

# East Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Islands: Land and History

**SECTION 1** Physical Geography

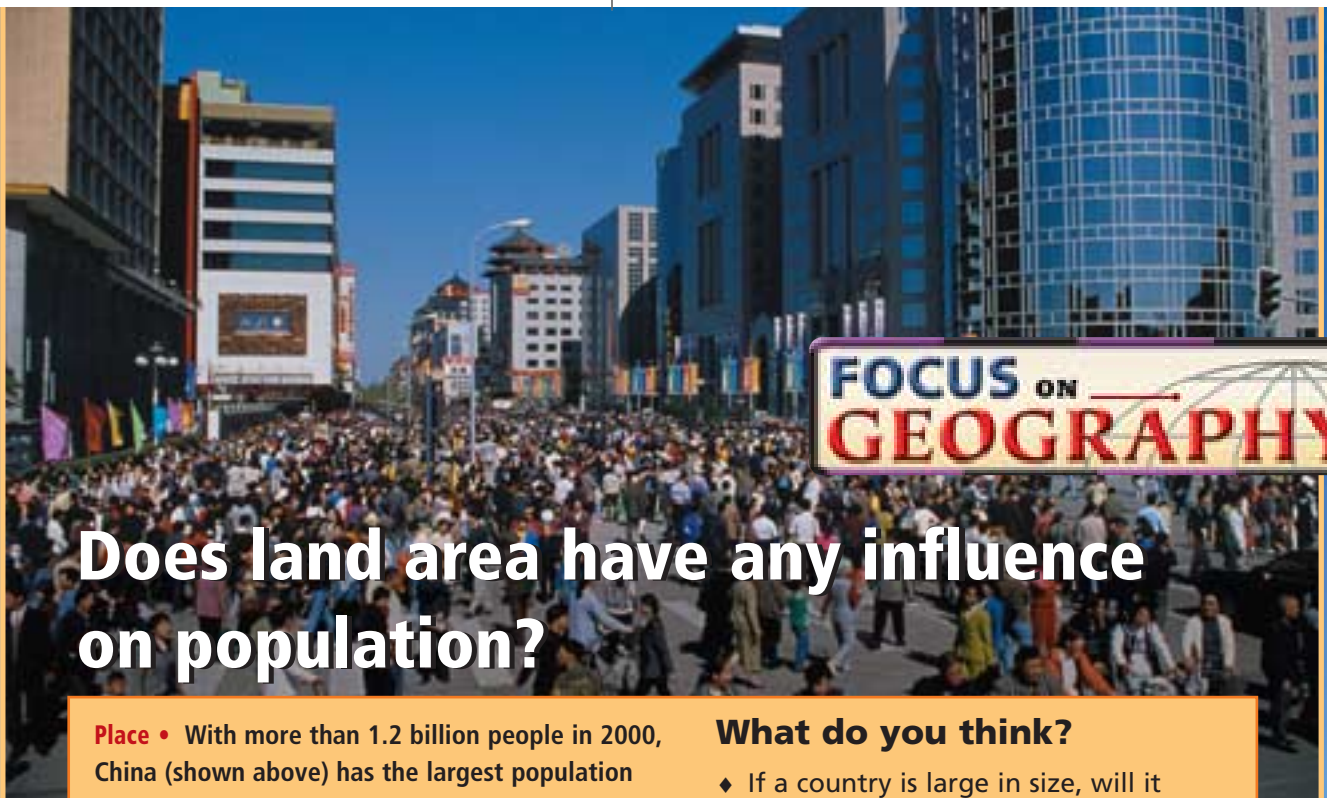
**SECTION 2** Ancient China

**SECTION 3** Ancient Japan



**Place** Mount Uluru, also called Ayers Rock, stands out against the flat desert of Australia's Red Center, the vast interior part of Australia. Uluru is the largest single rock in the world.





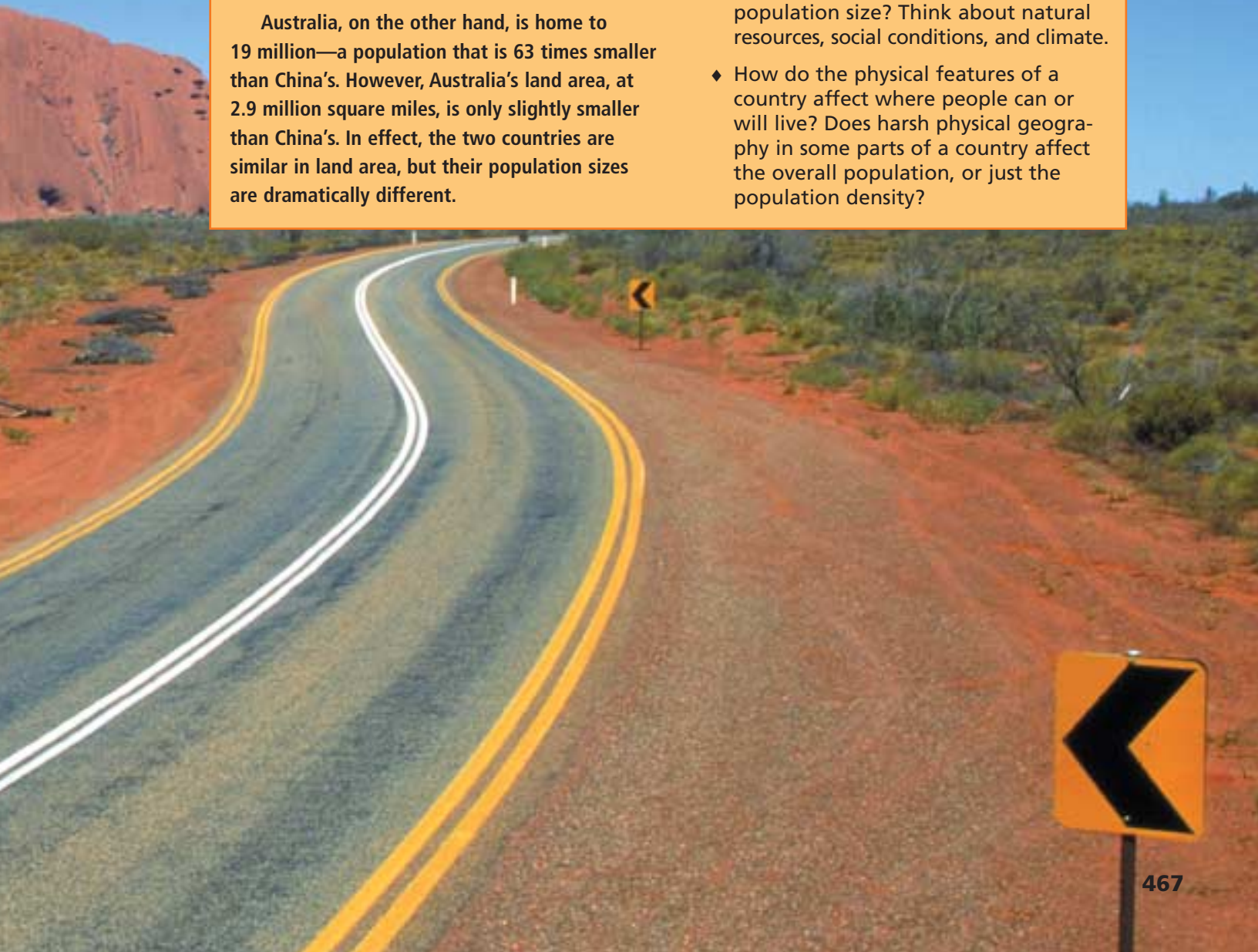
## Does land area have any influence on population?

**Place** • With more than 1.2 billion people in 2000, China (shown above) has the largest population in the world. It is also larger in area than most countries, with 3.6 million square miles of land.

Australia, on the other hand, is home to 19 million—a population that is 63 times smaller than China's. However, Australia's land area, at 2.9 million square miles, is only slightly smaller than China's. In effect, the two countries are similar in land area, but their population sizes are dramatically different.

### What do you think?

- ♦ If a country is large in size, will it necessarily have a large population? What other factors contribute to population size? Think about natural resources, social conditions, and climate.
- ♦ How do the physical features of a country affect where people can or will live? Does harsh physical geography in some parts of a country affect the overall population, or just the population density?





# READING SOCIAL STUDIES

## BEFORE YOU READ

### ►► What Do You Know?

Before you read the chapter, consider what you already know about East Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Islands. What are the geographic features of these areas? Have you seen a television program about the Ring of Fire or about Australia's Outback? You may have learned about ancient China and ancient Japan in other classes. Do you know who Confucius was or who the Japanese samurai warriors were? Do you know anyone who has visited the Great Wall of China, which is the world's longest wall?

### ►► What Do You Want to Know?

Decide what else you want to know about East Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Islands. In your notebook, record what you hope to learn from this chapter.



**Place** • China's emperors lived in the Forbidden City, which still stands in the capital, Beijing. ▲

## READ AND TAKE NOTES

### Reading Strategy: Comparing and Contrasting

Comparing and contrasting places helps you understand more about each one. Comparing means looking for similarities, while contrasting means looking for differences. Making a comparing and contrasting chart for the countries in this chapter will help you better understand them.

- Copy the chart into your notebook.
- As you read the chapter, look for information about the geography and civilizations of ancient China and ancient Japan.
- Record key details under the appropriate headings in the chart.



**Culture** • Japanese warriors called samurai wore intricate suits of armor. ◀

	Ancient China	Ancient Japan
Geography		
Government		
Religion/Philosophy		
Discoveries/Inventions		
Trade/International Relations		