

**MINISTRY OF HIGHER AND SECONDARY
SPECIAL EDUCATION OF REPUBLIC OF
UZBEKISTAN**

ANDIZHAN STATE UNIVERSITY

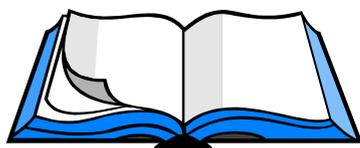
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Department of English phonetics

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**LECTURES ON REGIONAL
GEOGRAPHY**

GEOGRAPHY OF ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES



Andizhan – 2016

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«Mamlakatshunoslik» (geografiya) fanidan

ma'ruza matnlari

Tuzuvchilar: Filologiya fanlari nomzodi
V.A.Vositov

«Mamlakatshunoslik» (geografiya) (II kurs uchun)

kursi bo'yicha
ma'ruzalar: 38 soat
seminarlar: 38 soat

KIRISH

Mamlakatshunoslik (geografiya) fani bakalavriyat yo'nalishidagi talabalarga mo'ljallangan bo'lib, ularda shu soha bo'yicha bilim va malakalarni shakllantirishga xizmat qiladi.

Mamlakatshunoslik (geografiya) fanida talabalar inglizabon mamlakatlar, jumladan Buyuk Britaniya, Angliya, Shotlandiya, Uels, Shimoliy Irlandiya, Amerika Qo'shma Shtatlari, Yangi Zelandiya, Kanada, Avstraliya kabi davlatlarning jug'rofik joylashuvi va ularning aholisi, iqlimi, tabiati va tabiat resurslaridan vofiq bo'lishadi.

Bu fan tarix, geografiya, pedagogika, madaniyatshunoslik, sotsiologiya va boshqa fanlar bilan aloqador.

Kurs davomida talabalar quyidagi ma'lumotlarga ega bo'ladilar:

Buyuk Britaniyaning jug'rofik joylashuvi va uning aholisi, iqlimi, tabiati va tabiat resurslari;

Angliyaning jug'rofik joylashuvi va uning aholisi, iqlimi, tabiati va tabiat resurslari;

Shotlandiyaning jug'rofik joylashuvi va uning aholisi, iqlimi, tabiati va tabiat resurslari;

Uelsning jug'rofik joylashuvi va uning aholisi, iqlimi, tabiati va tabiat resurslari;

Shimoliy Irlandiyaning jug'rofik joylashuvi va uning aholisi, iqlimi, tabiati va tabiat resurslari;

Amerika Qo'shma Shtatlarining jug'rofik joylashuvi va uning aholisi, iqlimi, tabiati va tabiat resurslari;

Yangi Zelandiyaning jug'rofik joylashuvi va ularning aholisi, iqlimi, tabiati va tabiat resurslari;

Kanadaning jug'rofik joylashuvi va uning aholisi, iqlimi, tabiati va tabiat resurslari;

Avstraliyaning jug'rofik joylashuvi va uning aholisi, iqlimi, tabiati va tabiat resurslari.

**“Mamlakatshunoslik” (geografiya) fani bo’yicha ma’ruza mashg’ulotlarining
kalendar - tematik rejasi:**

№	Mavzular nomi	Ma’ruza
1	Regional geography as a science	2
2	Geographical position of Great Britain and its population	2
3	Climate, nature and natural resources of Great Britain.	2
4	Geographical position of England and its population	2
5	Climate, nature and natural resources of England.	2
6	Geographical position of Scotland and its population	2
7	Climate, nature and natural resources of Scotland.	2
8	Geographical position of Wales and its population	2
9	Climate, nature and natural resources of Wales.	2
10	Geographical position of Northern Ireland and its population	2
11	Climate, nature and natural resources of Northern Ireland.	2
12	Geography of the United States	2
13	Climate of the United States	2
14	Natural resources and population of the United States	2
15	Geographical position of Canada and its population	2
16	Climate, nature and natural resources of Canada.	2
17	Geography of New Zealand	2
18	Climate and natural resources of New Zealand	2
19	Geographical position of Australia and its population	2
20	Climate, nature and natural resources of Australia.	2
	JAMI	40

Lecture 1

Regional geography as a science

Plan:

1. Notion of the term “Geography”.
2. What is Geography?
3. Development of the science:
 - a) Ancient Geographers;
 - b) Age of Discovery;
 - c) Emergence of Modern Geography.
4. Physical Geography.
5. Regional Geography.
6. Human Geography.

Key words: geography, cartographers, geographers, toponymy, cartology, spatial and the temporal distribution of phenomena, interaction, environment, economics, health, climate, plants, animals, Eratosthenes, human geography, physical geography, flora, fauna, people, culture, politics, settlements, plants, landforms, geomorphology, glaciology, pedology, hydrology (hydrography), climatology (meteorology), biogeography, oceanography (oceanography), coastal geography, environmental management, geodesy, landscape ecology, palaeogeography, quaternary science.

During the course we'll get acquainted with the geography of English speaking countries. As we know Great Britain, the United States of America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand are English-speaking countries. They are situated in different parts of the world and differ in many ways. The nature of these countries, their weather and climate and the way of life of their people differ. Each country has its own history, customs, traditions, and its own national holidays. But they all have a common language, English. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and North Ireland consist of 4 parts: England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. The British Isles are group of islands lying off the north-west coast of the continent of Europe. There are no high mountains, no very long rivers, and no large forests in the U.K. The population of the U.K. is almost fifty-six million. Great Britain is a capitalist country. The USA is situated in the central part of the North American continent. The population of the USA is more than 236 million people. The USA is a highly developed industrial country. In the USA there are two main political parties, the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. Canada has area of nearly 10 million square kilometers. It's western coast is washed by the Pacific Ocean and its eastern coast by the Atlantic Ocean. The population of Canada is over 26 million people. Canada is a capitalist federal state and a member of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth of Australia territories are the

continent of Australia, the island of Tasmania and a number of smaller islands. Australia has an area of nearly eight million square kilometers. The population of Australia is over sixteen million people. The Commonwealth of Australia is a capitalist self-governing federal state. New Zealand is situated south-east of Australia. The country consists of three large islands called the North Island, the South Island and Stewart Island and also many smaller islands. The population of New Zealand is over three million people. New Zealand is a capitalist self-governing state and a member of the Commonwealth.

Traditionally, [geographers](#) have been viewed the same way as [cartographers](#) and people who study place names and numbers. Although many geographers are trained in [toponymy](#) and cartology, this is not their main preoccupation. Geographers study the [spatial](#) and the [temporal](#) distribution of phenomena, processes, and features as well as the [interaction](#) of humans and their [environment](#). Because space and place affect a variety of topics, such as [economics](#), [health](#), [climate](#), [plants](#) and [animals](#); geography is highly interdisciplinary. The interdisciplinary nature of the geographical approach depends on an attentiveness to the relationship between physical and human phenomena and its spatial patterns.

...mere names of places...are not geography...know by heart a whole gazetteer full of them would not, in itself, constitute anyone a [geographer](#). Geography has higher aims than this: it seeks to classify phenomena (alike of the natural and of the political world, in so far as it treats of the latter), to compare, to generalize, to ascend from effects to causes, and, in doing so, to trace out the laws of nature and to mark their influences upon man. This is 'a description of the world'—that is Geography. In a word Geography is a Science—a thing not of mere names but of argument and reason, of cause and effect.

Geography (from [Greek](#) γεωγραφία, *geographia*, lit. "earth description") is a field of science dedicated to the study of the lands, the features, the inhabitants, and the phenomena of the [Earth](#). A literal translation would be "to describe or write about the Earth". The first person to use the word "geography" was [Eratosthenes](#) [ˌɛrəˈtɒsθəniːz] (276–194 BC). Four historical traditions in geographical research are [spatial analysis](#) of the natural and the human phenomena (geography as the study of distribution), [area studies](#) (places and regions), study of the human-land relationship, and research in the [Earth sciences](#). Nonetheless, modern geography is an all-encompassing discipline that foremost seeks to understand the Earth and all of its human and natural complexities - not merely where objects are, but how they have changed and come to be. Geography has been called "the world discipline" and "the bridge between the human and the [physical science](#)". Geography is divided into two main branches: [human geography](#) and [physical geography](#).

What is Geography?

Geography is the study of life on the surface of the earth. Historically it has consisted of two main branches, human geography and physical geography. Human geography has three general focuses:

1. Characterizing and explaining the differences between places in the present and throughout time
2. Theorizing and modeling the spatial structure, organization, and control of society
3. Explaining the meaning and significance of place, space, and landscape

Physical geography generally focuses on physical systems at the landscape scale, that is, not at the scale of the globe or below the surface of the earth, which is the realm of geology. Thus physical geographers study how features in the landscape are formed over time (geomorphology), how fluvial systems develop, and the spatial distribution, movements, and characteristics of flora and fauna. In recent years a third branch of geographic scholarship has emerged with the rapid development of computer-based geospatial methods of mapping and analyzing geographical phenomena, focused on GIS, computer cartography, and geographic visualization.

Geography is unusual among academic disciplines for being fundamentally interdisciplinary. While individual geographers may practice only one kind of geography, many are conversant with two or all three branches. Our scholarship commonly involves studying a place or a phenomenon from more than one disciplinary angle. We often combine layers of information that in most disciplines would be treated separately because understanding how places developed over time (for example) requires examining cultural and economic change as well as environmental conditions. We are more likely than many scholars to use maps as sources of evidence, to study the spatial relationships of multiple variables, and to represent the results of our analysis in graphic form. Geographers are also very sensitive to the significance of scale—the scale of evidence, the scale at which we study any question, and the different explanations our analyses provide depending on the scale of analysis.

In a liberal arts education, Geography performs the special service of helping students draw connections between the various disciplines they study. Geographers consider their discipline the premier integrating discipline.

As we have abovementioned geography is the study of places and the relationships between people and their environments. Geographers explore both the physical properties of Earth's surface and the human societies spread across it. They also examine how human culture interacts with the natural environment, and the way that locations and places can have an impact on people. Geography seeks to understand where things are found, why they are there, and how they develop and change over time.

Ancient Geographers

The term "geography" comes to us from the ancient Greeks, who needed a word to describe the writings and maps that were helping them make sense of the world in which they lived. In Greek, *geo* means "earth" and *-graphy* means "to

write.” Using geography, Greeks developed an understanding of where their homeland was located in relation to other places, what their own and other places were like, and how people and environments were distributed. These concerns have been central to geography ever since.

Of course, the Greeks were not the only people interested in geography. Throughout human history, most societies have sought to understand something about their place in the world, and the people and environments around them.

Indeed, mapmaking probably came even before writing in many places. But ancient Greek geographers were particularly influential. They developed very detailed maps of areas in and around Greece, including parts of Europe, Africa, and Asia. More importantly, they also raised questions about how and why different human and natural patterns came into being on Earth’s surface, and why variations existed from place to place. The effort to answer these questions about patterns and distribution led them to figure out that the world was round, to calculate Earth’s circumference, and to develop explanations of everything from the seasonal flooding of the Nile River to differences in population densities from place to place.

During the Middle Ages, geography ceased to be a major academic pursuit in Europe. Advances in geography were chiefly made by scientists of the Muslim world, based around the Arabian Peninsula and North Africa. Geographers of this Islamic Golden Age created the world’s first rectangular map based on a grid, a map system that is still familiar today. Islamic scholars also applied their study of people and places to agriculture, determining which crops and livestock were most suited to specific habitats or environments.

In addition to the advances in the Middle East, the Chinese empire in Asia also contributed immensely to geography. Until about 1500, China was the most prosperous civilization on Earth. The Chinese were scientifically advanced, especially in the field of astronomy. Around 1000, they also achieved one of the most important developments in the history of geography: They were the first to use the compass for navigational purposes. In the early 1400s, the explorer Cheng Ho embarked on seven voyages to the lands bordering the China Sea and the Indian Ocean, establishing China’s dominance throughout Southeast Asia.

Age of Discovery

Through the 13th-century travels of the Italian explorer Marco Polo, Europeans learned about the riches of China. Curiosity was awakened; a desire to trade with wealthy Asian cultures motivated a renewed interest in exploring the world. The period of time between the 15th and 17th centuries is known in the West as the Age of Exploration or the Age of Discovery.

With the dawn of the Age of Discovery, the study of geography regained popularity in Europe. The invention of the printing press in the mid-1400s helped spread geographic knowledge by making maps and charts widely available.

Improvements in shipbuilding and navigation facilitated more exploring, greatly improving the accuracy of maps and geographic information.

Greater geographic understanding allowed European powers to extend their global influence. During the Age of Discovery, European nations established colonies around the world. Improved transportation, communication, and navigational technology allowed countries such as the United Kingdom to successfully govern colonies as far away as the Americas, Asia, Australia, and Africa.

Geography was not just a subject that made colonialism possible, however. It also helped people understand the planet on which they lived. Not surprisingly, geography became an important focus of study in schools and universities.

Geography also became an important part of other academic disciplines, such as chemistry, economics, and philosophy. In fact, every academic subject has some geographic connection. Chemists study where certain chemical elements, such as gold or silver, can be found. Economists examine which nations trade with other nations, and what resources are exchanged. Philosophers analyze the responsibility people have to take care of the Earth.

Emergence of Modern Geography

Some people have trouble understanding the complete scope of the discipline of geography because, unlike most other disciplines, geography is not defined by one particular topic. Instead, geography is concerned with many different topics—people, culture, politics, settlements, plants, landforms, and much more.

What distinguishes geography is that it approaches the study of diverse topics in a particular way (that is, from a particular perspective). Geography asks spatial questions—how and why things are distributed or arranged in particular ways on Earth’s surface. It looks at these different distributions and arrangements at many different scales. It also asks questions about how the interaction of different human and natural activities on Earth’s surface shape the characteristics of the world in which we live.

Geography seeks to understand where things are found and why they are present in those places; how things that are located in the same or distant places influence one another over time; and why places and the people who live in them develop and change in particular ways. Raising these questions is at the heart of the “geographic perspective.”

Exploration has long been an important part of geography. But exploration no longer simply means going to places that have not been visited before. It means documenting and trying to explain the variations that exist across the surface of Earth, as well as figuring out what those variations mean for the future.

The age-old practice of mapping still plays an important role in this type of exploration, but exploration can also be done by using images from satellites or gathering information from interviews. Discoveries can come by using computers

to map and analyze the relationship among things in geographic space, or from piecing together the multiple forces, near and far, that shape the way individual places develop.

Applying a geographic perspective demonstrates geography's concern not just with where things are, but with "the why of where"—a short, but useful definition of geography's central focus.

The insights that have come from geographic research show the importance of asking "the why of where" questions. Geographic studies comparing physical characteristics of continents on either side of the Atlantic Ocean, for instance, gave rise to the idea that Earth's surface is comprised of large, slowly moving plates—plate tectonics.

Studies of the geographic distribution of human settlements have shown how economic forces and modes of transport influence the location of towns and cities. For example, geographic analysis has pointed to the role of the U.S. Interstate Highway System and the rapid growth of car ownership in creating a boom in U.S. suburban growth after World War II. The geographic perspective helped show where Americans were moving, why they were moving there, and how their new living places affected their lives, their relationships with others, and their interactions with the environment.

Geographic analyses of the spread of diseases have pointed to the conditions that allow particular diseases to develop and spread. Dr. John Snow's cholera map stands out as a classic example. When cholera broke out in London, England, in 1854, Snow represented the deaths per household on a street map. Using the map, he was able to trace the source of the outbreak to a water pump on the corner of Broad Street and Cambridge Street. The geographic perspective helped identify the source of the problem (the water from a specific pump) and allowed people to avoid the disease (avoiding water from that pump).

Investigations of the geographic impact of human activities have advanced understanding of the role of humans in transforming the surface of Earth, exposing the spatial extent of threats such as water pollution by manmade waste. For example, geographic study has shown that a large mass of tiny pieces of plastic currently floating in the Pacific Ocean is approximately the size of Texas. Satellite images and other geographic technology identified the so-called "Great Pacific Garbage Patch."

These examples of different uses of the geographic perspective help explain why geographic study and research is important as we confront many 21st century challenges, including environmental pollution, poverty, hunger, and ethnic or political conflict.

Because the study of geography is so broad, the discipline is typically divided into specialties. At the broadest level, geography is divided into physical geography, human geography, geographic techniques, and regional geography.

Physical Geography

The natural environment is the primary concern of physical geographers, although many physical geographers also look at how humans have altered natural systems. Physical geographers study Earth's seasons, climate, atmosphere, soil, streams, landforms, and oceans. Some disciplines within physical geography include geomorphology, glaciology, pedology, hydrology (hydrography), climatology (meteorology), biogeography, and oceanography (oceanography), coastal geography, environmental management, geodesy, landscape ecology, palaeogeography, quaternary science.

Geomorphology is the study of landforms and the processes that shape them. Geomorphologists investigate the nature and impact of wind, ice, rivers, erosion, earthquakes, volcanoes, living things, and other forces that shape and change the surface of the Earth.

Glaciologists focus on the Earth's ice fields and their impact on the planet's climate. Glaciologists document the properties and distribution of glaciers and icebergs. Data collected by glaciologists has demonstrated the retreat of Arctic and Antarctic ice in the past century.

Pedologists study soil and how it is created, changed, and classified. Soil studies are used by a variety of professions, from farmers analyzing field fertility to engineers investigating the suitability of different areas for building heavy structures.

Hydrology is the study of Earth's water: its properties, distribution, and effects. Hydrologists are especially concerned with the movement of water as it cycles from the ocean to the atmosphere, then back to Earth's surface. Hydrologists study the water cycle through rainfall into streams, lakes, the soil, and underground aquifers. Hydrologists provide insights that are critical to building or removing dams, designing irrigation systems, monitoring water quality, tracking drought conditions, and predicting flood risk.

Climatologists study Earth's climate system and its impact on Earth's surface. For example, climatologists make predictions about El Nino, a cyclical weather phenomenon of warm surface temperatures in the Pacific Ocean. They analyze the dramatic worldwide climate changes caused by El Nino, such as flooding in Peru, drought in Australia, and, in the United States, the oddities of heavy Texas rains or an unseasonably warm Minnesota winter.

Biogeographers study the impact of the environment on the distribution of plants and animals. For example, a biogeographer might document all the places in the world inhabited by a certain spider species, and what those places have in common.

Oceanography, a related discipline of physical geography, focuses on the creatures and environments of the world's oceans. Observation of ocean tides and currents constituted some of the first oceanographic investigations. For example, 18th-century mariners figured out the geography of the Gulf Stream, a massive current flowing like a river through the Atlantic Ocean. The discovery and tracking

of the Gulf Stream helped communications and travel between Europe and the Americas.

Today, oceanographers conduct research on the impacts of water pollution, track tsunamis, design offshore oil rigs, investigate underwater eruptions of lava, and study all types of marine organisms from toxic algae to friendly dolphins.

Human Geography

Human geography is concerned with the distribution and networks of people and cultures on Earth's surface. A human geographer might investigate the local, regional, and global impact of rising economic powers China and India, which represent 37 percent of the world's people. They also might look at how consumers in China and India adjust to new technology and markets, and how markets respond to such a huge consumer base.

Human geographers also study how people use and alter their environments. When, for example, people allow their animals to overgraze a region, the soil erodes and grassland is transformed into desert. The impact of overgrazing on the landscape as well as agricultural production is an area of study for human geographers.

Finally, human geographers study how political, social, and economic systems are organized across geographical space. These include governments, religious organizations, and trade partnerships. The boundaries of these groups constantly change.

The main divisions within human geography reflect a concern with different types of human activities or ways of living. Some examples of human geography include urban geography, economic geography, cultural geography, political geography, social geography, and population geography. Human geographers who study geographic patterns and processes in past times are part of the sub discipline of historical geography. Those who study how people understand maps and geographic space belong to a sub discipline known as behavioral geography.

Many human geographers interested in the relationship between humans and the environment work in the sub disciplines of cultural geography and political geography.

Cultural geographers study how the natural environment influences the development of human culture, such as how the climate affects the agricultural practices of a region. Political geographers study the impact of political circumstances on interactions between people and their environment, as well as environmental conflicts, such as disputes over water rights.

Some human geographers focus on the connection between human health and geography. For example, health geographers create maps that track the location and spread of specific diseases. They analyze the geographic disparities of health-care access. They are very interested in the impact of the environment on human health, especially the effects of environmental hazards such as radiation, lead poisoning, or water pollution.

Questions for discussion:

1. What do you know about the notion of the term “Geography”?
2. What is Geography?
3. What countries of the world are said to be English speaking countries?
4. How do we call the people who study place names and numbers?
5. What do geographers study?
6. What does the word geography mean?
7. Into what two main branches is geography divided?
8. What can you tell of the emergence of Modern Geography?
9. What does Physical Geography study?
10. What about the human geography?

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Lecture 20

Theme: Climate, nature and natural resources of Australia.

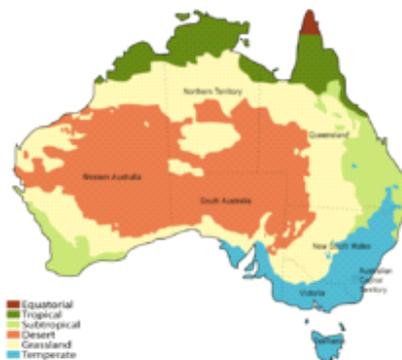
Plan:

1. Climate map of Australia.
2. Natural hazards.
3. Environment.
4. Natural resources of Australia.

Key words:

arid, semi-arid, named deserts, desert climate, tropical rainforests, part grasslands, part desert, frequent droughts, tornado, salinity, desertification, tropical/subtropical location, aridity, moisture, settlers, monsoons, outback, thunderstorms, droughts, floods; heat waves, bushfires, environmental issues, soil erosion, overgrazing, industrial development, urbanization, poor farming practices, salinity, Rabbits, unique animal, plant species, natural fresh water resources, copper, gold, diamonds, energy resources, coal, oil, and uranium, land resources.

Climate



Climate map of Australia

By far the largest part of Australia is [arid](#) or [semi-arid](#). A total of 18% of Australia's mainland consists of [named deserts](#), while additional areas are considered to have a [desert climate](#) based on low rainfall and high temperature. Only the south-east and south-west corners have a temperate climate and moderately fertile soil. The [northern part](#) of the country has a tropical climate: part is tropical [rainforests](#), part grasslands, and part desert.

Rainfall is highly variable, with frequent [droughts](#) lasting several seasons thought to be caused in part by the [El Niño-Southern Oscillation](#). Occasionally a dust storm will blanket a region or even several states and there are reports of the

occasional large [tornado](#). Rising levels of [salinity](#) and desertification in some areas is ravaging the landscape.

Australia's tropical/subtropical location and cold waters off the western coast make most of western Australia a hot desert with aridity, a marked feature of the greater part of the continent. These cold waters produce little moisture needed on the mainland. A 2005 study by Australian and American researchers investigated the desertification of the interior, and suggested that one explanation was related to human [settlers](#) who arrived about 50,000 years ago. Regular burning by these settlers could have prevented [monsoons](#) from reaching interior Australia. The [outback](#) covers 70 percent of the continent.

Natural hazards

[Cyclones](#) along the northern coasts; severe [thunderstorms](#), [droughts](#) and occasional [floods](#); [heat waves](#), frequent [bushfires](#).

Environment

Main article: [Environmental issues in Australia](#)



[Whitehaven Beach](#) in [Queensland](#) in October

Current environmental issues include: soil erosion from overgrazing, industrial development, urbanization, and poor farming practices; soil [salinity](#) rising due to the use of poor quality water; desertification (partly as a result of the introduction by European settlers of [Rabbits](#)); introduced pest species; clearing for agricultural purposes threatens the natural habitat of many unique animal and plant species; the Great Barrier Reef off the northeast coast, the largest coral reef in the world, is threatened by increased shipping and its popularity as a tourist site; limited natural fresh water resources; threats from [invasive species](#).

International agreements:

- *party to:* [Antarctic-Environmental Protocol](#), [Antarctic Treaty](#), [Kyoto Protocol](#), [Biodiversity](#), 2% [China–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement](#), [Climate Change](#), [Endangered Species](#), [Environmental Modification](#), [Hazardous Wastes](#), 2% [Japan–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement](#), [Law of the Sea](#), [Marine Dumping](#), [Marine Life Conservation](#), [Nuclear Test Ban 1963](#), [Nuclear Non-Proliferation](#), [Ozone Layer Protection](#), [Ship Pollution](#), [Tropical Timber 1994](#), [Ramsar Convention](#), [Whaling](#)
- *signed, but not ratified:* [Desertification](#)



Grassland and mountain ranges in [Queensland](#)



The Victorian Alps

Antipodes

Australia is [antipodal](#) to the [North Atlantic](#). There are no land areas included, though [Bermuda](#) has its antipodes just off Perth, [Flores Island](#) in the western [Azores](#) just off [Flinders Island](#), Tasmania, and [Cape Verde](#) is opposite the [Coral Sea](#).

Australia has many **natural resources**. These resources include mineral resources, such as copper, gold and diamonds, energy resources, such as coal, oil, and uranium, and land resources that are used for farming and logging. These resources are economically important to Australia. Many people believe that Australia's economy is **resource dependent**, which means that if these resources were to be depleted, Australia's economy would suffer. *See image 1*

Mineral resources. Australia is among the world's largest producers of minerals. The most important mineral resources in Australia are bauxite, gold and iron ore. Other mineral deposits in Australia include copper, lead, zinc, diamonds and mineral sands. A majority of Australia's minerals are mined in Western Australia and Queensland. Most of the minerals mined in Australia are exported, or shipped overseas.

Energy resources. Australia has extensive deposits of coal. Coal is mostly found in the eastern part of the country in the Sydney and Bowen basins. Two-thirds of Australian coal is exported, mostly to Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Western

Europe. The rest of the coal mined in Australia is burned for electricity within Australia.

Natural gas is also abundant in Australia. Natural gas is used to heat homes and power certain types of vehicles. Natural gas reserves in Australia are mostly found in Western Australia and central Australia. Since most of these reserves are far away from urban centres, gas pipelines have been built to transport natural gas to cities such as Sydney and Melbourne. Some of this natural gas is exported from where it is collected. Natural gas collected in Western Australia, for example, is exported directly to Japan in liquid form.

Australia also contains one-third of the world's uranium supply. Uranium is used to produce nuclear power. Nuclear power and uranium mining are both highly controversial, however, because people are worried about their environmental impact, as uranium can emit toxic radiation. *See image 4*

Land resources

Finally, Australia's land itself can be considered as a resource. Australian soil is used to grow food in the form of crops and to produce food for raising livestock, such as cattle. Australian forests are used as a source of wood for building and making paper.

Questions for discussion:

1. What can you say about the climate of Australia?
2. What animals can you see on the Australian coat of arms?
3. What is the largest Zoo in Australia? Where is it?
4. What animal lives in the eucalyptus tree being a small bear – like animal?
5. What animals are represented at the emblem of Australia?
6. What kind of continent is Australia?
7. Which month is the best time to visit to Australia? Why?
8. What kind of resources has Australia?
9. Where is coal mostly found?
10. Which part of the country has a tropical climate?

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