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by Kate Mikoley

**T**he 25th of April marks an important day in Australia and New Zealand. On this date in 1915, soldiers from the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, or ANZAC, landed in the Gallipoli Peninsula in what is now Turkey. It was World War I. The troops, known as Anzacs, had come to help the Allied powers try to take control of the area. This was

called the Gallipoli Campaign. Though it was not a success, it is remembered as the first major military campaign Australians took part in since becoming the Commonwealth of Australia. More than 8,000 Australian soldiers died during the campaign.

The first Anzac Day was observed exactly one year after the ANZAC landing in Gallipoli. In

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1922, it became a full public holiday in New Zealand. By 1927, it was officially recognized as a public holiday in all Australian states.

Today, Anzac Day is a day to remember all Australian and New Zealand military veterans, especially those who have died in war. The holiday honors their



speeches, prayers, moments of silence, singing the national



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Services vary but typically include : have served their country.

### The Soldiers' Biscuit



The word *Anzac* represents courage. To protect its meaning, the Australian government limits the use of the word on many products. One exception is the Anzac Biscuit. During World War I, people wanted to send food to soldiers. The food had to be nutritious and last for a long time. That's how the Anzac Biscuit, originally called the Soldiers' Biscuit, came to be. Traditionally made with rolled oats, sugar, flour, butter, and other simple ingredients, this snack that sustained soldiers at Gallipoli is still popular today.

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# Anzac Day

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1. What does ANZAC stand for?

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2. Why is the Gallipoli Campaign an important event in Australian history?

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4. Which statement below best describes Anzac Day?

- a. Anzac Day honors only the Anzacs who fought in World War I.
- b. Anzac Day honors all Australian and New Zealand military veterans.
- c. Anzac Day celebrates the end of World War I.
- d. Anzac Day celebrates Australia becoming the Commonwealth of Australia.

5. Why are Anzac Day services often held at dawn?

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6. Based on the article, what is least likely to be part of an Anzac Day service?

- a. speeches
- b. singing
- c. dancing
- d. prayer

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# Anzac Day

Match each vocabulary word from the article with the correct definition.



1. \_\_\_\_\_ peninsula

a. a federal union of states

2. \_\_\_\_\_ campaign

b. done to remember or honor



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6. \_\_\_\_\_ commemorative

f. a piece of land mostly surrounded by water

7. \_\_\_\_\_ veterans

g. a series of military operations

8. \_\_\_\_\_ dawn

h. things given up for the sake of something else

9. \_\_\_\_\_ courage

i. a group of countries that opposed the German Empire, Austria-Hungary, and other Central Powers in World War I



## ANSWER KEY

# Anzac Day

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1. What does ANZAC stand for?

**Australian and New Zealand Army Corps**

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6. Based on the article, what is least likely to be part of an Anzac Day service?

a. speeches

b. singing

**c. dancing**

d. prayer

## ANSWER KEY

# Anzac Day

Match each vocabulary word from the article with the correct definition.



1.   f   peninsula

a. a federal union of states

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9.   d   courage

i. a group of countries that opposed the German Empire, Austria-Hungary, and other Central Powers in World War I