



Location, Climate, &
Natural Resources

Australia

Where People Live &
How They Trade

Standards

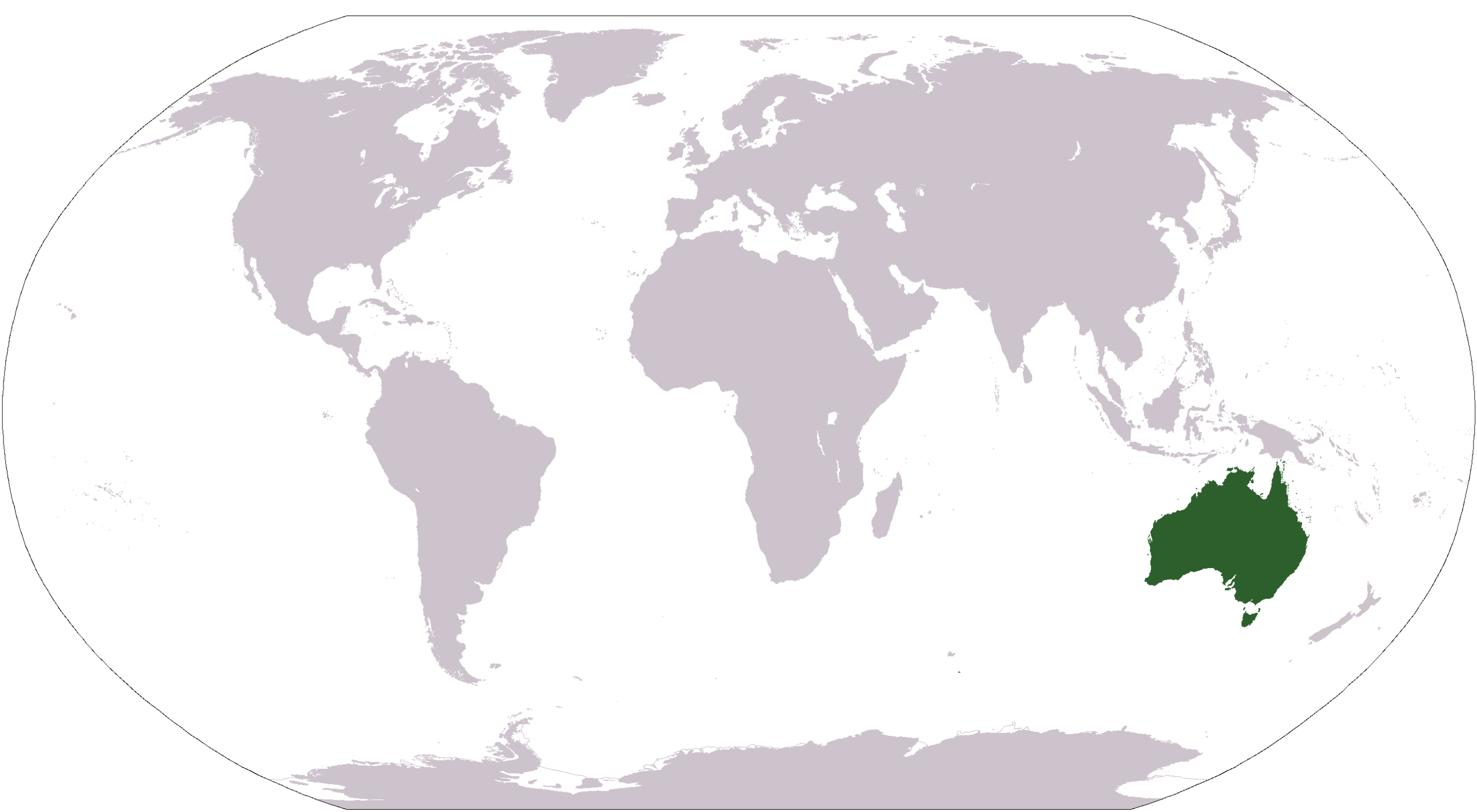
SS6G13 The student will explain the impact of location, climate, distribution of natural resources, and population distribution on Australia.

a. Describe how Australia's location, climate, and natural resources have affected where people live.

b. Describe how Australia's location, climate, and natural resources impact trade.

Location

- Australia is both a continent & a country.
- It lies about 2,000 miles southeast of Asia.
- Surrounded but the Pacific Ocean on the east and the Indian Ocean on the west.
- It's in the *southern hemisphere*.
 - Literally the “*land down under*”!





AUSTRALIA
0 km 100 200 300 km
© 2009 Ezilon.com All Right Reserved

Climate

- Climate varies across the continent.
- Australia is south of the equator, so it's climate is opposite that of North America:
 - *Summer: December through March*
 - *Winter: June through September*

Mount Hotham, Victoria



Climate

- The northern part of Australia is closest to the equator.
- It has a *tropical climate and is warm-to-hot all year round.*
- It gets more rain than any other part of the country.
- Winter: wet and cool
- Summer: hot and dry

Whitsunday Island, Queensland



Climate

- *Central Australia is mostly desert.*
 - This is the largest part of Australia.
- Very little rain falls here.
 - Most of this area gets less than 10 inches of rain per year!

Outback (Ayers Rock)





- 1 Pedirka Desert
- 2 Tirari Desert
- 3 Sturt Stony Desert

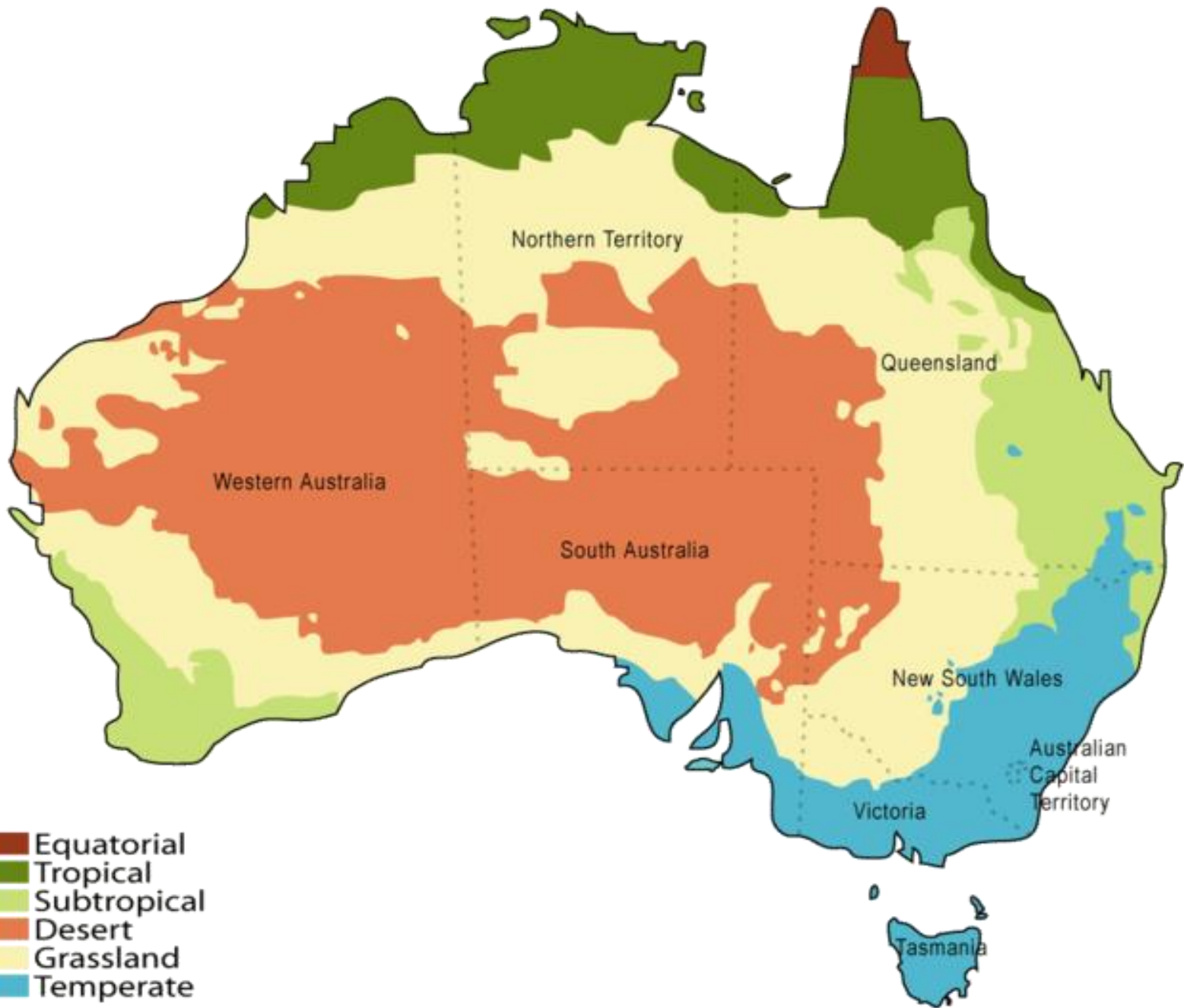
ACT = Australian Capital Territory
JBT = Jervis Bay Territory





Climate

- Only the southeast and southwest corners along the coasts have a temperate climate.
 - Summers aren't too hot & winters aren't too cold.
- The climate in these regions is the one that most Australians prefer.
 - *Most Australians live along southeastern coast.*



Tourism

- Tourists from the northern hemisphere visit Australia's warm beaches when it is winter in their country.
- Tourists usually wait until spring or fall to visit the rural areas & the outback.
 - It's not too hot then.

Gold Coast, Queensland



Natural Resources

- *Outback* refers to the *dry interior* of Australia.
 - It's mainly open countryside, including vast expanses of grazing land.
- There are only a few widely scattered settlements in the Outback.
 - Many of them grew up around *mining* operations.

Boulia, Queensland

WELCOME to BOULIA
The Friendly Town
"PLEASE KEEP OUR TOWN TIDY"



Natural Resources

- Across much of Australia, the ground is barren & not ideal for farming (*outback*).
 - Many minerals are found here: *gold, silver, uranium, coal, copper, & iron ore*
- Australia has exported nearly \$400 billion worth of metals, minerals, & fuels in the past 20 years.
 - Natural resources account for 1/3 of the country's economy!

Broken Hill Township – Mining Town in New South Wales



Natural Resources

- *Australia exports more coal & iron ore than any other country.*
- It leads the world in mining bauxite, titanium, & diamonds.
- No other country has more reserves of lead, cadmium, or nickel.

Natural Resources

- Natural resources have always been important to Australian trade.
- In the mid-1800s, Australia had a gold rush in the southern region.
 - Thousands of immigrants moved to Australia to find gold.
 - Many came from England, Ireland, Germany, & China.

Super Pit – World's Largest Gold Mine



Natural Resources

- In the non-desert regions, Australians grow many grains.
 - Grains are grown in inland regions of the coastal states (not too hot/dry here).
- *Grains include a wide range of different crops:*
 - *Wheat, barley, sorghum, rye, rice, chickpeas, lentils, & oilseeds*

Farmland in Queensland



Where People Live

- The coastal areas are the most populated.
 - *Most people live along the east coast.*
- The most populated city is Sydney, in New South Wales.
- Another populated city is Brisbane, Queensland.

Sydney, New South Wales



Brisbane, Queensland



Where People Live

- Nearly 80% of Australians live in urban areas.
 - Australia is one of the world's most urbanized countries.
- 70% of all Australians live in cities of more than 100,000 people.
 - Sydney has 3.5 million people.
 - Melbourne has about 3 million people.

Sydney, New South Wales



Gold Coast, Queensland



Trade

- Australia's top trading partners for exports are: ***China*** (29.5%), Japan (19.3%), South Korea (8%), & India (4.9%).
- Australia's top trading partners for imports are: ***China*** (18.2%), US (11.6%), Japan (7.8%), Singapore (5.9%), Germany (4.6%), Thailand (4.2%), & South Korea (4%).
- ***Australia exports tons of natural resources to China.***
 - 50% of iron ore exports go to China.
 - In return, China provides Australia with affordable finished goods (cars, kitchen appliances, etc.).

Tourism

- Foreign tourists create only 1/4 of Australia's \$81 billion tourist industry.
 - Australia's location makes it expensive for people to visit from other countries.
- Australians do the majority of tourism within their own country.
 - Its remote location in the Southern Hemisphere makes it expensive for Australians to leave & visit other countries.