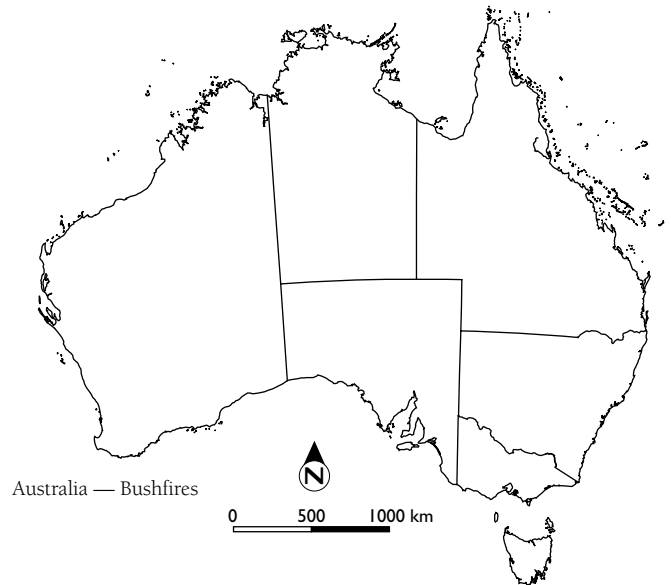
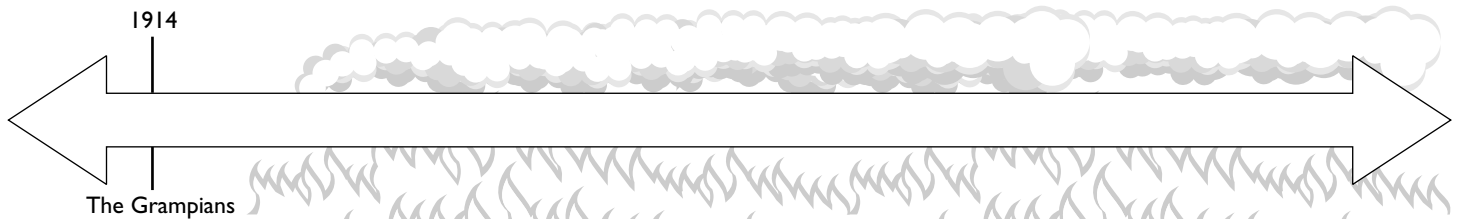


DATELINE: Summer 1999–2000 The Victorian Country Fire Authority (CFA) has developed Operation Bushfire Blitz to support volunteer bushfire brigades in areas of urban bushland. Meetings are being held on street corners to talk to local residents about what to do when threatened by bushfire. Australia's most deadly and damaging bushfire was Ash Wednesday on 16 February 1983 when 73 lives were lost in southern Victoria and South Australia.

- Use page 21 of the *Jacaranda Atlas* to complete the map showing the extent of Australian bushfires.
 - Mark on the three scales of fire risk — disaster fires, forest/grass/scrub fires, fires of little risk to people.
 - Describe the areas of Australia where the major bushfires have occurred.



- On the timeline, mark in the major bushfire dates and locations. (The first one is marked for you.)



- Study the Drought and Flood in Australia maps on pages 20–21 of the *Jacaranda Atlas* to answer the following:
 - For each of the following fires, describe the rainfall conditions of that area at the time of the fire.

- Adelaide Hills 1983 _____
- Blue Mountains 1994 _____
- Dandenongs 1997 _____
- Gippsland 1998 _____

- What general comments can be made about rainfall conditions and large bushfires?

- Read the information on the Dandenongs Bushfire on page 83 of the *Jacaranda Atlas* to answer the following:
 - In the second fire, what caused the fire to spread in the afternoon? _____
 - How many houses were lost in the second fire? _____
 - In the third fire, what allowed the CFA to control the fire? _____
 - What caused the fire to spread quickly in the fourth fire? _____
 - Which of the fires was the most destructive to property and homes? _____
 - Which of the fires destroyed the most national park? _____