# THE GEOGRAPHY OF AUSTRALIA THROUGH ELA, MATHEMATICAL AND SCIENTIFIC LITERACY

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Date _____ Class _____

**Grade 6 | Five Day Reading and Reasoning RST**

**Essential Question**

How do Australia's landforms, rainfall, water systems, and human decisions shape settlement, movement, and environmental management?

**Learning Targets**

Interpret three maps; analyze three source readings; explain geographic cause and effect; calculate scale, precipitation, density, and percentage quantities; evaluate a budget choice; and write a supported RACE response.

**Five Themes of Geography**

Location identifies where a place is. Place describes physical and human characteristics. Human environment interaction examines adaptation and change. Movement follows people, materials, and ideas. Region groups places by shared features.

**Reading and Annotation Protocol**

Underline central ideas. Circle unfamiliar vocabulary. Box quantities and units. Note cause and effect. Cite Source One, Two, or Three and Map A, B, or C when using evidence.

**Map and Data Guidance**

Maps include legends, compass directions, and a distance bar calibrated at 25° south. Distortion varies elsewhere. Use the hypothetical practice scale only for stated exercises.

All numerical community, site, supply, and budget datasets are fictional instructional models, not measured regional statistics.

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# Source One Physical Geography, Regions, and Country

Australia lies in the Southern Hemisphere between the Indian and Pacific oceans. The Australian mainland and Tasmania form the central focus of this packet. The country, the continent, and the broader region of Oceania are related but different geographic ideas. Oceania includes many Pacific places beyond Australia. A regional label should not erase the distinct environments, nations, and communities within it.

The Great Dividing Range extends along much of eastern Australia and influences river drainage. The Murray and Darling belong to an important southeastern river system. Much of the interior includes dry environments, while northern and coastal areas have different rainfall patterns. Water availability affects farming and settlement, but technology, history, government decisions, and employment also shape where people live.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are distinct and diverse peoples with continuing connections to lands, waterways, and seas. Country can include relationships, responsibilities, knowledge, and identity, rather than land as property alone. Language groups and traditional Country do not match every modern state boundary. Avoid describing all Indigenous Australians as one culture or treating them as people who exist only in the past.

Map B identifies Australia's six states and the two principal mainland territories. Canberra, in the Australian Capital Territory, is the national capital. Tasmania is a state separated from the mainland by Bass Strait. State boundaries show administrative divisions, while a river basin groups land by drainage. These are different kinds of regions. The political map is an overview and does not display every external territory or every Indigenous Country.

The Five Themes of Geography connect coordinates and relative location, the characteristics of places, human environment interaction, movement, and region. A water supply decision can involve all five. It occurs somewhere, responds to local conditions, changes the environment, supports communities, and may affect an entire basin. A strong explanation combines maps with evidence about people instead of assuming that rainfall alone determines every outcome.

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