

# The International History Bee and Bowl

## Australian Division Study Guide



Welcome to the International History Bee and Bowl Australian Division Study Guide!

To make the Study Guide, we divided all of history into 7 chapters. One is on the political, military, and social history of Australia, and another is on Australia's intellectual, cultural, and geographical history. There are 5 additional chapters on the history of the rest of the world: Middle Eastern and South Asian History, East and Southeast Asian History, US American History, World (all the other places including Europe) History to 1789, and World History from 1789-present.

Terms that are in bold should be of particular focus for our middle school division, though high school competitors should be familiar with these too. This guide is not meant to be a complete compendium of what information may come up at a competition, but it should serve as a starting off point for your preparations. Certainly there are things that can be referenced at a tournament that are not in this guide, and not everything that is in this guide will come up. At the end of the content portion of the guide, some useful preparation tips are outlined as well.

Finally, we may post additional study materials, sample questions, and guides to the website at [www.ihibbanz.com/about/resources/](http://www.ihibbanz.com/about/resources/) over the course of the year. Should these become available, we will do our best to notify all interested schools.

Good Luck, and see you at your regional tournament!

-David and Nolwenn Madden for The International History Bee and Bowl

## ***US American History***

### **What are the great events of US American History?**

The United States began as a collection of thirteen colonies under the rule of England. Early settlers often got into fights with the Native American population; this would last on-and-off until the late 1800s. The new country declared its independence on July 4, 1776, from England in the midst of a war whose biggest hero was **George Washington**, who would become the first president of the United States. After the War, **The U.S. Constitution** was created, outlining the structure of government and guaranteeing certain rights through the accompanying Bill of Rights. England invaded in 1812, but were defeated. Perhaps the most significant event in the 1800's in America was the **Civil War**. Lasting from 1861-1865, it saw eleven Southern states leave the country over the issue of slavery. **Abraham Lincoln** served as president during the war.

After the Civil War and the period of **Reconstruction** that followed, the United States entered into what is known as the Progressive Era, which ended with America's entry into the first World War. The U.S. was only active in **World War I** for one year, and fought with the victorious Allied Powers against the Central Powers. Following World War I, the U.S. saw a period of great economic success and cultural change known as the Roaring Twenties. The '20s came to an end with the stock market crash of 1929 and the crippling effects of the **Great Depression**.

Mired in the Great Depression, the American people elected Franklin D. Roosevelt president. His New Deal was a series of federal programs to stimulate the economy and advance the country. While it's still unclear whether his New Deal was an economic success, there's no doubt that America's involvement in **World War II**, after the attack on Pearl Harbor, got its economy back on track. Following World War II, in which the U.S. defeated the Axis powers—with many lives lost, though—the new threat was the Cold War, a long period of weak relations between the Communist Soviet Union. The Cold War manifested itself most notably in the **Korean War** (1950-1953) and the **Vietnam War** (1955-1975).

The post-World War II-era was also known for the Civil Rights Movement, in which minorities and oppressed groups—most importantly African-Americans and women—fought for equality. The work of leaders such as Malcolm X and **Martin Luther King, Jr.** brought an end to segregation in the South and encouraged equality among blacks and whites.

### **Focus on Famous US Americans:**

- **Alexander Hamilton** was a Founder and the first Secretary of the Treasury. He established the First Bank of the U.S., helped write the *Federalist Papers*, espoused Federalist ideas, and was killed in a duel by Aaron Burr.
- **Benjamin Franklin** was a Founder who wrote *Poor Richard's Almanack*, and worked on scientific projects concerning bifocals and electricity.
- **George Washington** was the first American president, and before that, led the Continental Army. He encouraged the US to stay out of foreign affairs and avoid the political party system.
- **Thomas Jefferson** was the third U.S. president. He authored the Declaration of Independence, completed the Louisiana Purchase, sent Lewis and Clark west, supported separation of

(**Thomas Jefferson continued**) church and state, and founded the University of Virginia.

- **John F. Kennedy** was the first Catholic president. He was elected in 1960 and assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald in 1963. He oversaw the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis, and fought for America's space program.
- **Martin Luther King Jr.** was an important leader in the effort for equality between whites and African Americans known as the Civil Rights Movement. He was assassinated in Memphis in 1968.

- **Ronald Reagan** was a conservative Republican president who urged Gorbachev to tear down the Berlin Wall, was in office during the Iran-Contra scandal, supported supply-side economics, and was shot by John Hinckley. Before he turned to politics, Reagan was a Hollywood actor.

### What You Should Also Know

- |   |                             |                           |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Jamestown                               | • Statue of Liberty         | • Dwight D. Eisenhower    |
| • Pilgrims                                | • Mexican-American War      | • John F. Kennedy         |
| • Thanksgiving                            | • Battle of Antietam        | • Martin Luther King, Jr. |
| • Mayflower                               | • Battle of Gettysburg      | • Malcolm X               |
| • Puritans                                | • Mark Twain                | • Lyndon Johnson          |
| • French and Indian War                   | • Andrew Jackson            | • Richard Nixon           |
| • George Washington                       | • Theodore Roosevelt        | • Watergate               |
| • Harvard / Yale / Princeton Universities | • Woodrow Wilson            | • Ronald Reagan           |
| • New York City                           | • Thomas Edison             | • Bill Clinton            |
| • Boston                                  | • Trail of Tears            | • Michael Jordan          |
| • Philadelphia                            | • Yellowstone National Park | • George W. Bush          |
| • Articles of Confederation               | • Hawaii                    | • Google                  |
| • Battle of Bunker Hill                   | • F. Scott Fitzgerald       | • McDonald's              |
| • Battle of Saratoga                      | • Wright Brothers           | • Super Bowl              |
| • Boston Massacre                         | • Jackie Robinson           | • Tiger Woods             |
| • Boston Tea Party                        | • Babe Ruth                 | • Serena Williams         |
| • John Adams                              | • Amelia Earhart            | • Apple / Steve Jobs      |
| • Louisiana Purchase                      | • Franklin Roosevelt        | • September 11 Attacks    |
| • Salem Witch Trials                      | • Eleanor Roosevelt         | • Hillary Clinton         |
| • War of 1812                             | • Harry Truman              | • Barack Obama            |
| • California Gold Rush                    | • Joe McCarthy              | • Mitt Romney             |
| • Ellis Island                            | • Elvis Presley             | • Steven Spielberg        |
|   | • Ernest Hemingway          | • September 11 Attacks    |

## ***Middle Eastern and South Asian History***

Early civilizations including the **Sumerians** and **Babylonians** in modern-day Iraq, and the **Indus River Valley** civilization in modern-day Pakistan—differed from their hunter-gatherer predecessors in the use of **writing systems**, and development around **fertile river valleys**. The Hittites built an early empire centered in modern-day Turkey. The **Persians** were another power; they fought Greeks in a series of wars leading to the conquests of Alexander the Great.

As modern civilizations and empires developed, so did today's most widely spread religions. Both starting in India, **Hinduism** and then **Buddhism** spread and attracted many followers. Of course, the beginning of the Common Era brought the birth of Jesus Christ and the rise of **Christianity**, which became entwined with power through the institution of the **papacy**. In the year 622, the prophet Muhammad founded **Islam** in Arabia. Muslim dynasties known as **caliphates** would rule the Middle East, North Africa, and Spain for centuries. Christians and Muslims came into frequent conflict, and around 1100-1400, fought a series of holy wars known as the **Crusades**. The dominant empire for many years in the Middle East was the **Ottoman Empire**. They took the city of Constantinople in present-day Turkey in 1453 for their capital. In India, two major empires were the **Mauryan** and **Mughal**. Other important empires were the Mongol-led Golden Horde and the Safavid Empire in Southwest Asia.

Much of the Middle East and South Asia found itself under British Rule, most notably India, where many Indians fought back in incidents like the Black Hole of Calcutta and the Sepoy Mutiny. India's successful independence movement was led by **Mohandas Gandhi**. Mohammed Ali Jinnah led the independence movement in Pakistan. In the Middle East in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the most contentious issue was the Jewish state of **Israel**, which fought the Yom Kippur War and the Six Day War against the Palestinians and their allies. Many Middle Eastern countries in OPEC grew wealthy through **oil booms** in the 20<sup>th</sup> century including the **UAE and Saudi Arabia**. Other contemporary issues include American involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan and movements across the Middle East and North Africa as part of the **Arab Spring** in 2011.

### **What You Should Also Know: (See also country-specific terms at the end!)**

- |                        |                          |                       |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Babylon              | • Indus River Valley     | • Afghanistan War     |
| • Jerusalem            | • Silk Road              | • Dubai               |
| • King Solomon         | • Mecca and Medina       | • Abu Dhabi           |
| • Wonders of the World | • Lawrence of Arabia     | • Burj Khalifa        |
| • Byzantine Empire     | • Indira Gandhi          | • Osama bin Laden     |
| • Cyrus the Great      | • Mohandas Gandhi        | • Manmohan Singh      |
| • Zoroastrianism       | • Jawaharlal Nehru       | • Slumdog Millionaire |
| • Buddha               | • Ayatollah Khomeini     | • Bollywood           |
| • Ashoka               | • Persian Gulf War       | • Iraq War            |
| • Chandragupta         | • Saddam Hussein         | • Mount Everest       |
| • Constantine          | • Oslo Accords           | • Maldives            |
| • Constantinople       | • Cricket                | • Kazakhstan          |
| • Crusades             | • Soviets in Afghanistan | • Bangladesh          |
| • Akbar the Great      | • Tamil Tigers           | • Bashar Assad        |

## ***East Asian and Southeast Asian History***

The History of China can be traced back to the first dynasty, the Shang Dynasty (1700-1406 BCE), though the somewhat mythical Xia Dynasty may have preceded it. The Shang used oracle bones to receive messages from the spiritual world. The first dynasty of the Imperial period was the short-lived Qin Dynasty, which featured the rule of **Qin Shi Huangdi** and the legalist philosophy, as well as the commencement of the construction of the **Great Wall of China**. The Qin was followed by the **Han Dynasty** (202 BCE to 220 CE), with Western and Eastern eras. The Han is known for its advances in art and culture and reliance on Confucianism. It was threatened by the Yellow Turban Rebellion. The next major dynasty was the Tang Dynasty.

Meanwhile, across the sea, Japan began to see its classical era flourish. *The Tale of Genji* was written by Lady Murasaki during the Heian Period, the last major classical period before the introduction of the feudal system. The feudal system in Japan operated with regional leaders known as *daimyo* and other leaders known as *shogun*. The *daimyo* were patrons to *samurai*, who were specialized soldiers.

In China, the rule of ethnic Chinese families and groups was interrupted by the Yuan Dynasty, led by Kublai Khan, the grandson of **Genghis Khan**. The Mongols were extremely successful at conquering thousands of square miles. One place they did not conquer was Japan, despite two attempts by the Yuan. The so-called “**kamikaze**” or “divine-wind” of a typhoon helped scatter a possible invasion fleet. After the Yuan, the **Ming Dynasty** ruled from 1368-1644. An important cultural era noted for its vases, the Ming Dynasty also featured the naval voyages of **Zheng He**.

Japan entered into the **Tokugawa Shogunate** in 1600. It would last until 1868 when the Emperor Meiji was restored to power. This period saw Japan opening up to Christian missionaries and later American trade. In Southeast Asia, the most important ruling era was that of the Khmer Empire. Lasting from 802 to 1431, it covered most of present-day Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand. Its capital was Angkor, at which the massive temple complex known as **Angkor Wat** was constructed.

China’s last dynasty, the Qing, ended as the Kuomintang under Sun Yat-sen took power. He was replaced by **Chiang Kai-shek**, but the Nationalists were defeated in 1949 by **Mao Zedong** and the Communists. The government in China has been communist since then and is now led by **Xi Jinping**. Japan has transitioned to a constitutional monarchy. The country fought with the Axis in World War II, and suffered heavy damage, most notably at through atomic bombs at **Hiroshima and Nagasaki**. After 1945, Japan became an economic dynamo through companies such as **Toyota & Nintendo**. It suffered through 2 decades of low economic growth beginning in 1990, though it is starting to recover under controversial Prime Minister **Shinzo Abe**

Southeast Asia also developed quickly after WW 2, despite the **Vietnam War**, and the **Khmer Rouge** genocide led by Pol Pot in Cambodia. **Singapore** became a prosperous city-state due to the policies of Lee Kwan Yew, while **Thailand** and **Malaysia** also joined the largest country in the region, **Indonesia**, in the **ASEAN** (Association of South East Asian Nations) organization.

## What You Should Also Know:

- |                    |                         |                  |                 |
|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| • Emperor Akihito  | Emperor Akihito         | Samsung          | Hirohito        |
| • Ho Chi Minh      | Dien Bien Phu           | Hyundai          | Kim Jong-Il     |
| • Mao Zedong       | Sun Yat Sen             | Pandas           | Korean War      |
| • Kublai Khan      | Java                    | Shanghai         | Tet Offensive   |
| • Genghis Khan     | Olympics in Japan       | Fukushima        | DMZ in Korea    |
| • Angkor Wat       | Olympics in South Korea | Macau            | Kim Jong-Un     |
| • Attila the Hun   | Olympics in China       | Deng Xiaopeng    | Kim Il-Sung     |
| • Ming Dynasty     | Brunei                  | Table Tennis     | Bangkok         |
| • Suharto          | Ferdinand Marcos        | Sumo             | Beijing         |
| • Papua New Guinea | Typhoons                | Aung San Suu Kyi | Petronas Towers |

## ***World History, the beginning until 1789***

**Ancient Egypt** developed civilization in Northern Africa around 3000 BC, later building **pyramids** and expanding under the long reign of Ramses II. The **Ancient Greeks** made tremendous advances in **philosophy** under Plato and Aristotle, and government, creating a **democracy in Athens**. The heyday of the Greeks was followed by that of **Ancient Rome**, who expanded throughout Western Europe and the Mediterranean Basin led by **Julius Caesar**, **Augustus**, Trajan, and Hadrian, among others. Rome also built the **Coliseum** and Circus Maximus as sporting venues for gladiators and horse races respectively.

The fall of Ancient Rome due to Barbarian invasions brought on the **Middle Ages**, which saw **Christianity** spread throughout Europe. Charlemagne was crowned Holy Roman Emperor in 800, and later, the **English** and **French** monarchies developed. The Black Death swept Europe in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, killing up to 1/3 of the population. The Dark Ages ended with the **Renaissance**, **centered in Italy** a period of prosperity, academic and artistic talent led by Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and others.

The **Catholic Church** played a massively important role in daily life, however science became more important during the Scientific Revolution, as researchers like **Galileo** and **Copernicus** defied religious leaders. This period also saw backlash against the church in the form of the **Protestant Reformation**, a period which saw new churches created in opposition of the rule and policies of the Catholic Church. One of the leaders of the Reformation was **Martin Luther**, whose 95 Theses outlined his complaints against the Church. In addition, **Henry VIII** created the Church of England.

This period also featured the age of exploration, especially **Christopher Columbus** finding the New World in 1492 for the Spanish monarchs Ferdinand and Isabella. The Spanish quickly overtook most of what is now Latin America. Conquistadors pillaged the area for gold, territory, and converts, destroying the cultures of the **Aztecs** in central Mexico and the **Incas** in Peru. Brazil was claimed by Portugal, which also sponsored **Vasco da Gama's** expedition to India around Africa.

During the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, the **Enlightenment** developed in Europe through the leadership of John Locke, Voltaire, and other thinkers who emphasized the use of reason for scientific and political life. Under Queen Elizabeth I, England saw off an attempted invasion by the Spanish Armada in 1588. The modern nation-state system largely developed out of the end of the 30 Years War with the Peace of Westphalia in 1648. **Louis XIV** of France, known as the Sun King, then became the dominant ruler in Europe. Problems with finances and the example of the American Revolution ultimately led Louis XVI to call the Estates General, beginning the French Revolution.

### **Further Focus:**

- **Alexander the Great** was a Macedonian king (Macedon was one of the states of Ancient Greece), who ruled the largest empire ever built at the time of his death. He defeated the Persians and scores of civilizations in the Mediterranean and Middle East.
- **Charlemagne** was a Frankish king who became the first Holy Roman Emperor in 800 CE. He greatly expanded the territory of his ancestors, grandfather Charles Martel and father Pepin the Short.

- **Ancient Rome** existed under three forms of government: the Kingdom, the Republic, and the Empire. It was founded by Romulus and Remus in 753 BCE, and was sacked by Visigoths in 410 CE.
- **Elizabeth I** was the Queen of England from 1558 to 1603. She had her cousin, Mary Queen of Scots, executed, and defeated the Spanish Armada.
- The **Magna Carta** was a charter signed by King John of England in 1215. The Magna Carta was one of the first documents to limit the powers of a monarch and protect individual rights
- **Peter the Great** was an 18<sup>th</sup> century Russian tsar who westernized Russia and built St. Petersburg.
- The **Thirty Years' War** was a religious war that lasted from 1618 to 1648. It started with the Defenestration of Prague and ended with the Peace of Westphalia.

### What You Should Also Know

- |                                |                        |                         |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Seven Years War              | • Notre Dame Cathedral | • Plato                 |
| • Thebes                       | • Dante                | • Reconquista           |
| • Richard I, "The Lionhearted" | • Hundred Years' War   | • Cardinal Richelieu    |
| • War of the Roses             | • Incans               | • Ottoman Empire        |
| • Borgia Family                | • Isaac Newton         | • Shakespeare           |
| • Alfred the Great             | • <i>Beowulf</i>       | • Henry VIII            |
| • Ancient Greece               | • Julius Caesar        | • Leaning Tower of Pisa |
| • Avignon                      | • Justinian I          | • Carthage / Punic Wars |
| • Aztecs                       | • Minoans              | • William the Conqueror |
| • Cleopatra                    | • Nero                 | • Visigoths             |
| • El Cid                       | • Olmecs               | • Handel, Bach, Mozart  |
|                                | • Peasants' Revolts    |                         |



## ***World History, 1789-Present***

This period begins with the **French Revolution** of 1789, which was unique as an ideals-based overthrow of a monarchy. The French people sought a democratic experiment, where the people, and not a king, ruled the state. They killed their king, Louis XVI, but soon thereafter **Napoleon** came to power. He conquered throughout Europe until losing most of his army in a disastrous 1812 invasion of Russia. His downfall was completed at the **Battle of Waterloo** in 1815. Another revolution was the **Industrial Revolution** of the late 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, which pushed Europe and North America far ahead of the rest of the world economically for a time.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century after Napoleon, there was little open conflict in Europe, though the **Crimean War** and Franco-Prussian Wars are notable exceptions. However, the European powers colonized much of Africa, Asia, and **Australia** during this time. Italy and Germany unified as well under Garibaldi and Otto von Bismarck respectively during the latter 19<sup>th</sup> century.

However, the greatest conflict and change came early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as nearly all of Europe found itself mired in **World War I**, which was triggered by great power alliances lining up against each other after the 1914 assassination of **Archduke Franz Ferdinand**, heir to the Austrian throne. Following World War I, Europe's balance of power changed—to the dismay of many Italians and Germans, which allowed **Benito Mussolini** and **Adolf Hitler** to become those countries' leaders. Russia turned communist under **Vladimir Lenin** after leaving World War I.

This period led to **World War II**, the deadliest war in human history from 1939-1945. World War II pitted the fascist **Axis** powers against the **Allies**, and its battles, such as the Battle of Britain, **Pearl Harbor**, **Stalingrad**, **the Invasion of Normandy**, and Iwo Jima took place across the globe. The war's end saw the true horror of the **Holocaust** exposed, in which the Nazis murdered millions of Jews and other groups of people. The defeat of fascism and the end of the war gave way to another conflict: the **Cold War**, which pitted communist, totalitarian regimes against capitalist ones. The Cold War lasted until 1991, and its main foes were the communist **USSR**, the capitalist United States, and their respective allies. The Cold War also featured the Space Race – the USSR's Yuri Gagarin was the first man in space, and it launched Sputnik, the first satellite. The USA, however, was the first to put a man on the moon – **Neil Armstrong**.

After the fall of the **Berlin Wall** and the end of the Cold War, Russia transitioned from Communism under **Mikhail Gorbachev** to a more democratic system, initially led by Boris Yeltsin. Authoritarianism returned to Russia somewhat with the rise to power of current president **Vladimir Putin**. European countries formed the **European Union**, which later led to the creation of the common currency known as the **Euro** between many of its member states.

In Latin America and Africa, the period after the 1789 meant independence. Latin American countries gained their independence from Spain and Portugal, in part with the help from **Simon Bolivar** and Jose de San Martin in the early 1800's. After 1960, **Fidel Castro** led communists to power in **Cuba**. Belgium, France, and England released their grasp on Africa reluctantly; most countries in Africa gained their independence after 1950. South Africa developed a racist form of segregation known as **Apartheid** in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, which finally ended when **Nelson Mandela** was released from prison, and became South Africa's first black president.

### Further Focus:

- The **Battle of Waterloo** was Napoleon's final defeat, at the hands of England's Duke of Wellington. It took place in 1815, and ended the Napoleonic Wars.
- **Benito Mussolini** was the fascist leader of Italy from 1922 to 1943. He was called "Il Duce" and marched on Rome with his army, known as Black Shirts, in 1922.
- **Adolf Hitler** was the Fuhrer of Germany during WWII. He wrote an autobiography called *Mein Kampf*, was married to Eva Braun, and was responsible for the Holocaust.
- **Charles de Gaulle** was the leader of the Free French during WWII. He was the first president of France's Fifth Republic, and signed the Evian Accords to grant independence to Algeria.
- **Francisco Franco** led Spain from 1939 to 1975. As the head of the fascist Falange Party, he defeated the Spanish Republic during the Spanish Civil War.
- **Margaret Thatcher** served as British Prime Minister from 1979 to 1990. She was a Conservative, Britain's first female Prime Minister, and led Britain in the Falkland Islands War. She was known as the "Iron Lady."
- **Mikhail Gorbachev** was the last leader of the Soviet Union. He introduced the policies of *glasnost* and *perestroika* to open the USSR to the West.

### What You Also Should Know:

- |                      |                         |                           |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Benjamin Disraeli  | • Ludwig van Beethoven  | • Velvet Revolution       |
| • Charles Darwin     | • Weimar Republic       | • Winston Churchill       |
| • Congress of Vienna | • William Gladstone     | • The Beatles             |
| • Crimean War        | • World War I           | • The Rolling Stones      |
| • English Civil War  | • Berlin Wall           | • Roger Federer           |
| • Haitian Revolution | • Cuban Missile Crisis  | • Recent Olympic Games    |
| • Impressionism      | • Brazil                | • Pele                    |
| • Pablo Picasso      | • <i>Guernica</i>       | • Zinedine Zidane         |
| • Charles Dickens    | • Idi Amin              | • FIFA World Cup          |
| • Albert Einstein    | • Irish Republican Army | • European Capital Cities |
| • Karl Marx          | • Joseph Stalin         | • Rio de Janeiro          |
| • League of Nations  | • Vincent van Gogh      | • Queen Elizabeth II      |
| • Napoleon           | • Lech Walesa           | • James Bond              |
| • Napoleon III       | • Nikita Krushchev      | • Yalta Conference        |
| • Otto von Bismarck  | • Mobutu Sese Seko      | • Anne Frank              |
| • Queen Victoria     | • Muammar Qaddafi       | • Angela Merkel           |
| • Russian Revolution | • Atomic bombs          | • ABBA                    |
| • Simon Bolivar      | • Potsdam Conference    | • U2                      |
| • Suez Canal         | • Prague Spring         | • Friedrich Nietzsche     |
| • Panama Canal       | • Spanish Civil War     |                           |

## *Australia's political, military, & social history*

The pre-European inhabitants of Australia are known collectively as the **Aborigines**, or more formally as "Aboriginal and **Torres Strait Islander**" people. This is a collective name for an immense number of culturally diverse groups which inhabited every part of Australia prior to colonization. The most widely accepted current hypothesis on **Aboriginal origins** traces all groups to a migration event from Asia about fifty thousand years ago.

Major aspects of culture found in multiple Aborigine groups include a mythological system based in the **Dreamtime** that describes creatures such as the **Rainbow Serpent**, the creation of **rock paintings**, and a rite-of-passage ritual known as the **walkabout**.

The first European to land on Australian soil was the Dutch explorer **Willem Janszoon** in 1606. **Abel Tasman** sighted what is now **Tasmania** in 1642. In 1770, English explorer **James Cook** docked the *Endeavour* at Botany Bay, beginning a chain of events that culminated in British colonization of the continent. In 1787, eleven ships transporting convicts, known as the **First Fleet**, founded a colony under **Arthur Phillip** that became known as **New South Wales**.

As British colonization expanded, the doctrine of "**terra nullius**" became popular among settler courts. This idea stated that Australia was a "land belonging to no one" and explicitly codified the notion that Aborigines could not own property, either individually or as a group. The repudiation of this doctrine and its consequences in recent decades has been a major issue in Australian politics.

In 1808, **John Macarthur** led the successful **Rum Rebellion**, which deposed **William Bligh** as the governor of New South Wales. In 1835, an attempt at a new direction in British-Aboriginal relations was made by **John Batman**, who negotiated a fair treaty with local representatives prior to founding **Melbourne**, but his efforts were repudiated by the British government.

European **exploration of the Outback** became a national obsession in the mid-nineteenth century. Many explorers, such as **Ludwig Leichhardt** and **Edmund Kenney**, met their deaths attempting to penetrate inland. **John McDouall Stuart** made the first south-north crossing of the continent, laying the route for the **Australian Overland Telegraph Line**, two years after the tragic **Burke and Wills expedition** left only one man alive after a north-south crossing.

Following the **Victoria gold rush** in 1851, many dissatisfied miners began labor actions such as the **Eureka Stockade**. Other social upheaval included the rise of **Ned Kelly** and other **bushrangers**, the "**Australian ballot**" movement, and other voting reform causes such as **extending the franchise** to women, non-propertyholders, and Aborigines. Labor discord also led to a movement, beginning in the 1870s, to exclude nonwhites from settling in Australia, which culminated in the **Immigration Restriction Act 1901** and the codification of the "**White Australia policy**," formally repudiated in 1973 following dismantling from 1966 onwards.

In 1901, the various colonies of Australia were **unified as the Commonwealth of Australia**. Australian troops distinguished themselves during **World War I**, with general **John Monash** being widely regarded as the most skilled commander among the Allies. Despite the massive casualties among the **ANZAC** force at **Gallipoli** which still inform the Australian consciousness, World War I also featured victories such as the defeat of Eric Ludendorff by a mostly Australian force at **Amiens**.

Heavily dependent on wool and wheat exports, the Australian economy was badly shaken by the worldwide **Great Depression**, triggering a series of political changes that led to **Joseph Lyons** taking power as the leader of the new **United Australia Party**. In **World War II**, Australia once again fought with the Allies, comprising the "rats" at the **Siege of Tobruk** and, closer to home, fighting the **New Guinea Campaign** and enduring the Japanese **bombardment of Darwin**.

Following the war, Australia entered the **ANZUS** defense pact with the United States and New Zealand. A major test of Australia's alliance with American foreign policy came during the **Vietnam War**, which Prime Minister **Harold Holt** famously committed Australian troops to by proclaiming "all the way with LBJ."

In 1975, Australia's most severe **constitutional crisis** took place, when Prime Minister **Gough Whitlam** was dismissed by Governor-General **John Kerr** following Whitlam's failure to secure a supply bill in the House of Representatives. This was widely regarded as an overstepping of the Governor-General's traditionally ceremonial role, and helped spur the **republican movement** to sever ties with the British monarchy, which was defeated in a 1999 referendum.

Australia lost 88 citizens in the 2002 **terrorist attack on nightclubs in Bali**, Indonesia, the most severe such incident in Australia's history. In 2008, Prime Minister **Kevin Rudd** issued a formal Parliamentary apology for the "**Stolen Generations**," a term referring to Aboriginal children removed to white adoptive parents.

## What You Should Also Know:

- Bora
- firestick farming
- circumcision line
- Samuel Marsden
- Lachlan Macquarie
- Proclamation of Governor Bourke
- Forest Creek Monster Meeting
- 1891 shearers' strike
- Breaker Morant
- Edmund Barton
- rabbit fence
- Emu War
- Labor Party
- Robert Menzies
- Liberal Party
- "Forgotten People Speech"
- 1971 Springbok tour
- Alcohol policies
- Julia Gillard
- "Misogyny Speech"

## ***Australia's intellectual, cultural, & geographical history***

Literature: One of the early achievements of Australian literature was *The Fortunes of Richard Mahony* by **Henry Handel Richardson**, the pen name of Ethel Richardson, which is one of the first novels ever written about mental illness. Bush poet **Banjo Paterson** created the popular "Clancy of the Overflow" and "The Man from Snowy River" and wrote Australia's most popular patriotic song, "**Waltzing Matilda**." **Patrick White's** *Voss* is about a German crossing the Outback. British author **Nevil Shute** moved to Australia and used it as the setting for *On the Beach* and *A Town Like Alice*. **Peter Carey** has won multiple Booker Prizes for his novels, often set in his Australian homeland, including *Oscar and Lucinda* and *The True History of the Kelly Gang*. **Thomas Keneally** has used Australia as the setting for several of his novels, such as *The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith*, but is best known for a novel about World War II Europe, *Schindler's Ark*.

Science: **Howard Florey** conducted the first clinical trial of penicillin and was a co-recipient of a Nobel Prize along with Ernst Chain and Alexander Fleming. in 1924. **Elizabeth Blackburn** discovered telomerase, an enzyme with major effects on human aging. **William Bragg** Sr. and Jr. invented the x-ray spectroscope and name a law of x-ray diffraction. Translational Research Institute director **Ian Frazer** was the chief inventor of the HPV vaccine. Australian anthropologist **Raymond Dart** found the first fossil of the human ancestor species *Australopithecus africanus* on an expedition in South Africa.

Fine Arts: Australia's most prominent composer is **Percy Grainger**, who is known for his personal eccentricities as well as his forward-looking musical pieces such as "Country Gardens," "Train Music," and "A Lincolnshire Poesy." Aboriginal instruments, most notably the **didgeridoo**, have become widely used in the broader Australian society and the entire world. Victoria-born soprano **Nellie Melba** was the most famous opera performer in the world in the early twentieth century. **Albert Namatjira** achieved recognition not only for his landscape paintings of the Australian environment, but also for becoming the first Aborigine to secure Australian citizenship.

Film: The world's first feature-length film, Charles Tait's 1906 *The Story of the Kelly Gang*, was made in Australia about an Australian subject. Despite this head start, Australian cinema did not again advance on the world stage until the 1970s, when government subsidies of artistic film and the lowbrow "**Ozploitation**" movement combined to produce a series of renowned films. The first major director to achieve fame as a result was **Peter Weir**, who made *Picnic at Hanging Rock* and *Gallipoli* in Australia and later worked in the U.S. and U.K. on hits such as *Dead Poets Society*, *The Truman Show*, and *Master and Commander*. **George Miller's** **Mad Max** trilogy showcased the Australian landscape. An American fad for Australian culture in the 1980s gave prominence to Paul Hogan's "**Crocodile Dundee**" character and **Yahoo Serious's** film *Young Einstein*. Australian actors have played prominent roles in the recent superhero film boom, including **Hugh Jackman's** seven appearances as Wolverine in the *X-Men* series and **Heath Ledger's** Oscar-winning performance in *The Dark Knight*.

Popular Music: Australian folk group **The Seekers** were a major participant in the worldwide rock scene of the 1960s; their hits include "Georgy Girl" and "I'll Never Find Another You." Actress-singer **Kylie Minogue** has been popular worldwide since her 1987 song "Locomotion." *American Idol* judge **Keith Urban** is one of the world's most popular country musicians. The band **Silverchair** became known for their high-selling alternative rock song "Tomorrow," released when the group's members were still in high school in 1995. The most famous musicians from Australia are the **Bee Gees**, whose formed in Australia after their members moved from the UK and recorded hit songs such as "Stayin' Alive," and **AC/DC**, whose albums *Highway to Hell* and *Back in Black* defined the hard rock sound in the early 1980s.

Sport: Australia's **national cricket team** plays a regular test series with England known as **The Ashes**; in 1932, Australian batsman **Don Bradman** was countered by England with the controversial "**bodyline**" tactic. **Australian football** is the most popular sport in the country, and names its champion in the **Grand Final** held in Melbourne each February. The **National Rugby League** and **A-League** soccer are also widely viewed. Australia has hosted the Summer Olympics twice; **1956's Melbourne Games** saw the famous "**Blood in the Water**" match between the Soviet and Hungarian water polo teams, and the Games returned to **Sydney in 2000**.

Geography: Every place has a history. Australia's unique position as a country that spans an entire continent, as well as the cultural position of the Outback, have played major roles in its history. Major cities, not limited to **Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Canberra**, and physical formations such as **Uluru** and the **Murray River** themselves, can always be the topics of questions in IHBB, which will blend geographical facts with historical events from these places.

### What You Should Also Know:

#### *Literature:*

- Miles Franklin
- DBC Pierre
- Henry Lawson
- David Malouf
- Colleen McCullough
- Clive James

#### *Film:*

- Errol Flynn
- Nicole Kidman
- Russell Crowe
- Cate Blanchett
- Mel Gibson
- Geoffrey Rush

#### *Geography:*

- Snowy Mountains
- Australian Alps
- Darling River
- Mount Kosciuszko
- Lake Eyre

#### *Sport:*

- Ian Thorpe
- Rod Laver
- Greg Norman
- Evonne Goolagong Cawley
- Steve Waugh
- Patrick Rafter
- Dave Nilsson
- Luc Longley
- Andrew Bogut

#### *Fine Arts:*

- John Peter Russell
- Rupert Bunny
- Peter Sculthorpe
- Margaret Sutherland
- William Dargie

#### *Science & Social*

#### *Science:*

- Tasmanian tiger
- Wallace line
- Germaine Greer
- John Eccles
- Bernard Katz
- Mark Oliphant
- Barry Marshall

#### *Popular Music:*

- Natalie Imbruglia
- Midnight Oil
- Savage Garden
- Men at Work
- Olivia Newton-John

## **Strategies for Success at The International History Bee and Bowl**

The International History Bee and Bowl differ from certain competitions in that it is possible in to do very little preparation specifically for the competitions, and still achieve a decent degree of success in them. If students have typically done well in their history classes, or have a natural interest in the subjects and have read a decent amount on their own in these fields, that can often lead to a fair amount of success.

However, in order both to have as much fun with IHBB as possible, learn as much through the experience as possible, and succeed to the greatest degree, a certain amount of preparation is needed. There's no "right" or "wrong" amount of time to put in preparing; nor is there a universally accepted way as to how to go about doing this. That said, we strongly urge you and your team to consider the following approaches to preparing for tournaments:

### **1) Be familiar with the style of our questions and game format, and don't make avoidable mistakes!**

This sounds easy (and it is), but it's often overlooked by new teams and students. Be sure you know the basic rules of how our competitions work, and practice running games in the standard format. Two errors we often see among new teams, in particular, are when the one team gets a tossup question wrong, and then a player on the other team rings in before the end of the question and answers incorrectly. Remember that questions get easier as they go along, and since the first team to answer incorrectly can't ring in again, the second team should wait until the question is done. Then, perhaps allow 1 second to allow a student who is certain to ring in; then, if no one has rung in after a second or so, someone can ring in and take an educated guess. Another mistake we often see is mismanaging the clock in a 60 second round. If you don't know the answer here, guess quickly or pass! Don't spend too much time on one question; just go on to the next.

The basics of competition are not complicated, but some familiarity with the game format and rules can be very helpful towards ensuring success, especially among new students and teams.

### **2) Practice systematically with teammates (and on your own as well).**

The majority of IHBB teams do practice at least a little bit with their teammates prior to tournaments, but not all practices are created equal. Does practice consist exclusively of reading old question packets, or is some effort made to ensure that common topics are known by team members?

Above all, though, while practice should be fun, it should be conducted efficiently. A well-run 45 minute practice accomplishes more than 2 hours spent getting distracted. Also, you will want to break more talented players and less experienced players up, so as not to discourage new players from being overwhelmed. And we can't emphasize enough the value of writing topics down in a

study notebook! If you just read old questions or play old questions, that's good. But if you figure out what topics are going unanswered and write them down, that's great. Also, don't feel as if you need to write down everything in a question, but instead, focus on the point in the question right before the point where you recognized the answer. That's probably the next thing you should learn about that topic (since information towards the end of questions is referenced overall more frequently).

### **3) Divide and conquer**

In the History Bee, you're on your own, so this strategy won't help you there. However, in the History Bowl, it's often helpful to split up various topics, or periods in history with your teammates. Do you have someone who knows a bit about Asian history? Any team should, but it's better to have just 1 person studying Asian history, than 3 people studying Asian history and no one studying American or African history. Go through the Study Guide above and divide the different topics among team members. Then, research the topics, and perhaps make flash cards with well-known historical facts about each topic.

Also, don't feel as if you need to split up areas equally among 4 teammates. If one student in particular is a strong player, or if one or two students show a capacity to take on increased studying commitments, then they should perhaps take more topics; letting the remaining students on the team be specialists. Even a team with 1 incredible player can benefit from having teammates who study particular topics in great depth and can score points whenever they come up.

### **4) Focus on knowledge retention**

Finally, remember that IHBB tournaments are very broad-based competitions. This makes studying for them different from studying for a typical history test (where you are at some level going to forget things after the test is done, in order to prepare for the next one). Even if you are studying for a final exam or an AP exam, the emphasis is on studying for that 1 test.

But since IHBB tournaments reward knowledge of all aspects of history at each tournament, you need to focus on long-term memory and knowledge retention. This is a different skill than cramming for a test, and takes time and repetition to master. However, in the long run, it's a far more rewarding way of approaching education, as that knowledge is far more likely to stay with you into university and beyond, being useful in many instances in life.

You and your team can master this skill by keeping notes in a notebook, and frequently reviewing information until you "have it down cold." Additionally, while the vast array of possible question topics may seem daunting at first, there's a high degree of repetition from one IHBB set of questions to another. If you play and practice frequently, you'll become a great player quicker than you ever thought possible. And you'll find that history courses become much easier and enjoyable too. Good luck, and please contact us at [nolwenn@historybowl.com](mailto:nolwenn@historybowl.com) if you have any further questions!