

# PART FOUR

## APPLYING FOR CITIZENSHIP

### BECOMING AN AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN

Further information on becoming an Australian citizen is available at [www.citizenship.gov.au](http://www.citizenship.gov.au) or by calling the Citizenship Information Line on 131 880.

#### HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

This book will help you prepare for the citizenship test. You should:

- study this book
- ask a friend or family member to help you practice answering questions about Australia
- take language classes if you need to learn to speak English
- take the example test on the website at [www.citizenship.gov.au](http://www.citizenship.gov.au)

#### ABOUT THE CITIZENSHIP TEST

The citizenship test is a computer based written multiple-choice test. The test is designed to assess whether you have a basic knowledge of the English language. It is also used to test your knowledge of Australia and the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship.

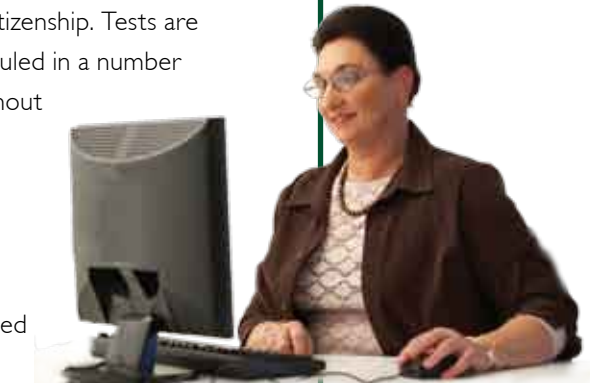
The test consists of 20 questions drawn at random from a pool of 200 questions. To pass the test, you must correctly answer 60 per cent of the questions, including answering three questions on the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship correctly.

Citizenship tests are conducted in every office of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship. Tests are also regularly scheduled in a number of locations throughout regional Australia.

The questions in a citizenship test are based on the information contained in this book. The test includes questions about:

- Australia's history
- Australia's geography
- the Australian people
- Australian values
- the system of government
- responsibilities and privileges of Australian citizenship.

For further information, and to find the test centre nearest to you, please visit the department's citizenship website at [www.citizenship.gov.au](http://www.citizenship.gov.au) or by calling the Citizenship Information Line on 131 880.



## **Australian Citizenship Pledge**

*From this time forward,  
under God\**

*I pledge my loyalty to  
Australia and its people*

*Whose democratic  
beliefs I share,*

*Whose rights and  
liberties I respect, and*

*Whose laws I will  
uphold and obey*

*\*You may choose  
whether or not to use  
the words 'under God'.*

### **IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS**

It is expected that most people will have the literacy skills necessary to complete the citizenship test unassisted. For those who require some assistance because of low literacy skills, an officer will provide assistance by reading the questions and possible answers. This will still require you to have the understanding and knowledge to meet the requirements for citizenship. To be eligible for this assistance, you will need to have completed a minimum of 400 hours of English language tuition under the Adult Migrant English Programme (AMEP), and be assessed by the AMEP provider as not having the reading skills at the competency level used in the development of the test.

Assistance will also be available to people with low levels of computer skills, or with a disability.

### **AFTER THE TEST**

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship will tell you the results of your test. If you pass, you will be given information about how to apply for citizenship. If you fail the test, you will be given feedback on your results and information about how to prepare to take the test again.

After passing the test, you will then be able to lodge your citizenship application electronically over the Internet [www.citizenship.gov.au](http://www.citizenship.gov.au), by post, or in person at any office of the department.

### **AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP PLEDGE**

After you have successfully completed the test, and if your application for citizenship has been approved, you need to make a pledge of commitment. This is usually a public ceremony to celebrate your acceptance as a formal member of the Australian community.

At the ceremony you will be asked to make the Pledge of Commitment as a Citizen of the Commonwealth of Australia, usually called the Australian Citizenship Pledge.



*Becoming Australian citizens*

## EXAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. In what year did Federation take place?
2. What date is Australia Day?
3. Who was the first Prime Minister of Australia?
4. What is the first line of Australia's national anthem?
5. What is the floral emblem of Australia?
6. What is the population of Australia?
7. In what city is the Parliament House of the Commonwealth Parliament located?
8. Who is the Queen's representative in Australia?
9. How are Members of parliament chosen?
10. Who do members of parliament represent?
11. After a federal election, who forms the new government?
12. What are the colours on the Australian flag?
13. Who is the head of the Australian Government?
14. What are the three levels of government in Australia?
15. In what year did the European settlement of Australia start?
16. Serving on a jury if required is a responsibility of Australian citizenship: true or false?
17. In Australia, everyone is free to practice the religion of their choice, or practice no religion: true or false?
18. To be elected to the Commonwealth Parliament you must be an Australian citizen: true or false?
19. As an Australian citizen, I have the right to register my baby born overseas as an Australian citizen: true or false?
20. Australian citizens aged 18 years or over are required to enrol on the electoral register: true or false?

For further information go to [www.citizenship.gov.au](http://www.citizenship.gov.au)

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

### **AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP**

To obtain more information about how to become an Australian citizen visit the Department of Immigration and Citizenship's website at: [www.citizenship.gov.au](http://www.citizenship.gov.au)

### **AUSTRALIA**

You can obtain more information about Australia at your local library.

### **AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES**

You can obtain information about Australian government programmes and services from [www.australia.gov.au](http://www.australia.gov.au)

### **FEDERAL MEMBER OR SENATOR**

Your local federal member or a senator for your state or territory has a range of information about Australian Government programmes and services.

A listing of members and senators can be found at: [www.aph.gov.au](http://www.aph.gov.au)