

Example Text: Discussion

Should our convicts be sent to New South Wales?

There are several benefits of transporting our lowly criminals overseas.

Firstly, our gaols are overcrowded as it is. The convicts are unhealthy and spread disease. If we continue to transport them, we will free up space and the unpleasant health issues will be easier to manage.

Secondly, with the large number of convicts in prison here, it is costing the government far too much money. If we send the wretches to the new colony, they will have to farm their own food and look after themselves. They will be out of our sight and out of our pockets!

Finally, the threat of transportation may prevent the underclass from committing petty crimes. If they go to gaol here, they simply return home when released and they are free to break the law again. But if they are transported, there is no chance of them ever raising enough money to pay their way back to Mother England.

On the other hand, there are some bleeding hearts who believe that we should not transport our convicts overseas.

Some believe that, as proper English men and women, they should serve their punishment in England and not in some distant heathen land.

Others believe that for some small crimes, transportation is too harsh a penalty. The months of travel across the oceans are dangerous, with the constant threat of illness and shipwreck, and such a punishment may not always fit the crime.

This is not an easy question to answer, as both sides are very vocal. However, for the future of our nation, I believe that transporting our criminals to New South Wales is our only viable option.