

It's tradition !

READING COMPREHENSION

It's tradition: Indigenous designs have been on Australian money since decimalisation¹

- 1 The Reserve Bank of Australia has announced that Queen Elizabeth II's portrait on Australia's \$5 banknote will not be replaced by one of Charles III (as is happening in the United Kingdom). It will instead show a design that "honours the culture and history of the First Australians".



- While some will complain this is a break from the tradition of the reigning monarch's head being on the lowest-denomination banknote, that has only been the case in Australia since 1966, when decimal currency² was introduced.

- 15 Before that, navigator and cartographer Matthew Flinders appeared on the lowest (ten shilling) note. The queen was on the pound note (equal to 20 shillings).



- 20 An opinion poll last year indicated just 34% of Australians wanted to see King Charles replace his mother on the \$5 note, with 43% preferring another person, such as a famous Australian, and 23% undecided.

A return to tradition

- While breaking with one "tradition", an Indigenous motif on the lowest-denomination banknote restores another. When decimal currency was introduced in 1966, the lowest-denomination banknote was the \$1 note. One side featured a youthful Queen Elizabeth and the Australian coat of arms³. The other showed an Indigenous design, based on bark painting by artist David Malangi Daymirringu and others.

The Reserve Bank's governor at the time was HC "Nugget" Coombs, a strong advocate for Indigenous Australians. But it turned out no one at the bank thought to ask permission to copy the artworks used in the design - nor offer payment.

- 30 Coombs subsequently sought to make amends⁴. Malangi was paid \$1,000 (the same given to those whose art was used on other banknotes), a fishing kit and a special medallion Coombs commissioned.

THE CONVERSATION <https://theconversation.com/its-tradition-indigenous-designs-have-been-on-australian-money-since-decimalisation-199091>

1. decimalisation: conversion au système métrique 2. currency: devise, monnaie 3. coat of arms: armoiries, blason
4. to make amends: se racheter, se faire pardonner

A. Read the first part of the text and answer the questions.

1. Find information about the Australian currency and its changes.

	Before 1966	Today	In the future
The lowest-denomination banknote
Its design
Presence of the monarch

2. Do you know why the Queen's portrait appears on Australian money? You can search on the internet if you don't know why.

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3. Who were these changes announced by? Who do you think made the decision?

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4. This decision is in line with the preferences of most Australian citizens. True or false? Justify using your own words.

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5. What do the Reserve Bank of Australia's decision and the opinion poll show about the preferences of Australian citizens?

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B. Read the second part of the text and answer the questions.

1. Find information about the people mentioned in the text and fill in the table.

	Queen Elizabeth II	David Malangi Daymirringu	HC "Nugget" Coombs
Function
The \$1 note

2. Explain why Coombs had to "make amends" and what happened later.

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GRAMMAR CORNER

Preference

Il existe de multiples manières d'exprimer une préférence en anglais. On peut notamment utiliser les structures suivantes :

- **prefer + GN** : *She preferred the queen to the new king.* (Elle préférait la reine au nouveau roi.)
- **prefer / would prefer to + V** : *I would prefer the government to choose someone else.* (Je préférerais que le gouvernement choisisse quelqu'un d'autre.)
- **would rather + V** : *I know you would like to see Charles III's portrait on the new notes, but I'd rather have notes that pay tribute to Aboriginal people.* (Je sais que tu aimerais que le portrait de Charles III soit sur les nouveaux billets, mais je préférerais avoir des billets qui rendent hommage aux Aborigènes.)
- **had better + V** : *I think we'd better choose an Australian person.* (Je pense que nous ferions mieux de choisir une personne australienne.)

Traduisez les phrases suivantes en vous concentrant sur la manière d'exprimer la préférence.

1. Je préférerais vivre dans une république.

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2. Vous feriez mieux de ne pas toucher à la constitution actuelle.

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3. Je préférerais visiter des endroits associés à la monarchie britannique en Australie.

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4. Certains Australiens préfèrent la monarchie constitutionnelle à une république.

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WRITING

Post a message on a blog or a website.

People have been asked to explain what they would prefer to see on the next Australian banknote.

Imagine you can post a message on the website of the Australian government. Say what your preferences are. You can argue that you like King Charles III to appear on it or you can say that the Reserve Bank had better show famous Indigenous people.