



Human Geography: Oceania, Australia, New Zealand, & Antarctica



Oceania

- All nations, except Nauru, are island groups
- Prehistoric people journeyed from mainland Southeast Asia to nearby Pacific islands using small rafts or canoes and land bridges that have since disappeared

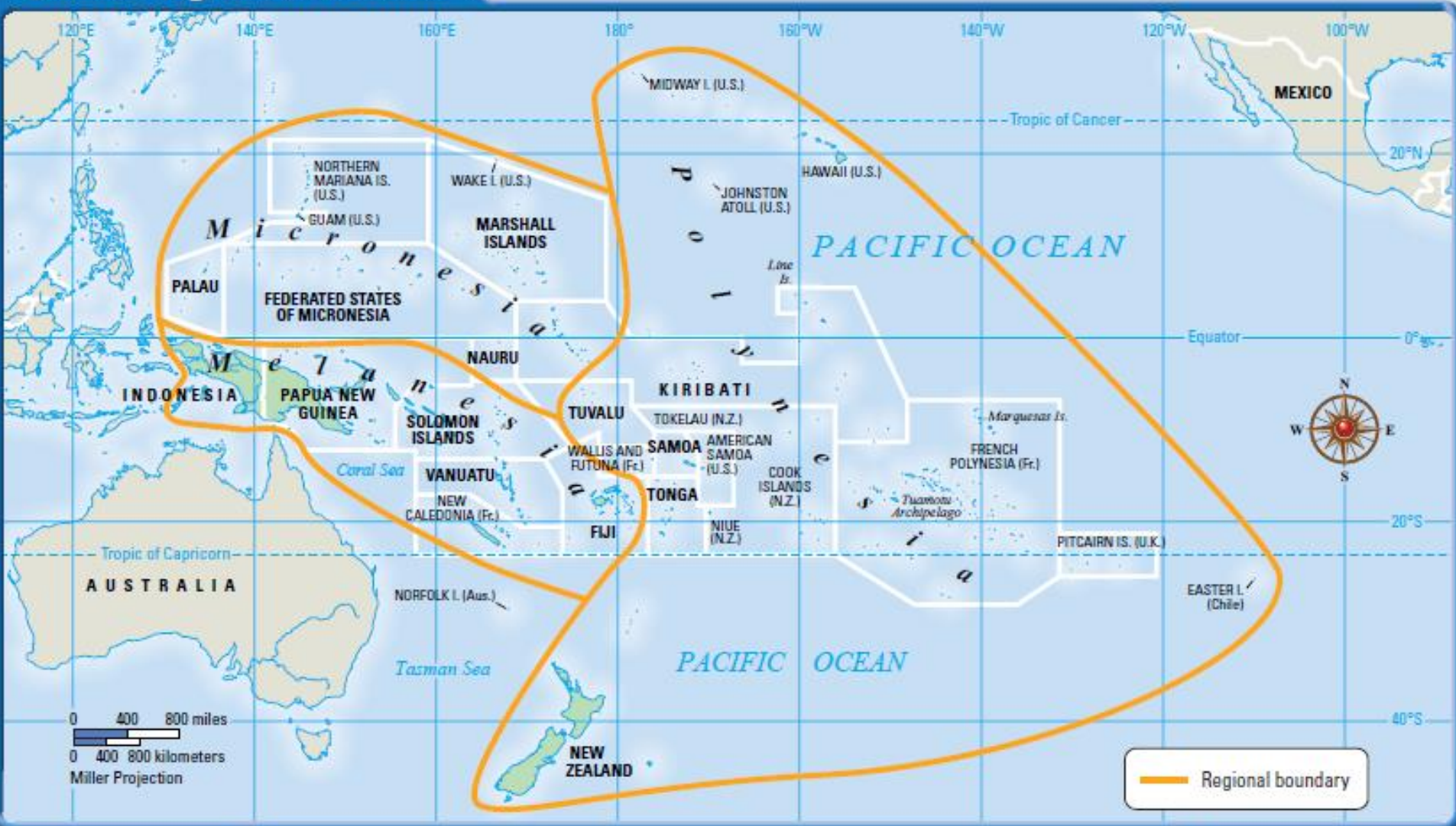
PLACE These stone heads are on an altar on Vao, a small island of Vanuatu. They were used in rituals for controlling the weather. How has time affected the stone heads?



- Geographers divide Oceania into three regions, defined both by physical geography and culture
 - Melanesia → north of Australia; “black islands”
 - Micronesia → north of Melanesia & south of Japan; “tiny islands”
 - Polynesia → covers the area from Midway Island in the north to New Zealand in the south; “many islands”



Cultural Regions of Oceania



SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

- 1 REGION** Which of the cultural regions contains islands held by the United States?
- 2 MOVEMENT** Consider what you have learned about ancient migrations of people in the Pacific Ocean. Which cultural region was the last to be settled?

- Oceania experienced turmoil in the 20th century.
 - During World War II, the Allies and the Japanese fought fierce battles there to gain control of the Pacific.
 - Afterward, some islands were used as nuclear test sites, not only by the United States
- Since 1962, 12 different nations have gained independence, foreigners still rule the other islands.



A Traditional Economy

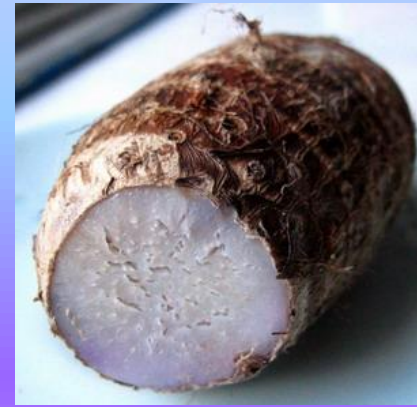
- Economy in which people work not for wages but as subsistence activities, in which a family produces only for themselves



A Traditional Economy

- **AGRICULTURE:** most low islands do not have fertile soil. High islands do have soil that supports agriculture.

- Chief crops: bananas, sugar, cocoa, coffee, and **copra**, which is the dried meat of coconuts.



- One major crop was **taro**, a plant with a starchy root. Taro can be eaten boiled, or it can be made into breads, puddings, or a paste called poi.

Many residents of Oceania make a living from traditional activities.



This resident of Fiji is husking coconuts to make copra, or the dried meat of coconuts.



- Tourism has become very important to the economy
- Although hotels, stores, roads, and vehicles threaten the islands' environment and traditional ways of life.



Many people of Oceania, such as these Cook Islanders, earn their living from fishing.

- Fishing also provides a significant source of income.

Culture of the Islands

- Oceania has a culture that blends traditional ways with the cultures of Europe and the United States.
- Some 1,100 of the world's languages are spoken there. Many Pacific Islanders speak European languages. English is the most common.

THE ARTS

- Islanders produce arts and crafts, such as baskets and mats woven from the leaves of palm trees or carved wooden masks.
- Some islanders make a living selling art to tourists.



Traditional dances are often performed for tourists. These dancers are from French Polynesia.

TRADITIONAL LIFE

- Most people live in villages, ranging from small clusters of houses to large walled settlements. The houses were usually wooden with thatched roofs.



RECENT CHANGE

- Oceania has few cities, but they have been growing > jobs & education.
- Rapid urban growth has led to slums and inadequate sanitation facilities.
- In addition, city people are giving up their traditional ways of life.



Australia & New Zealand

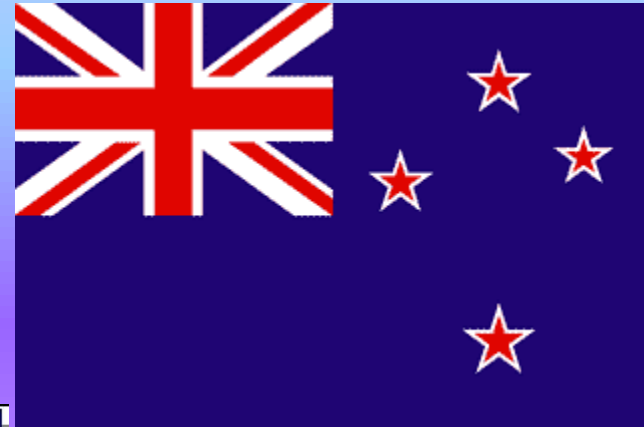
- In 1788, Great Britain founded Sydney, Australia, as a **penal colony**—a place to send prisoners
- Australia and New Zealand became British colonies even though the native people had cultures of their own



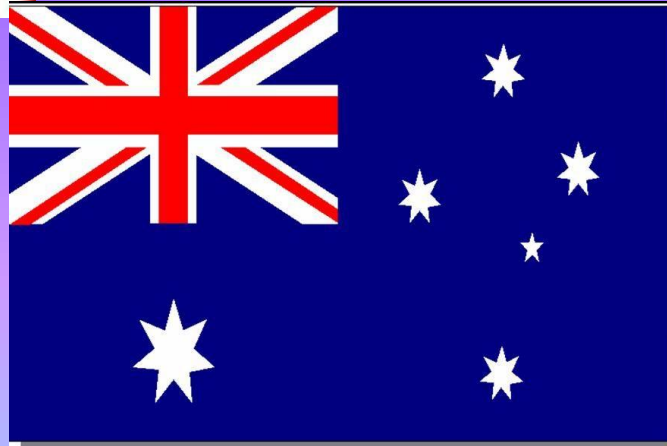
Which is which?????



United Kingdom



New Zealand



Australia

***The stars are arranged in such a way that it symbolizes a Southern Cross. The Southern Cross is a famous constellation situated in the southern hemisphere. Thus the Southern Cross in the flag is an identification of Australia and New Zealand's position geographically.

- Aboriginal people: natives who migrated to Australia from Asia 40,000 years ago

- Had complex religion and social structures
- Nomadic people, never established permanent settlements
- Hunted with boomerangs

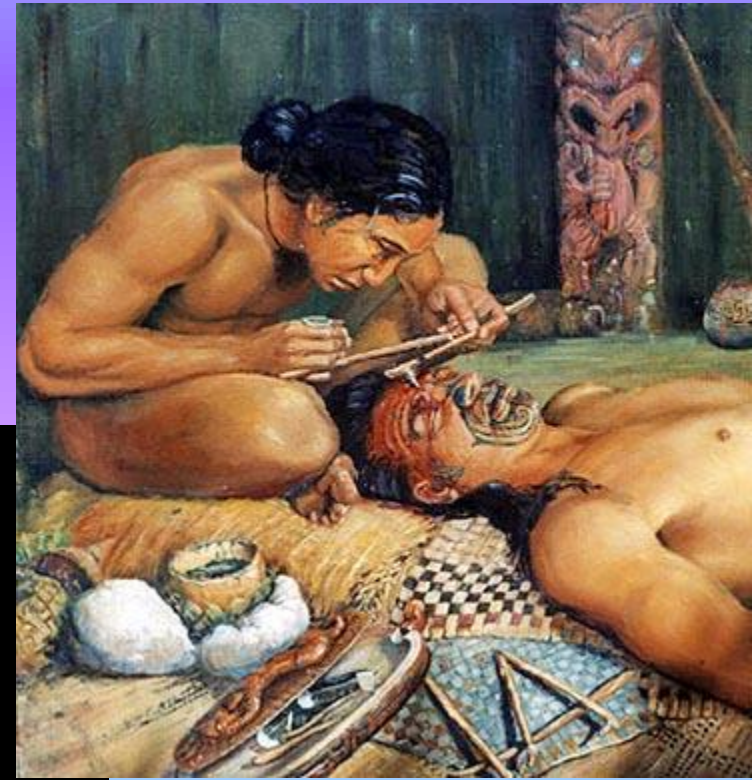


- The Maori

- Came from Polynesia to settle New Zealand

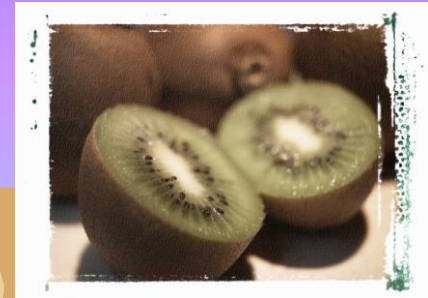
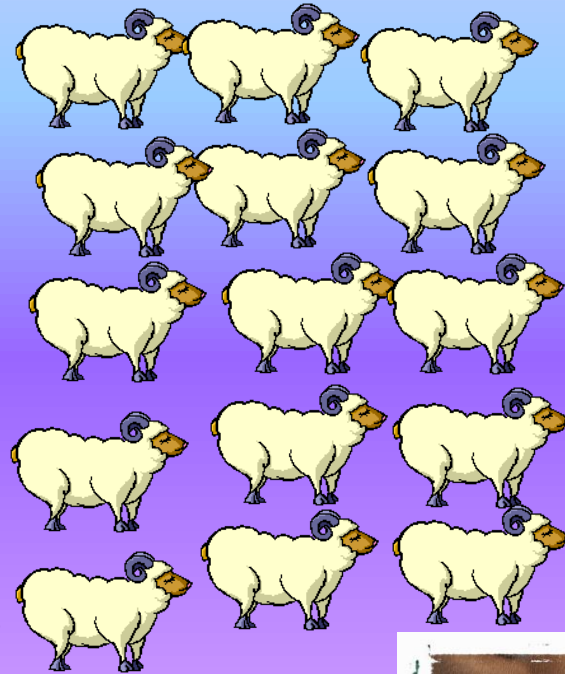
- Dependent on fishing, hunting, and farming

Tā moko is the permanent body and face marking by Māori, the indigenous people of New Zealand. Traditionally it is distinct from tattoo and tatau in that the skin was carved by uhi (chisels) rather than punctured. This left the skin with grooves, rather than a smooth surface.



Economy

- Both are major exporters of farm products
- New Zealand
 - in 1998 the number of farm animals (including 47.6 million sheep and 8.8 million cattle) was 15 times greater than the number of people!
 - world's largest producer of kiwi fruit
- Australia
 - Mining is major income

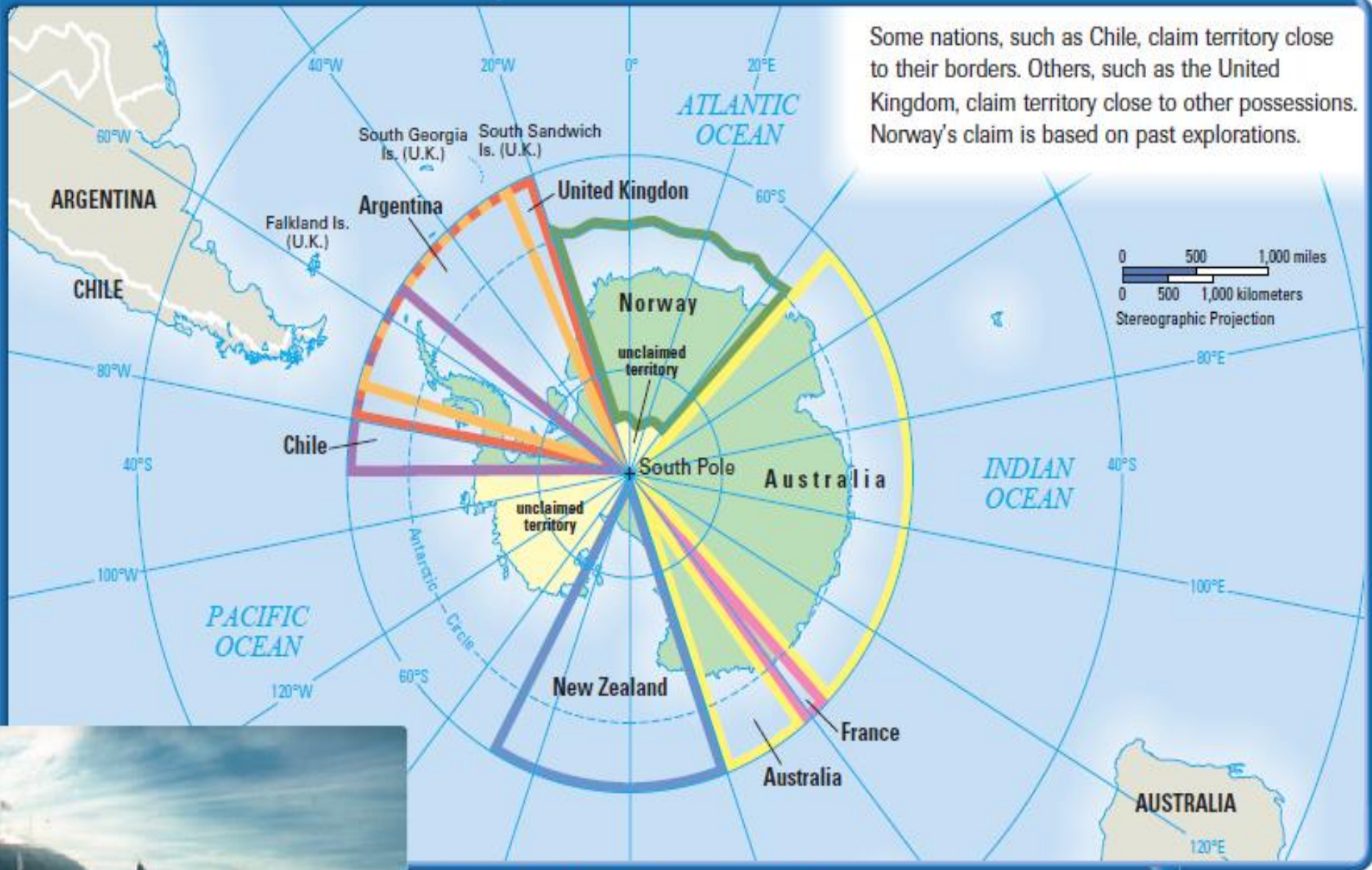


Antarctica

- Continent used mainly for scientific research;
18 nations have scientific research stations
- **Weather patterns**
 - Can observe the sun & stars without obstruction (clouds)
 - The ozone layer
 - Krill, a small shrimp like animals that are a major part of the food chain



National Claims to Antarctica



SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

- 1 REGION** Which country has claimed the largest territory in Antarctica?
- 2 LOCATION** Why doesn't this map have a compass rose?

Tourism in Antarctica

- Across most of Earth, a tourist attraction that sees **35,000 visitors a year** isn't very much. But when it's Antarctica, every footstep matters.

“What used to be Antarctic tourism in the late '80s through the '90s was generally people of middle age or older going on cruises and small ships where they went ashore at a few locations and they looked at wildlife, and one current station,” he said. “But there's an increasing diversification of the activities now, so it's much more action-orientated. Now people want to go paragliding, water skiing, diving or a variety of other things.”

