Unit 4 — Australia and New Zealand — Teacher copy

Track E · Klasse 10 · Niveau E

Niveau E

1. Reading

Read the text and use it for the activities below.

Reading — *Two Pen-Pals*

Australia is a continent of about 26 million; New Zealand is two main islands of about 5.2 million. While both share British colonial history, Indigenous languages are visible on different scales. In New Zealand, te reo Māori is widely audible in news, cafés and government — kia ora is the everyday hello. In Australia, hundreds of Aboriginal languages survive, often more locally audible than nationally so. Place names like *Wagga Wagga* and *Wollongong* preserve those languages in plain sight, even when the city itself looks British.

Vocabulary — Māori-English (basic)

kia ora (hello / good health), whānau (extended family), aroha (love / compassion), iwi (tribe), marae (meeting ground), te reo (the language).

Vocabulary — Aboriginal-English place names

Wagga Wagga (place of many crows / Wiradjuri), Wollongong (sound of the sea / Dharawal), Parramatta (place where eels lie down / Darug), Toowoomba (place of swamp), Canberra (meeting place).

2. Practise

Niveau E — controlled

1. Match: kia ora → hello; whānau → family; iwi → tribe.
2. T or F: NZ has c. 5.2 million people; Australia is less populous than NZ; Wagga Wagga has a Wiradjuri origin.

Niveau E — productive

3. Build 4 sentences comparing AU and NZ on language, geography, population, and Indigenous visibility.

3. Your turn

Comparative portrait, 200 words. Compare Australia and New Zealand past stereotypes. Use 2 comparatives / superlatives + 1 *whereas* + 1 *kia ora* or Indigenous place name in context.

Sample

Australia and New Zealand share a British colonial history but diverge sharply in scale. Australia is a continent of about 26 million; New Zealand, two main islands of about 5.2 million. The most striking linguistic difference is the visibility of Indigenous languages: in New Zealand, te reo Māori is widely audible in news, cafés, and government — kia ora is the everyday hello. Whereas in Australia, hundreds of Aboriginal languages survive, often more locally audible than nationally so. Place names like Wagga Wagga (Wiradjuri) and Parramatta (Darug) preserve those languages in the streetscape, even when the city itself looks British. Australia is climatically harder; New Zealand is, by most measures, less extreme. Wellington's reputation, however, suggests that 'less extreme' does not mean 'gentle' — the city is the windiest capital in the world.

4. Further reading / listening

- ABC Australia News, RNZ News (NZ).
- Te Papa Tongarewa (NZ national museum) — accessible online articles.

5. Teacher answer key

Controlled. 1. all true.

2. T, F (Australia is more populous), T.

Productive. 3. Open.