

# New Zealand

## Pre-reading activities

- 1 a) Look at the map and find these places:  
 1 Auckland 2 The Cook Straits 3 Northland  
 4 Stewart Island 5 Wellington 6 The Southern Alps
- b) Do the quiz and answer the questions:

### How much do you know about New Zealand?

- 1 New Zealand is:
- a in the south-west of Australia  
 b in the South Pacific  
 c in the Indian Ocean
- 2 It is about the same size as:
- a Great Britain    b Spain    c Jamaica
- 3 The climate in the north of New Zealand is:
- a cold    b warm    c hot
- 4 The population of New Zealand is:
- a 1 million    b 5 million    c 3.5 million
- 5 The official language is
- a Maori    b English    c both Maori and English
- 6 Which of these can you find in New Zealand?



1



2

3

## Reading

- 2 a) Read the texts and check your answers in ex 1.b. then match the pictures (1-5) to the words in bold.
- b) Give definitions of the **highlighted** words.

New Zealand is in the South Pacific, about one thousand two hundred miles south-east of Australia. It's not a very big country, about the same size as Great Britain, or Japan, but it has a much smaller population, only about 3.5 million. There are two official languages, English and Maori.

People say it's the most **beautiful unspoilt** country in the world. There are so many different types of scenery and climate. They have almost everything. In the north there are fantastic beaches, mountains, volcanoes, even a small area of **desert**, and

New Zealand has very few native species of land animals. For this reason, a large number of **flightless** birds native to the country have managed to survive in **safety**.

Most famous of these is the kiwi. It sleeps underground during the day and looks for food by night. It is very shy and avoids human contact.

The **kakapo**, also called the owl parrot, is one of the world's rarest birds. As well as being the largest parrot in the world, it's the only one that can't fly. Unlike the kiwi



4



5

## Speaking

- Are there any natural wonders in your country? What are they?
- What kind of animals can be found in your country? Are there any rare animals of them?

New Zealand is divided into two main islands, North Island and South Island. Then to the south of South Island there's a much smaller island called Stewart Island. Between North Island and South Island there's a small sea called the Cook Straits. Most people live on the North Island and there's where the two biggest cities are, **Wellington**, the capital city,