

Cornell Notes 	Topic/Objective: Physical Geography & Climate	Name:
	History & Culture	Class/Period:
	Australia, New Zealand, & Pacific Islands Today	Date:

Essential Questions:

Questions:	Notes:
What is the physical geography & climate of Australia, New Zealand, & the Pacific Islands?	Australia is a country and a continent.
	The Great Barrier Reef, a chain of colorful coral formations, lies off Australia's northeastern coast.
	Because Australia has been separated from other continents for millions of years, unique plants and animals, found nowhere else on Earth, have developed there and in the neighboring island of New Zealand.
	The vast interior of Australia is called the Outback.
	Australia includes two main islands and many smaller islands. Because it lies where two tectonic plates meet, it has active volcanoes and geysers and is located on the Ring of Fire.
	Few people inhabit the dry, desert regions of Australia's interior; most of Australia's people live near the eastern and southeastern coasts where there is a nice climate, good soil, and access to fresh water.
	New Zealand is part of Oceania, a culture region that includes thousands of islands in the Pacific Ocean.
What is the history & culture of Australia, New Zealand, & the Pacific Islands?	Asian and Pacific peoples, ancestors of the Aborigines of Australia and Maori of New Zealand, settled Australia, New Zealand, and Oceania thousands of years ago during an Ice Age.
	Captain James Cook claimed Australia for Great Britain in the 1700s, but England sent prisoners from overcrowded prisons to the island (penal colony).
	By the late 1800s, war and disease had greatly decreased the population of Aborigines. Great Britain divided Australia into five separate colonies that made their own laws.
	British settlers arrived in New Zealand in the early 1800s, and the diseases they brought with them killed half the Maori population.
	Gold was discovered in Australia in 1851 which caused the population to increase as people came to get rich.
	Australia, New Zealand, and many islands in Oceania gained independence in the 1900s. Australia and New Zealand are today parliamentary democracies.

<p>What is Australia, New Zealand, & the Pacific Islands like today?</p>	<p>Australia has a strong economy. The country has needed skilled workers and has encouraged tourism.</p>
	<p>The country of Australia has worked to improve the condition of the Aborigines, who have suffered discrimination since European settlement. Australia has begun to return land, build schools and hospitals, and has reserved some of their sacred places.</p>
	<p>New Zealand has a growing economy based on trade, especially the export of wool and meat and is expanding into wood and paper products.</p>
	<p>Many of Oceania's islands have limited resources and depend on tourism or aid from other countries.</p>
	<p>Oceania's islands had been sites of nuclear testing in the past, which continues to have effects today. Most of these islands are uninhabitable.</p>
	<p>Scientists fear that human activity may be harming plant and animal life in Antarctica even though it does not have a permanent human population. Many countries today have scientific research stations in Antarctica, but no country claims Antarctica.</p>
<p>Summary:</p>	