the activity.



Complete an exercise that will be returned to your teacher.



Write a response or responses as part of an activity. An answer is provided so that you can check your progress.



You are being asked to look at something more closely. There will be an instruction if you are to write or read.



---

# Glossary

Term	Meaning
aid	the assistance provided by a government to other countries. It can include goods, food and expertise.
bilateral aid	monetary or other assistance provided by one country to another
developing country	a nation such as Indonesia, India or Argentina where industrial development is continuing and most of the population still lives in rural areas
donor country	the country giving aid
emergency aid	urgent assistance provided after an incident such as a fire, earthquake or famine
food aid	assistance in the form of milk powders or cattle or vegetables
monetary aid	assistance in the form of funds
multilateral aid	monetary or other assistance provided by a number of countries, often through an international organisation such as the UN
recipient	the person or country receiving aid
technical aid	assistance through the provision of experts
‘tied’ aid	assistance given with conditions such as the requirement that the receiving country imports certain products from the donor country
‘untied’ aid	assistance given, free of conditions
WebQuest	a strategy for investigating a topic using information collected via the Internet and other sources

---

# Case study of a regional and global link: Aid

Do you remember the tsunami that caused widespread destruction in Asia in 2004? Do you remember the countries affected, or the names of the organisations that were involved in providing **aid**?

Many Australian students came together during the crisis to raise funds to help rebuild schools in tsunami-ravaged Sri Lanka, one of the worst affected areas in South East Asia.

Southern Sri Lanka was chosen because over 10,000 people from the region had died in the disaster and 176 schools had been listed as damaged. The funds were used to provide immediate assistance to the children, who in some cases had lost everything.

Natural disasters and disruption to people's lifestyles occur across the world every day. With modern-day communications, we often get to hear the stories within minutes after the events have taken place.

*Case study: Australian aid* investigates all aspects of Australia's aid programme.

- the countries involved
- the roles and actions of different levels of government
- the importance of non-government organisations (NGOs)
- treaties and agreements involved
- advantages and disadvantages of the link for Australia
- the implications for social justice and equity.

You will explore some of the ways in which Australia supports the development of other countries through international aid with a particular focus on East Timor which is a close neighbour of Australia.

## Useful references

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)  
<http://www.aciar.gov.au>

---

Australian government aid

<http://www.ausaid.gov.au>

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

<http://www.dfat.gov.au>

Global Education Project part of the Australian government's overseas aid program

[http:// www.globaleducation.edna.edu.au/globaled/page1.html](http://www.globaleducation.edna.edu.au/globaled/page1.html)

## What is aid?

Aid means assistance and it takes different forms. Sometimes it is **monetary** assistance which means that money (funds) is paid to the government or an organisation working in the other country. Sometimes it is expertise or workers. Sometimes it is equipment such as farm machinery.

## What types of aid are there?

There are different types of aid. Some of them are explained below.

Term	Definition
bilateral aid	monetary or other assistance provided by one country to another
multilateral aid	monetary or other assistance provided by a number of countries, often through an international organisation such as the UN
'tied' aid	assistance given with conditions such as the requirement that the receiving country imports certain products from the donor country
food aid	assistance in the form of milk powders or cattle or vegetables
'untied' aid	assistance given, free of conditions
technical aid	assistance through the provision of experts
monetary aid	assistance in the form of funds
emergency aid	urgent assistance provided after an incident such as a fire, earthquake or famine

Figure 1 Terms associated with aid

Monetary aid is often distributed through Non Government Organisations (NGOs) such as the International Red Cross and Oxfam because these organisations are close to the people. Other aid is given in conjunction with other governments, Australian companies, the United Nations and NGOs.

---

## What countries are eligible for aid?

The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAid) lists 49 countries as least developed. These countries have been identified by the UN as worthy **recipients** of international aid.

Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo (Dem. Rep), Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Haiti, Kiribati, Laos, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Is, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu, Yemen and Zambia.

Source Australian Agency for International Development (AusAid) at <http://www.aid.gov.au>

Australia also provides aid to countries on its borders, for **geopolitical** reasons, and others where special requests have come from aid agencies or organisations in Australia.

## What aid does Australia provide?

In 2004, more than 80% of Australian aid went to countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Worldwide, Australia provides aid to approximately 58 million people each year. That's almost three times Australia's population. Some of this aid is in the form of food. Other aid goes as agricultural equipment such as tractors and other machinery, or agricultural experts. Since 2001, Australia has also provided counter-terrorism training and support to countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

The table below provides examples of Australian aid, 2004-2005.

<b>Australian aid 2004-2005</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Total support to 135 countries; 0.25 percent of GNP	\$2 133.0 billion
Solomon Islands	\$28.0 million
Fiji	\$1.5 million
Papua New Guinea	\$366.6 million
5-year commitment to Australia-Indonesia partnership for Reconstruction and Development (AIPRD)	\$1.0 billion
To restore health, education and local government services in Aceh Province, Indonesia after devastation by tsunami	\$175.0 million
To build Indonesia's counter-terrorism capacity, over four years	\$10.0 million
To fight HIV/AIDS over six years, from 2001	\$200.0 million
To provide China with access to education and information through the Virtual Colombo Plan, over five years	\$200.0 million
Vietnam	\$73.7 million
The Philippines	\$62.2 million

Figure 2 Examples of overseas aid, 2004-2005

Source: AusAid and DFAT sites



### Activity 1

On the table in Figure 2, use a highlighter pen or underline the countries that Australia provided aid to in 2004-2005.

Which country received the most aid?

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#### Did you answer?

Solomon Islands, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, China, Vietnam and the Philippines.

Papua New Guinea received most aid from Australia

Answer True (T) or False (F) to the following.

- ☐ In 2004-2005, Papua New Guinea received approximately one-third of Australia's total aid budget.
- ☐ In 2004-2005, Papua New Guinea received approximately one-sixth of Australia's total aid budget.



#### Did you answer?

False  
True

---

# What is the role of government and NGOs?

The Federal Government makes most decisions regarding the amount and type of aid and the countries that will receive it. It does this by working closely with domestic and international aid agencies, the state and territory governments, charities and members of the public. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and other government departments then administer the aid programmes.

For example, as part of the aid relief to Sumatra after the 2004 tsunami, Australian defence forces

- evacuated injured persons to Australian hospitals for treatment
- set up a water purification plant
- established field hospitals
- provided medical, engineering and construction teams to assist with the re-building.

The Federal Government had to approve the use of the defence forces in this way.

State and territory governments often assist with fund-raising and consult with the Federal Government to have the aid distributed through reputable agencies and organisations.

Local government too was involved in collecting funds. These were distributed through the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) that consulted with the Australian Government and the international local government organisation, United Cities and Local Government. Funds for both East Timor and tsunami relief in South Asia have been distributed this way.

## Has aid changed over time?

The way in which aid is provided has changed over time.

In the 1970s, Australia's aid concentrated on assisting economic growth. It was thought that by providing funds, food, expertise and workers, the standard of living in the developing countries could be raised. However, the

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standard of living did not always improve, even though aid was provided. This was often because aid went to corrupt (dishonest) governments or the armed forces instead of the people in need.

By the 1990s, there was recognition that the protection of human rights and development go hand-in-hand. When money is invested into health and education, the people in a country produce more — in both agriculture and manufacturing.

The Federal Government supports aid agencies such as CARE Australia and Oxfam Community Aid Abroad because these NGOs funnel funds to local projects in overseas countries. This has proven to be a more reliable way of getting funds to the people, unlike giving funds to governments where it may or may not get to the people in need.

## Some treaties

Australia has signed a number of treaties related to aid. ‘Treaty’ is another name for ‘agreement’.

<b>Treaty</b>	<b>Terms</b>	<b>Year</b>
Food Aid Convention	Sets minimum food aid to be provided by member countries to developing countries	1999
Treaty on Development Co-operation between the government of Australia and government of Papua New Guinea	Budget support for the Papua New Guinea government Jointly managed aid. An estimated \$492.3 m to be spent in 2005-2006.	1999
Australia-Indonesia Partnership for Reconstruction and Development (AIPRD)	\$1 billion over five years to support construction and development in all areas of Indonesia	2005

Information from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website has lots more examples for you to look at, including stories of how aid is used in areas such as Bougainville, Vietnam, Afghanistan, the Solomon Islands and Bali.

The website is at: <http://www.aisaid.gov.au>

---

# Advantages to Australia

## What are the advantages for Australia?

There are many reasons why Australia provides aid to other countries. Some are socio-cultural, others are economic and some are geopolitical.

Geopolitical refers to ways that Australia can maintain or expand its influence over other countries or regions.

### *Socio-cultural*

Australia and Australians support other countries for humanitarian (compassionate) reasons, particularly in times of emergency. We see this every time there is a disaster and Australians are often among the first to donate to charities and aid organisations. The Commonwealth Government has also signed bilateral and multilateral agreements to provide assistance in times of emergency.

This means that Australia can also expect to receive aid from other countries when it has difficulties.

### *Economic*

Australia provides aid to help improve the quality of life of people in **developing countries**. With improvements in the average income Australian businesses can gain new business opportunities and new customers for their goods and services.

### *Geopolitical*

Aid links with other countries in the region and around the world build relationships for interactions in the future. These relationships are important when Australian government officials need to discuss diplomatic, trade, defence and other issues. Australian aid makes the Asia-Pacific region more stable, not just for Australia but other countries as well.

### *Environmental*

Australian companies can benefit from programmes in other countries which promote ecologically sustainable development. These programmes are a source of employment and business for Australian firms.



---

## What are some disadvantages for Australia?

Just as aid has advantages for Australia, there are also some disadvantages. You may be able to think of some yourself, but some might surprise you.

### *Social/cultural/environmental*

There are many examples of aid where the people most affected have not been included in the decision-making. Have you heard of copper mines in Bougainville and OK Tedi? These are in Papua New Guinea and have created serious environmental, health and well-being problems for the local communities. The involvement of Australian companies such as BHP in creating these problems has affected Australia's reputation overseas.

There is a risk that aid can be given to companies more interested in making money out of the aid projects than improving the quality of life for the people affected.

### *Economic*

Aid programmes fail when they are more concerned with providing opportunities for Australian businesses than in meeting the needs of communities.

Sometimes goods are more expensive than if provided by local firms.

Australian and international aid each year amounts to many millions of dollars and unfortunately, much money is used by corrupt (dishonest) leaders who use the funds for their own benefit or to support their private armies. As a result, the aid does not get to the people who need it. This was one of the messages that came out of the *Live 8* concerts organised by Sir Bob Geldof in 2005.

### *Geopolitical*

Aid can create dependence. For example, Australia is the main source of income for Papua New Guinea. Australia does this to help build the Papua New Guinea economy so it can eventually support itself.

A stable Papua New Guinea is important for Australia, primarily for defence reasons. However, Papua New Guinea needs to become independent of this aid one day and Australia is unable to provide aid indefinitely.

## Social justice and equity issues

Social justice and equity is about making sure that all individuals and groups within society receive fair and just treatment. Government and non-government organisations need to ensure that the aid they provide reaches those most in need, rather than the elites within a country.

---

# Aid to East Timor

East Timor is one of Australia's closest neighbours and is rich in oil resources. It is however lacking the most basic housing, roads and communications infrastructure. As a result, Australia provides aid to East Timor each year. However, there are claims that Australia has received almost ten times as much revenue from the Timor Sea as it has provided to East Timor since 1999.

Imagine you are a Youth Ambassador and you have been asked to speak on Australia's aid programme to East Timor. You begin your research and find the article below.

## 'Brave new nation'

Tom Hyland and Lindsay Murdoch report.

**Paragraph 1** The stage is set on the vast dusty plain at Tacitolu, a natural amphitheatre bounded by dry scrub-covered hills just west of Dili. Water pipes have been laid, power cables snake through the sand. Workers sweat in the sun building towers for speakers and lights. In the hills, charges are being set for a massive fireworks display.

**Paragraph 2** Dili harbour is cluttered with supply ships. The Thais have provided their royal yacht to accommodate VIPs. Dignitaries from 80 countries are coming, among them Bill Clinton, Kofi Annan and John Howard. Megawati Sukarnoputri will have a special place of honour.

**Paragraph 3** Our Lady of Fatima, or at least a statue of the Virgin Mary, has already arrived from Portugal and drawn thousands while carried in procession through villages and towns across the tiny territory. 'From the North Pole to the South Pole, they are coming to see Our Lady of Fatima,' one local said.

**Paragraph 4** History will be made at Tacitolu at midnight on Sunday when Annan, the UN Secretary-General, hands government to President-elect Xanana Gusmao and declares East Timor independent. Five minutes later the UN flag will be lowered and the red, black, white and yellow flag of East Timor raised on a 20-tonne cement pole. After three centuries of Portuguese colonial neglect, 24 years of Indonesian occupation and 2 years of UN administration, a new nation will be born.

**Paragraph 5** There's an unreal atmosphere in Dili. The bars and cafes are packed with foreign activists, consultants, contractors and journalists. In the beer garden of the Turismo Hotel, where Indonesian intelligence agents once loitered, the foreigners sip imported beers while the Corrs play on the sound system.

**Paragraph 6** But in the mountains west of Dili, there is hunger in the village of Pukelete where the only sign of the impending celebration is a tiny flag

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flying in the doorway of the village chief, Vasco Carvalho. His wife and eight children haven't eaten meat in a long time.

**Paragraph 7** In a country where almost half the people survive on less than \$A1 a day, Carvalho is often lucky to earn that much in a week from the beans and bananas he grows on the one-hectare farm he shares with an uncle. He would have to save every cent he earns for four years to spend one night in the floating hotel on Dili's foreshore where American GIs (soldiers), who will not talk about their mission, munch on steaks and spare ribs and barramundi.

**Paragraph 8** There is no health service in Pukelete. The nearest medical aid post is an eight-kilometre walk away, but there is no point in seeking help there. There is no doctor, no nurse, no medicine. A neighbour, just returned from more than two years in a West Timor refugee camp, lies at home, too sick to move. 'He can't go to town to the hospital,' says Carvalho, 'so we're just waiting for him to die.'

**Paragraph 9** Carvalho's three-year-old son, Salvador dos Santos, clings to his side, crying, dirty, half-naked, and coughing constantly. Carvalho's house is only partly rebuilt after much of the village was destroyed by militia (soldiers) early in 1999. Some walls are made of palm and plastic sheeting. One side has no walls at all. His eight children share two cane beds in a dirt floor shack. There is no electricity or running water. 'We poor people live like that,' he says.

**Paragraph 10** But Carvalho, 33, displays no self-pity. He speaks with dignity, pride and a restrained optimism. Maybe in the future he'll earn one or two dollars a week more. Materially, he says, he was better off in the Indonesian times, before 1999 when Jakarta's army withdrew, leaving death and ashes in its

wake. Even so, he says, 'now things are better, because we live by ourselves'.

**Paragraph 11** Villages like Pukelete and people like Carvalho have the most at stake as East Timor steps into the unknown. Three-quarters of the people live in rural areas and are the poorest in one of the world's poorest nations.

**Paragraph 12** 'Poverty is the biggest threat for creating internal dissent,' warns a departing UN official. 'The biggest issue for the new government has to be the economy and keeping the majority satisfied that their lives are going in the right direction. They have to see improvements in the way they live after all they've gone through.'

**Paragraph 13** Currently East Timor needs virtually everything—infrastructure, technology, training, capital and access to markets,' it said. Most public servants don't have the experience or training needed for their jobs; skilled workers and professionals are 'lacking in every sector of the economy'; education standards are among the poorest in the world; half the people can't read or write; 135 out of every 1000 babies die at birth; life expectancy is just 57 years. The list goes on.

**Paragraph 14** So far, the **donors** are staying engaged. This week they pledged \$US360 million (\$656 million) in new aid, on top of \$US81 million available through an international trust fund.

**Paragraph 15** In the long term, as donor generosity dries up, East Timor's economic hope lies in the oil and gas deposits of the Timor Sea. So far it has received \$US20 million from the Elang Kakatua fields. Much more will come when full production starts from the Bayu-Undan field in 2004, with East Timor expected to receive \$US3.2 billion over the 17-year life of the field. The World Bank believes that with oil and gas profits, East Timor will be self-sufficient by 2006.

Source: The Sydney Morning Herald, News review, 18-19 May, 2002, pages 33, 36.



## Activity 2

1 What is the source of this article?

---

2 When did it appear?

---

3 In two sentences, what is the article describing?

---

---

---



### Did you answer?

1 *The Sydney Morning Herald*, News Review.

2 18-19 May 2002

3 The article is describing the preparations in May 2002 when Annan, the UN Secretary General was to hand government to Xanana Gusmao and declare East Timor independent.



## Paragraphs 1 and 2

In your mind, try to picture what you are reading about: a vast, dusty plain with dry scrub-covered hills just west of Dili, the capital of East Timor. This is called 'visualising'.

Picture an outdoor space that is like an amphitheatre: a flat space with higher land on three sides just as you'd see at a theatre. Visualise the characters as they are introduced.

Imagine the anticipation of a performance about to begin.

## Paragraph 3

Name THREE places mentioned in the first two paragraphs.

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From the context, what do you think VIPs refers to?

- (A) very interesting people
- (B) very important people
- (C) voting in person
- (D) value in populations.



**Did you answer?**

Tacitolu, Dili and Dili Harbour

- (B) VIPs are very important people



From your own general knowledge, and through a process of elimination, match the countries and organisations with the leaders listed below. Answer the ones you know first, then make an informed guess with the ones that are left.

UK

USA

United Nations

European Union

Australia

Indonesia

World leaders, 2002	Country or organisation
1 Bill Clinton	
2 Kofi Annan	
3 John Howard	
4 Megawati Sukarnoputri	



**Did you answer?**

USA, United Nations, Australia, Indonesia



From your own knowledge, and the reference to Portugal and the Virgin Mary, what religion is important in East Timor?

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**Did you answer?**

Portugal has many Roman Catholics. Catholics pray before statues of the mother of Jesus, called the Virgin Mary.



### Paragraph 4

Complete this timeline:

Years	Governance
	Portuguese colonial neglect
	Indonesian occupation
	UN administration
	New, independent, democratic nation



#### Did you answer?

Three centuries

24 years, 2 years, 2002

### Paragraphs 6 to 12

List FOUR difficulties or challenges facing the East Timorese.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_



#### Did you answer?

Any FOUR of the following:

Hunger, income less than \$1 a day, no health services for many, homes made from whatever materials are available, no electricity, no running water.

### Paragraph 13

Complete the cloze passage that follows.

'Currently East Timor needs virtually everything – infrastructure, technology, training, capital and access to markets Most \_\_\_\_\_ don't have the experience or training needed for their jobs: skilled workers and \_\_\_\_\_ are 'lacking in every sector of the economy'; \_\_\_\_\_ standards are among the poorest in the world; half the people can't \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ ; 135 out of every 1000 babies die at birth; life expectancy is just \_\_\_\_\_ years. The list goes on.'



**Did you answer?**

In order: public servants, professionals, education, read, write, 57

***Paragraphs 14 and 15***

Name the THREE sources of income mentioned for East Timor.

---

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**Did you answer?**

Donors, oil deposits, gas deposits

***Paragraph 15***

Write the final sentence here.

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---

Tick the group of words which best describes the meaning of 'self-sufficient':

- ☐ able to survive without the support of other countries
- ☐ sufficient services for everyone.



**Did you answer?**

Able to survive without the support of other countries



Now it is time to complete the exercises as indicated by your teacher.  
When you have completed the exercises, return them to your teacher.

---

# Exercises – Australian Aid

## Exercise 1

Using a coloured pen or pencil, your previous learning, and what you understand from the words, match the terms to the definitions provided.

Term	Definition
Bilateral aid	urgent assistance provided after an incident such as a fire, earthquake or famine
Multilateral aid	assistance for specified projects
‘Tied’ aid	assistance in the form of funds
Food aid	assistance through the provision of experts
‘Untied’ aid	monetary or other assistance provided by one country to another
Technical aid	assistance in the form of milk powders or cattle or vegetables
Monetary aid	assistance that can be used where it is needed
Emergency aid	monetary or other assistance provided by a number of countries, often through an international organisation such as the UN

## Exercise 2

Circle the countries in Australia’s aid program, 2004–2005.

England	Indonesia	Japan
Ireland	Papua New Guinea	China
USA	Myanmar	New Zealand
Fiji	Solomon Islands	Vietnam



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## Exercise 3

Which level of government has the main responsibility for providing aid to other countries?

---

Provide TWO examples of aid provided after the tsunami in Aceh Province, Indonesia.

---

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Visit the Australian Government website at <http://www.ausaid.gov.au> and look for 'Hot topics'. This will introduce you to some of the current Australian aid programmes.

Choose TWO that you would like to investigate further.

Find an NGO involved and go to the website of that organisation for more information.

The Australian Red Cross at:  
<http://www.redcross.org.au/default.asp>

World Vision at:  
[http://www.worldvision.com.au/childsponsorship/search/child\\_search.asp](http://www.worldvision.com.au/childsponsorship/search/child_search.asp)

CARE Australia at:  
<http://www.careaustralia.org.au/>

Oxfam Community Aid Abroad at:  
<http://www.oxfam.org.au/>

Using the information you have found, complete the summary sheets that follow.

Name of aid program: \_\_\_\_\_

URL: \_\_\_\_\_

Government departments involved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Location of aid program: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NGO involved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Type of aid provided: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of treaty or agreement involved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Countries other than Australia that have also signed this treaty or agreement:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Advantages for Australia	Disadvantages for Australia
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Social justice and equity.

Is the distribution of this aid fair and reasonable for all people and countries involved? Explain.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of aid program: \_\_\_\_\_

URL: \_\_\_\_\_

Government departments involved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Location of aid program: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

NGO involved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Type of aid provided: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of treaty or agreement involved: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Countries other than Australia that have also signed this treaty or agreement:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Advantages for Australia

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Disadvantages for Australia

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Social justice and equity.

Is the distribution of this aid fair and reasonable for all people and countries involved? Explain.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Exercise 4

Answer T (True) or F (False) to the following. Explain your answers on the lines provided.

- ☐ Australia provides aid for humanitarian reasons, to strengthen democracies and thereby, regional security, and as a way of promoting ecologically sustainable development.

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- ☐ In the 1970s, Australia provided aid to assist economic growth.

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- ☐ Aid given in the 1970s always resulted in improved standards of living.

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# East Timor WebQuest

You have investigated Australia's overseas aid programme and have been introduced to Australia's newest neighbour, East Timor. The article explained the damage to East Timor's infrastructure and how the country needs the support of developed countries.

Now you have the opportunity to investigate Australia's aid links to East Timor further. You will be doing this through a WebQuest, an inquiry-based research task that makes use of online resources.

Your task is to investigate Australia's aid links to East Timor. There will be lots of information to help you.



Figure 3 East Timorese celebrating their new school facilities

Source: Photo by Lara McKinley on Oxfam Community Aid Abroad website at [http://www.caa.org.au/world/asia/east\\_timor](http://www.caa.org.au/world/asia/east_timor).

## Background

East Timor is the world's newest nation and Australia's newest neighbour. In 2002 it was declared independent after three centuries as a Portuguese colony, 24 years of occupation by Indonesia and the loss of over 200 000 lives when Indonesia launched its scorched earth policy as a way of punishing the people who voted for independence in 1999. The scorched

---

earth policy meant crops and homes were burnt and people were injured or left to starve. After international outrage, Indonesia withdrew and the East Timorese held democratic elections with Xanana Gusmao voted in as the new President.

## East Timor faces new challenges

### *Task*

Imagine that you are researching Australia's provision of aid to East Timor. You are interested in government and non-government aid.

You will need to:

- provide a map of East Timor
- identify the different types of aid provided by Australians (government and non-government if possible)
- describe at least two aid projects supported by NGOs
- explain how the aid has assisted East Timor's development
- discuss any social justice and equity issues that are mentioned in your reading, particularly in relation to the ownership of oil reserves.

### *Presentation*

You may like to report your findings in any of the following formats:

- Written: a *Microsoft Powerpoint* presentation. Just summarise the key information in three or four dot points per A4 page.
- Oral: a simple report such as a radio or television news item. (You will need to provide your own audio recording).
- Graphic: a photographic essay with text, maps, annotated images, diagrams, graphs or line drawings.

---

## *Resources*

Here are some websites that will be useful:

Oxfam Community Aid Abroad at <http://www.oxfam.org>

Youth Ambassadors for Development at  
<http://www.ausaid.gov.au/youtham/default.cfm>

UNICEF at <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/Timorleste.html>

Australian Agency for International Development (AusAid) at  
<http://www.ausaid.gov.au>

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at <http://www.dfat.gov.au>

East Timor oil articles at [en.wikinews.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://en.wikinews.org/wiki/Main_Page)  
You will need to type in search words in this site to locate the articles.

There will also be books and magazines on East Timor in your school or local library.

## *Steps*

Have a look at the websites above and use other resources to get an overview of Australia's aid programme in East Timor.

Download only the information that answers the dot points you are interested in.

Reduce this information to three or perhaps four key points for each page.



Now it is time to work on your presentation.

When you have completed your presentation, return it to your teacher.

---

# Are you on target?

After having completed this part, tick (✓) the boxes you feel apply.

I know how to:

- ☐ use geographic terms to explain Australia's international aid policies
- ☐ 'unpack' information in a paragraph using the strategy of visualisation
- ☐ 'unpack' information in an article using the strategies of seeking meaning from context, focussing on key information through short questions and answers, and highlighting word groups
- ☐ conduct a WebQuest to investigate Australia's aid to East Timor
- ☐ create a presentation containing geographic information in appropriate written, oral or graphic form.

If you were not able to tick any box go back and re-read the appropriate section. Then come back and see if you can then tick the box. If you still cannot tick it, ask your teacher for guidance.





Australia's regional and global links

## Case study: Migration



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# Overview

*Case study: Migration* investigates the ways in which Australia has been influenced by various types of population movements.

This case study investigates where these people have come from, how many have arrived over time and the reasons why people have chosen to move here.

It also explores the impact of the migration link on Australia and its relationship with other nations, particularly within the Asia-Pacific region.

Suggested answers to activities throughout the unit are listed after the exercises at the end of the unit.

## Outcomes

By the end of this part you should be able to:

- analyse, organise and synthesise geographical information
- select and use appropriate written, oral and graphic forms to communicate geographical information
- select and apply appropriate geographical tools
- analyse the impact of different perspectives on geographical issues at local, national and global scale
- explain Australia's links with other countries and its role in the global community
- apply geographical knowledge, understanding and skills to demonstrate informed and active citizenship

By learning to:

- use various types of maps and flow charts
- recognise and account for change using statistical data
- access, collect and interpret electronic information
- describe and explain relationships on a map

Source      Adapted from outcomes of the *NSW Geography Years 7-10 syllabus*  
<[www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/)  
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# Icons



Think about it!  
If you are to write an answer, lines will be provided.



When you see this icon you will be able to check your own answers. Always read the answers after you have completed the activity.



Complete an exercise that will be returned to your teacher.



Write a response or responses as part of an activity.  
An answer is provided so that you can check your progress.



You are being asked to look at something more closely. There will be an instruction if you are to write or read.

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# Glossary

Term	Meaning
asylum seeker	a person seeking protection in another country while his or her life or freedom is threatened at home
developed countries	countries such as the US, UK, Japan and Australia which have a highly developed industrial sector and a high proportion of their population living in urban areas
developing countries	countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, India and Argentina where industrial development is continuing and most of the population still lives in rural areas
emigration	people exiting or leaving one country to live in another
humanitarian	a description of issues or reasons that include concern for the welfare of people
immigration	the settling of migrants from another country in a new land
migration	the movement of people from one area to another. It may be permanent (a long-term move) or temporary (for a short time such as a year or two).
pull factors	the features that attract migrants or refugees to another place
push factors	the events or circumstances that make people want to leave a place
quality of life	how well people live in economic, environmental, social and political terms
refugee	a person who has been granted asylum (refuge) in another country, having been found to be genuinely seeking protection from persecution
signatory	Someone who has signed and is bound by a treaty or other document





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# Case study: Migration

Twenty-four per cent of Australia's population is overseas born. This is far greater than most other countries and has made Australia a culturally diverse nation.

Since early white settlement, migration has been an important way of increasing Australia's population and for providing workers for farms and factories to build the Australian economy. **Migration** is also recognised as having many other benefits for Australia.

*Case study: Migration* investigates all aspects of migration to and from Australia:

- the countries involved
- the roles and actions of different levels of government
- the importance of non-government organisations (NGOs)
- treaties and agreements involved
- advantages and disadvantages of the link for Australia
- the implications for social justice and equity.

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## What is migration?

Migration is the movement of people from one country or locality to another. Since we'll be using the following words throughout this unit, let's begin with some definitions. Tick each definition as you read them.

Term	Definition	
migrant	a person moving from one country to another on a temporary or permanent basis	<input type="checkbox"/>
migration	the process of people moving from one place to another	<input type="checkbox"/>
immigration	the process of migrants moving permanently from one country to another	<input type="checkbox"/>
emigrant	a person who leaves or exits their home country to go to another	<input type="checkbox"/>
emigration	people exiting or leaving one country to live in another	<input type="checkbox"/>
immigrant	a person who leaves the country where they were born to live in a new country	<input type="checkbox"/>
refugee	a person who has been granted asylum (refuge) in another country, having been found to be genuinely seeking protection from persecution	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Where are people moving?

Every day we hear of migrants and **refugees** arriving in a foreign country. Who are these people and exactly how many are moving?

The facts:

- Most people never cross national borders to live or work in another country.
- There are approximately 25 million migrants who serve as foreign workers each year.
- In 1965, the number of migrants — or those living outside their country of birth — was approximately 75 million. Today, there are close to 200 million migrants. This is equivalent to the population of the world's fifth largest country, Brazil
- Most migrants move from **developing** to **developed** countries.

Figure 1 summarises the major and minor flows of people in the 1990s.

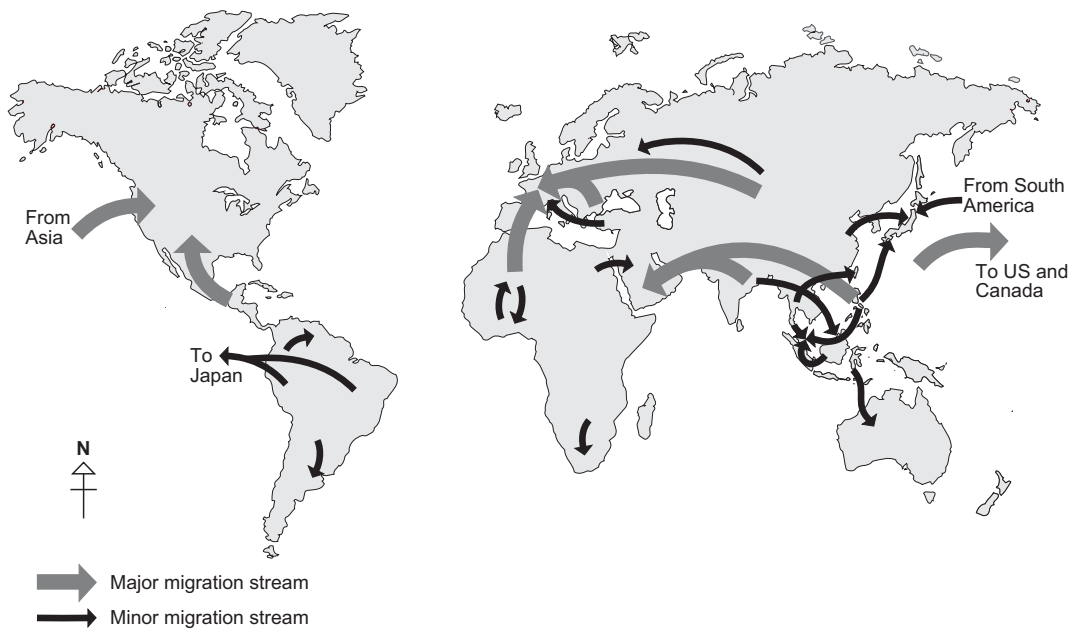


Figure 1 Map showing the major and minor migration flows in the 1990s



### Activity 1

On the map above, label some of the continents, countries or places that the arrows are pointing to. (You might need to refer to an atlas or a political map).

Describe what the map shows about global and regional migration patterns. (Make sure you include mention of Australia in your answer)

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Are you a migrant? Do you have friends who are migrants? Does your family come from overseas?

In 2004, 24% or nearly one in four Australians was born overseas. When we add parents to the mix, approximately 43% of all Australians were born overseas or had at least one parent born overseas. In fact, people from over 185 countries have made their homes in Australia. Australia is truly culturally diverse!

Over time, there have been changes to the countries that immigrants have come from as well as the numbers of migrants coming to Australia.

Figure 2 compares the ‘Top 10’ countries of birth of migrants who settled in Australia in 1974-1975 with the years 2004-2005.

Country of birth	1974-75	Country of birth	2004-05
United Kingdom	37 647	United Kingdom	18 220
Yugoslavia	3 931	New Zealand	17 345
United States of America	3 130	China	11 095
New Zealand	2 652	India	9 414
Greece	2 399	Sudan	5 654
Italy	2 389	South Africa	4 594
Lebanon	2 271	Philippines	4 239
Uruguay	2 117	Singapore	3 036
India	2 048	Malaysia	2 936
Chile	2 002	Sri Lanka	2 312
Sub total	60 586	Sub total	78 845
Other	28 561	Other	44 579
TOTAL	89 147	TOTAL	123 424

Figure 2 Settler Arrivals -Top 10 source countries of birth, 1974-75 and 2004-05  
Source: Adapted from, *Immigration Update*, 1996 DIMA



## Activity 2

For both tables, circle the countries that are a part of Europe.

For both tables, tick the countries that are a part of Asia.

Highlight the countries that are listed in both tables.

What do these patterns tell you about Australia’s immigration intake?  
Mention TWO points

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### Activity 3

1. Compare Figure 1 (the map) with Figure 2 (the tables). In what ways are the tables more useful than the map as a source of information about migration to Australia?

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2. Suggest a type of graph that might be even more useful than the tables. Justify your choice.

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## Why are people moving?

Most people do not move, or else they move within their own country. This is because of the attachments people form to what is familiar — families, friends and places.

People are often only willing to break these attachments when the economic, social, environmental or political situation at home is so difficult that they leave to find a better life in another place.

We call the events or circumstances making people want to leave a place, **push factors**. We call the features that attract migrants to another place, **pull factors**.

Figure 3 provides some examples of push and pull factors.

Push factors	Pull factors
Religious persecution	5-year work permits for immigrants
Civil war	Work
Natural disasters e.g. floods, earthquakes	Family members already in country

Figure 3 Examples of factors causing people to migrate



#### Activity 4

Complete the table (Figure 3) above by adding the following examples

Poverty

high wages

racial intolerance

In reality, for people to move, there is usually a combination of push and pull factors at work. For example, workers in one country may find that they are unable to support their families. They will only move to another country if they believe there are jobs available and they will be able to provide better opportunities for their children. Some people migrate simply because they work in a global business or because they wish to reunite with family members who have already moved to another country.

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# What is the role of government and NGOs?

## Federal

The Australian Government decides who can and cannot live in Australia. It does this through its officers in the Department of Immigration and Multiculturalism and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA). DIMIA is based in Canberra and it is responsible for administering all aspects of the *Migration Act* of 1950. It also develops new policies, provides services for new settlers and ensures that those people wanting to live in Australia have all the relevant documents.

New settlers have assistance with English classes, the translations of documents and information provided for them in a range of different languages. Any visitors who overstay their visas are listed on a Movement Alert list.

DIMIA works in conjunction with other federal government departments such as DFAT (the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade). For example, DFAT ensures that there are strict processes for the issue of Australian passports.



### Activity 5

Look at the website of the Department of Immigration and Multiculturalism and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA): [www.immi.gov.au/index.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/index.htm)

Use this website to find out the categories under which migrants can apply for gaining permanent residence in Australia.

(You could use the search option provided in the website or the left-hand navigation bar of the website)

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## State and territory

The state and territory governments provide support services for migrants to help them adjust to their new life in Australia. In NSW, the Community Relations Commission works to foster acceptance of migrants to promote unity and harmony in Australia's diverse multicultural society.

The Federal Government has set up a scheme where skilled migrants hoping to gain permanent residency in Australia are listed in a database. A state or territory government looking to fill skill shortages can nominate or sponsor migrants from this list for employment, providing these migrants with an increased chance of obtaining permanent residency within Australia.

## Local

There are many organisations, government and non-government, that provide services to assist migrants. A number of councils have their own migrant interagency to provide a forum or meeting point between these groups to ensure that the needs of migrants living in the local area are met. Local councils and NGOs often organise activities for events such as Refugee Week, and Harmony Day – a Federal Government initiative.

## Non-Government Organisations

NGOs operate within Australia and around the world to ensure that all migrants are treated in a humane manner and that migration benefits society. Migrant Resource Centres are an example of an independent, community-based, non-government organisation operating in Australia.



### *Activity 6*

Imagine that you are starting up a Migrant Resource Centre to assist new migrants to adjust to life in your local community.

Consider the possible needs of a migrant who has just stepped off a plane and who has arrived at the doorstep of your Migrant Resource Centre.

List the services you could provide to cater for their needs

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NGOs attempt to scrutinise the ‘official’ view provided by governments concerning their migration policies, and they seek to raise public awareness. On an international level there is the UNHCR organisation (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees). The purpose of UNHCR is to safeguard the rights and well-being of refugee migrants worldwide. Another leading international NGO is the IOM or International Organisation for Migration. One of their roles is to help governments respond to sudden flows of people that may enter the country as a result of environmental disaster or war.

## Treaties and Agreements

Australia has signed the United Nations Refugee Convention which is an agreement between 140 countries. The Convention states that all people have the right to seek asylum in a ‘safe country’ if they are fleeing persecution. **Asylum seekers** are people who are in the midst of that process. Refugees are those who have been granted asylum in another country, as they are genuinely seeking protection from persecution.



### Activity 7

Some NGOs have criticised Australia, claiming that it is not meeting its obligations as a **signatory** to the Refugee Convention.

Using an internet search engine, type in the following search words:

Australia      criticised      Refugee Convention

Look through the websites that come up to find out ONE reason why Australia has been criticised

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The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has also developed policies with other countries to improve Australia’s security and limit unwanted migration to Australia. In part this has resulted from 6640 people landing in Australia illegally in 83 boats between 2000 and 2001. The Bali Process refers to a series of meetings and understandings in 2001-02 between Australia and Indonesia.

These two countries now agree to:

- share information and intelligence
- encourage co-operation between the border and visa systems
- co-operate to verify the identity and nationality of illegal migrants
- return citizens to their home countries to deter people-smuggling.

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# Advantages for Australia

## Cultural

Migration has brought many benefits to Australia. Culturally, Australia now has a great diversity in languages, dress, clothing, customs and architecture due to its multicultural population.

## Economic

Economically, this linguistic diversity and knowledge of other cultures has brought business opportunities for Australia. Many migrants also bring money with them to invest in their new country. Some have entrepreneurial ability. A survey by the Bureau of Immigration and Multicultural and Population Research showed that 29% of small businesses are run by overseas-born people.

Migrants often work in fields where there are skills shortages and employment generates tax revenue for Australia. Migrants also help increase Australia's population and this creates a larger number of purchasers for goods and services.

## Geopolitical

Geographers often study issues that are of a geopolitical nature, that involve political concerns within a particular region or area, such as the territorial boundaries between countries and the flow of illegal immigrants across them. Many of Australia's foreign policy decisions are made with a view to the country's long term security and stability within the Asia-Pacific region. Migration is seen by some as a way to boost the population, to make it a stronger country that can defend itself in the face of any future threat.



### Activity 8

Suggest a reason why each of the following could be considered an advantage of migration.

1. Nearly one-third of migrants start up their own businesses.

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- 
2. Most migrants who settle in Australia are young.
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## Disadvantages for Australia

Some see disadvantages in Australia's migration policy.

### Cultural

Some think that migration results in a loss of unique national identity. However, this is more often an Anglo-Australian identity that is changing. Australia's cultural diversity is itself a national identity. There is a perception that migrants to Australia should take up Australian citizenship.

### Economic

At times of high unemployment, some cite the loss of jobs to migrants as a good reason to limit the influx of people from overseas. However, statistics show that many migrants often fill the jobs that 'Australians' refuse to do. As a consequence, migration means more jobs are filled and that is good for the economy. Each year however, 50,000 people emigrate from Australia to take up jobs overseas. Other countries with shortages of workers in key fields such as medicine and teaching often try to attract people from countries like Australia who have valuable qualifications and skills. The effect of this 'brain drain' from Australia is minimal as the Federal Government has its own Skilled Migration Program in place.

### Geopolitical

Terrorism is a real issue for Australians and some have concern that migration and cultural diversity is a threat to Australia's security. This is a geopolitical issue because the spread of terrorist organisations is something about which a number of governments share great concern. However, the issue here is that terrorist actions are criminal, regardless of whom the perpetrator is.



### Activity 9

Think of an example of an aspect of migration that is viewed as an advantage by some people and a disadvantage by others. Explain your example.

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## Social justice and equity

There are many people in other countries who dream of starting a new life in a country like Australia. Systems are in place to process the applications of people who apply for permanent residency in Australia to ensure equity. For a variety of reasons some people choose to enter Australia illegally by sea and air; such as refugees who often have no choice but to leave because of persecution or civil war in their own country. There is another group who enter Australia on holiday (temporary migrants) and who stay longer than their visa allows. Most extend their stay by only a few days or weeks and leave of their own accord. Others stay illegally in the hope of living and working in Australia on a more permanent basis.

Figures 4 and 5 below show the statistics for migrants who over stay in Australia, from various countries.

Country	Number	Rank
United Kingdom	5 874	1
United States	4 699	2
Indonesia	4 112	3
Philippines	4 100	4
China	3 524	5

Figure 4 Top 5 countries with highest number of overstayers, June

Country	%	Rank
Ecuador	6.45	1
Bangladesh	2.54	2
Iran	2.31	3
Japan	1.0	4
United Kingdom	0.9	5

Figure 5 Ratio of overstayers for selected countries, June 2000

Source: Adapted from *ABS Year Book*, Australia, 2002 (1301.0)



### Activity 10

1. Explain why it is possible for the UK to be ranked first in Figure 4 when it is ranked last in Figure 5.

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2. Suggest a reason why the percentage figure for Ecuador is much higher compared to the other countries listed in Figure 5.

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Now it is time to complete the exercises and return them as indicated by your teacher.



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# Exercises - Migration

## Exercise 1

Words have precise meanings and to be able to discuss the issue of migration, it is important to recall what the terms mean.

Using different colour, draw lines between the correct geographic terms and definitions below.

Terms	Definitions
emigrant	a person leaving his or her country for another
humanitarian	a person who has been granted asylum (refuge) in another country, having been found to be genuinely seeking protection from persecution
migrant	person moving from one country to another
refugee	the features that attract migrants or refugees to another place
pull factors	the movement of people from one place to another on a temporary or permanent basis
migration	persons entering a country other than their home country
immigrant	a description of issues or reasons that include concern for the welfare of people

## Exercise 2

Country of birth		1974-75	Country of birth		2004-05
United Kingdom	<b>EU</b>	37 647	United Kingdom	<b>EU</b>	18 220
Yugoslavia		3 931	New Zealand		17 345
United States of America		3 130	China		11 095
New Zealand		2 652	India		9 414
Greece		2 399	Sudan		5 654
Italy		2 389	South Africa		4 594
Lebanon		2 271	Philippines		4 239
Uruguay		2 117	Singapore		3 036
India		2 048	Malaysia		2 936
Chile		2 002	Sri Lanka		2 312
Sub total		60 586	Sub total		78 845
Other		28 561	Other		44 579
TOTAL		89 147	TOTAL		123 424

In Activity 1, you briefly looked at Australia's immigration intake using these tables. In this exercise you will rewrite your answer to that activity by adding more depth to it.

### Step 1

Use the following codes to label each country listed in the tables above according to the region it belongs to. The United Kingdom has been done for you.

Europe	<b>EU</b>	Africa	<b>AF</b>
Asia	<b>AS</b>	Middle East	<b>ME</b>
North America	<b>NA</b>	Oceania/Pacific	<b>OP</b>
South America	<b>SA</b>		



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## Step 2

Describe what the tables reveal about changes in Australia's immigration intake.

In your answer:

- use information from your answer to Activity 2
- include new information that has been revealed by using the codes in Step 1 of this exercise
- use geographic terms
- include examples and statistics provided in the tables

Note: 'Describe' is the directive term. In this question, 'describe' is asking you to mention features of Australia's changing immigration intake.

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### Step 3

Account for these changes in Australia's immigration intake.

In your answer:

- use geographic terms
- use examples and statistics provided in the tables
- use some of your own research

Note: ‘Account’ is the directive term. In this question, ‘account’ is asking you to state reasons for the changes in Australia’s immigration intake.

The following website may assist you: [www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)

To find a useful article in this website type in, ‘Population Composition: Expanding links with Asia,’ using the search option.

You might like to use an anomaly in your answer, e.g. an example of a country from the 2004-05 table that appears to be an odd one out – why might people be migrating from this country to Australia? (Hint: Think in terms of push/pull factors). How could you find this information?

[illegible]

## Exercise 3

The table below lists some features of the Australian experience with migration. You may need to re-read the section, 'What is the role of government and NGOs?' more closely when completing this exercise.

- Step 1** Is the feature of migration an advantage or a disadvantage to Australia? Tick a box.
- Step 2** Which term best describes the nature of this advantage/disadvantage: *cultural, economic or geopolitical*?
- Step 3** The list following the table suggests actions that could be taken to deal with these features of migration. For each feature of migration, write the number of an action that could be taken to address or improve it.
- Step 4** Which level of government (or NGO) would take the action listed in Step 3? You might need to tick more than one box in Step 4.

The first feature of migration shown in the table has been done for you.

Features of the Australian experience with migration	Step 1		Step 2			Step 3	Step 4			
	Advantage	Disadvantage	Cultural	Economic	Geopolitical	Action	Federal	State/Territory	Local	NGO
Migration has strengthened Australia's security ties with the Asia-Pacific	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>2</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Migration has resulted in a greater choice of food and music	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There are issues of racism, prejudice and intolerance in Australia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Migrants often fill jobs where there are skills shortages	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illegal immigration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Actions to choose from for Step 3

Use each action once only and where it best fits

- Set up initiatives and/or organise activities to promote unity and harmony in the community
- Maintain an open approach to migration with countries in the Asia-Pacific
- Negotiate with Indonesia and other neighbouring countries to share intelligence
- Sponsor migrants who wish to gain permanent residency in Australia
- Allow people from a more diverse range of countries to migrate to Australia

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## Questions

1. Choose ONE feature of migration from the table and give reasons for the boxes that you ticked and the action that you chose.

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2. Outline ONE other action that has or could be taken to address this feature of migration, using your own knowledge or ideas.

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3. Which level of government appears to have the most influence on migration to Australia?

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4. Explain why it is important for NGOs to be involved in the migration issue. (Mention at least one example of an NGO in your answer)

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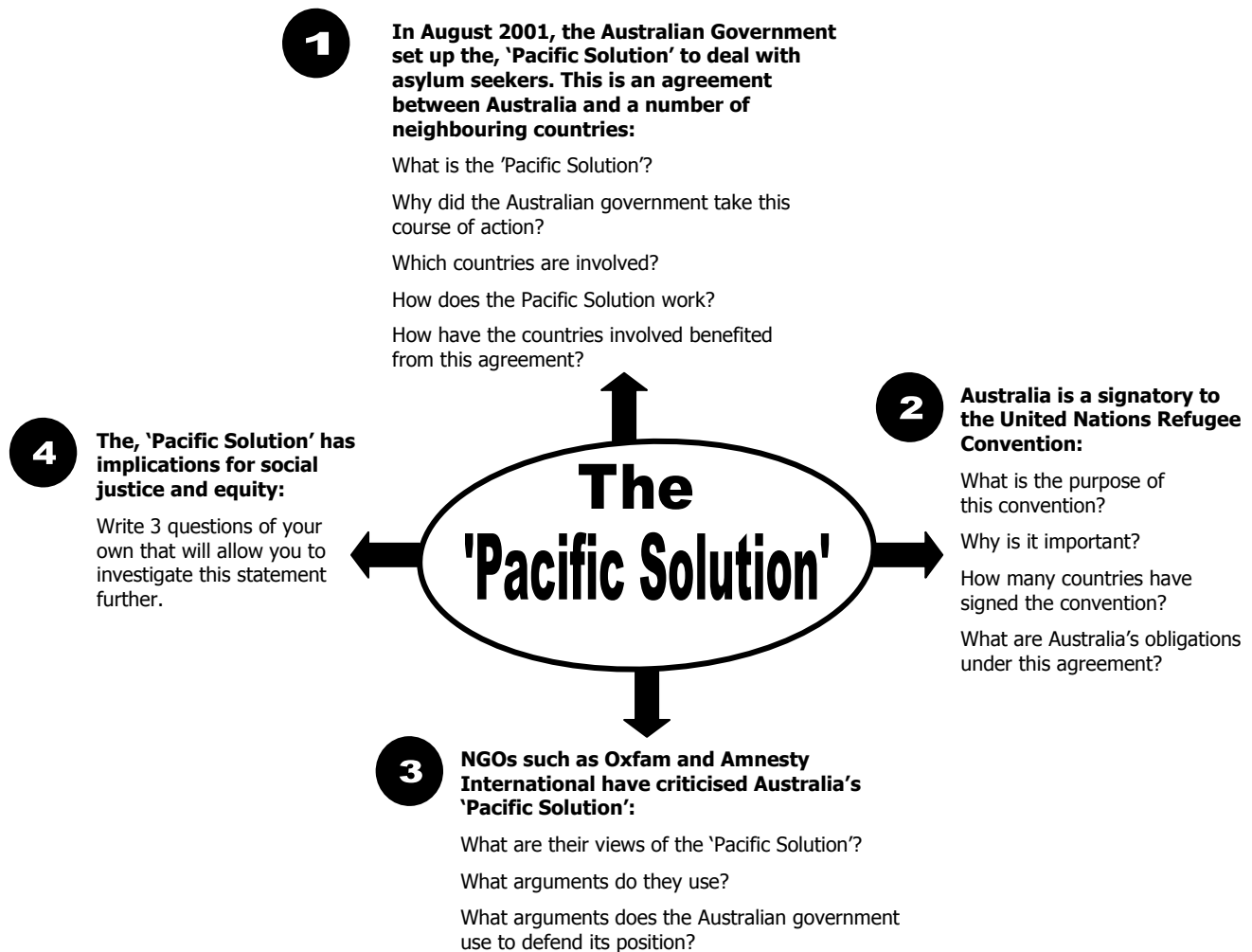
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## Exercise 4

The following mind map demonstrates how it is possible to expand on key points (see sections 1-4 in the mind map) by asking a variety of questions such as what, why and how?

Use this mind map as a tool for further research. You will use your research to complete three tasks on an Australian government policy known as the, 'Pacific Solution'.



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## Resources

Here are some websites that will be useful:

BBC news:

[news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/1802364.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/1802364.stm)

Centre for Refugee Research, University of NSW:

[www.crr.unsw.edu.au/documents/1951Convention.pdf](http://www.crr.unsw.edu.au/documents/1951Convention.pdf)

Click on, Final Solution dumps the UN Refugees Convention, in this site:

[www.adelaidereview.com.au/issues\\_and\\_opinions.php](http://www.adelaidereview.com.au/issues_and_opinions.php)

Amnesty International:

[web.amnesty.org/library/index/ENGASA120102002](http://web.amnesty.org/library/index/ENGASA120102002)

Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs:

<http://www.immi.gov.au/facts/76offshore.htm>

## Tasks

Use the websites above and your own research to find answers to the questions raised in the mind map. Then complete the following activities using your own paper or the computer.

1. Here is section 1 of the mind map on the previous page. Develop the sections 2 and 3 using this as a model. Your task is to create a more detailed version of the existing mind map. Change the questions in the mind map into sub-headings. For example, 'Which countries are involved?' and 'How have the countries involved benefited from this agreement?' have been combined here to form the one heading. Write information under your sub-headings.



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2. Design and produce an annotated map about the, 'Pacific Solution':
    - Find a map showing northern Australia, southern Asia and the western Pacific (all on the one map)
    - Make a decision about which information in your mind map could be represented on this map, then add labels/captions
    - Think about how you can arrange these most effectively on the map.

3. Imagine that the government is revising its, 'Pacific Solution' policy and has given you the job of creating a better solution.

Write a 10 point summary that outlines your own, 'solution' to this issue.

Ideas to consider before writing:

- What would you call your new solution?
- Would you retain any features of the existing 'Pacific Solution'? How would it work?
- In what ways would it be an improvement?





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# Suggested answers

Check your responses to Activities 1-10 against these suggested answers. These may be more detailed than yours. Also some answers will vary because sometimes there is not one correct answer, but rather different supportable opinions.

## *Activity 1*

The map shows large numbers of people moving into the US, Europe and the Middle East while smaller numbers are moving into Japan and Australia. There is also some movement within South America, Africa and Indonesia.

## *Activity 2*

Australia now receives more migrants from Asia and less from Europe the UK remains the main source of migrants to Australia

## *Activity 3*

1. The table, unlike the map, gives a breakdown of the main countries from which Australia has received migrants and shows changes in these numbers over time.
2. A line graph could be more useful than the tables. A line graph from 1974-75 to 2004-05 would show more detail about fluctuations in the number of settler arrivals over that 30 year period. The tables only show the numbers at the beginning and end of that period, not for the years in between.

## *Activity 4*

Push factors – poverty, racial intolerance

Pull factors – high wages, offers of accommodation and assistance with living expenses

## *Activity 5*

A business person; a skilled person; as a spouse, partner or fiancé; a family member; a refugee or humanitarian entrant.

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### **Activity 6**

Did you consider that different categories of migrants might have different needs? Possible services could include: language translators for migrants of Non-English Speaking Background (NESB), assistance in finding accommodation, finding a job, English language classes, referral to other organisations in the community such as medical centres.

### **Activity 7**

As a signatory to the 1951 UN Refugee Convention, Australia is not allowed to punish asylum seekers for illegal entry if they have arrived from a place where their lives are threatened. Australia has been criticised for not meeting its obligations under this convention. Some of the reasons for this criticism include:

- the placement of asylum seekers in detention centres in other countries not governed by the Refugee Convention
- both asylum seekers and genuine refugees have been kept in detention for an indefinite period of time, sometimes for several years

### **Activity 8**

1. When migrants start up their own businesses this creates jobs for other Australians
2. The entry of more young people into Australia will help to balance out the profile of the nation's aging population. This is often viewed as an advantage as an aging population means there are fewer working age people paying taxes and more health services are needed to cater for the elderly.

### **Activity 9**

Example 1: A geopolitical advantage/disadvantage

Geopolitically, the flow of more migrants from the Asia-Pacific region into Australia has fostered closer ties with neighbouring nations which is often viewed as an advantage. At the same time, the acceptance of refugee migrants has caused problems for Australia's relationship with Indonesia (a disadvantage). Australia's acceptance of 42 asylum seekers from Papua, a province of Indonesia, in March 2006, has caused tension. These independence activists (people protesting or fighting to create their own country) claimed that Indonesian military forces committed abuses against them. The Indonesian government denied this and viewed Australia's acceptance of these asylum seekers as an interference in its affairs.

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### Example 2: An economic advantage/disadvantage

Australia is experiencing a shortage of skilled workers in trades such as plumbing and welding. This has been attributed to a lack of interest in these careers among young Australians. Some employers claim that they have been forced to look overseas in search of suitably skilled workers. Since 1996, the Federal Government has increased the number of 'guest workers' who are allowed to work in Australia, on temporary visas. Employers such as Vawdrey Australia, a semi-trailer manufacturing business, view this as an advantage. In 2004, they hired 60, 'guest' workers from China for their factory because they could not find enough locals. A similar business, MaxiTrans decided not to offer local apprenticeships in 2005, in favour of importing workers from China. Unions view this as a disadvantage of this type of migration. They argue that foreign workers are being exploited, with some workers only being paid one-third of the usual wage. They accuse some businesses of using the skills shortage as an excuse for cutting labour costs. Employers, in turn, have argued that Australia's falling birth rate and aging population have contributed to a skills shortage and that they need to hire skilled foreign workers to stay in business.

### *Activity 10*

Only 0.9% of temporary migrants from the UK overstay in Australia, far less than for other countries, however the number of UK over stayers is larger. This is because the total number of UK visitors is so large by comparison, that 0.9% still represents a lot of people.

'Push' and 'pull' factors may explain why many temporary migrants from Ecuador overstay in Australia. People may be living in poverty which may 'push' them to want to leave Ecuador. The opportunity to acquire a better education and work might 'pull' them to countries such as Australia

You might be able to find a more definite answer to this question by conducting your own research on the current situation for people living in Ecuador. What 'push' factors might be involved?