

## English Lesson "My Place"


# Level 03

### Lesson Description

How many place names describe your place? The classic image of a child's inscription in a favourite book, beginning with street address and extending through hemisphere and planet to constellation and Universe is accurate enough.

But mostly we locate ourselves much more locally and express that sense of belonging through loyalty to State, or school, or football team.

From micro to macro many points of view could be debated, which is what this lesson aims to facilitate. Depending on class size and character, the debate could be literally an in-class debate between two opposing points of view. The starting point is the "universal" address model noted above. The question is: does that accurately describe your "place", and if not where would you draw the line? At the street address? The town? The state? The country? And why?

 **Explained in these terms in opposition to the motion that "we are all citizens of the world", students will be obliged to consider the meaning of "place".**

In this context those preparing for the debate should consider the weight that place names carry: is it possible to feel any sense of association with a place whose name is suggestive of somewhere most Australians would find wholly alien and strange (Addis Ababa) or somewhere that carries a great weight of history from which we feel excluded (Athens)?

Where in-class debate is not favoured students may write (or verbally deliver) personal arguments defining the address line that they feel best describes their "place".

A supplied work sheet canvases this topic and supplies some prompts and questions.

### Lesson Aim and Objectives

The lesson extends the challenge for clear verbal expression (whether written or spoken) of the earlier lessons and adds the requirement for analytical thought, either individually or within a team (debating) context.

### Materials Needed

Work sheet supplied; internet access and/or reference texts for research