

Dunedin

Activity 1

Fill in the gaps in these sentences

1. The city was founded by the _____
2. . . .somebody discovered gold nearby and so there was a _____ population growth
3. . . .people were gradually heading to the North island where there were better _____ once the goldrush was finished.
4. Today Dunedin is a centre for education and _____.
5. The climate of the city is difficult to describe as it varies from _____ to _____.
6. . . .mainly because it is protected from the winds by a _____ of volcanic hills.

Activity 2

Answer these questions:

1. How many cities in New Zealand are bigger than Dunedin?

2. How many people live in the city?

3. How did the city get its name?

4. When did the goldrush start?

5. What are the two main industries here?

6. Why is Baldwin Street special?

7. How much rain falls in one year, on average?

Activity 3

Listen and complete the gaps

Dunedin is the fifth largest city in New Zealand and the _____ largest on the South island. Almost 120,000 people live here. The city was founded by the Scottish _____ back in 1848 and takes its name from the Gaelic name for Edinburgh, the capital city of Scotland. In 1861 somebody _____ gold nearby and so there was a rapid population growth as immigrants from all over Europe came to find their fortune, including the Irish, French, Italians, _____ and also the Chinese. This growth meant that Dunedin was the biggest and most important city in the country. It had the first _____ newspaper, a medical school and a public art gallery. However, by 1900 people were gradually heading to the North island where there were better _____ prospects once the goldrush was finished.

Today Dunedin is a centre for education and research. There is an excellent university and polytechnic and its _____ industries are software engineering and biotechnology - technologically advanced industries. The city is very proud of its architecture and many buildings have been _____, renovated and redeveloped - a lot of these are from the 'boom' era ie the goldrush and have a very Scottish _____ - remember, the city was founded by the Scots.

According to the Guinness Book of _____, Dunedin has the steepest street in the world. Yes indeed. Baldwin Street has a gradient of 1 in 2.9. What does that mean? Well, for every 2.9 metres you go along the street, it drops (or _____ if you're going up!) by one metre. Now, that is steep! Compare it with a steep street in your town the next time you're _____ up it.

The climate of the city is difficult to describe as it varies from suburb to suburb. This is because the _____ of the city is very different depending on where you are. However, generally it's quite a mild climate with warm summers and _____ winters. There's not so much rain, around 750mm per year, and in the winter it snows only every 3 or 4 years. Summer _____ often reach 30°C in the city itself, mainly because it is protected from the winds by a ring of volcanic _____.

Transcript

Dunedin is the fifth largest city in New Zealand and the second largest on the South island. Almost 120,000 people live here. The city was founded by the Scottish Church back in 1848 and takes its name from the Gaelic name for Edinburgh, the capital city of Scotland. In 1861 somebody discovered gold nearby and so there was a rapid population growth as immigrants from all over Europe came to find their fortune, including the Irish, French, Italians, Germans and also the Chinese. This growth meant that Dunedin was the biggest and most important city in the country. It had the first national newspaper, a medical school and a public art gallery. However, by 1900 people were gradually heading to the North island where there were better job prospects once the goldrush was finished.

Today Dunedin is a centre for education and research. There is an excellent university and polytechnic and its principal industries are software engineering and biotechnology - technologically advanced industries. The city is very proud of its architecture and many buildings have been restored, renovated and redeveloped - a lot of these are from the 'boom' era ie the goldrush and have a very Scottish flavour - remember, the city was founded by the Scots.

According to the Guinness Book of Records, Dunedin has the steepest street in the world. Yes indeed. Baldwin Street has a gradient of 1 in 2.9. What does that mean? Well, for every 2.9 metres you go along the street, it drops (or rises if you're going up!) by one metre. Now, that is steep! Compare it with a steep street in your town the next time you're walking up it.

The climate of the city is difficult to describe as it varies from suburb to suburb. This is because the geography of the city is very different depending on where you are. However, generally it's quite a mild climate with warm summers and cool winters. There's not so much rain, around 750mm per year, and in the winter it snows only every 3 or 4 years. Summer temperatures often reach 30°C in the city itself, mainly because it is protected from the winds by a ring of volcanic hills.

This student worksheet is free to download and print for use in the classroom or for self-study. It is meant to be used in conjunction with the listening file which is available in mp3 format. However, the transcript can be used not only to check answers but also for reading comprehension and vocabulary