

Former 'Oath of Allegiance'

In 1948, the Nationality and Citizenship Act was introduced to outline Australian citizenship and the conditions of how it could be obtained. The Act introduced an oath of allegiance which new citizens took at a special ceremony. The Oath of Allegiance was intended to symbolise our pride in Australia and our willingness to share our future with new Australians. Four versions of the Oath of Allegiance were introduced. In 1994, the Oath of Allegiance was replaced by the Pledge of Commitment.

1. Research and take notes about the history of the Oath of Allegiance at <<http://tinyurl.com/q3o9ykm>>.
2. Write the year in which each version of the Oath of Allegiance was introduced and sequence the four versions by numbering each box from oldest to newest.
3. Use a similarities and differences chart to compare the first and fourth version of the Oath of Allegiance.

<input type="checkbox"/> <p>I, A. B., renouncing all other allegiance, swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Australia, Her heirs and successors according to law, and that I will faithfully observe the laws of Australia and fulfil my duties as an Australian citizen.</p> <p>Introduced in _____.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>I, A. B., renouncing all other allegiance, swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second, Her Heirs and Successors according to law.</p> <p>Introduced in _____.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> <p>I, A. B; swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George the Sixth, his heirs and successors according to law, and that I will faithfully observe the laws of Australia and fulfil my duties as an Australian citizen.</p> <p>Introduced in _____.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <p>I swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Australia, Her heirs and successors according to law, and that I will faithfully observe the laws of Australia and fulfil my duties as an Australian citizen.</p> <p>Introduced in _____.</p>

Taken from the Parliament of Australia website <www.aph.gov.au>

4. In your own words, write a paragraph to explain the meaning of the 1986 Oath of Allegiance.

The Australian Citizenship Pledge

Once a person's application has been approved, they must attend a special ceremony and take the Australian Citizenship Pledge. When people take the Pledge, they are making a public commitment to Australia and accepting the responsibilities and privileges of citizenship. People can choose from two versions of the Pledge, one which mentions God and one which does not.

Pledge 1	Pledge 2
From this time forward, under God, I pledge my loyalty to Australia and its people, whose democratic beliefs I share, whose rights and liberties I respect, and whose laws I will uphold and obey.	From this time forward, I pledge my loyalty to Australia and its people, whose democratic beliefs I share, whose rights and liberties I respect, and whose laws I will uphold and obey.

Source: Department of Immigration and Border Control

1. Write the meaning of the following words:

(a) pledge
(b) loyalty
(c) democratic
(d) rights and liberties
(e) respect
(f) laws
(g) uphold and obey

2. In your own words, explain what you think the Pledge means.

