**II. Australia**

1. More than Kangaroos

* **Australia –**
* Only country to occupy an entire continent
* World’s sixth largest country **(Land Area)**
* Smallest and flattest continent on earth

B. History

* **Aborigines –**
* Arrived by boat about 60,000 years ago
* Were isolated from the rest of the world for a very long time – Resulted in the creation of a unique culture

C. European Settlement

* **James Cook –**
* Claimed the land for Great Britain
* Great Britain used the island like a giant prison
* **160,000 –**
* Most stayed in Australia once their sentences were up
* **750,000 –**
* **50,000 –**
* Make up only around 1% of Australia’s population today

D. Population

* **Urban Rim –**
* **Outback –**
* **Sydney –**

E. Dramatic Features

* **Great Barrier Reef –**
* **Coral Reef –**
* Home to many different plants, fish and animals

F. Aborigines vs. Europeans

* **Assimilation –**
* **Ethnocentrism** –
* Results in the force assimilation of Aboriginal children – Take away for parents in many cases
* Australia’s government official apologized in 2008 for the unjust treatment of Aborigines in the past
* Aborigines were taught that their ancestors created the world
* Learned to survive on the land without destroying it
* Europeans had little concern for the earth’s surface
* Discovered gold (1851) and other valuable materials
* Destroyed much of the land in search of these materials