



Core units: Exemplar – Year 6

Illustration 1: Using geography thought-provokers

Geography thought-provokers

Thought-provoker question 1: Why have Xuan and Li Ling from China decided to holiday in Australia?

Read the following statements carefully. All of them are factually correct, but not all of them are relevant to answering the question.

When you have read the question:

- select those statements that are relevant
- put them in a logical order
- then use them to write an answer to the question.

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| Australia has large open spaces. |
| China has a population of 1.3 billion. |
| Many Chinese people are getting wealthier as China develops quickly. |
| Australia has unusual animals such as the koala and kangaroo. |
| There are now many direct flights between Australia and China. |
| Australia has good beaches. |
| The air in Beijing is very polluted. |
| Australia has spectacular features such the Great Barrier Reef and Uluru. |
| Australia is nine hours by air from China. |
| Australia is relatively more expensive for a holiday than China. |
| Holidays in Australia are advertised extensively in China. |
| Until the 1980s few Chinese were allowed to travel overseas. |

Thought-provoker question 2: Why are many of my clothes made in China?

Read the following statements carefully. All of them are factually correct, but not all of them are relevant to answering the question.

When you have read the question:

- select those statements that are relevant
- put them in a logical order
- then use them to write an answer to the question.

China is the largest producer of cotton in the world.

China has about 7,500 companies producing cotton cloth.

The growing of cotton needs large amounts of irrigation water.

Xinjiang is China's largest cotton producing area.

China is Australia's largest trading partner.

Australia exports mainly coal, iron ore and natural gas to China.

China has a long tradition of clothing manufacture.

Workers in Chinese factories are generally paid less than those in Australian factories.

Australia has good relations with China.

Many famous European and USA clothing labels use Chinese factories to make their garments.

China has a population of 1.3 billion people.

China has had a 'one-child' policy since the 1980s.

China has one of the world's fastest growing economies.

China has the world's largest number of mobile phone users.

China is a low-cost manufacturing country.

Thought-provoker question 3: Why does Australia send aid to Papua New Guinea?

Read the following statements carefully. All of them are factually correct, but not all of them are relevant to answering the question.

When you have read the question:

- select those statements that are relevant
- put them in a logical order
- then use them to write an answer to the question.

Papua New Guinea is our closest neighbour.

Papua New Guinea was a territory of Australia until it gained independence in 1975.

Papua New Guinea is culturally very diverse with 820 languages.

Papua New Guinea has a high mountain range in its central region.

Papua New Guinea has many natural resources but the mountains make access to these difficult.

The largest percentage of Australia's foreign aid goes to Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea has a low average income per person.

Papua New Guinea is ranked at about 135 in the world wealth table compared to Australia at 14.

Australians served in Papua New Guinea during World War 2, particularly along the Kokoda Trail.

Australia has committed itself to give foreign aid to countries in need.

Thought-provoker question 4: Why do refugees come as 'boat people' to Australia?

Read the following statements carefully. All of them are factually correct, but not all of them are relevant to answering the question.

When you have read the question:

- select those statements that are relevant
- put them in a logical order
- then use them to write an answer to the question.

Australia has strict rules about the number of migrants it accepts each year.

Most Australians speak English.

Many people in South-West Asia feel threatened by wars which have been going on for 10 years.

People in many jobs earn a lot more money in Australia than they do in similar jobs in Asia.

People-smuggling is illegal.

Australia is a free country.

The seas between Australia and Asia can become very rough.

The most common starting point for a refugee boat to Australia is Indonesia.

Many present day citizens in Australia have parents who came from Vietnam to Australia as boat people in the 1970s.

People-smugglers offer refugees places on unseaworthy boats to Australia for high fees.

Australia has a large percentage of people (about 26%) who were born overseas.

Some people in South-West Asia have relatives and friends in Australia.

Australia has a high percentage of older people, and people are living longer.

Australia is thought of as a large country with few people.

People smugglers make large profits from refugees.

Thought-provoker question 5: Why were Jo's wooden souvenirs confiscated by Australian customs at Sydney airport?

Read the following statements carefully. All of them are factually correct, but not all of them are relevant to answering the question.

When you have read the question:

- select those statements that are relevant
- put them in a logical order
- then use them to write an answer to the question.

Australia is an island and therefore does not have some insects and diseases which other countries have.

Wooden sculptures are difficult to buy in Australia.

Wooden souvenirs may contain tiny insects.

Australia has tough laws to prevent diseases from outside coming into Australia.

Certain insects infest timber and eat it away.

Many Australians visit traditional craftspeople in other countries.

Not many shops in Australia sell wooden sculptures.

Wooden sculptures are often produced and sold cheaply in many countries.

When a new insect is introduced to Australia it can spread without the knowledge of authorities.

Australia has a variety of climates, some of which are similar to the climates of the habitats of undesirable insects.

Australia has an important agriculture and forestry industry.

Introduced insects spread quickly in Australia because there are no animals for which they are major food source.

Thought-provoker question 6: Why did Sandy and Chris go to Bali for their holiday?

Read the following statements carefully. All of them are factually correct, but not all of them are relevant to answering the question.

When you have read the question:

- select those statements that are relevant
- put them in a logical order
- then use them to write an answer to the question.

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| Bali is close to Australia. |
| A holiday in Bali is relatively cheap. |
| Bali has many beautiful temples. |
| Bali has a population of about four million people. |
| Bali has many luxury hotels. |
| Bali has warm weather all year round. |
| Balinese people speak Bahasa Indonesia as well as local languages. |
| Most Balinese are of the Hindu religion. |
| Balinese music is very different from western music. |
| Bali has beautiful sandy beaches in the south. |
| Bali is home to 280 species of bird. |
| Distinctive Balinese dances are still learned and regularly performed. |
| Bali's snakes include the king cobra and the python. |
| Because of water and land demands by the tourist industry, half of Bali's rivers have dried up. |
| Bali's tourist industry has developed quickly during the last 40 years. |
| Bali has an active volcano. |
| The high rainfall and fertile soils of Bali support highly productive farming. |