

ABORIGINAL EXERCISES

A - Exercises

1. Look at a map of the world. Where is Australia?
2. Where is Queensland? Describe what the Australian landscape looks like.
3. Make a timeline with the most important dates in Aboriginal history.
4. What do the Australian and Aboriginal flags look like? How do these flags reflect the history and cultures of these people?
5. Why did white Australians want to destroy Aboriginal culture? In what ways did they try to accomplish this?
6. Explain what the "stolen generation" is.
7. Explain why the Aboriginals respected each other's territory.
8. Are men and women equal in Aboriginal culture? Explain your answer.
9. Collect as much information as you can about the word "dreamtime".
10. In the pantheon different gods are responsible for the creation of human beings. Find out which gods these were.
11. How did the ancient Aboriginals explain death? How did they explain day and night? How did they explain thunder?
12. What is Il-ba-lint-ja?
13. How did Ka-ro-ra get his first son? Do you think that Ka-ro-ra has godly qualities? Why or why not? What happened to his sons?
14. Why do think there are so many different versions of the Aboriginal creation myth?
15. What similarities do you see between the Aboriginal creation myth (the Arandan version) and those of other cultures?

B- Exercises

Look at a few websites that deal with this culture and choose one or two that have images, sounds or text that you think are useful for preparing your presentation. Before your presentation make a summary on a poster or a sketch of the Aboriginal creation myth.

Choose one of the following exercises:

1. Recreate a dream from the dreamtime. Do this in a way that it fits into Aboriginal culture. Find examples of Aboriginal art (for instance on the internet). Make an illustrated story of their creation myth using the style that is common among Aboriginals.

or

2. How could the Australian government apologize to the Aboriginals? How should they do this and what could they say? Create a discussion program on television in which the following people debate the issue: a representative of the Australian government, a representative of the Australian Olympic committee, an Aboriginal representative and a representative of the United Nations.

C- Exercises

What do you think Karora was dreaming of when he went back to sleep the second time?