



# GRADE 5 HOMEWORK

## TERM 2 2016: WEEK 3

### Spelling: QU

1. Practise your qu spelling words ready for your spelling test on Monday.
2. Using as many qu words as you can, come up with an alliteration. For example, 'She sells sea shells by the sea shore.'

### Inquiry - Find your electorate



This week, you will be focusing on the government in your local area. Visit this website, type in your postcode and find out what electorate you belong to.

<http://apps.aec.gov.au/eseach/>

Using the information provided on the following page and on the AEC website, answer the following questions:

1. What is the name of your electorate and how did your electorate get its name?
2. What year was your electorate established?
3. Who is your local member and what party do they represent?
4. How many voters are in your electorate?
5. What is the area (m<sup>2</sup>, km<sup>2</sup>) of your electorate?
6. Has your electorate map changed over time, if so, why?
7. Insert a map of your electorate and mark where your house is.

### Maths - Shape

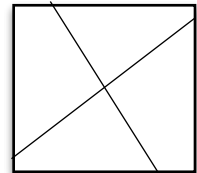
Using a square piece of paper (post it note would be a good idea), use two straight lines to divide the square.

How many pieces do you get?

What shapes do you get? Are they regular or irregular shapes?

If you did it again, what other shapes could you create?

**Challenge -** what is the area of each shape?



### Reminders

- ★ Reading every night
- ★ Production note to be returned - **PLEASE DO NOT CUT THE NOTE**

# Electoralates

For the House of Representatives your electorate is the area where you live. Electoralates are based on population. An electorate in a city can be as little as 26 square kilometres while a rural electorate can cover a huge area. Even if electoralates are different sizes, they will always have approximately the same number of voters.

A fair electoral system ensures that each citizen's vote has equal value and that electors have, as near as possible, equal representation. Changes in Australia's population can make it necessary to change the boundaries from time to time. The changing of electoral boundaries is called a redistribution.

## Redistributions

Redistributions occur at least once every 7 years for each state and territory. They aim to make the number of voters approximately equal in all the electoralates in that state or territory. Redistributions take into account expected population changes to ensure that the electoralates remain equal for at least three and a half years. For example, in high growth areas, the redistributed populations will be set lower to allow for growth.

Communities of interest, geographical features and travel are also considered when deciding electorate boundaries.

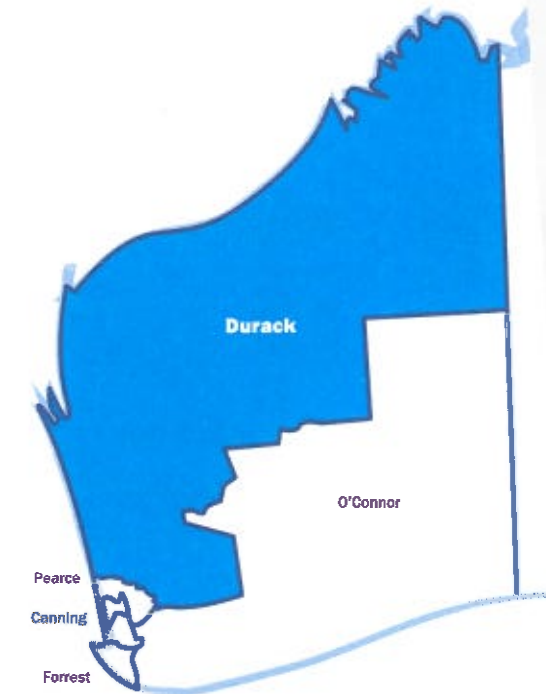
## Nexus

The Australian Constitution states that the number of members of the House of Representatives must be, as near as possible, 'twice the number of senators'. This is called 'the nexus'. In 1901 there were 75 members of the House of Representatives and 36 senators. Since 2001, 150 members sit in the House of Representative and 76 senators in the Senate. The number of members of the House of Representatives and senators can be changed by an Act of Parliament. If the number of senators increases, this could also increase the number of electoralates in the House of Representatives.



**Smallest electorate**

The smallest electorate in Australia is Grayndler in inner-city Sydney. It covers an area of only 32 sq Km. Each electorate in Australia has approximately 100 000 voters. In urban electoralates like Grayndler people live close together, so these electoralates are much smaller than rural and regional electoralates.



**Largest electorate**

Durack, which includes all of northern Western Australia, is the largest electorate in Australia and the second largest single-member electorate in the world (after Nunavut in Canada). Although it covers 1 629 858 sq Km — 51 000 times the land area of Grayndler — both electoralates have approximately the same number of voters.

*Electorate fast facts*

