

Present vs. Past: Chinese in Australia

Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the verb.

The history of the Chinese in Australia (go) _____ back to the early years of European settlement of the continent. When they first (come) _____ they (work) _____ as shearers, cooks and seasonal farm workers. Generally they (be) _____ mostly (use) _____ as cheap labour. The discovery of gold (attract) _____ thousands more Chinese from overseas. Most locally living Chinese also (move) _____ to gold fields living as the majority of gold diggers, on minimum rations of food and sometimes the only shelter they (can) _____ afford (be) _____ a tank, a barrel or even just a piece of cloth stretched between trees. If you travel in NSW or Victoria don't miss the ghost towns of gold fields: you will (see) _____ how difficult the life (be) _____ for the gold diggers in the second half of the last century. Once the gold rush followed by tin rush (be) _____ over most of the Chinese (move) _____ on but some decided to (stay) _____ and (become) _____ herbalists.



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