**Convicts and Colonisation Reading Questions**

Using the information on the web page below, answer the following questions:

[Convicts and Colonisation - History Skills](https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/year-9/yr-9-convicts-reading/)

1. When did the first convicts land in Australia?
2. Why was a transportation system put into place in Britain?
3. What does 'terra nullius' mean, and how was it used by the British?
4. What were some of the conditions the convicts faced during their transportation to Australia?
5. Why were crime rates high in Britain during the 17th and 18th centuries?
6. What were the most common crimes committed in Britain during that time?
7. What solution did the British government come up with when the regular prisons ran out of room?
8. When was the system of transportation first put into place?
9. What was the First Fleet?
10. Who was in charge of the penal colony in Australia?
11. What kind of work did the convicts do once they arrived in Australia?
12. How did the First Nations peoples in Australia react to the arrival of the British?
13. When did the transportation of convicts to Australia end?
14. Approximately how many convicts had been transported to Australia by 1868?
15. What proportion of Australians is estimated to be descended from a convict?
16. What were the initial difficulties faced by the colonists in Australia?
17. How did the establishment of the penal colony impact the Indigenous peoples in Australia?

**Paragraph Writing**

Based upon what you have learnt in your reading, answer the question below in paragraph format (Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence, Concluding Sentence):

*What were the* [*causes and consequences*](https://www.historyskills.com/historical-knowledge/causes-and-consequences/) *of the First Fleet in 1788?*