



# Income tax and welfare in Australia, then and now



This sequence is intended as a framework to be modified and adapted by teachers to suit the needs of a class group.

## Resources needed

- Tax and welfare on the home front – Sources (one of each for every 4 students)
- Sources recording table - Template
- Writing a bibliography in history – How-to-sheet
- Bibliography example for History
- Writing paragraphs in History – Model and/or
- Writing paragraphs in History – Visualiser



Men in a dole queue during the Great Depression at No. 7 Wharf, Circular Quay, Sydney, 11 June 1931  
*Sydney Morning Herald*, 12th June 1931

## Suggested activity sequence

### Part A: Exploring continuity and change

- 1 Use a *grouping strategy* to organise students into groups of 4.
- 2 Groups read source Q and identify the:
  - impact of World War 1 on the role of tax revenue collection in Australia
  - extent to which income tax has changed or remained the same since World War I.
- 3 Groups read source R and compare welfare payments that now exist with those that existed in World War I. Ask:
  - What differences exist?
  - What has changed in relation to Australia's provision of welfare since World War I?
- 4 *Think-pair-share*: What is the historical significance of the introduction of Commonwealth income taxes in Australia during World War I?

### Part B: Writing an evidence-based historical explanation

- 2 Students develop a bibliography based on the sources in *Tax and welfare on the home front - Sources*. To do this, they will need:
  - *Writing a bibliography in History -How-to-sheet*
  - *Bibliography example for History*Explicitly teach how paragraphs are structured using the *Writing paragraphs in History – Visualiser* and/or refer students to *Writing paragraphs in History – Model*.
- 3 Students write 1-2 paragraphs explaining the historical significance of the introduction of income tax in 1915.