

Area of Study One – Port Phillip/Victoria 1830-1860

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR QUESTION 1

For each of these points you should have at least **TWO** points of specific evidence – quotes, statistics, specific examples, people or groups, incidents, institutions, etc.

Ideas underpinning colonization of Port Phillip:

- Belief in European superiority. Major Mitchell described the Western District as '*a country ready for the immediate reception of civilized man...as if especially prepared for the industrious hands of Englishmen.*' (Shaw p 63)
- Importance of land and land ownership.
- Desire to escape poverty and lack of opportunity in Britain. ('Here and There' poster (Mirams p 14)

Motivations of particular individuals and groups (Look up on google or ADB)

- Those who came from VDL and NSW bringing flocks or from Britain hoping to become landowners (eg **George Evans, Dr Alexander Thompson, The Henty Brothers, Andrew McCrae, George Mercer, Thomas Napier, George Russell (Look up further information)**)
- Professionals and entrepreneurs who came for economic opportunities (eg **William A'Beckett, Dr David Thomas, newspaper editor Edward Wilson, businessman and entrepreneur Jonathan Were**)
- Assisted immigrants who came to escape poverty and find a new start. (eg **William Edwards-gardener; John Kelly- labourer; Agnes Reid- maid.**)

The situation in the colony on the eve of gold.

- Population (**77,000, Melb 22,000**), social structure, nature of economy.
- Economy, wealth and status based on land and wool.
- Development of institutions, visions for the future. (Much was already established - (**Melbourne streets laid out, Melbourne Club, Botanic Gardens, schools, hospitals, 3000 houses**))

The impact of gold

- Population growth, changed population and social mix, expansion of the colony (**30 new towns**), economic development, political impact.
- New institutions reflecting prosperity and confidence.- **Melbourne University, Museum, Public Library, Parliament etc**
- Note that you should look at the impact of gold in the early 50s (to about 1854) then look at the impact in the later 50s – there are differences.

Change to visions??

- Extent to which visions changed – evidence of change?

- Evidence that vision didn't really change – just became broader and more confident. Eg: **When Lieut Gov Joseph Latrobe arrived in Melbourne in 1839, he outlined his vision for the colony that materialism was not the way to greatness and that he wanted the colony to pursue 'the acquisition and maintenance of sound religious and moral institutions'**
- By 1860, Victoria still valued white superiority, British ideas and values, material prosperity, importance of land ownership, individual progress etc

The nature of Aboriginal life before colonization (only necessary as background)

- Aborigines lived a rich life in harmony with the land and the seasons. The land met all their needs – physical, social and spiritual.
- Particular emphasis on different Aboriginal and European attitudes to land ownership and use. Aborigines did not claim individual ownership, they did not cultivate the soil or put up fences to show possession.
- The Europeans made no attempt to understand. This was a major cause of the differences between the two races. The only person who acknowledged Aboriginal ownership of the land was Batman and he only did this to exploit them and get an advantage over other European settlers.

The impact of European colonisation of Aborigines

- Death through disease or violence. (note conflicting figures) Estimates that between 1,000 and 4,000 Aborigines were killed in massacres such as Butcher's Creek in Gippsland.
- Dispossession - loss of food sources, exploitation, clashes with other clans, depression and loss of will to live. (EG George Langhorne wrote to the Colonial Secretary in 1838 ' *the natives are deprived in great measure of the kangaroo, their principal food*')
- Loss of culture, connection to the land, traditional skills and knowledge, declining birthrate, family kinship patterns etc (Eg depression and STDs led to a decline in the birthrate. Billibellary was quoted as saying in Melbourne "You have all this place now, no good have children." There were only 2 Aboriginal babies born in the Melbourne area after 1850.
- Impact of European products - alcohol, tobacco, refined sugar and flour.
- Cultural misunderstandings over land ownership, private possessions, relationships with women.

The responses of Aboriginal people to colonization.

- Violence and retaliation (59 Europeans reported as killed by Aborigines)
- Attempting to ignore European presence – only possible in remote areas
- Accommodation (Billibellary, Derimut, Buckley)
- Joining the native police
- Working for Europeans (such as the McCraes or Edward Curr) but retaining some traditional way of life

Area of Study Two – Nation Race and Citizen

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR QUESTION 2

1. What colonists hoped to achieve, change or improve through federation.
 - A safe country able to defend herself against invaders: **evidence ‘A Plain Case’ cartoon, Mirams p 49. Major General Edwards' Speech**
 - A white nation/British style nation
 - A nation where there was equal opportunity
 - A united and cohesive nation: **evidence ‘From all division let our land be free, For God has made her one...’ from Federation by William Gay, 1890s.**
 - A prosperous nation with a high standard of living
 - An efficient, well run nation:
 - A well educated nation
 - A healthy nation
 - Some hoped for better rights for women
2. What fears colonists believed federation would solve.
 - Fear of invasion by other European nations:
 - Fear of racial contamination, mainly from Asia: **evidence ‘The Only Way’ cartoon, showing the colonies as pretty young girls, using a lever marked Federation to remove a large Chinese head from the Australian continent.**
 - Fear of competition for jobs from outsiders
 - Fear of declining working conditions- **the 1890s depression led many to fear that unless the colonies united, working conditions could decline led to formation of first nation wide political party ALP.**
 - Fear of economic inefficiency
3. What fears some colonists had about the impact of federation.
 - Some feared loss of connection with Britain.(eg Imperial Federation League)
 - Less populous colonies (esp WA) feared being swamped by larger colonies.
 - Some NSW traders feared loss of Free Trade.
 - Some Vic manufacturers feared loss of intercolonial protective tariffs.
 - NSW feared loss of position as first colony.
4. What overall vision did colonists have of citizenship and of the nation?
 - A united, white, egalitarian, prosperous nation – British in style but free of the evils of the old world.
(Note that there was no official Australian citizenship until 1949. All people, including Aborigines were ‘British subjects’. Citizenship was more of a concept of the ideal or desired member of the society.)
5. What processes were used to include and exclude from participation in the nation?
 - The constitution – eg **Sections 53 and 127 excluded Aborigines from being counted in the census and denied the Commonwealth Govt the right to make laws for Aborigines**
 - Legislation, 1901-1914 was used to make some people welcome and valued and others excluded or marginalized? Eg **All women over 21 were included in the voting process by the 1902 Franchise Act. Aboriginal women were excluded from receiving the Maternity Allowance under the 1912 Act.**

- Social processes were also used to include and exclude. Drunkenness and promiscuity were frowned upon, even if they were not against the law. Unmarried mothers were legally entitled to the Maternity Allowance but were shunned by society and usually sent away to have their babies then forced to have them adopted.
 - What were the **criteria for full inclusion**? The most included were white, male, of British origin, hard working, family oriented, believing in Australia's future etc. There was also an incorrect belief that the typical Australian was a bushman.
6. The benefits that were given to those who belonged to the new nation.
- The right to vote and participate in the political process. **(1902 Franchise Act)**
 - Workers rights **(1903 Arbit and Concil Act, 1907 Basic wage, 1912 W'kers' Comp)**
 - The right to welfare **(1908 Aged and Invalid Pensions, 1912 Maternal Act)**
 - The right to protection **(Defence Acts 1903 – 1909, Aust Navy 1911)**
 - Economic control **(Commonwealth Bank 1911)**
7. The responsibilities placed upon the members of the new nation.
- To participate in the political process through voting. **(1902 Franchise Act)**
 - To produce white babies for the nation (**1912 Maternal Welfare Act**)
 - To help defend the nation **(Defence Acts 1903-1909)**
 - Employers - to pay the basic wage **(Harvester Judgement 1907)**
 - Governments (State and Federal) to pass laws to look after the health, education economy and well being of citizens.
8. The extent to which the hopes and fears that shaped the federation were realised in the early 20thC.
- **Hopes** for unity, relative prosperity, defence, political and workers' rights were met to a reasonable degree for many Australians.
 - **Hopes** for Aborigines, most Asians, some women, some workers (unskilled), some businessmen (Favouring either Protection or Free Trade), some farmers (eg Maffra sugar beet growers) were not met or only partly met.
9. The extent to which a sense of national identity had developed in the nation by 1900.
- Sense of national unite strengthened by federation – many of the new work and welfare laws made people feel positively about the nation.
 - Early years of new nation showed strong cultural identification – Dad and Dave, Ned Kelly film, Hans Heysen's authentic gum trees.
 - BUT loyalty to Britain still strong
 - AND many still identified strongly with own colonies (WA) and local areas (Gippsland, Riverina etc)