



## Unit 7

# Sport in New Zealand

### International cultural knowledge – The Haka

- 1 Look at the photo. Do you know or can you guess what sport these players do?



- 2 Now read the text and check your answers.

#### WORD BOOSTER

##### Match the words and definitions.

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 1 revival  | a very angry and ready to attack                              |
| 2 fierce   | b someone who is competing against you                        |
| 3 motivate | c becoming active, successful or popular again                |
| 4 opponent | d to make someone enthusiastic, or determined to do something |

- 3 Are the following statements true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 The first settlers in New Zealand were not Europeans. ....
- 2 Maori culture is becoming more popular these days. ....
- 3 The word *Haka* originally meant Maori art. ....
- 4 Performers of the Haka must never show their feelings. ....
- 5 Only the leader of the All Blacks paints his face. ....
- 6 The *Ka Mate* is frightening because it is performed with sticks. ....

- 4 What do these relative pronouns refer to in the text?

- 1 ... *which* has seen a revival in recent years  
.....
- 2 ... *which* is the general name for Maori dance  
.....
- 3 ... *who* also paint their faces  
.....

- 5 Answer the questions.

Do you know any of the rules of rugby? Have you ever seen the All Blacks perform their pre-match Haka? If so, what did you think of it? If not, look for it on the Internet!

## The Haka and the All Blacks

The Maori people, who originally came from Polynesia, settled in New Zealand long before the Europeans, and developed a culture which has seen a revival in recent years. The Haka, which is the general name for Maori dance, is an art form still practised by the Maori people. It can take many forms, but it is always well organised and emotional and performed with loud and fierce shouts.

The Haka is best known as a pre-match performance by the All Blacks – the New Zealand national rugby team. The players, who also paint their faces to look frightening, first hear a verse from the leader before performing the Haka itself. This is to remind the team what they must do:

Ringa pakia  
Uma tiraha  
Turi whatia  
Hope whai ake  
Waewae takahia kia kino

*Slap the hands against the thighs*  
*Puff out the chest*  
*Bend the knees*  
*Let the hips follow*  
*Stamp the feet as hard as you can*

The Haka that is normally performed by the All Blacks is called the *Ka Mate*. The players move their eyes, stick out their tongues and stamp and shout in a fierce manner. This motivates the players and frightens the opponents. Here are the words of the *Ka Mate*:

**Ka mate! Ka mate! Ka ora! Ka ora!**  
*I die! I die! I live! I live!*

**Ka mate! Ka mate! Ka ora! Ka ora!**  
*I die! I die! I live! I live!*

**Tenei te tangata puhuru huru**  
*This is the hairy man*

**Nana nei i tiki mai**  
*Who fetched the Sun*

**Whakawhiti te ra**  
*And caused it to shine again*

**A upa ... ne! ka upa ... ne!**  
*One upward step! Another upward step!*

**A upane kaupane whiti te ra!**  
*An upward step, another ... the Sun shines!!*  
**Hi !!!**