

# "Tasmanian devils reintroduced into mainland Australia"

## GAP FILL

An animal that has not lived on the Australian mainland in over 3,000 years is (1) back. The creature is the Tasmanian devil. Conservation groups in the (2) state of New South Wales on Australia's east coast released a group of 26 of the mammals. They put them in a large nature (3) reserve north of the city of Sydney. The Tasmanian devil is the (4) size of a small dog. It feeds on large birds and household waste. It has been an endangered (5) species for decades after dingoes (an Australian wild dog) wiped them out on mainland Australia. The devil gets its (6) name from its high-pitched squeal and the (7) fierce way it fights for food. Despite its scary-sounding name, (8) experts say it is not a danger to humans.

state  
name  
size  
back  
experts  
fierce  
reserve  
species

The conservation group Aussie Ark worked with other animal (9) protection groups on the project to release the Tasmanian devils. The animals are on a nature reserve to help keep their (10) chances of survival high. They have been left to find their own food and (11) survive by themselves. Tim Faulkner, president of Aussie Ark, told National Geographic: "They are free. They're out (12) there. We've got some basic means of keeping an (13) eye on them, but essentially, now it's over to the devils to do what they do." He was hopeful about the (14) future of the devils, saying: "This release of devils will be the (15) first of many. We are talking about something monumental, a true (16) landmark in history."

eye  
protection  
there  
first  
chances  
landmark  
future  
survive

## GAP FILL

# "English language test suggested for Australia visa"

Visa requirements in Australia just got a little (1) tougher. Foreign partners of existing residents who want a (2) permanent residence visa must soon have to pass an English language test. Australia's government says it is important that people (3) prove a predetermined level of English proficiency before they are (4) granted a permanent visa. The prerequisite could be in place from the middle of 2021. Immigration Minister Alan Tudge said: "We will require an (5) applicant and a sponsor to have met a functional level of English or to have at least made reasonable (6) efforts to learn English." He said such efforts would (7) entail about 500 hours of free English classes on a government-(8) run language programme.

*granted*  
*efforts*  
*tougher*  
*run*  
*prove*  
*permanent*  
*entail*  
*applicant*

The proposed requirement has (9) stoked controversy in Australia's parliament. Politicians critical of the planned (10) measure called the new language test "discriminatory" and "racist". They argue it (11) targets people from non-Western nations and their partners. A spokesman for Australia's opposition party said: "English (12) proficiency isn't a test of someone's love." He said couples already faced an uphill (13) struggle in the application process and that the new requirement would add an "additional (14) burden". An immigration expert said: "It certainly puts a lot of pressure on couples who've been (15) hit hard by COVID. Many of them have lost their jobs and now they've got this (16) added burden to pass an English test."

*targets*  
*struggle*  
*stoked*  
*added*  
*measure*  
*hit*  
*proficiency*  
*burden*

# WORD FORMATION

## KEY

1. James quickly **undressed** and got into the hot bathtub. (**DRESS**)
2. We made a few **adjustments** to the design of the car. (**ADJUST**)
3. We **underestimated** the strength of their team. That's why we lost. (**ESTIMATE**)
4. He is fortunate to have the **ability** to listen to several people at once. (**ABLE**)
5. The **assassination** of John F. Kennedy was one of the key events of the 1960s. (**ASSASSINATE**)
6. How can you be so **insensitive** to her feelings? She's just lost her father. (**SENSE**)
7. Every student must take an **entrance** exam. (**ENTER**)
8. According to his **assessment** of the situation we were facing a major conflict. (**ASSESS**)
9. It was one of the many **hardships** they faced on the long journey. (**HARD**)
10. She has been a **librarian** for over 20 years. (**LIBRARY**)
11. She was asked if she was taking any **medication** at the moment. (**MEDICINE**)
12. The police got the necessary **information** from their informant. (**INFORM**)
13. All civil servants are sworn to **secrecy** and cannot speak about certain things. (**SECRET**)
14. Old people are mostly afraid of **loneliness**. That's why they often keep a pet. (**LONELY**)
15. You can wear your shirt and a pair of jeans. It's an **informal** event. (**FORMAL**)
16. You have **misspelled** my name. It's *Johnson*, not *Johnston*. (**SPELL**)
17. He went to the club for **companionship**. (**COMPANION**)
18. The government's actions towards reducing pollution were **praiseworthy**. (**PRAISE**)
19. Most experts say that the painting is not a **forgery**. (**FORGE**)
20. The pain became **unendurable**, so we had to call an ambulance. (**ENDURE**)
21. The **stability** of the whole country is at stake. (**STABLE**)
22. She claimed her **innocence** and said she had never been at the scene of the crime. (**INNOCENT**)
23. He never regained **consciousness** and died a few weeks after the accident. (**CONSCIOUS**)
24. Edgar Allan Poe was one of the great **literary** figures of his age. (**LITERATURE**)
25. When I heard what had happened, I was **speechless**. (**SPEAK**)

# MEALS AND EATING OUT

## KEY

1. I always have a light **breakfast** – with a cup of coffee and a croissant.
2. You're a local, aren't you? – So, can you **recommend** a restaurant around here?
3. After waiting for 10 minutes the waiter came to our table and **took** our **order**.
4. They **serve** excellent food at the Thai restaurant around the corner.
5. My boyfriend **takes** me **out** for dinner every weekend.
6. You get a three-**course** meal for only \$12 .
7. The food was excellent, but the **service** was rather slow.
8. Experts say that breakfast is the most important **meal** of the day.
9. The new restaurant offers **takeaway** food. Just call them and 15 minutes later you can pick up your order.
10. You usually leave a 10% **tip** for the waiter.
11. I wanted to go to the new restaurant, but it was **fully booked**, so we had to go somewhere else.
12. When the waiter brought the **bill**, I was surprised that everything was so cheap.
13. If we decide to go there we'll have to **book a table**. there are always so many people.
14. I'm here with my wife. I'd like a **table for two**
15. The bar is always so **crowded** because people stop there after work.
16. My dad always chooses the most important item on the **menu**.
17. We won't be home until 6 in the evening so take a **packed lunch** with you.
18. It was a cheap hotel that only offered a **continental** breakfast.
19. We had roast turkey for our **main** course.
20. They invited us for **dinner** tomorrow evening. We definitely should go.

# GENERAL VOCABULARY

## KEY

1. Mrs Butler was in deep **grief** after her husband's sudden death. (**REGRET / GRIEF / DISTURBANCE / GLOOM**)
2. There's no need to rush. Take your **time** before you give me your answer. (**THOUGHTS / MINUTE / MOMENT / TIME**)
3. Mike had to stay in hospital for several weeks where he was **treated** for a heart weakness. (**CURED / ATTENDED / HEALED / TREATED**)
4. Jack was **filled** with anger when he realised that he hadn't made it to the Olympic team. (**STORED / SAVED / FILLED / LOADED**)
5. The media put the **blame** on the police, who weren't at the scene fast enough. (**BLAME / FAULT / MISTAKE / GUILT**)
6. If I had known she was seriously **ill**, I would have gone to visit her. (**DISEASE / UNHEALTHY / UNWELL / ILL**)
7. I don't believe a **word** of what you say. (**SENTENCE / PHRASE / WORD / PART**)
8. The relations between the two countries have become **tense** because of the riots near the border. (**SUSPENSEFUL / RECKLESS / WORRIED / TENSE**)
9. Be careful when you speak to him. The young boy is very sensitive by **nature**. (**NATURE / REACTION / CHARACTER / SPIRIT**)
10. After hours of discussion the committee had finally **reached** a conclusion. (**COMMITTED / SOLVED / DECIDED / REACHED**)
11. The Labour party has raised several **objections** to the tax proposals of the Conservatives. (**PROBLEMS / DIFFICULTIES / OBJECTIONS / COMMITMENTS**)
12. There were pieces of plastic **scattered** all over the floor. (**SETTLED / SCATTERED / DOTTED / COLLECTED**)
13. Despite organising several events we failed to **raise** enough money for the renovation of the church. (**RISE / RAISE / INCREASE / ADVANCE**)
14. My brother is such a **coward**. He's even afraid to stay at home alone. (**DESERTER / COWARD / FEARFUL / BOASTER**)
15. Don't bet on Frank's team. They don't **stand** a chance of winning the match. (**RISE / PLAY / STAND / TAKE**)