Narrators voice in the trailer:

"All of us used to run around like crazy. Starting fires in the horse paddocks\(^1\). Feeling each other up\(^2\) in skate parks.

*We were just kids.*

The ash fell. And the fire front tore through.

We could only see the fires from a distance but I wanted to be able to look it in the face, unblinking, eyes wide, heart full

- *We were just kids.*"

---

**Film description:**

It’s a sweltering summer before the final year of school and Billie and Laura share every secret except for Billie’s biggest secret - she’s crazy in love with Laura’s boyfriend, Danny.

When Billie’s social worker mum takes in Isaac, a troubled teenager looking to get his life straight, the delicate balance of the three friends’ lives is disrupted.

As bushfires threaten the edge of their suburbs and they immerse themselves in the swirl of parties, possible love and the intensity of sex and desire, the world of the four teenagers is changed forever as their secrets are revealed and their lives, friendships and loves are thrown into chaos.

[Starring: Ashleigh Cummings, Lily Sullivan, Toby Wallace, Aliki Matangi & Maya Stange]

**Task 1:** Based on the trailer, the film poster, the title and the subtitle. Write a brief summary of the film’s plot as you imagine it to be.

---

**Task 2:** Emotion plays a central role in the film which can be very challenging for the actors. Look at the stills and try to find out the character’s mood in the scene.

---

1 paddock: Australian English *a field of any size that is used for farming*

2 to feel somebody up: *to touch someone sexually, especially someone you do not know, for your own excitement*
Billie:

Laura

Billie:

Laura:

Billie:

Isaac:

Danny

### Galore – Character Card

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<tr>
<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Relationships, Friends</strong></th>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Aims in life</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Additional information</strong></th>
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<tr>
<th><strong>How does she/he feel throughout the story</strong></th>
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<tr>
<th><strong>How I think about this person and her / his behavior in the film</strong></th>
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## [KV 3]

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTHUSIASTIC</th>
<th>SHY</th>
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<th>AFRAID</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANGRY</td>
<td>IN LOVE</td>
<td>HAPPY</td>
<td>SAD</td>
<td>EMOTIONLESS</td>
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<tr>
<td>NERVOUS</td>
<td>STRESSED</td>
<td>TENSE</td>
<td>FURIOUS</td>
<td>PUZZLED</td>
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<td>ARROGANT</td>
<td>BORED</td>
<td>PROUD</td>
<td>UNCERTAIN</td>
<td>EXHAUSTED</td>
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<td>SHY</td>
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<td>BORED</td>
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<td>NERVOUS</td>
<td>ANGRY</td>
<td>FURIOUS</td>
<td>SCARED</td>
<td>ARROGANT</td>
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## [KV 4] – Transparency (Impulsfragen)

*Have a discussion!!*
• What did you like or dislike about the film?
• Which questions and thoughts did the film provoke in you?
• What did you find very irritating?
• Did you like the director’s way of expression?  
  (Colors, Music, Dialogues, Camera, Length and Duration of scenes, Cast, etc.)
• Which title would you give to the film?
• What kind of people are shown in the movie?
• With which characters can you identify yourself?
• Did you experience similar things as shown in the film?
• How can you transfer the experiences of the film into your own life?

[KV 5] – Transparency (Für die Präsentation)

Outline the character constellation of the film “Galore”
- What did you learn about their connections to each other – Draw as many arrows as possible.
- Connect each character to another.
Preparation:
- Look at the character constellation very closely and decide which scene you would like to present in a freeze frame
- Decide who will play which character.
- Tune into your character (Who am I; How do I feel in this scene; How do I use body language and expressions; what am I doing, what is my relationship to the others, etc.).
- Discuss how you want to arrange your freeze frame.
- Prepare a short explanation of your freeze frame.

Presentation:
- Tell your classmates who is who so that it is easier for them to understand your freeze frame.
- Remain in your position for at least ONE minute without moving.
- Then ask for observations from the other groups, respond to them and explain your version.

Observation:
- Look carefully at the freeze frame and take notes on the interpretation you can see.
- How are the characters presented?
- What is indicated about their relationship, their feelings and their state of mind?
- Which part of the film is emphasized?
- Comment on the interpretation of the passage. Suggest alternatives

[KV 7] – 3-2-1

3

Important ideas you want to remember / things you found out.
A BRIEF HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

Australia is a very new and a very old country. Nobody knows exactly when the first people came to the continent. Scientists think that the first Australians arrived on the continent ca. 40,000 years ago. This is a very long time ago in human history. For most of this long time, the first Australians (or Aboriginal people) were completely isolated from the rest of the world. We don’t know much about this past because the Aboriginal people didn’t leave written documents. But Aboriginal civilization and the Aboriginal languages may be the oldest in the world. They left great rock paintings. Music, song and oral literature were important, too. Have you ever heard of the didgeridoo? It’s a famous Aboriginal musical instrument, a sort of wooden trumpet
that can be more than a metre long. When you blow into it, it produces a very deep, hollow sound. The didgeridoo is one of the oldest wind instruments in the world.

The Aboriginal people lived as hunters, fishermen and gatherers. Their only animals were dogs. They didn’t build houses, streets or cathedrals. They didn’t have a government because they lived in hundreds of tribes and there were hundreds of different languages and dialects. The whole tribe or some older men made the decisions. But they were experts in finding water and food in the dry and hot country. The Aboriginal people didn’t believe that the land belonged to them; they believed they belonged to the land. The land was their mother, and there were powerful spirits who had created the land and all the animals a long time ago. In some places – like Uluru – the spirits can still be felt. These places are special for the Aboriginal people. They use them for ceremonies and think they’re sacred. And they don’t like it when tourists don’t respect them.

The first Europeans came to Australia in the 17th century. They were Portuguese and Dutch sailors, often without even going on land. The first European who actually wanted to explore the country and stay for some time was Captain James Cook in 1770 – and that’s where most Australian history books start. That’s why a lazy student would certainly choose Australian history as a school subject, because it is a lot shorter than other world histories!

James Cook was a British naval officer. He was sent to the Pacific to find and explore the unknown southern continent. He came from Tahiti and first reached Australia’s East Coast. For the next four months, his ship (the Endeavour) followed the coast for 3,000 kilometres and nearly crashed into the Great Barrier Reef. Cook found a nice place near Sydney and named it Botany Bay because of the many plants that his men discovered there. On 21st August, 1770, James Cook put up the British flag and claimed the land for Great Britain.

James Cook’s first meetings with Aboriginal people were friendly, but things soon went wrong because of different traditions. The Aboriginal people did not think that land belongs to someone and for them it was not possible to own an animal. So when they started hunting the cattle that the new settlers had brought with them, people said they were stealing and many Aboriginal people were killed. Animals (like pigs, sheep and cows) were not the only things that the Europeans brought with them. New diseases landed in Australia with the European ships and many Aboriginal people became ill and died because their bodies couldn’t fight these diseases. Many also died of alcohol.

Convicts and settlers

At first there weren’t many settlers. Australia was far away from Europe and for the Europeans there was nothing of great value there. But in January 1788 eleven British ships came to Botany Bay. These ships were carrying 570 male and 191 female prisoners and children – and 2000 soldiers to guard them. Life in England in the 18th century was very hard. There were lots of poor people and a lot of crime. Punishments were very strict, for example you could be hanged for stealing bread. In Britain the prisons were full, so the government decided to send these

---

3 gatherers: a member of a society that lives by collecting wild food, rather than by farming
4 spirit (religious): a religious power like gods and / or ghosts
5 to be sacred: considered to be holy and deserving respect, especially because of a connection with a god
6 naval: belonging to a country's navy, or relating to military ships
7 value: the importance or worth of something for someone
convicts\textsuperscript{8} to Australia. It was far away and the people would be no more trouble for England. Over the next 80 years, 165,000 prisoners arrived in Australia. After seven years they were free and could find a place to settle and stay. These convicts are the ancestors\textsuperscript{9} of millions of Australians today.

**More immigrants from Europe and Asia**

A large number of immigrants came to Australia (double the number of convicts) when gold was discovered in 1851. Most of the people did not find much gold, but they didn’t have enough money to pay for a ticket home, so they had to stay in Australia. A similar trend happened after the end of World War II 1945. People wanted to start new lives in a country that hadn’t been destroyed by the war. The new immigrants were welcome to the Australian government because the country needed more people. And there was a new trend: people came not only from Britain, but also from Scandinavia, Germany, Holland, Eastern Europe and Southern Europe – about 5.5 million. After 1973, immigrants from Asia were allowed to move to Australia. The population today is still relatively small for such a large country as Australia – just under 22 million people. The larger part of the population (around 70\%) lives in cities.

Your tasks:

1. *Skim through the text and underline unknown words – look them up in the dictionary.*
2. *Scan the text for the most important information – the key facts of Australian history.*
3. *Draw a timeline and prepare a presentation in which you tell the rest of the class all the important facts of Australian history*

[KV 9]

*Reality bites on outskirts*

*Published: August 25, 2013 - 3:00AM*

\textsuperscript{8} a convict: someone who is in prison because they are guilty of a crime

\textsuperscript{9} an ancestor: a person related to you who lived a long time ago
Christie Thompson swears her first novel *Snake Bite* is not autobiographical. Despite growing up in Kambah, like her protagonist Jez, despite feeling the isolation of the late teenage years, despite dabbling in drugs, Thompson is quick to dismiss the similarities - but not in the way you would think.

"I did all of that, and probably more," she says. "My supervisor said I would alienate a large group of the readership if I made it too explicit. I had to tone it down a lot. You could get really serious and really depressing. There are some serious topics in it, and conflict, but I purposely didn't want to make it too bleak, too confrontational."

This comment shocked this journalist, who thought *Snake Bite* was one of the bleakest, most confrontational books she had read in a long time. A coming-of-age story, it doesn't gloss over anything. And what made it more confrontational was that it was set in our home town. Particularly because there's a general perception that in Canberra we're all middle-class, educated folk, who don't have to deal with things such as teenagers taking drugs and coming home to their parents who are drunk in the middle of the day. And that we don't have to deal with families living in poverty and struggling to stick together. Not here in the nation's capital thank you very much.

But Thompson knows firsthand that there's a side to Canberra most of us, whether we live here or not, don't see. "I did grow up in Kambah," she says. "I have the experience of growing up in the outer suburbs, feeling that alienation and boredom, feeling like you were living on the edge of the world. Canberra can be bleak.

Canberra has difficult places. … places like Kambah, Tuggeranong, to me, are like the western suburbs of Sydney, or any sort of isolated suburbia that's on the outskirts of a metropolitan area. They are real places."

Now 32, Thompson was also interested in exploring how teenagers' lives are different now. "I was especially interested in looking at young girls, and I wanted to explore how young girls negotiate their sexuality in a time where feminism has created an interesting social climate for young women," she says.

---

10 *despite:* without taking any notice of or being influenced by; not prevented by
11 *to dabble:* to take a slight and not very serious interest in a subject, or try a particular activity for a short period of time
12 *to dismiss s.th./s.o.:* to remove s.th. or to formally ask or order someone to leave
13 *to alienate s.o.:* to cause someone or a group of people to stop supporting and agreeing with you
14 *to be explicit:* showing or talking about sex or violence in a very detailed way
15 *to be bleak:* If a situation is bleak, there is little or no hope for the future
16 *coming-of-age:* Someone's coming-of-age is the time when they legally become an adult and are old enough to vote.
17 *suburb:* an area on the edge of a large town or city where people who work in the town or city often live
18 *boredom:* the state of being bored
19 *isolated suburbia:* area on the edge of a large town or city in which the suburb is meeting the bush – a world of bored kids living through all the usual trouble and desire of isolated suburbs. They have very little to do and none of the interests or temptations of a bigger city.
20 *to negotiate:* [here] to deal with something difficult
"I wanted Jez to be a character who was trying out the whole field of sexual experiences. She's quite naive, for someone of her age - she's 17 - but I wanted a naive character so I could explore that process of discovering your sexuality.

"I'd love to be able to write full-time, I guess it depends on how this book does," she says. "I might have to get a real job … I haven't worked for years now but sometimes you have to chase a dream."

Thompson says she kept the book under wraps while she was writing it.

"I purposefully kept it from my friends and family until it was too late to retract it," she says. "I didn't want their input or censorship of what I wanted to say. I wanted to be able to write it without anyone looking over my shoulder and saying 'don't put that in'.

"Now my mum and I are joking about mailing it to my gran'. She's not going to like the fs and cs in it, I'll tell you that, and it was awkward writing sex scenes when you know your gran' might read it. But I had to write from the heart and forget that it was ever going to be read.

"To be honest, I never thought it would be [read]. When I got the call from the publishers Allen & Unwin I burst into tears and had to lie down for two hours. I didn't have that belief in my writing."


[This story was found at: http://www.canberratimes.com.au/entertainment/books/reality-bites-on-outskirts-20130820-2s8s1.html]

Your tasks:
1. Skim through the article and find out what it is about – Underline unknown words and look them up in the dictionary
2. Scan the article and point out what it says about the suburbs of Canberra – Explain the term isolated suburbia in own words.
3. Prepare a presentation of your results. Tell the rest of the class about living in the suburbs of Canberra

[KV 10]

Australia in Brief

Australia is an independent Western democracy with a population of more than 22 million. It is one of the world’s most urbanised countries, with about 70 per cent of the population living in the 10 largest cities. Most of the population is concentrated along the eastern seaboard and the south-eastern corner of the continent.

Australia’s lifestyle reflects its mainly Western origins, but Australia is also a multicultural society which has been enriched by over six million settlers from almost 200 nations. Four out of ten Australians are migrants or the first-generation children of migrants, half of them from non-English speaking backgrounds.
Aboriginal people make only 2.2 per cent of the population. Two thirds of the indigenous people live in towns and cities. Many others live in rural areas, and some still have a very traditional way of life. It is generally thought that Aboriginal people began living on the continent 50,000 to 60,000 years ago, and some authorities believe their occupation may date back 100,000 years.

Australia is the only nation to occupy an entire continent. Its land mass of nearly 7.7 million square kms is the flattest and (after Antarctica) driest of continents, yet it has extremes of climate and topography. There are rainforests and vast plains in the north, snowfields in the south east, desert in the centre and fertile croplands in the east, south and south west. About one third of the country lies in the tropics. Australia has a coastline of 36,735km.

Australia’s best-known animals are the kangaroo, koala, platypus and spiny anteater. Of more than 700 bird species listed in Australia, 400 – including the large, flightless emu – are found nowhere else. Australia has 20,000 species of plants, including living fossils such as the cycad palm and the grass tree, and brilliant wildflowers such as the waratah, Sturt’s desert pea, the flowering cones of banksia trees, and the red and green kangaroo paw.

Australia’s national anthem, Advance Australia Fair, is a revised version of a late 19th-century patriotic song. It was declared the national anthem in April 1984, replacing God Save the Queen, which was designated the royal anthem. In the same year, Australia officially adopted green and gold as its national colours.

Australia’s official language is English, by common usage rather than law. Australian English does not differ significantly from other forms of English, although some colloquial and slang expressions are unique.

The Australian National Flag

The flag of Australia is the only one to fly over a whole continent. The small Union Jack represents the historical link with Britain, the large seven-pointed star represents the six States and the Territories, and the small stars form the Southern Cross – a prominent feature of the southern hemisphere night sky.

Air travel and the great variety of Australia’s attractions are combining to bring more international tourists to Australia every year. Overseas tourists are drawn by Australia’s sunshine, sandy beaches, the vast outback, rainforests, the Great Barrier Reef, unique flora and fauna, the Gold Coast of Queensland, and the attractions of the cities, Australia’s friendly, multicultural society, and the safe and welcoming environment. Tourism is one of Australia’s largest and fastest-growing industries.

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21 indigenous: naturally existing in a place or country rather than arriving from another place
22 Rural: in, of, or like the countryside
23 Fertile: describes land that can produce a large number of good quality crops
5 Reasons why it’s great to live in Australia

1. **The People & Lifestyle** – from the big cities to the small country towns, Aussies are ready to lend a hand during tough times or sit back and enjoy life with you when things are good.

2. **The Beaches** – Surrounded by beautiful beaches that stretch the coastlines from north to south and east to west, Australia is the perfect place for chasing an endless summer.

3. **The Fauna** – Where else in the world can you catch kangaroos hopping along the side of the road and koalas nestled up gum trees? Although Australia is home to some of the deadliest animals in the world (snakes, spiders, crocodiles and sharks), it’s also home to some of the most interesting not found elsewhere – including marsupials such as the wombat and more infamous animals such as the Australian dingo.

4. **Nature’s Gifts** - The Great Barrier Reef is just one of many natural wonders in Australia’s breathtaking landscape. Fraser Island, The Pinnacles, Uluru and The Kimberleys are just some of the jewels in our backyard.

5. **Sport** – Whether it’s summer or winter... whether you like to watch or play... there’s always plenty of sport going on. Adopting both European and American sports, as well as inventing our own, there’s a wide variety of sporting fun available for every size, age and skill.

---

**Your tasks:**

1. **Skim through the text and give each paragraph a heading. Also underline unknown words – look them up in the dictionary.**

2. **Scan the text for the most important information – Most important facts of Australia**

3. **Prepare a short presentation in which you explain briefly why Australia is so great and special – Use your headings as the structure of your presentation**


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**Some incorrect Australian stereotypes**

August 4, 2011 - Travel Wire Asia

By Kritika Seksaria
Some stereotypes do exist. For instance, in Australia, most of us are platonic ‘mates’ to each other. The men here are definitely tall, strong and muscly, thanks to their love for football and Rugby. Melbourne does have unpredictable weather, just as it has the best coffee.

In spite of that, there are some very old perceptions many people believe about the Aussies and their land. Here’s a list of myths and stereotypes that have been exaggerated and blown largely out of proportion.

1) Kangaroos: Nobody rides to school on a Kangaroo. The kids don’t wait at the Kangaroo stop and people do not struggle to find a good spot to park their Kangaroos. Australians, walk (not hop) – they hop on to trams though, and they use trains and taxis as well. Some Aussies own a Swift or a Honda and some of them have Audis and Ferraris. However, nobody has a Kangaroo, in fact we never even get to see one in the city.

2) Barbecue: There is no denying the fact that Aussies prepare a good BBQ. It’s a feature on housewarmings, birthdays, or sometimes just on a Sunday. However, no matter what Paul Hogan said in the 1980s, ‘shrimp is not the only thing that is put on the ‘Barbie’. Sausages, steaks, fillets, burgers, you name it and I can assure you that it has been barbecued somewhere in Australia. But there is no particular fascination for shrimp or prawn above the others.

3) Fosters Beer: It is one of the least popular beers in Australia and god knows Aussies love their beer. Fosters has gained popularity largely through exports thus leading to the false notion that Australians survive on Fosters. After five years of living in Melbourne, I tried Fosters for the first time in India, not even knowing that it was an Australian brand.

4) Crocodile Wrestling: Steve Irwin was really brave to do it, Paul Hogan was really talented to show it, but most Australians don’t know anything about it. Yes, there have been some significant crocodile and alligator references to Australia on an international level but nevertheless, this is not a sport kids learn at age 4 or at any age as a matter of fact.

5) Desert: Yes, a large portion of the Australian land is a desert, however, those are not places where Aussies live or most travellers would visit. Australian cities and beaches are developed enough to be a highlight of the country besides the dry barren land.

6) Sparsely populated: Australia undoubtedly has a low population and yes the outback and suburban areas might be scanty. However, the developed cities and tourist spots are far from it. Try going to the Opera House on New Year’s Eve and you will know what I am talking about.

7) Self-Absorbed: In spite of their unique history, Australians are not as self-absorbed as expressed by the media. The cities celebrate Indian, Chinese, Malaysian and American holidays. Halloween is increasingly popular and the Chinese New Year celebration in Melbourne is extravagant.

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24 exaggerate: to make something seem larger, more important, better, or worse than it really is

25 scanty: smaller in size or amount than is considered necessary or is hoped for
8) Life by the beach: Very few Australians live by the beach and go surfing at 11 AM on a Monday morning. Going to the beach is indeed a luxury and an activity to be done on a holiday or a free weekend that people find difficult to arrange because of work.

Stereotypes certainly have some truth or history to it, but globalisation and development of cities have hazed\textsuperscript{26} these features over time. Nevertheless, they are often fun to use as cultural connotation and play around with.

Kritika is a Regional Representative for Asian Correspondent based in Melbourne, Australia. She can be followed on Twitter @kritsontweet

**TOP TEN AUSSIE SLANG**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aussie Slang</th>
<th>Standard English</th>
<th>Aussie Slang</th>
<th>Standard English</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cya this arvo</td>
<td>See you this afternoon</td>
<td>fair dinkum</td>
<td>real</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>daks</td>
<td>trousers</td>
<td>heaps</td>
<td>a lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dunnie</td>
<td>toilet / bathroom</td>
<td>hooroo</td>
<td>goodbye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>earbashing</td>
<td>constant talking</td>
<td>rellies</td>
<td>relatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>spiffy</td>
<td>great-looking</td>
<td>thong</td>
<td>flip-flops</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your tasks:
1. **Skim through the text and underline unknown words – look them up in the dictionary.**
2. **Scan each paragraph for the most important information – the key facts of Australian stereotypes.**
3. **Prepare a presentation in which you briefly introduce the stereotypes to the rest of the class.**
4. **Prepare two similar dialogues one is in Standard English and the other one is in Aussie Slang – First present the Aussie-Slang dialogue then the other one.**


[KV 12]

**TOP THREE DEFINITIONS IN THE URBAN DICTIONARY**

*How to define suburbs / suburbia / outskirts*

by tenda June 05, 2005

837 likes / 251 dislikes

---

\textsuperscript{26} to haze: something such as heat or smoke in the air that makes it less clear, so that it is difficult to see well
A hellish place, where the annoyances of culture come to thrive. The home of the (white) middle-class which gives birth to several other problems. Ignorance, boredom, and depression are all symptoms of living in the suburbs, which explains why so many teenagers living in the suburbs are listening to moody rock music. These teenagers are convinced that they want their lives to be over when in fact they live in extreme comfort and suffer from the belief that no one else shares their "pain". The urban life provides for daily excitements and fun which prevent the establishment of idiotic social subcultures that are often established in the suburbs.

Kids growing up in the suburbs are frustrated or in other words, they are bored. High school cliques do not exist in inner city schools due to the fact that there are much more important things to worry about living in the city rather than being a "jock", a "prep", a "nerd", or a "skater". In fact, all students were united in this urban community by the fact that our lives were struggles, i.e. having only one parent, another parent in jail, drugs, welfare, violence, etc. In the city crime happens out of need in the suburbs crime is the result of a dangerous mixture of boredom, finding excitements and ignorance.

“I'm bored in the suburbs, let's go act like 50 Cent.”

by black flag June 08, 2004
486 likes / 124 dislikes

An endless sprawl of mass produced housing that surrounds most towns and cities in the western world. They lack of the rural tranquility of the countryside and the spirit, history and community of the inner cities. They are designed for middle class families who want to have a nice and calm family life. The result is a life numbing stupor for the teenagers who are forced to grow up there. Also known as concrete deserts, they are the loneliest, most soul destroying and dullest places on the face of the planet.

by mikey from georgia February 25, 2006
331 likes / 97 dislikes

A residential area usually in the outskirts of large cities. Suburbs usually consists of predominately white people that are middle class to upper class. There are no or a few activities to do. The area consists of houses and many franchises (i.e. Wal Mart, Home Depot, McDonalds, Starbucks, etc.). The result is a lot of bored teenagers who end up in stealing money from their parents and buying drugs and alcohol with it. They are overdosing themselves in excessive parties or in parks. The parents usually don’t do anything about it because they are afraid what others will think of their family if they found out about it, thus the drug trafficking increases.

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27 **an annoyance**: something that makes you angry  
28 **thrive**: to grow, develop, or be successful  
29 **sprawl**: a large area of land covered with buildings that have been added at different times so that it looks untidy  
30 **rural**: in, of, or like the countryside  
31 **tranquility**: a peaceful, calm state, without noise, violence, worry, etc.  
32 **life numbing**: sucking all the fun out of life. The most boring it can get in life  
33 **stupor**: a state in which a person is almost unconscious and their thoughts are not clear
Urban Dictionary is the dictionary you write. Young adults and teenager are trying to capture the Zeitgeist of contemporary words in creative definitions. Everybody can write down a definition which will be evaluated by the users. The aim is it to define the term as detailed as possible or in other words: Define your world. Try it out!

Your task:

1. Skim through the definitions and find out what the key message is – Write it down.
2. Make a list of all the characteristics of a suburb – Discuss whether you think they are true or not.
3. Come up with an own definition including all the important characteristics.


KV 13
Your tasks:

1st step:
- Describe what you can see in the picture to your partner
- Also, try to describe these people’s situations

2nd step:
These are pictures of people who have to deal with the recent flood in Moorland, England. The photographer asked them what they would take with them if they had only a few minutes to decide.
- Check the pictures one more time. What did they take?

3rd step:
What would you take if a fire front tore its way through to your front door or a flood would destroy you home?
- THINK about the question for ONE minute
- PAIR up with your partner and discuss your decisions
- SHARE your results with the rest of the class
Canberra bushfires remembered 10 years on

Canberra is today marking the 10th anniversary of one of its darkest days. On January 18, 2003, fires burning in the Brindabella Ranges south-west of Canberra combined to form a raging firestorm which swept into the city. Suburbs like Duffy, Chapman, Rivett and Kambah were in the firing line and residents were given little or no warning of the danger. Four people were killed and about 500 homes were destroyed.

The 10th anniversary of the disaster has been marked with a low-key service at the ACT Bushfire Memorial in Stromlo Forest Park. More than 300 residents, officials, firefighters and many involved in the bushfire recovery effort gathered for the commemorative ceremony. "All of us have a story from that day etched into our memories forever," ACT Chief Minister Katy Gallagher told the crowd. "One of those moments in life when we will always remember what we were doing, how we were feeling, how normal, almost surreal, the day was. "Many remember the smell in the air, the darkness that descended on our city, the sounds that came with the fire and then the silence that followed. "But that same day, whilst we recall easily those frightening memories, we also remember the incredible stories of courage, extraordinary acts of kindness, and the genuine coming together of a community that cared deeply about each other."

Ms Gallagher acknowledged the journey of recovery continues for some people. "For some, 10 years is a long time from the fires, for others the recovery continues and the memories remain raw. Everyone has a different way of coping and learning to live with the loss they suffered that day," she said. A decade on, Ms Gallagher says Canberra has come a long way, with houses rebuilt and nature parks regenerated. "Our responses to emergencies have been overhauled, lessons learnt in the harshest possible way," she said. "We have learnt much from lessons, learnt much from the experiences of that year, and as our city is a safer place as a result we are now better prepared for an emergency than ever before." Former Chapman resident Jane Smyth lost her home. She told the service the trauma has strengthened the Canberra community. "We'll always remember the great losses but we also remember that time of strength following the fires when the people of Canberra and district, friends, neighbours, strangers, reached out in new ways to each other and in our time of recovery, Canberra worked as a community," she said.

Moving on

The anniversary is stirring up emotions for both residents and authorities. Some residents are still angry about the lack of warnings and they have boycotted the official service. Former ACT Emergency Services commissioner Mark Crosweller, has told 7.30 ACT, it is time to let go of the anger. "Simply to blame people in that circumstance ... robs us of the opportunity to forgive and move on and we really need to do that," he said. "If people are still grieving 10 years later or if they're still angry 10 years later then we do have a problem in society." Mr Crosweller says firefighters did all they could but it was not enough.


Answer the following questions:

- Describe the damage the fire has done.
- Point out the reactions of the community and the individual.
- Analyze the consequences the fire has on the community.

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24 very strong or violent
25 to sweep: to move, especially quickly and powerfully
26 describes an event that is quiet and without a great show of excitement
27 When people or animals gather, they come together in a group
28 something that is done to remember officially and give respect to a great person or event
29 something that you will continue to remember
30 during the time that, or at the same time as
31 If people or emotions are genuine, they are honest and sincere
32 to accept, admit, or recognize something, or the truth or existence of something
33 fresh, sore, painful
34 to cope with s.th.: to deal successfully with a difficult situation
35 to stir s.th. up: to cause an unpleasant emotion or problem to begin or grow
“We could only see the fires from a distance but I wanted to be able to look it in the face, unblinking, eyes wide, heart full – we were just kids.”

Write a letter to Billie in which you…

- … comment on her actions and her attitude to life
- … tell her what you think she should’ve done instead or what you think might have been the better way to deal with things