
Lesson Focus: A celebration for the European Settlers: Exclusion of the Australian Aboriginal people.

Lesson Aim: Students investigate primary resources from the early 1900s and evaluate the events which helped shape the nation’s identity.

Stage: 3
Outcome: CCS3.2 - Explains the development of the principles of Australian democracy.

Indicators:
1. Outlines reasons for federation i.e. unification of the states, transportation and defence.
2. Analyses significant events that have shaped Australia's identity i.e. the birth of the Australian flag.
3. Evaluates the exclusion of the Aboriginal people during federation and recognizes the importance of a shared history.
Revision: Reasons for Federation

- Unification of the States: The joining of the 6 independent Colonies into one Federal Commonwealth.
- Transport: Previously all travellers had to change trains at Albury, when travelling between NSW and Victoria. Each Colony’s rail lines had a different width track meaning that they had a separate rail system. Commuters had to change trains to cross Colonial borders. Products that were being transported between needed to be loaded and unloaded.
- Defence: Each state previously had separate Defence systems which were into one Defence system.

Choices:
A) unified
B) British
C) colonies

The Albury Mail Train, 1900.
Other Reasons for Federation ...

- Examine each of the artist’s interpretations of federation
- Explain the four reasons given for federation
- Differentiate those you consider to be racist in nature, give your reasons why.

Photo courtesy of: Their Ghosts May Be Heard: Australia to 1900. Coupe and Andrews, Pearson Education Australia.
A Celebration: Souvenir of Federation

On the 1st January 1901 Australia became a federation. Australia’s official name was The Commonwealth of Australia. The colonies were known as states and the Federal Parliament was formed, which was ruled by Britain.

This Souvenir of Federation was released in 1901 to celebrate the birth of Federation.

Identify any evidence which signified that the newly formed Australia still had close connections with Britain.

Instructions:
Circle the parts of the picture that indicate Australia’s close ties to Britain.
The Exclusion of Aboriginal Australians: The Census

When the six colonies formed the federation, the Commonwealth Constitution stated that “in reckoning the numbers of people ... Aboriginal natives should not be counted.” This law lasted until the 1967 referendum, when a large number of Australians voted that the Aboriginal people were to be included in the national census. Today the Federal Government can legislate or pass laws for Aboriginal people.

Edmund Barton's first Ministry, May 1901.

Examine this photo. What does it tell you about people’s attitudes during the early 1900s?
How does this photo relate to the exclusion of the Aboriginal people?
Fear: The 1901 Immigration Restriction Act

"To place certain restrictions on Immigration and to provide for the removal from the Commonwealth of Prohibited Immigrants."

The Immigration Restriction Act 1901 was one of the first laws to be passed. Australian Nationalists discarded the thought that different races could live together. They wanted the federation of Australia to be white.

The Pacific Islanders Labourers Act 1901 consented to the deportation of over 9000 Pacific Islanders who had been working in the sugar canes of Northern NSW and Queensland.

What were the motives of the composer of this song?
The Dictation Test

"To place certain restrictions on Immigration and to provide for the removal from the Commonwealth of Prohibited Immigrants." (December 23, 1901).

The _________ test was a result of the___________ Restriction Act.

The dictation test was a way of ensuring that only_______ speaking people could enter Australia, as Anglo Saxon and white European people were preferred. Customs officers carried out the dictation test. In 1903, 153 people took the test and only 3 passed it.

"The English Language will in general be adopted for the purpose of the test; but if in your opinion, the immigrant would be an undesirable immigrant, it may be better to substitute for the English_____, a passage from some other________. The choice of the language and of the passage will be left to your discretion."

Imagine you are a twelve year old living in Australia in 1901. What would you include in a letter you wrote to, Edmund Barton, the first Prime Minister advising him of the changes that need to be made to these advertisements? Present a clear case as to why these changes should be made.
Identity: The first Australian Flag

Australia's first flag originated as a result of a competition held in 1901. There were 5 winners who shared first prize as they all submitted similar flags. They were all descendants from British/European settlers.

On the right hand side of the flag there are 5 stars, representing the Southern Cross which is a constellation of stars visible from the Southern Hemisphere. Under the Union Jack is a six pointed white star called the federation star.
The Australian flags.

Aboriginal flag
Torres Strait Islander flag

Australian Flag

Compare and contrast the federation star on the Australian flag from 1901 with today's Australian flag. What do you notice about the points of each star. What do the points represent?
Create Your Own Design Of The Australian Flag.

- Design a new Australian Flag which represents all Australians.
- Justify your choice of colours.
- Discuss the design, patterns and symbols that you have chosen for your flag.
- How does your flag portray a shared history of Australia?
- Write a commercial to air on Australian television, stating the reasons why this flag should become the next national flag.