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Sommario/riassunto	'If there are genuine questions about Australian history, there is something to puzzle over. The history ceases to be predictable- and dull.' From the author of <i>The Shortest History of Europe</i> , acclaimed historian John Hirst, comes this fresh and stimulating approach to understanding Australia's past and present. Hirst asks and answers questions that get to the heart of Australia's history: Why did Aborigines not take up farming? How did a penal colony change peacefully into a democratic society? Why was Australia so prosperous so early? Why did the colonies federate? What effect did convict origins have on national character? Why was the postwar migration programme a success? Why is Australia not a republic? Engaging and enjoyable, and written for the novice and the expert alike, <i>Australian History in 7 Questions</i> explains how we became the nation we are today.

