



Key questions: Western Australia

To answer these questions students will need to refer to *The History - Western Australia* resource sheet and *The Laws - Western Australia* resource sheet.

The responses below are suggestions only.

1. How was the settlement of Western Australia different to settlement in other Australian states?
 - Western Australia was established for free settlers rather than for convicts.
2. What occurred at the Battle of Pinjarra? How did this affect the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people?
 - Governor Stirling led an expedition to the Indigenous camps and fired indiscriminately at them, killing 30 Indigenous people.
 - | This led to further acts of violence between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.
3. List some of the things that Indigenous people had to prove to be granted WA citizenship rights under the *Native (Citizenship Rights) Act 1944*.
 - To be granted 'citizenship' under this Act, an Aboriginal person had to convince a magistrate that he/she had severed all ties to extended family and friends (parents, siblings and own children excepted), was free from disease, would benefit from holding citizenship and was 'of industrious habits'.
4. How many Indigenous people were in institutions when the Department of Native Welfare was abolished in 1972?
 - 3099 people, most of whom were children.
5. Explain some of the reforms to child welfare which were introduced in the 1980s. What specific issues do you think were addressed by these changes?
 - Aboriginal Child Care Agency introduced.
 - | Aboriginal Child Placement Principle adopted.
 - | Both reforms represented significant movement towards community participation in Indigenous child welfare.