

Міністерство освіти і науки України
Національний університет водного господарства
та природокористування

Кафедра іноземних мов

06-09-73М

МЕТОДИЧНІ ВКАЗІВКИ

і навчальні завдання для практичних занять
та самостійної роботи з навчальної дисципліни
«Лінгвокраїнознавство»
для здобувачів вищої освіти першого (бакалаврського) рівня
за освітньо-професійними програмами спеціальності
034 «Культурологія» галузі знань 03 «Гуманітарні науки»
денної та заочної форм навчання

Рекомендовано
науково-методичною радою
з якості ННЕМ
Протокол № 3 від 29.11.2022 р.

Рівне – 2022

Методичні вказівки і навчальні завдання для практичних занять та самостійної роботи з навчальної дисципліни «Лінгвокраїнознавство» для здобувачів вищої освіти першого (бакалаврського) рівня за освітньо-професійними програмами спеціальності 034 «Культурологія» галузі знань 03 «Гуманітарні науки» денної та заочної форм навчання [Електронне видання] / Купчик Л. Є., Левун Г. Г. – Рівне : НУВГП, 2022. – 28 с.

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Передмова

Вивчати мову – це не лише зазубрювати слова і основні граматичні правила. Спілкуватися з носієм мови навіть на загальні теми – це більше, ніж ритися у словнику. Власне тому вивчення мови є неможливим без культурного середовища.

Розуміння культури – це як оперувати контекстом, що дозволяє підібрати правильне значення до кожного нового слова. Чим більше соціокультурних явищ є відомими для студента, тим легше вчити нові слова, вирази і спосіб мовлення.

Мова і культура є невід’ємними і їх стосунки досить комплексними. Мова – це не лише набір слів, граматичні норми і будова речення, але й унікальні культурні норми, соціальні системи і когнітивні процеси. Розуміння цих соціокультурних контекстів разом з лінгвістичними положеннями певної культури є ключовими в опануванні мовою.

Успішне та ефективне вивчення англійської мови є неможливим без знайомства з культурою англомовних країн. Без культурного контексту важко зрозуміти значення ряду прислів’їв, як, наприклад, *‘it’s raining cats and dogs’*; *‘fly by the seats of your pants’* тощо.

Крім того, англомовний простір представлений географічно розрізненими країнами, що плюрицентричний характер англійської мови. У свою чергу, це у певній мірі утруднює розуміння ряду лексичних одиниць у різних країнах англомовного простору, надаючи їм різних значень (напр. *‘biscuits’*, *‘pants’*, *‘trainers’*, *‘football’* мають різні значення у британському та американському варіантах).

Культура є важливою під час вивчення мови. Розуміння культурного минулого – мистецтва, літератури, стилю життя – допомагає здобути високий рівень володіння мовою і насправді жити мовою під час її вивчення, а не лише спиратися на машинний переклад чи розглядати картинки в англомовних виданнях.

Розроблені методичні вказівки та навчальні завдання містять автентичний англомовний ресурс для знайомства з країнами англомовного простору: Великобританією, США, Канадою, Австралією та Новою Зеландією через призму англійської мови.

Зміст

Передмова	4
Great Britain: basic facts, geographical position, sketches on history, culture, traditions and education	5
USA: basic facts, geographical position, sketches on history, culture, traditions and education	10
Canada: basic facts, geographical position, sketches on history, culture, traditions and education	18
Australia: basic facts, geographical position, sketches on history, culture, traditions and education	19
New Zealand: basic facts, geographical position, sketches on history, culture, traditions and education	23
Список використаної та рекомендованої літератури	27
Інформаційні ресурси	27
Корисні покликання	28

Great Britain: basic facts, geographic position, sketches on history, culture, traditions and education

Task 1A. Follow the link <https://linguapress.com/advanced/english-identity.htm> and read the text “So just who are the English?” paying attention to the words in bold. Define the meaning of the words using online Cambridge Dictionary.

Task 1B. Complete the text using the verbs in brackets in the correct tense form.

For almost 300 years, a fictitious character by the name of John Bull ____ (use) as a representation of the true Englishman, as if the “English” ____ (be) a homogenous race of people.

The “Angles”, who ____ (give) their name to the country, were people from northern Germany, who ____ (come) over with the Saxons and the Jutes during the “Dark Ages” ... They ____ (follow) by Vikings, from Scandinavia, who ____ (occupy) a large part of eastern Britain. The last successful invasion of England ____ (come) in 1066, when William the Conqueror, duke of Normandy ____ (crown) himself king of England.

Since that time, England ____ (invade) never again by people from across the country.

There were also Jews from Europe, who ____ (keep) ____ (come) to England over the centuries. In the 17th century, thousands of French Huguenot Protestants ____ (flee) to England, ____ (add) 1% to the total British population.

Task 1C. Summarize the text from 1A with no more than 200 words or in 10 sentences.

Task 2. Follow the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YvOi34kQsx4> and learn about British traditions and holidays. Answer the following questions.

1. How do people in Scotland celebrate the Burns night?
2. What’s the history of Pancake Day?

3. Why was the former Queen's birthday celebrated at the second Saturday of June?
4. How is Bonfire night also known?
5. Why has poppy become a symbol of Remembrance Day?
6. What do Britons do on Boxing Day?

Task 3A. Read the information about places of interest in Great Britain and get ready to describe them.

The Palace of Westminster/Houses of Parliament

This is the meeting place of the parliament. King Edward the Confessor built it in the eleventh century. The House of Parliament was rebuilt in 1835 after a fire. Parts of the Palace:

Big Ben: "The name Big Ben is often used to describe the tower, the clock and the bell but the name was first given to the Great Bell which was first struck on the 7 September 1859." Probably it takes its name from Benjamin Hall who oversaw the installation of the Bell. It is the largest of the five bells at the top of the tower. The tower is officially known as Elizabeth Tower, renamed to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Elizabeth II in 2012; previously, it was known simply as the Clock Tower.

Westminster Hall is the oldest building on the Parliamentary estate."

"St Stephen's Chapel is the forgotten heart of the Palace of Westminster. For seven centuries St Stephen's was at the centre of the political and religious life of the nation, and its influence is still detected today.

•Westminster Abbey

The Abbey stands opposite the Westminster Palace. "The Abbey has been the coronation church since 1066, and is the final resting place of 17 monarchs. The church we see today was begun by Henry III in 1245. It is one of the most important Gothic buildings in the country, and has the medieval shrine of an Anglo-Saxon saint at its heart." There is the Poet's Corner: more than 100 poets and writers are buried or have memorials here, such as Shakespeare, T. S. Eliot, Jane Austen, the Bronte sisters.

Buckingham Palace

It “has served as the official London residence of the UK’s sovereigns since 1837 and today is the administrative headquarters of the Monarch...George III bought Buckingham House in 1761 for his wife Queen Charlotte to use as a comfortable family home,” so soon it became known as the Queen’s House, but later in 1826 it was rebuilt into a palace.

•The Tower of London/Her Majesty’s Royal Palace and Fortress of the Tower of London

William the Conqueror built it in 1066. The Tower served as a prison (1100-1952) and royal residence. It has been the house of the crown jewels from 1216.

Also, according to the tradition, a group of captive ravens live at the Tower of London. Their presence is traditionally believed to protect the Crown and the tower; a superstition holds that “if the Tower of London ravens are lost or fly away, the Crown will fall and Britain with it”. There are 9 ravens in the Tower today.

•The Royal Albert Hall

It has been a concert hall since 1871. Regular events take place here: Royal Choral Society, BBC proms, classical music concerts, tennis, Cirque du Soleil, English National Ballet.

•British Museum

“The British Museum was founded in 1753 and opened its doors in 1759. It was the first national museum to cover all fields of human knowledge, open to visitors from across the world.” It is located in the Bloomsbury area of London. Its permanent collection numbering over 8 million works – as the consequence of the British colonial inheritance.

Task 3B. Match the photos with places of interest.

The Palace of Westminster, Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace, The Tower of London, The Royal Albert Hall, British Museum



Task 3C. Answer the following questions.

1. What parts does the Palace of Westminster consist of?
2. How many British monarchs were buried in the Westminster Abbey?
3. To what purpose did the Tower of London serve up to the 20th century?
4. How many works does the collection of British Museum count?
5. Who was the Big Ben called after?
6. Which building is the oldest on the Parliamentary estate?
7. When was the Buckingham Palace bought? Who bought it?

Task 3D. Follow the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=foPDjeIM1zE> and get ready to discuss the origin of English place names.

Task 3E. Determine the origin of the following English place names:

Brighton, Horsham, Grimsby, Lowestoft, Manchester, Tadcaster, Hereford, Scunthorpe.

Task 3F. Complete the table with your own examples of English place names of Celtic, Latin, Anglo-Saxon and Scandinavian origin.

Origin	Suffix	Meaning	Examples
Celtic			
Latin			
Anglo-Saxon			
Scandinavian			

Task 4A. Follow the link <https://linguapress.com/intermediate/black-london-taxi.htm> and read the text “London Taxis – from Black to Green” paying attention to the words in bold. Define the meaning of the words using online Cambridge Dictionary.

Task 4B. Complete half sentences so they reflect the information that you learnt from the text.

1. You can have any color you like, as...
2. Most taxis have diesel engines, and ...
3. Since November 2021, all London taxes must meet the ...
4. There are no longer any taxes in London ...
5. London taxes are built to ...
6. London’s biggest taxi company plans ...

Task 5A. Follow the link <https://linguapress.com/intermediate/routemasters.htm> and listen and read the text “Big Red London Buses” paying attention to the words in bold. Define the meaning of the words using online Cambridge Dictionary.

Task 5B. Fill in the propositions below in the sentences.

at for in in in of of of on onto out
over until up with with

The earliest horse-drawn double-deckers _____ London had steps _____ the back so that people could climb _____ the roof. The main difference _____ today's buses was that _____ those days, there was no protection _____ the people travelling _____ top. If it rained, they could pull a sort _____ oil-cloth cover _____ the back _____ the seat _____ front _____ them, and pull it _____ them. It wasn't _____ the 1930's that all new buses came equipped _____ roofs _____ he upper deck!

Task 5C. Define if the sentences below are true or false.

1. There are buses that go from London to Niagara Falls.
2. People recognize London buses because they have the words "London Transport" on them.
3. Motor buses operated in London before October 1911.
4. A daily bus-pass does not allow people to use special tourist buses.
5. Some old-drawn buses had no roofs over the top deck.
6. Double-decker trams had roofs over the top deck.
7. "Routemaster" buses have no doors at the back end.
8. London Transport are now building new Routemaster buses, in spite of European Union rules.

Task 6. Study Cambridge Dictionary <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/> and find 15-20 words or phrases from British English. Use them in your own sentences.

USA: basic facts, geographic position, sketches on history, culture, traditions and education

Task 1A. Following the link <https://cutt.ly/y1su6BB>, read the text about US geography and regions and do the online test.

Task 1B. Answer the questions to the text from 1A.

1. How many states are there in the US?
2. What were the last two states to be added to the federation?

3. What is the difference between Washington DC and Washington?
4. How many times is the USA larger than Ukraine?
5. Approximately, how many inhabitants are there in the USA?
6. What are the four main geographical regions called?
7. Give examples of how these regions are different.

Task 2A. Read the text about US dialects and accents following the link <https://cutt.ly/B1stnqy> and answer the questions.

1. Are some accents nicer than others? If so – which is your favourite?
2. Is there a close connection between your accent, your dialect and your cultural identity, or is language just a tool for communication?
3. What is the difference between a dialect and an accent?

Task 2A. Study expressions in American English derived from baseball and complete the sentences below.

Baseball is known as one of the most popular sports in the USA for both participants and spectators. As a result, a lot of “baseball idioms” entered everyday conversations and are widely used in American English.

Let’s take a look at some examples of such expressions:

To come (be) out of left field (= to come out unexpectedly, suddenly and surprisingly, to be out of place, out of touch, something surprising, odd or strange)

e.g. Way out of left field, my friend called me late at night yesterday. I haven’t talked to her in around 10 years.

To keep eye on the ball, also a short form “on the ball” means to stay focused, stay attentive to what’s happening, focus to what is important, especially a goal, to be on track.

e.g. We need someone on the ball for this job.

To take one’s eye off the ball (= to lose focus on what is important, to get off track)

e.g. One of the keys to success in business is never to take your eye off the ball.

To hit it out of the park (to do a great job, to be successful; the task has been done exceptionally well; to have a fantastic success).

e.g. Mark really knocked it out of the park with this last contract.

To step up to the plate (= to take on the responsibility for sth, initiative, to rise to a challenge)

e.g. In this crisis we all need to step up to the plate and make a difference.

Ballpark figure (= a rough estimate of a big number, an approximate not precise amount, a guess of a number about something. A number produced by estimating quickly) –

e.g. How much does it cost? Can you give me a ballpark figure?

In the ballpark of (= a close guess or estimate)

e.g. I don't know the exact number yet, but it's in the ballpark of maybe \$7,000.

Be out in left field (= a person who always comes up with the craziest ideas, who doesn't have their marbles, kinda weird person, a loco)

e.g. She's kind of out in left field but she's fun.

To go to bat for someone (= to support, to help someone)

e.g. It turned out that there was no one to go to bat for me this time.

1. I don't need an exact number at the moment. A ____ will do.
2. Kate _____ on her math test yesterday – she got an excellent mark.
3. If you really want to succeed in life, you've got to _____ and not get distracted by things that are waste of time.
4. A new small single-family home in Fargo will cost _____ of \$200 000.
5. I could have passed this class easily, but I _____ and didn't do a bunch of assignments.
6. I wish he would _____ by being more responsible.
7. And if you make the right decision, I will _____ for you.
8. My aunt is really wacky and often _____, but I love her so much.

Task 2B. Follow the link https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_English-language_idioms_derived_from_baseball and learn other baseball idioms. Use them in your own sentences.

Task 3A. Read the information about famous American writers and be ready to discuss it.

Henry James (1843-1916) With Mark Twain, James is generally ranked as the greatest American novelist of the second half of the 19th century. James is noted for his “international theme” — that is, the complex relationships between naive Americans and cosmopolitan Europeans. What his biographer Leon Edel calls James’s first, or “international,” phase encompassed such works as *Transatlantic Sketches* (travel pieces, 1875), *The American* (1877), *Daisy Miller* (1879), and a masterpiece, *The Portrait of a Lady* (1881).

James’s second period was experimental. He exploited new subject matters — feminism and social reform in *The Bostonians* (1886) and political intrigue in *The Princess Casamassima* (1885). In his third, or “major,” phase James returned to international subjects, but treated them with increasing sophistication and psychological penetration.

Theodore Dreiser. The 1925 work *An American Tragedy* by Theodore Dreiser, like London’s *Martin Eden*, explores the dangers of the American dream. The novel relates, in great detail, the life of Clyde Griffiths, a boy of weak will and little self-awareness. He grows up in great poverty in a family of wandering evangelists, but dreams of wealth and the love of beautiful women.

Edgar Allan Poe, a southerner, shares with Melville a darkly metaphysical vision mixed with elements of realism, parody, and burlesque. He refined the short story genre and invented detective fiction. Many of his stories prefigure the genres of science fiction, horror, and fantasy so popular today. His stories and poems are populated with doomed, introspective aristocrats (Poe, like many other southerners, cherished an aristocratic ideal). These gloomy characters never seem to work or socialize; instead they bury themselves in dark, moldering castles symbolically decorated with bizarre rugs and draperies that hide the real world of sun, windows, walls, and floors. Themes of death-in-life, especially being buried alive or returning like a vampire from the grave, appear in many of his works, including “*The Premature Burial*,” “*Ligeia*,” “*The Cask of Amontillado*,” and “*The Fall of the House of Usher*.”

Nathaniel Hawthorne. Many of Hawthorne’s stories are set in Puritan New England, and his greatest novel, *The Scarlet Letter* (1850), has become the classic portrayal of Puritan America. It tells of

the passionate, forbidden love affair linking a sensitive, religious young man, the Reverend Arthur Dimmesdale, and the sensuous, beautiful townsperson, Hester Prynne. Set in Boston around 1650 during early Puritan colonization, the novel highlights the Calvinistic obsession with morality, sexual repression, guilt and confession, and spiritual salvation.

Hawthorne's reputation rests on his other novels and tales as well. In *The House of the Seven Gables* (1851), he again returns to New England's history. The crumbling of the "house" refers to a family in Salem as well as to the actual structure. The theme concerns an inherited curse and its resolution through love.

Ernest Hemingway. Born in Illinois, Hemingway spent childhood vacations in Michigan on hunting and fishing trips. After his novel *The Sun Also Rises* (1926) brought him fame, he covered the Spanish Civil War, World War II, and the fighting in China in the 1940s.

The Old Man and the Sea (1952), a short poetic novel about a poor, old fisherman who heroically catches a huge fish devoured by sharks, won him the Pulitzer Prize in 1953; the next year he received the Nobel Prize. Hemingway is arguably the most popular American novelist of this century. His sympathies are basically apolitical and humanistic, and in this sense he is universal. His simple style makes his novels easy to comprehend, and they are often set in exotic surroundings.

Task 3B. Match the names of pieces of literature and their authors.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. „The Scarlett letter“ | a) Henry James |
| 2. “The fall of the house of Usher” | b) Theodore Dreiser |
| 3. “The sun also rises” | c) Edgar Allan Poe |
| 4. “An American tragedy” | d) Nathaniel Hawthorne |
| 5. “Daisy Miller” | e) Ernest Hemingway |

Task 3C. Make a short video-booktrailer about one of the books from the previous exercise or about your favourite book of any American author.

A book trailer is a teaser or a promotional video that highlights the narrative arc of your book, kind of like a synopsis.

Task 4A. Follow the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iIFzX8ggXeo>, learn about the history of Hollywood and decide whether the following statements are true or false

1. Kinetoskope, the most successful motion picture device, was invented by Edison in 1892.
2. „Birth of a nation” was the first comedy that didn’t have any impact on the American culture.
3. “Capitol records” is owned by Hollywood film company called Paramount pictures.
4. Universal and Columbia were major Hollywood companies in the first part of 20th century.
5. Hollywood studio called “United artists” was formed in 1910 by D. W. Griffith, Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks.
6. Synchronous sound was invented in the late 1930s.
7. “Why we fight” is one of the greatest propaganda documentaries.

Task 4B. Make a creative project on one of the following topics:

1. History of Oscar statuette.
2. Famous Hollywood actors.
3. Trends of Hollywood
4. Film genres and Hollywood.
5. Hollywood major film studios.
6. The golden age of Hollywood.
7. My favourite Hollywood movies.

Task 5A. Following the link <https://cutt.ly/z1sybp6>, read the text about US universities and colleges and answer the questions.

1. What test is needed before you can apply to college?
2. What qualifications do colleges seek for admission?
3. Name some ways how students can find out more information about colleges.

4. Name a few things that may be required along with the application form.
5. What is the difference between a college and a university?
6. What are the three main types of degrees one can obtain at a college / university?
7. Why is it difficult for many families to send their sons and daughters to college?
8. Which alternatives are there to the expensive out-of-state schools?
9. What can students do to help finance their college education?

Task 5B. Complete the text choosing a correct option.

Studies in Star Trek

In Britain, students enter universities to study one subject for three or four years in order B (0) a degree. In the USA, students don't ____ (1) to choose a 'major' (a subject such as English or History that they want to concentrate on) ____ (2) their third or fourth year of college. Thus, American students have the opportunity to take courses from a number of different academic areas in their early years of college. ____ (3) way that lecturers try to encourage students to choose courses in their departments is by offering courses that ____ (4) to students' personal interests. Take for example a course in the University of Baltimore called 'Zombie Studies' or a course in the University of Wisconsin that explores 'Family and Social Roles in Daytime Serials'. These courses, and many like ____ (5) in colleges around the USA, use popular culture to help teach academic subjects. As the head of the 'Science of Superheroes' course in the University of California says, "The course gives me a chance to talk about real science but in a context that is very familiar to the students." And despite ____ (6) their titles might suggest, these courses require serious academic study. For instance, "Philosophy and Star Trek" at the University of Alabama challenges students to use the theories of Aristotle and Kant to ____ (7) the fantasy world of the sci-fi series. On the whole, these courses show that, at least in the USA, the third-level education ____ (8) is changing and that educators are trying to find new ways to make their subjects more interesting for their students.

0	A get	B to get	C getting	D will get
1	A can	B must	C need	D should
2	A about	B to	C towards	D until
3	A One	B An	C A	D Some
4	A drive	B look	C draw	D appeal
5	A they	B them	C those	D that
6	A which	B what	C when	D who
7	A understand	B believe	C think	D realize
8	A technique	B method	C system	D scheme

Task 6A. Follow the link <https://linguapress.com/advanced/american-food.htm#mplay> and read the text paying attention to the words in bold. Define the meaning of the words using online Cambridge Dictionary.

Task 6B. Using information from the text, write factual sentences starting with the following prompts.

1. Ronald Mc Donald
2. Newspaper
3. Every day
4. Large-scale food production
5. European lifestyle
6. American youth culture
7. Pizzas

Task 7 A. Follow the link <https://linguapress.com/intermediate/silicon-valley.htm> and read the text “The Story of Silicon Valley” paying attention to the words and phrases in bold. Define the meaning of the words using online Cambridge Dictionary.

Task 7 B. Using information from the text and the prompts below, make up possible questions to fit the answers.

1. Where ...?

- In Manchester, England.
2. Where ...?
In Silicon Valley, near San Francisco.
3. Who ...?
The Beach Boys.
4. Did the best students ...?
No, they preferred to stay in California.
5. Where ...?
In Palo Alto.
6. When ...?
In 1976.
7. What ...?
It was a sort of primitive Internet.
8. Is ...?
No, there are high tech firms all over the world.
9. Where ...?
Further north, in Seattle.

Task 8. Study Cambridge Dictionary <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/> and find 15-20 words or phrases from American English. Use them in your own sentences.

Canada: basic facts, geographic position, sketches on history, culture, traditions and education

Task 1A. Following the link <https://cutt.ly/n1sp44A>, do the multiple-choice exercise and learn who well you know Canada.

Task 2A. Following the link <https://linguapress.com/intermediate/focus-on-canada.htm>, read the text “Canada – the biggest country in the New World” paying attention to the words in bold. Define the meaning of the words using online Cambridge Dictionary.

Task 2 B. Using information from the text complete the abstract with proper prepositions.

*to (10) in (6) from (4) above (2) for (2) of (2) with (2) at
away below beyond indoors into without*

____ most ____ the winter, which usually lasts ____ November ____
April, daytime temperatures ____ the city rarely rise ____ ____
freezing; ____ time ____ time, Arctic winds howl ____ ____ the
north, and ____ several days temperatures ____ the city may not rise
____ -20° (and may drop ____ -40°). ____ the cold; those who can't
have just two options, ____ emigrate or ____ go and live ____ ____
the Rocky Mountains, ____ ____ the Pacific Ocean, ____ B.C.,
British Columbia!

But ____ a city where people are used ____ cold winters, life carriers
____ as usual. Canadians have ____ know how ____ cope.

The easiest way ____ keep ____ ____ the cold ____ a Canadian
winter is ____ stay ____ ____ as much as possible! This does not
mean that you have ____ stay ____ home, however! Many people
keep their cars ____ heated basement garages which they can reach
____ ____ going outside. Cars are often kept warm ____ winter,
____ electric heaters which are plugged ____ power points.

Task 2 C. Complete factual statements.

Canadian are worried ...

American influence ...

Quebec ...

In winter, ...

The Queen ...

Lots of today's immigrants ...

Canada's Indians ...

**Australia: basic facts, geographic position, sketches on history,
culture, traditions and education**

Task 1A. Read the text and find out about Australia.

Australia: The Land down under

European invasion

Over 40,000 years ago Australia and its islands were **inhabited** by at
least 250 linguistic groups of **indigenous** Australians. ____ (1) After

Dutch explorers discovered Australia in 1606, several European privateers and explorers visited the continent. However, no attempt was made to settle there until Captain James Cook claimed it for the British in 1770. Later that decade, the first official British colony, made up mostly of prisoners from Britain, was set up at Fort Jackson, which is now known as Sydney Harbour. Over the following decades, waves of settlers came to Australia in search of a new life. The British also shipped large numbers of **convicts** to colonies throughout the country.

Story of survival

At first, relations between the newcomers and the indigenous people were friendly. But they quickly **deteriorated** when the indigenous people realized that the resources, they needed to survive were gradually being taken away from them. ____ (2) The British brought infectious diseases such as measles, tuberculosis and smallpox with them, which **wiped out** a majority of the natives. Moreover, the battles for land and other resources led to mutual distrust, and were responsible for the deaths of many people. It is estimated that the indigenous population was at least 750,000 at the time of the arrival of Europeans. But it was gradually reduced in just a few decades.

Victory of the colonies

During the early 19th century, the country attracted more European settlers and the population grew steadily despite the many **hardships** people faced. Around 1850, the nature of Australia's colonies was completely transformed by the discovery of gold at several sites around the country. ____ (3) Shiploads of new immigrants, including thousands from China, arrived in the hope of getting rich quickly, and the population in many areas tripled. The search for gold, however, brought many colonies into conflict with the British rulers, and rebellions broke out at mining towns across the country. Between 1855 and 1890, the six colonies of Australia, gained the right to have their own government, and finally, in 1907, the Commonwealth of Australia was created.

Still with the king

Today, Australia is independent of the UK but is still a member of the Commonwealth and has King Charles III as its head of state. About 92% of the population is of European origin, and about 7% is Asian.

The remaining 1% are indigenous Australians. About 78% of Australians speak only English in the home. The next most common languages are Arabic, Hindi, Italian, Vietnamese and Cantonese. About 12% of the indigenous population speak indigenous languages at home. Australian English is based on British English but it is heavily **influenced** by American and Irish English and has a variety of slang words. For example, ‘bonzer’ means great, ‘creek’ is a small stream and ‘bush’ refers to wild parts of the countryside. _____(4) Australians also have a very distinctive accent.

Land of Oz

Australia, which lies down under the equator, is a huge country with a number of **brehtaking** geographical features including the prehistoric gorges of Kakadu National Park and the Great Barrier Reef. It is home to some of the most amazing creatures on the planet, many of which are deadly. The kangaroo, the dingo and the koala are some of the most well-known mammals to inhabit Australia but the country has a variety of other animals including crocodiles, **venomous** snakes, and of course the Great White Shark. _____(5) In fact, it has more than any other country in the world, with over 11,000 of them. The country has also produced a number of famous actors and music bands including Hugh Jackman, Nicole Kidman, and ACDC. Australia is known throughout the world for the wonderful sound of the indigenous instrument, the didgeridoo. With all that Australia has to offer, there is no doubt that it is an amazing country.

Task 1B. Read the text again and choose the correct sentence (A–F) for each gap (1–5).

- A. Nuggets of the precious metal washed down rivers for anyone to pick up.
- B. And, of course, Aussie is the colloquial term for an Australian.
- C. Australia is also known for its beautiful beaches and is a paradise for surfers.
- D. They were mostly semi-nomads who hunted and gathered food.
- E. The last census, or population count, was held in August, 2011.
- F. In fact, the British presence had a devastating effect on the indigenous people.

Task 1C. Answer the questions to the text.

1. When did Europeans first reach Australia?
2. Where did the British set up their first colony?
3. What/Who was responsible for killing most natives?
4. Why did so many people come to Australia in the second half of the 19th century?
5. What happened in 1907?
6. How many beaches are there in Australia?

Task 1D. Fill in the sentences with the words below.

distrust newcomers privateers rebellions shiploads

1. In the 19th century, there were several _____ against English rule.
2. After 1850, _____ of immigrants arrived in search of gold.
3. The _____ found it hard to survive for the first few years.
4. There was a lot _____ between the natives and the Europeans.
5. In the past, governments gave _____ the right to capture merchant ships.

Task 1E. Find phrasal verbs in the text 1A which mean:

1. created / founded
2. destroyed
3. gather / collect
4. happened suddenly

Task 1F. Match the words to form collocations. Then, use the phrases to talk about Australia.

1 infectious	a distrust
2 geographical	b groups
3 distinctive	c features
4 indigenous	d diseases
5 mutual	e instrument
6 linguistic	f accent

Task 1G. Match the words in bold in text 1A to their meanings.

native, got worse, difficulties, prisoners, impressive, eradicated, affected, poisonous, lived in

Task 2. Complete the text about Australia with the words below.

*springs architect between biggest build chosen desert
important industry inhabitants kangaroos member most
sheep were*

Australia is also called the land “Down Under”.

It has about 16 million ____ (1). By the way, Australia has more ____ (2) than people. 88% of the population lives in towns and cities. One of the most ____ (3) is Sydney. It has 3.5 million inhabitants. This centre of finance, commerce and tourism has the largest harbour, but also one the ____ (4) beautiful beaches (e.g. Bondi Beach). Furthermore, the well-known Olympic Games of 2000 ____ (5) there. Although Sydney is the ____ (6) city of Australia, it is not the capital. That’s Canberra. Canberra is a planned city. There has been a real fight ____ (7) Melbourne and Sydney because both wanted to become the capital of Australia. The compromise was to ____ (8) up Canberra. They started the project in 1914. Under thousands of names for the city, they have ____ (9) the Aborigens’ word. The English translation is a “meeting place”.

The American ____ (10) Walter Burley Griffin constructed the city. It is the place of the government. But the head of the “Fifth Continent” is the British Monarch, because Australia is a ____ (11) of the Commonwealth.

Of course, it has important ____ (12), too. Australia produces wool and exports beef, lamb, wheat and nearly all minerals.

Furthermore, Australia has a typical landscape – the Outback. It is a nearly empty, treeless and flat ____ (13). Sometimes, you can find one of the Bottle Trees or you might meet some ____ (14), koala bears or a dingo. There is only one larger town there – Alice (15).

(Adopted after <https://www.english-4u.de/en/reading/australia.htm>)

New Zealand: basic facts, geographic position, sketches on history, culture, traditions and education

Task 1A. Following the link <https://cutt.ly/51sKbC9>, read the text “An Introduction to New Zealand” paying attention to new words and do online test. Define the meaning of the new words in online Cambridge Dictionary.

Task 1B. Answer the questions to the text.

1. Describe the location of New Zealand. What are its neighbouring countries?
2. What names have the Maori given the island of New Zealand? What might these names say about the islands' nature?
3. What is New Zealand's economy based on?
4. What measures is New Zealand taking to restore the country's natural habitat?
5. What nasty habit is the Kea Parrot known for?

Task 1C. Make a brochure of advertisement for New Zealand to lure tourists to these beautiful islands. Base your information on what you can see in New Zealand a Dream on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0KJno1QU-Mg>, or find your own information.

Task 2. Complete the text using the words below.

*bird cows fights inhabitants island sailor springs
summer times trees vote*

New Zealand consists of two main ____ (1). It has a population of about 3.4. million people. The first ____ (2) of New Zealand were the Maori. In 1642 the Dutch ____ (3) Abel Tasman visited New Zealand and gave it the name Zeeland ("sea land").

The British captain James Cook visited the island four ____ (4). There were a lot of ____ (5) between the Britons and the Maori.

In 1983 New Zealand was the first country where women were allowed to ____ (6). The landscape is very different. In the north of the North Island grow oranges, in the middle there are three volcanoes and a lot of hot ____ (7). In the South Island the Southern Alps go from one end of the island to the other. There are rivers and lakes too, it's very popular for skiing in winter and water sports in ____ (8). To the east of the mountains the land is flat and mainly used for farming. There are large farms, especially for sheep and ____ (9), 66 million sheep and nine million cows altogether.

This country is also famous for its beautiful landscape and animals. New Zealand's best-known _____(10) is the kiwi. It's also the home for the oldest type of animals in the world, the tuatara. There grow beautiful _____(11), too. The biggest of all is the kauri.

Task 3. Complete the text using the verbs in brackets in a proper tense form.

History of New Zealand, the Youngest Country

Only a thousand years ago, Maori _____(1 become) the first people to migrate to New Zealand. Since then, people _____(2 come) from around the world _____(3 settle) here. The first New Zealanders, the Maori, _____(4 migrate) here from their ancestral Polynesian homeland of Hawaiki. Abel Tasman became the first European _____(5 see) New Zealand, but it _____(6 be) after Captain James Cook began his circumnavigation of the country in 1769 that European migration began. The signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840, which _____(7 make) New Zealand become a British colony, _____(8 have) an enormous effect on the New Zealand population. During the mid and late 1980s a large number of Scottish migrants _____(9 settle) in New Zealand. The Scottish influence can _____(10 still/see) throughout the city's architecture, particularly in the University and Medical School. Pipes bands, Scottish country dancing, and the sport of curling _____(11 be) all pastimes which _____(12 be) originally brought to New Zealand by Scottish migrants.

As well as _____(13 bring in) large numbers of miners from Europe, Australia, and America, the Otago gold rush _____(14 attract) many male migrants from China. In the 1950s an agreement between the Dutch and New Zealand governments saw a large number of Dutch migrants settle throughout New Zealand. Thanks to Dutch migrants, New Zealand currently _____(15 export) tulip bulbs to the Netherlands! During the 1960s and 70s New Zealand _____(16 face) a severe labour shortage. This _____(17 lead) to a large number of migrants from the Pacific Islands arriving in New Zealand. The influence of Pacific Island food, fashion, and arts can be seen on the streets of most New Zealand cities. The last 15 years _____(18 see) considerable migration to New Zealand from Asia, including Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Korea, and Japan. These Asian migrants

____(19 greatly/contribute) to the New Zealand economy, particularly in the areas of business and the professions. Most New Zealand cities now ____ (20 have) many Asian restaurants and shops. (Adapted from https://www.eslprintables.com/vocabulary_worksheets/countries_and_nationalities/new_zealand/A_TOUR_AROUND_ENGLISH_SPEAKING_449112/)

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