



Australian culture

Tutor Resources for the AMEP

A new life

Post-beginner

Tutor Resources for the AMEP

© Commonwealth of Australia 2011

This work is copyright. You may download, display, print and reproduce this material in unaltered form only (retaining this notice) for your personal, non-commercial use or use within your organisation. Apart from any use as permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, all other rights are reserved.

Requests for further authorisation should be directed to the:

Commonwealth Copyright Administration

Copyright Law Branch

Attorney-General's Department

Robert Garran Offices

National Circuit

Barton ACT 2600

Fax: 02 6250 5989

Email: commonwealth.copyright@ag.gov.au

Disclaimer

While the Department of Education and Training and its contributors have attempted to ensure the material in this booklet is accurate at the time of release, the booklet contains material on a range of matters that are subject to regular change. No liability for negligence or otherwise is assumed by the department or its contributors should anyone suffer a loss or damage as a result of relying on the information provided in this booklet.

References to external websites are provided for the reader's convenience and do not constitute endorsement of the information at those sites or any associated organisation, product or service. The Department of Education and Training accepts no responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or currency of material contained on any external website that is referred to in this booklet.

Acknowledgements

The Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training. Nationally, AMEP Distance/e-learning is delivered through the AMEP FLN Consortium.

Images

Images from *Australian Citizenship Our Common Bond*, *Our Common Bond A Course in Australian Citizenship* and *Its Over to You* reproduced with permission from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Images reproduced with permission from AMES.

©2011 Photos.com, a division of Getty Images. All rights reserved.

Theme: A new life

Topic: Australian culture

Task	Language focus	Learning activities	Resources
<p>1. Can identify different Australian celebrations</p> <p>Can use the language for inviting, accepting and refusing</p> <p>Can read an invitation</p>	<p>Vocabulary celebration, invitation, event, citizenship, ceremony, engagement, RSVP, accepting, refusing, bride, reception</p> <p>Structure Would you like to come/have ___? Do you want to come/have ___? Can you come/have ___? I would /I'd like that. Unfortunately I can't come/have ____. I'm afraid I can't come/have ____.</p>	<p>Discuss questions about celebrations and invitations</p> <p>Identify different types of invitations</p> <p>Role play invitations</p> <p>Match invitations to acceptances</p> <p>Practise inviting, accepting and refusing</p> <p>Answer questions about a wedding invitation</p>	<p>Worksheet 1: Talking about celebrations and invitations</p> <p>Worksheet 2: Invitations</p> <p>Worksheet 3: Invitation language</p> <p>Worksheet 4: A wedding invitation</p>
<p>2. Can give an opinion about living in Australia</p> <p>Can write about living in Australia</p>	<p>Vocabulary similar, different, opinion, homesickness, galleries, quality, Australian bush, energy, friendlier, easier, crowded</p> <p>Structure What is/are the ___ (weather, people etc) like? Who thinks ___?</p>	<p>Discuss questions about living in Australia</p> <p>Answer questions about a dialogue</p> <p>Match opinions to supporting information</p> <p>Give opinions about Australia</p> <p>Read and write about living in Australia</p>	<p>Worksheet 5: Talking about living in Australia</p> <p>Worksheet 6: Life in Australia</p> <p>Worksheet 7: Opinions about Australia</p> <p>Worksheet 8: Emi's story</p>

Theme:

A new life

Topic:

Australian culture

Celebrations

Task 1:	Can identify different Australian celebrations Can use the language for inviting, accepting and refusing Can read an invitation
Vocabulary:	celebration, invitation, event, citizenship, ceremony, engagement, RSVP, accepting, refusing, bride, reception
Language structure:	Would you like to come/have ___? Do you want to come/have ___? Can you come/have ___? I would /I'd like that. Unfortunately I can't come/have ___. I'm afraid I can't come/have ___.

Activity instructions

Discuss questions about celebrations and invitations

- 📄 Worksheet 1: Talking about celebrations and invitations
Look at the pictures together and discuss.
Read the questions and discuss.

Identify different types of invitations

- 📄 Worksheet 2: Invitations
- A. Explain to learner that they will hear three conversations about invitations and that they need to identify what kind of invitation is talked about.
Read the script twice.

Script – Conversation 1

Paul:	Hello.
Mae:	Hi Paul. It's Mae. How are you?
Paul:	Fine thanks. And you?
Mae:	Yeah, great. We got your invitation to Katie's first birthday party, but unfortunately we can't come.
Paul:	Oh, that's a shame. We were really looking forward to seeing Tam.
Mae:	Yes, he wanted to go too, but one of his kindy friends has got a party on the same day and we have already accepted that invitation.
Paul:	Never mind. We'll catch up again soon.
Mae:	Yes we will. And thanks again for the invitation. I hope Katie has a wonderful day.
Paul:	I'm sure she will. Thanks for calling. Bye now.
Mae:	Good bye.

Learner writes the type of invitation next to Conversation 1.

Repeat for Conversations 2 and 3.

Script – Conversation 2

Iresha: Oh look Marek! An invitation to a wedding!
Marek: Really? Who’s getting married?
Iresha: Alex and Susan!
Marek: Oh that’s great. When’s the wedding?
Iresha: It’s on Saturday the 8th January at 4.30 and afterwards at the Marylands Reception Centre. Oh, and it says ‘R-S-V-P’. What does that mean?
Marek: It’s French, I think. It means they’d like us to reply.
Iresha: Oh really? Yes, there’s an address under it. So do we have to write?
Marek: Or phone. Is there a phone number?
Iresha: No, there isn’t.
Marek: Well, we have to write to them by the RSVP date to let them know if we can go or not. How about I write the reply and you can buy the present?
Iresha: That’s fine by me!

Script – Conversation 3

Kathy: Hi Marion. Come in. Bill and I are having a coffee. Would you like one?
Marion: Yes. That would be lovely.
Kathy: So, what have you been up to?
Marion: Do you remember I sat for my Australian citizenship test?
Kathy: Yes, I remember.
Marion: Well, I passed and so I will become an Australian. There’s a ceremony next month and it’s at the local council and I can invite up to four people. Would you and Bill like to come?
Kathy: Oh, we’d love to come, wouldn’t we Bill? When is it exactly?
Marion: It’s on Thursday 15th at 7.30. I could pick you up at 7.00 and afterwards I thought we could have a meal and a drink at my place to celebrate.
Kathy: That would be wonderful. We’d love to celebrate with you.

Role play the dialogues.
 Learner corrects their work.

Role play invitations

- ☐ Worksheet 2: Invitations
- B. Role play the dialogues several times, reversing roles. Encourage learner to use expression in their voice.

Match invitations to acceptances

- ☐ Worksheet 3: Invitation language
- A. Learner reads the language structures and completes the invitations.

Answers

1 – to have, 2 – to have, 3 – have, 4 – to come, 5 – to come, 6 – come

Learner reads the completed sentences.
 Ask learner to say the invitations without reading.

- B. Discuss the ways of accepting an invitation.
Learner reads and matches the invitations with the corresponding acceptances.

Answers

1 – c, 2 – e, 3 – d, 4 – a, 5 – b

Practise inviting, accepting and refusing

- 📄 Worksheet 3: Invitation language

- C. Learner reads the information about refusing an invitation.

- D. Read the invitations and learner uses the appropriate language to refuse.
Repeat several times.

- 📄 Worksheet 3: Invitation language

- E. Ask learner to look at the six pictures and to identify the different events.

Answers

1 – wedding, 2 – dinner, 3 – the park, 4 – any type of invitation, 5 – drinks, 6 – picnic

Learner invites you to the different events.

Reverse roles. Learner accepts three invitations and refuses three.

Repeat several times.

Answer questions about a wedding invitation

- 📄 Worksheet 4: A wedding invitation

Learner reads the invitation.

Learner reads and answers the questions verbally.

Answers

1 – Susan Anne and Aleksander

2 – Mr and Mrs Roberts

3 – 234 Doncaster Road, Balwyn Vic 3103

4 – Holy Trinity Church (Main Street, Kew)

5 – Marylands reception Centre

6 – Saturday 8th January 2011 at 4.30pm

Learner writes the answers.

Correct their work.

Acknowledgement of image sources

Images reproduced with permission from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

©2011 Photos.com, a division of Getty Images. All rights reserved.

Living in Australia

Task 2: Can give an opinion about living in Australia
Can write an opinion about living in Australia

Vocabulary: similar, different, opinion, homesickness, galleries, quality, Australian bush, energy, friendlier, easier, crowded

Language structure: What is/are the ___ (weather, people etc) like?
Who thinks ___?

Activity instructions

Discuss questions about living in Australia

- 📄 Worksheet 5: Talking about living in Australia
- A. Learner marks the city or town they live in on the map.
Discuss other places they have visited, if relevant.
- B. Read the questions together and discuss.

Answer questions about a dialogue

- 📄 Worksheet 6: Life in Australia
- A. Learner reads the topics. Explain any new vocabulary.
Read the script twice.
Learner numbers the topics in the order they hear.

Script

Jenny: How long have you been in Australia, Tamir?

Tamir: For about two years.

Jenny: OK. And how long have you lived here in Melbourne?

Tamir: I moved here in February.

Jenny: Do you like it?

Tamir: Yes, I do. It's a great city for shopping and galleries. And I really like the parks and gardens.

Jenny: Yes, I agree they're lovely. And it's easier to get out into the country on the weekends. That's a problem with Sydney. When I lived there it took ages to get out of town. But the beaches in Sydney are wonderful. And I love the harbour.

Tamir: Yes, I agree. It's fabulous.

Jenny: Well, what about Hobart? Have you been there?

Tamir: Yes, I went to Hobart before I moved to Melbourne. It's an interesting place, lots of lovely old buildings and good places to eat.

Jenny: Oh really! Hobart's a bit small for me.

Tamir: Do you think so? I disagree. I like small cities. The people are friendlier and it's easier to get around.

Jenny: Have you been to the other capital cities?

Tamir: Yeah, I've been to Darwin and Adelaide. I go travelling whenever I can, not just the cities but the bush too.

Jenny: Really!

Tamir: Yes, I love the Australian Bush. And all those strange and amazing animals... kangaroos, wombats, lizards. It's so different. But sometimes I get homesick.

Jenny: Yes, I do too. I think it's really hard being away from your family. I miss my family and friends, even after two years, and I don't like the summer here, it's too hot for me.

Tamir: Really? I love the hot weather.

Answers

1 – Melbourne, 2 – Sydney, 3 – small cities, 4 – Australian animals, 5 – homesickness, 6 – the weather

📄 Worksheet 6: Life in Australia

B. Learner reads the questions.

Explain to learner that they need to listen carefully and tick who says the things about Australia. Read the script again pointing to the picture of the person who is speaking (for better understanding) as you read.

Learner ticks the answers.

Answers

1 – Tamir, 2 – Jenny, 3 – Tamir, 4 – Tamir, 5 – Tamir, 6 – Jenny

Match opinions to supporting information

📄 Worksheet 7: Opinions about Australia

A. Learner reads about supporting opinions with information.

Learner reads the opinions of Australia and matches them with the supporting information.

Answers

1 – c, 2 – f, 3 – h, 4 – g, 5 – b, 6 – e, 7 – d, 8 – a

Give opinions about Australia

📄 Worksheet 7: Opinions about Australia

B. Learner reads the statements about Australia and agrees or disagrees.

Encourage learner to give more information to support their opinion.

Read and write about living in Australia

📄 Worksheet 8: Emi's story

A. Learner reads the story aloud. (Check for pronunciation, intonation and punctuation (a small pause for commas, and a longer pause for full stops.)

Ask questions: Does Emi feel it's easy to live in a new country? Why not?

In Emi's opinion, what are some of the good things about living in Australia?

In Emi's opinion, what are some of the negative things about living in Australia?

Does she believe things are cheaper in Australia?

What season does she like most? Why?

B. Encourage learner to talk about how they feel about living in Australia?

Ask questions: Do you find it easy or difficult to live in a new country? Why?

In your opinion, what are some of the positive things about living in Australia?

In your opinion, what are some of the negative things about living in Australia?

Do you like the weather here in Australia?

What season do you like most? Why?

Learner writes their opinion about living in Australia.

Acknowledgement of image source

©2011 Photos.com, a division of Getty Images. All rights reserved.

Worksheet 1: Talking about celebrations and invitations

Discuss these questions.



Celebrations

1. Look at the pictures. What are these people celebrating?
2. Have you been to any celebrations in Australia?
3. What celebrations are important in your home country?
4. Describe one important celebration.
5. What celebrations do you enjoy most? Why?

Invitations

1. Have you ever received any invitations to events in Australia?
2. What invitations have you received?
 - birthday party
 - citizenship ceremony
 - wedding
 - Christmas party
 - dinner
 - engagement party
3. What other things have people invited you to do with them?
 - have coffee
 - go to the movies
 - go shopping
 - any others?

Worksheet 2: Invitations

A. *What kind of invitation are they talking about?
Listen to the conversations and write the answers.*



Conversation 1:



Conversation 2:



Conversation 3:

B. Role play the dialogues.

Conversation 1

Paul: Hello.

Mae: Hi Paul. It's Mae. How are you?

Paul: Fine thanks. And you?

Mae: Yeah, great. We got your invitation to Katie's first birthday party, but unfortunately we can't come.

Paul: Oh, that's a shame. We were really looking forward to seeing Tam.

Mae: Yes, he wanted to go too, but one of his Kindy friends has got a party on the same day and we have already accepted that invitation.

Paul: Never mind. We'll catch up again soon.

Mae: Yes we will. And thanks again for the invitation. I hope Katie has a wonderful day.

Paul: I'm sure she will. Thanks for calling. Bye now.

Mae: Good bye.

Conversation 2

Iresha: Oh look Marek! An invitation to a wedding!

Marek: Really? Who's getting married?

Iresha: Alex and Susan!

Marek: Oh that's great. When's the wedding?

Iresha: It's on Saturday the 8th January at 4.30 and afterwards at the Marylands Reception Centre. Oh, and it says 'R-S-V-P'. What does that mean?

Marek: It's French, I think. It means they'd like us to reply.

Iresha: Oh really? Yes, there's an address under it. So do we have to write?

Marek: Or phone. Is there a phone number?

Iresha: No, there isn't.

Marek: Well, we have to write to them by the RSVP date to let them know if we can go or not. How about I write the reply and you can buy the present?

Iresha: That's fine by me!

A new life: Australian culture

Conversation 3

Kathy: Hi Marion. Come in. Bill and I are having a coffee. Would you like one?

Marion: Yes. That would be lovely.

Kathy: So, what have you been up to?

Marion: Do you remember I sat for my Australian citizenship test?

Kathy: Yes, I remember.

Marion: Well, I passed and so I will become an Australian. There's a ceremony next month and it's at the local council and I can invite up to four people. Would you and Bill like to come?

Kathy: Oh, we'd love to come, wouldn't we Bill? When is it exactly?

Marion: It's on Thursday 15th at 7.30. I could pick you up at 7.00 and afterwards I thought we could have a meal and a drink at my place to celebrate.

Kathy: That would be wonderful. We'd love to celebrate with you.

Worksheet 3: Invitation language

A. Read and complete the invitations.

Ways of inviting:

- Would you like to come?
- Do you want to come?
- Can you come?

Complete these invitations using the verb **have**.

1. Would you like _____ coffee at my place?
2. Do you want _____ coffee at my place?
3. Can you stay and _____ some coffee?

Complete these invitations using the verb **come**.

4. Would you like _____ to my birthday party?
5. Do you want _____ to a movie with us on Saturday night?
6. Can you _____ for dinner to night?

B. Match the invitations to the acceptances.

Ways of accepting:

- I would like that.
- I'd like that.
- We would love to come.
- We'd love to.

Invitation

1. a barbeque
2. a walk
3. a coffee
4. an engagement party
5. a birthday party

Accepting

- a. You're getting engaged! Congratulations! Of course, we'd love to come.
- b. A surprise a party for your sister! We'd love to come!
- c. Thanks. I'd love to come. What do you want me to bring?
- d. Yes, I'd love to come. I really need a coffee!
- e. Yes, I'd love that. I need some fresh air.

C. Read about ways of refusing an invitation.



We got your invitation.... **Opening**

Thanks, but unfortunately we can't come. **Thanks Regret**

One of his kindy friends has a party on the same day, and we have already accepted that. **Reason**

Refusal/regret	Reason
Unfortunately, I can't come.	Some friends are coming for dinner that evening.
I'm afraid I can't make it.	I'm going to my sister's wedding.
I'm sorry, but I can't come.	I'm going to be away on holiday.

D. Practise refusing invitations.

1. Do you want to go to the movies next Saturday?
2. We're going out for coffee. Would you like to join us?
3. Would you like to come to dinner tonight?
4. My wedding is in September. Can you come?
5. Would you like to have a picnic next Sunday?
6. Would you like to go out for a drink?
7. Would you like something to eat before the movies?
8. Do you want to go for a walk?

E. Practise the language for **inviting, accepting** and **refusing**.

- Identify the different events.
- Invite your tutor to the events.
- Your tutor will invite you to the events. Accept three of these invitations and refuse three.



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.

Worksheet 4: A wedding invitation

Read the invitation and answer the questions.



A new life: Australian culture

1. Hanna and Marek received the invitation. Who is getting married?

2. This invitation is from the bride's parents because they are arranging and paying for it. What are their names?

3. Marek and Hanna should send their reply back to the bride's parents. What is their address?

4. Where will the marriage ceremony be held?

5. After the wedding there will be a party or reception. Where will the reception be?

6. What is the date and time of the wedding?

Worksheet 5: Talking about living in Australia

A. Look at the map. Put an **X** to show where you are living now.
Show any other places you have visited and tell your tutor about them.



B. Discuss these questions.

1. When did you arrive in Australia?
2. Who did you come to Australia with?
3. What did you know about Australia before you came?
4. What in Australia is similar to your country?
5. What in Australia is different to your country?
6. What is the weather like in your city?
7. What are the people like in your city?
8. What do you like about living in Australia? Why do you like it?
9. What don't you like about living in Australia? Why don't you like it?
10. What do you like about the suburb you live in?
11. Have you been to any other cities in Australia?
12. Where did you go? When did you go? Who did you go with?
13. What did you do there?
14. Where is your favourite place in Australia? Why?

Worksheet 6: Life in Australia



Jenny



Tamir

A. Jenny meets a neighbour at the bus stop. They discuss Australia. Listen and number the topics in the order they talk about them.

- homesickness
- Sydney
- the weather
- small cities
- Australian animals
- Melbourne

B. Who thinks this?

	Jenny	Tamir
1. Melbourne is great for shopping and galleries.		
2. The beaches in Sydney are wonderful.		
3. Hobart is an interesting city.		
4. The people in small cities are friendlier.		
5. Australian animals are strange and amazing.		
6. The summers are too hot.		

Worksheet 7: Opinions about Australia

When we give an opinion, we usually support it with more information. E.g. I like small cities. The people are friendlier and it's easier to get around.

**A. Read what some people say about Australia.
Match the opinion with the supporting information.**

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The cities are really interesting. | a. It's too hot in summer. |
| 2. I like the people. | b. The waves are too big and I can't swim well. |
| 3. I think Australians are sports crazy. | c. There are people from so many different countries. |
| 4. I like the country towns. | d. The wide open spaces and the colours are wonderful. |
| 5. I don't like the beaches. | e. People drive too fast. |
| 6. I think the roads are dangerous. | f. They're friendly and easygoing. |
| 7. I love the Australian outback. | g. They're more relaxed and it's easier to meet people. |
| 8. I don't like the weather. | h. They only talk football and cricket. |

**B. What's your opinion? Do you agree or disagree?
Support your opinion with more information.**

In Australia:

1. life in the cities is too fast.
2. the weather is too hot.
3. the beaches are wonderful.
4. the public transport system is cheap and efficient.
5. it's easy to meet people because everyone is welcoming and friendly.

Worksheet 8: Emi's story

A. Read what Emi says about living in Australia.



I think it's hard to live in a new country. There are so many new things to learn. When I first arrived, I often felt homesick because I missed my family and friends.

I think Australia is a good place to bring up my children. They feel safe and free here. But sometimes I worry about their schooling. They spend too much time playing and not enough time studying.

The cost of living is very high. We spend most of our money on food and rent. You can get a lot of different kinds of food, but it can be expensive and sometimes the quality isn't very good.

Where I come from, everything is small and crowded. Here, everything seems so big, the beaches, the bush, the skies. Sometimes I feel very small and alone.

People work hard here. Most of my neighbours work overtime or have a second job. They're tired and stressed-out, but they say they need the money.

I love autumn when the days are clear and mild, and the evenings are cool. Summer is too hot for me and I have no energy. I don't understand why so many people go to the beach when it's hot.

