

CAREER CHART

TYPE OF CAREER	SKILLS NECESSARY	SKILLS ACQUIRED IN SCHOOL
Tourism Official		
Marine Biologist		
Farmer and Rancher		
Miner		
Environmentalist		
Banker		
Doctor		
Biologist		
Anthropologist		
Government Official		
Automobile Manufacturer		
Wine Producer		

PBL QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1: NEW SOUTH WALES, QUEENSLAND, AND THE ACT

Your group is part of a group of biologists. The tourism officials in Queensland, Australia want to open the Great Barrier Reef to more tourist attractions such as scuba diving, fishing, boating, etc.

As a tourism official, write an editorial to the newspaper why and how expanded tourism on the Great Barrier Reef would benefit the local as well as the Australian economy.

OR

As a marine biologist, write an editorial to the newspaper why and how expanded tourism on the Great Barrier Reef would harm the ecosystem of the Reef and the associated ecosystems.

Think about: Are there any compromises?

QUESTION 2: VICTORIA AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Your group is made up of farmers and ranchers. The rabbit population has exploded because the rabbits do not have any natural predators. The rabbits are destroying crops and grazing plants. Some people have suggested importing predators, such as coyotes, to bring the population back to normal.

Write an essay that discusses the environmental vs. economic implications of introducing a predator into the rabbit population. What would happen to the ecosystem of the area? Are there other possible solutions to the rabbit problem?

QUESTION 3: WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Your group is made up of environmentalists and bankers. A large mining company has discovered some valuable ores in Western Australia. They would like to start large-scale mining operations which could bring many jobs to the area.

As a banker, develop a poster or billboard that will convince voters that a new mine would benefit the local and Australian economy.

OR

As an environmentalist, develop a poster or billboard that will convince voters that a new mine would harm the environment of the area and the health of the people.

Think about: Are there any compromises?

QUESTION 4: TASMANIA

Your group is made up of doctors and biologists. Some hikers have found a new species of plant (or insect) during a hiking trip. It is thought that this discovery may have some important medicinal properties. Scientists want to protect the plant from exploration and possible extinction; medical personnel believe the new species should be cultivated and researched for its possible benefits to medicine.

Choose sides in your group and debate the issue.

Think about: Are there any compromises? What are the trade-offs with harvesting the plant or keeping it a secret?

QUESTION 5: NORTHERN TERRITORY

Your group is made up of members of the government, anthropologists, and tourism officials. The federal government would like to build a six-lane freeway from Darwin in the Northern Territory to Adelaide in South Australia. This road would go through the center of Australia and come very close to sites of ancient Aborigine civilization, i.e. Ayer's Rock, Alice Springs, etc. The freeway would open the "center" to more tourism and income. It would also improve the transportation of goods and people across Australia.

Choose sides in your group and debate the building of the freeway.

Think about: Are there any compromises? What are the environmental vs. economic implications of such a plan? What are the trade-offs?

WEBSITES FOR AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH

- General information about Australia:

- **CIA World Factbook**
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/as.html>
- **US Department of State website**
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/2698.htm>
- **Library of Congress Portals to the World**
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/main/australia/>
- **US Embassy website**
<http://www.usembassy.gov/>

- Additional sources:

- **Queensland Treasury Office of Economic and Statistical Research**
<http://www.oesr.qld.gov.au/>
- **National Library of Australia**
<http://www.nla.gov.au/>
- **Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage, and the Arts**
<http://www.environment.gov.au/>
- **Australian Government Department of Immigration and Citizenship**
<http://www.immi.gov.au/>
- **Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology**
<http://www.bom.gov.au/>
- **Australian Government Geoscience Australia**
<http://www.ga.gov.au/>
- **Parliament of Australia**
<http://www.aph.gov.au/>
- **Australia's national science agency**
<http://www.csiro.au/>