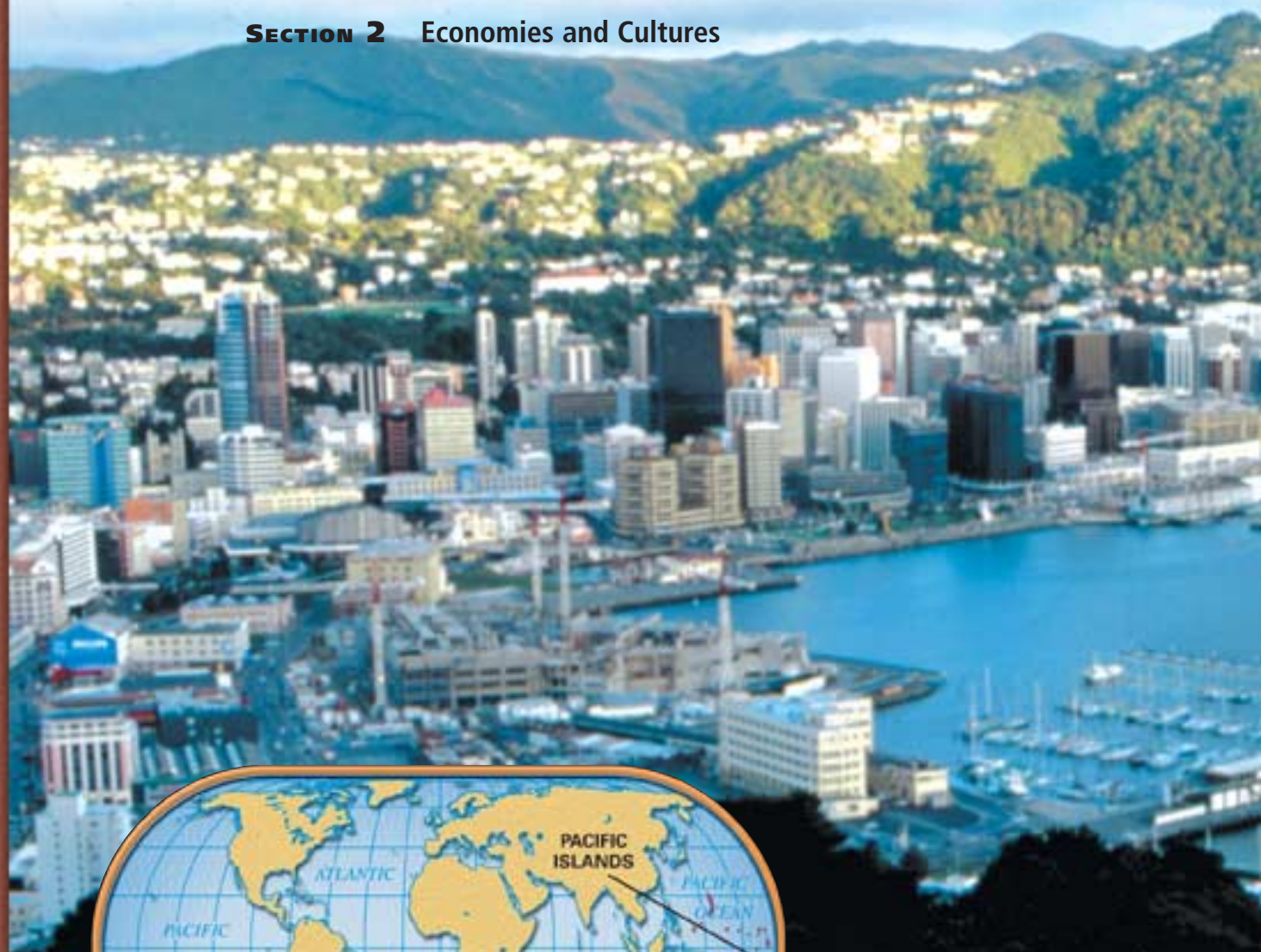


Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands

SECTION 1 History and Governments

SECTION 2 Economies and Cultures



Place Two islands make up New Zealand, whose capital, Wellington, encircles this harbor on North Island.



How can people affect a region's environment?



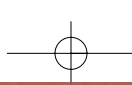
Human-Environment Interaction • When Europeans first came to Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands, the landscape had been largely unchanged for tens of thousands of years. In Australia and New Zealand, the settlers cleared the forests to provide land for farming and housing.

This human activity has had some unexpected consequences on the environment. In Australia, for example, more than 40 percent of the country's forests have been destroyed. Over-cultivation of this land has depleted the soil of valuable nutrients. Over-irrigation has resulted in too high a level of salt in the soil. As you can see above, very few plants are able to grow in salty soil.

What do you think?

- ♦ What do immigrants risk by changing an environment too quickly after settling in it?
- ♦ How might the people of Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands have benefited from the settlers balancing development with environmental concern?





READING SOCIAL STUDIES

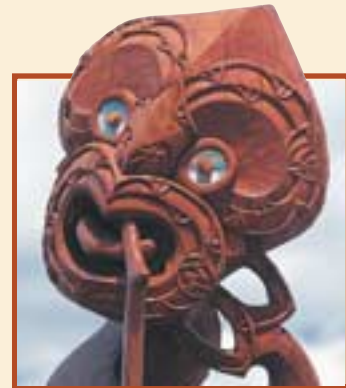
BEFORE YOU READ

►► What Do You Know?

Before you read the chapter, think about what you already know about Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands. What do you know about the history of these places? Have you read about the Aborigines or the Maori in other classes? Did you watch the 2000 Olympics when they were held in Australia? If you have been to this region, look back at your journal or photos and reflect on your experiences there.

►► What Do You Want to Know?

Decide what else you want to know about this region. In your notebook, record what you hope to learn from this chapter.



Culture • Wood carvings like this are made by native people throughout New Zealand. ▲

READ AND TAKE NOTES

Reading Strategy: Making Inferences Making inferences means figuring out what a writer has suggested but not directly stated. It requires studying what is stated and using common sense and previous knowledge.

Use the chart below to gather facts about Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands. Then make inferences about Hawaii from them.

- Copy the chart in your notebook.
- As you read the chapter, record important facts about each place.
- After you read, review the facts and make inferences based on those facts.



Culture • Australian athlete Cathy Freeman lit the Olympic torch in the summer of 2000. ▲

	Place	Stated Facts	Inferences About Hawaii
Population	Australia		
	New Zealand		
	Pacific Islands		
Government	Australia		
	New Zealand		
	Pacific Islands		
Economy	Australia		
	New Zealand		
	Pacific Islands		
Culture	Australia		
	New Zealand		
	Pacific Islands		