Chapter 29

Section 2

Cultures and Lifestyles
The People

• Population Growth and Density
  – Population patterns vary greatly bc of landforms and climate
  – Australia- most populous- 20million
  – NZ- about 4 million
  • Both countries- pop. growth has slowed- low birthrate BUT high immigration
  • In both, most people live along coasts
The People

– Population is growing rapidly in the rest of Oceania
– Young population
– Most populous- Papua New Guinea- 5.9million
  • Large area tho- only 33 people/square mile
– Nauru- only 10k people BUT very small- 1,111 people/square mile- one of Oceania’s largest
– Overcrowding is a problem- lots of emigration
The People

• **Urban and Rural Life**
  – Aus and NZ - >85% urban coastal
    • Sydney and Melbourne, Australia
    • Auckland and Wellington, New Zealand
  – In Oceania- largest Port Moresby, PNG
  – The rest is mostly rural
  – Some Australians live in rural areas called the bush
    • Work on cattle/sheep ranches called stations
  – Others farm or mine
The People

- Ethnic Groups and Languages
  - 90% of Aus are British or Irish descent
  - More immigrants from Asia now than Europe
  - Aborigine pop grown to 400k
  - English official language- some Aboriginees still speak native language
  - NZ- less diverse- 75% European (mostly Brits)
    - 13% Maori, Asian and Pacific Islanders 10%
    - English official language but Maori is official 2nd language
The People

– Melanesians, Micronesians, and Polynesians- 3 largest ethnic groups of Oceania

– Subdivided- speak over 1200 languages
  • 700 in Papua New Guinea alone
  • Many speak Pigdin- combine several different languages

– Most Oceania islands have some European descent
  • Largest is French Polynesia- 1/3 European
Culture and Daily Life

– Influenced by Pacific, European, American, and Asian traditions

• Religion
  – Christianity is dominant- brought by Europeans in 18th and 19th century
  – Some local religions still exist
    • Aborigine Dreamtime- when spirits wandered the Earth and created everything- all things have spirits and are related
Culture and Daily Life

• The Arts
  – Aboriginal cave paintings- human and nature relationship
  – Australian painters- landscapes; writers and filmmakers- local themes
  – NZ- Maori canoe making, weaving, and woodworking
    • Storytellers, songs, and chants of ancient myths and history
    • 1900s- action songs- blends traditional dance with modern music
  – Oceania- dance for rituals and storytelling (hula)
Culture and Daily Life

• Daily Life
  – European background - nuclear families
  – Aborigines, Maori, and Pacific Islanders stress extended family
    • 3 or 4 generations, headed usually by men, sometimes by women
  – Aus home - wood or brick with tile or wood floor
  – NZ - timber or stone cottages
    • City residents in both - western style apartments
  – Oceania - tin or thatched roof on building held up by posts
    • Samoan fale - open to allow breezes in - palm blinds for privacy
Culture and Daily Life

– Meat- lamb, beef, fish, pork- served with veggies, bread, and fruit
– Fast food chains have grown
– Oceania- also eat yams and taro (a tuber or fleshy bulb)- mashed into paste called poi
– Swim, surf, and scuba in ocean
– Oceania- boat racing
– NZ and Australia- hiking and mountain climbing and RUGBY