

New Topics

Social Sciences:

Women's Movements

Literature:

Allende, Isabel:

The House of the Spirits

Modern World History

New Zealand: History

Australian History

Australia: 1950s

Australia: 1970s

Australia: 1980s

New sections:

We wish you and your students a very positive start to the new school year and invite you to explore the new topics and sections which are now in the Library Webs collection. We trust you will find them useful, and remind you that we welcome your ideas and requests for new topics and sections.

New Topics

Social Sciences:

Women's Movements



While this topic shows students the history and development of women's movements in the global context, there is a strong focus on Australian conditions. After the initial comprehensive section, the first, second and third waves of feminism are examined. There follow sections

devoted to the Australian scene which cover women's suffrage and the political, social and economic conditions for Australian women during the last 150 years. Feminism in contemporary society around the world is covered, showing how young women today view and react to the work of women in previous generations. The final section contains activities, readings and lesson plans for teachers.

Literature:

Allende, Isabel:

The House of the Spirits



This topic attempts to give students an overall appreciation of Allende's novel. Biographical details, interviews

and speeches by Allende are found in the introductory section which is followed by three sections dealing with aspects of the novel itself: synopses, criticism and reviews and the literary device of magical realism. To set the novel in its historical context, there is a section on Chile in the 1970s. Students are also able to discover more information about Allende's other works for further reading, and teachers will find various study guides and resources in the last section.

Modern World History

New Zealand: History



A broad sweep of New Zealand's history from the arrival of the Maori people to contemporary society is presented here. The usual comprehensive section appears at the

start, followed by others focussing on particular aspects: traditional Maori society, European discovery and exploration, early European/Maori contact, the Treaty of Waitangi in 1840, Edward Gibbon Wakefield, Dominion status in 1906, New Zealand's experience of the World Wars and Great Depression. More recent history is covered in the sections dealing with post-1945 history and social conditions, foreign relations and especially New Zealand's anti-nuclear policy, and contemporary race relations. Teachers will find an extensive list of resources for classroom use in the final section.

Australian History

Continuing our project to cover 20th century Australian history and society by decades we present the following topics. The earlier decades of the 20th century are in development and will be summarised in next term's newsletter.



Australia: 1950s

The topic begins with a look at the global events and trends of the 1950s

which influenced developments in Australian society. This is followed by a general section about Australia at the time, before the topic focuses on specific aspects of Australian political and social conditions. Robert Menzies has a section all to himself, being the only Prime Minister of this decade. Politically sensitive aspects were the British nuclear tests, the Korean War, the Malayan Emergency and the Petrov Affair. The gala occasion of the 50s was the Royal Visit in 1954, and other social trends are covered in the sections on entertainment, fashion influences, immigration, music, sport and the position of women in society.

Australia: 1970s



Beginning with an overall look at global events and trends in the 1970s, the topic then looks at Australia generally before dealing with specific conditions, people and events. Aspects covered include the following: bridge disasters (Tasman and West Gate), immigration, Indigenous political leaders, music and entertainment, Prime Ministers, sports, Women's Liberation and Australian and New Zealand involvement in the Vietnam War. Individual years are highlighted to note the establishment of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy 1972, Patrick White's Nobel Prize for Literature 1973, Cyclone Tracy 1974,

the deaths of the journalists at Balibo 1975, the dismissal of the Whitlam Government 1975, the founding of the Australian Democrats Party in 1977 and the bombing of the Sydney Hilton in 1978. Curriculum materials are available for teachers at the end.

Australia: 1980s

The first section looks at global events and trends during the 1980s so that students have an overall concept of how Australian events related to those of the world around us. This is followed by a general section on Australia in the 1980s. The ensuing sections all deal with specific issues and events that dominated the social and political consciousness of Australians at various times during that decade, namely: Aboriginal issues, AIDS, Australian of the Year Awards, corporate collapses (e.g. Bond, Skase), crime, entertainment, environmental activism, the Fitzgerald Inquiry in Queensland, music, Prime Ministers, sports, women leaders, Azaria Chamberlain, the America's Cup Challenge, Ash Wednesday, the 'Joh for PM' campaign, the Bicentenary, and the Newcastle earthquake.

New sections:

Australian History

Australia: 1990s

Clean Up Australia Campaign
Australian of the Year Awards

Australia: 1960s

Wave Hill Walk-off
Australian of the Year Awards

Art, Music and Sports

Music of the Baroque Period

For Teachers

Modern History

Modern Iraq

Hussein, Saddam: Trial
Hussein, Saddam: Execution

Afghanistan

Maps

