

An Introduction to Note Taking 2: Noting Down the Key Words of a Talk

Australia and its Winters

Vocabulary pronunciation practice: *(read the following words aloud and have the students repeat after you)*

1. Climate
2. Location
3. Island
4. Continent
5. Last (v)
6. Depend on
7. Chilly

Lecture Part 1: Hello everyone! Welcome to 5-minute lunch time talk session. In this short talk, I'm going to give a very brief- **I mean** short, talk about Australia and its winter. Let me begin with some general information about Australia and then I'll give information about its winter.

Let's think about Australia and its location, **I mean** Australia's place on the world map. Australia is located in the southern half of the World and it is one of the continents in the world. Australia, as a country, can be called "a big island". **But**, it is not the biggest island in the world. Greenland is the biggest island. Australia has several smaller and bigger islands around it. The island of Tasmania and other islands are near Australia. Australia is the world's sixth biggest country. It is 7,617,930 square kilometers. Let me repeat this for you. It is 7 million 6 hundred 17 thousand and 9 hundred 30 square kilometers. Huge! Very big, isn't it?

Stop here and do the Comprehension check--- and check students' notes etc.

Ok, now let me give you some information about its winters. *(pause and emphasize the transition if necessary)* *Right* now it is June in Turkey and it is summer time here, but in Australia it is winter because we have opposite seasons! Generally speaking, the winters in Australia last from May or June to August. The length of the winter depends on your location in the country. I mean, the length of the winter changes according to your place and location. As I said before, it is a very big country.

Now I will give you some information about the south of the country. *(pause and emphasize the transition if necessary)* You are probably wondering what the winter is like there? Well, in Victoria and Tasmania, the days are short and often chilly, I mean cool. Yes, I said the days are short and often cool. And, the nights are cold. Brrr... And the snow? Hmm... It snows **once** every ten years in Melbourne and Hobart, but it snows a lot in the mountains. Where are these mountains? These mountains are on the border between Victoria and New South Wales. We call them the Snowy Mountains. I guess it is not difficult to guess why! It snows in these mountains.

Skiing is possible between June and October. Late August is a very popular time for skiing, but it's also very crowded. Yes, it is very popular and gets crowded in the Snowy Mountains in late August. Actually,... err... Some people go to New Zealand because there is excellent snow *and* it is not very expensive. I mean, the snow is great in New Zealand and it is cheaper, so some people prefer to go there.

Let me tell you something interesting. There is no winter in some parts of Australia! Isn't this interesting! About 40 % of Australia is tropical. You can find that kind of climate in Queensland and the Northern Territory. In June, July and August, the days are warm-great for swimming! And the nights aren't very cold. So, on the same day, in some parts of Australia people go swimming and in other parts they go skiing! That's all from me!

Today, I first gave you some information about the location of Australia and then I introduced you the winters in Australia. Hope you enjoyed it!