

Ministry of education and science of Ukraine
Dragomanov National Pedagogical University

Presentation

Topic: **Australian English
Pronunciation**



Kyiv 2009



Information File

- Total area: 7.7 million sq. km
- Total population: 20 million
- Ethnic mix: 92% white, 7% Asian, 1% Aborigine
- Capital: Canberra
- Population of capital: 330.000
- Government: A federation of 6 states and 2 territories. Australia was a British colony until 1901. It is still a monarchy (Britain's monarch is also Australia's) but it is now an independent state.
- Climate: Coasts: fertile, mountainous
 - North: tropical
 - Centre: desert (known as "the bush" or "the outback")



There are different ways to identify the meaning of the accent phenomenon:

- A way of pronouncing the language.
- A unified entity of pronunciation patterns used for communicative interaction by the members of the same speech community. Speakers of the same accent typically :
- **Share a relevant social or geographical attribute and**
- **Maintain a uniform set of phonological characteristics, despite a certain amount of limited phonetic and lexical –incidental variation between them**
- An emphasis given to words or syllables by means of pitch, loudness and length
- Pronunciation features in a foreign language influenced by the mother tongue



Australian Pronunciation

Today, is the 6th largest countries in the world by area (and in some 30 times bigger than GB). Australian population is mostly urban, living in the fertile areas near the coast.

The Distinctive features of AuE:

1. **It's typical of AuE speakers to shorten words. That gives "Strine" (a popular term for AuE) its special style – informal, friendly and sometimes funny 😊**



e.g. mozzie=mosquito
postie=postman
Aussie= Australian
beaut=beautiful
barbie=barbecue
biggie=something big

Accents of English

English-based pronunciation standards

American-based pronunciation standards

British English

Irish English

Australian English

New Zealand English

American English

Canadian English

Northern English

Southern English\Received Pronunciation

Scottish English

Welsh English

Northern Ireland English

New Englishes

Indian English

South African English

Hong Kong English

Singaporean English

Etc.



Language Practice

Test yourself

Name the correct equivalents of the AuE words:

Chalkie = Chalk user, teacher

Cuppa = Cup of tea

Croc = Crocodile

Choice = Chocolate

Ciggie = Cigarette

Cuke\cuy = Cucumber

Info = Information

Mo = Moment

Lecky = Electric

Footy = Football

Ta = Thank

A broolly = Umbrella

A bikkie = A biscuit

G'day = Hello (Good Day)

2. AuE also incorporates several uniquely Australian terms:

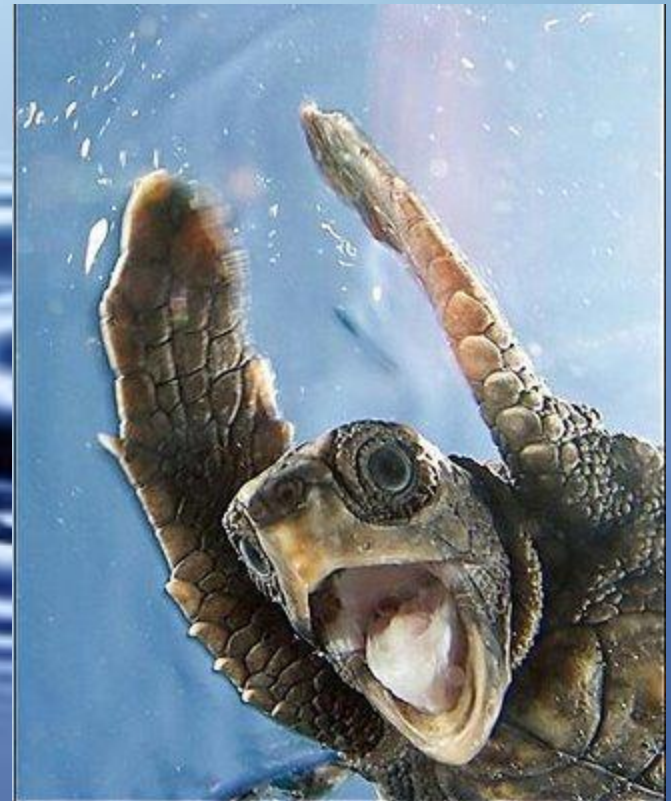
- ◆ **Outback**- to refer to remote regional areas;
- ◆ **Walkabout** – to refer to a long journey of uncertain length;
- ◆ **Bush** – to refer to native forested areas, but also to regional areas as well.



3. There are a lot of special words for farming and agriculture and popular Australian people use all the time.

Examples of a few common Australian words:

- ❖ Amber fluid – beer;
- ❖ Bonzer – very good;
- ❖ Crook – ill;
- ❖ Lollies – sweets;
- ❖ Bush station – farm,
- ❖ Pom – an English person,
- ❖ Seppo – an American



Language Practice

Test Yourself

Listen to Caroline talking about her favourite watersport. Which of the sports is she describing?



Scuba Diving



Waterskiing



Surfing



Windsurfing



Key: Scuba diving



Check your knowledge about Australia

1. How many people live in Australia?
2. Why are all the major Australian cities on the coast?
3. Who are the people on the photos?
4. What is the city on the photograph? Is it the capital of Australia?



5. Do you think Canberra is a large city?



6. Who is Australia's current monarch?

