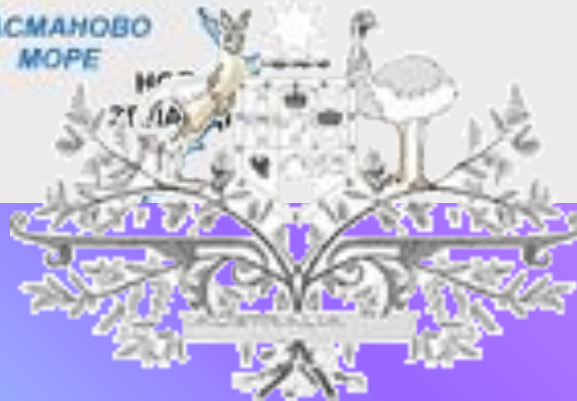


# ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES





# Australia



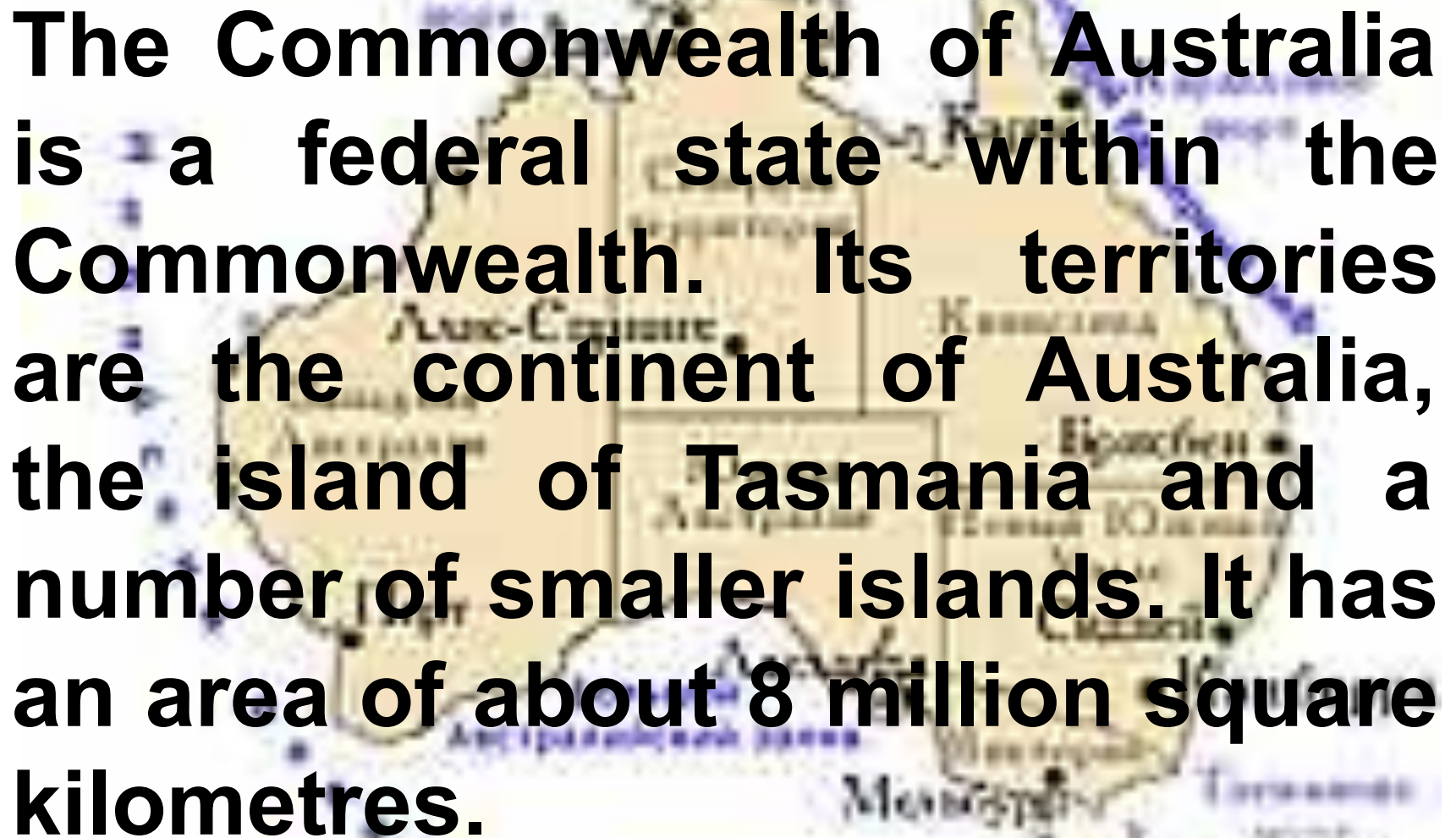
the smallest continent  
the largest island

the Pacific Ocean  
the Indian Ocean



# The Commonwealth of AUSTRALIA



A map of Australia is shown in the background, with a magnifying glass icon positioned over the island state of Tasmania. The text is overlaid on the map.

**The Commonwealth of Australia is a federal state within the Commonwealth. Its territories are the continent of Australia, the island of Tasmania and a number of smaller islands. It has an area of about 8 million square kilometres.**



**It is the world's largest island  
and its smallest continent.**



# History of Australia

- The east coast of Australia was discovered by Captain Cook in 1770.





1. What part of Australia was first used as a colony?
2. How did the early settlers behave towards the aborigines?
3. Why did very many people go to Australia after 1851?
4. When was the new nation born in Australia?





The continent of Australia is mostly a great plain with mountains in the east and south-east.





**Much of the land  
is a useless  
desert. Great  
deserts cover  
nearly  
2 000 000 square  
kilometres.**

- **Most of the continent is sunny most of the year.**



- **Severe droughts, floods and cyclones happen very often on the continent. The people suffer from limited fresh water.**



- The tropical forests are displaced by savanna or grassland. In the south-east and on the sides of the mountains there are forests of eucalyptus and other evergreen trees.





# WILD LIFE OF AUSTRALIA



# **THE STRANGE WORLD OF AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS**

Australia has been called “the land of differences” and “the continent of contrasts”. There are many ways in which it is different from other countries. The first thing most people think of are the strange native animals

There are many wild animals in Australia. Some of them, such as

**the kangaroo**



**the koala**



**the dingo  
or wild  
dog**



are not found in  
any other country  
of the world



**The native birds of Australia are very interesting. The emu, for example, which with kangaroo is represented on the Australian coat-of-arms, is the next-tallest bird in the world after the ostrich.**



- **The capital of Australia is Canberra.**



**There are 5 big cities in Australia:  
Sydney,  
Melbourne,  
Adelaide, Perth  
and Brisbane.**



# What factors explain the following peculiarities of Australia?

- **The seasons are the other way round in Australia**

- The continent is south of the Equator.



What factors explain the following peculiarities of Australia?

- **Australia is sometimes called the Land Down Under.**

- New Year is in the middle of summer, the middle of winter is in June, and the winter months are never cold.
- Hot winds blow from the north, cold winds blow from the south.



# What factors explain the following peculiarities of Australia?

- **The few rivers play an especially important role in people's lives.**



**Much of the land is a useless  
desert. Great deserts cover  
nearly 2 mln sq kms.**

**The people suffer from limited  
fresh water.**



# What factors explain the following peculiarities of Australia?

- **The island's wildlife is so unique today.**

Australia became cut off from the rest of the world.



- **By whom was Australia discovered and when was it happened?**
- **When was the birth of the new nation celebrated?**
- **What is the official name of Australia?**
- **What landscape is typical of Australia?**
- **Name the greatest rivers of Australia?**
- **What animals live in Australia?**
- **Name big cities of Australia.**
- **What is the capital of Australia?**

