

= No worries =

No worries is an expression seen in Australian , British and New Zealand English meaning " do not worry about that " , " that 's all right " , or " sure thing " . It is similar to the American English no problem . The phrase is widely used in Australian speech and represents a feeling of friendliness , good humour , optimism and " mateship " in Australian culture . The phrase has been referred to as the national motto of Australia .

The phrase has influenced a similar phrase used in the Tok Pisin language in Papua New Guinea . No worries utilization migrated to New Zealand after origination in Australia . Its usage became more common in British English after increased usage in Australian soap operas that aired on television in the United Kingdom . Linguistics experts are uncertain how the phrase became utilized in American English ; theories include use by Steve Irwin on the television program The Crocodile Hunter and usage by the United States media during the 2000 Sydney Olympics . It has also gained usage in Canadian English .

= = Definition = =

" No worries " is an Australian English expression , meaning " do not worry about that " , or " that 's all right " . It can also mean " sure thing " and " you 're welcome " . Other colloquial Australian terms which mean the same thing include " she 'll be right " . The expression has been compared to the American English equivalent " no problem " . In their book Australian Language & Culture : No Worries ! , authors Vanessa Battersby , Paul Smitz and Barry Blake note : " No worries is a popular Australian response akin to ' no problems ' , ' that 's OK ' or ' sure thing ' . "

= = Cultural origins = =

Early documentation dates the phrase back to 1966 . According to author of When Cultures Collide : Leading Across Cultures , Richard D. Lewis , the phrase is a form of expression of the relaxed attitude in Australian culture . Anna Wierzbicka comments that the expression illustrates important parts of Australian culture , including : " amiability , friendliness , an expectation of shared attitudes (a proneness to easy ' mateship ') , jocular toughness , good humour , and , above all , casual optimism " . She concludes that along with " good on you " , the expressions reflect the " national character " and " prevailing ethos " of Australia . Though initially utilized in Australia , the phrase migrated to New Zealand as well .

= = Usage = =

Wierzbicka writes in her book Cross @-@ cultural Pragmatics that the expression " permeates Australian speech " , " serves a wide range of illocutionary forces " and displays a " casual optimism " . In her 1992 book Semantics , Culture , and Cognition , Wierzbicka classifies the phrase as " among the most characteristic Australian expressions " , along with " good on you " .

The term can also be used in the context of an apology . The phrase has been used widely in British English since the late 1980s , a development partly attributed to the success of Australian soap operas such as Neighbours in the United Kingdom .

The phrase " no wucking forries " has the same meaning in Australia ; as a spoonerism of " no fucking worries " , and is contracted to the phrases " no wuckers " and " no wucks " .

= = Influence = =

" No worries " was referred to as " the national motto " of Australia in 1978 , and in their 2006 work , Diving the World , Beth and Shaun Tierney call " no worries , mate " the national motto of the country . Writing in The New York Times Book Review , Annette Kobak calls the expression a " ritual incantation " which has " particular charm " . The phrase " no waris " in the Papua New Guinea

language Tok Pisin is derived from the Australian English term .

According to The Sunday Mail a 2004 newspaper report notes that " no worries " has begun to be used in American English . Writing in a 2004 article for The Advertiser , Samela Harris comments : " The Americans have no idea of the etymology of ' no worries ' . So , while they may cheerily adopt our ' no worries ' mantra , ' no worries ' will never catch on as an attitude . " According to Tom Dalzell , author of two books on slang usage in the United States , linguistics experts are not certain how the expression became popular in that country . Usage of the term by Steve Irwin on The Crocodile Hunter , as well as attempts by members of the American press to imitate the expression during the 2000 Sydney Olympics , have been put forth as theories explaining the pervasiveness of the expression in the United States . Linguistics professor Kate Burridge writes in her 2004 book Weeds In the Garden Of Words that expressions including " no worries " , " absolutely " , and " bottom line " have become less prevalent in favor of newer sayings . The phrase has had some usage in Canadian English .