



EPISODE 1: 2008: LAURA

Unit focus: English

Year level: Years 3–6

EPISODE CLIP: THE APOLOGY

ACTIVITY 1: LAURA'S APOLOGY

Subthemes: Culture; Indigenous perspectives; Politics

Discover

- Before viewing the clip, ask students to think about its title, 'The apology'. Have students 'think, pair, share' what they predict the clip might be about. Invite students to record their ideas on a 'graffiti wall'. Ask students to brainstorm the word 'apology' and list all the ideas and words that come to mind. Discuss the list and have students write a brief description of what they think an apology means to them.
- After viewing the clip, as a class, note down all the significant events that occurred. Ask students to share and discuss.
- Discuss Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's speech to Parliament, apologising for Australian laws and policies that caused Indigenous Australians to be mistreated, and especially for the removal of Indigenous children from their families and the continuing impact on people today. Part of the speech is screened during this clip. You could also look at R10332 'Kevin Rudd's apology speech 2008 - item 1 of 6'.
- Ask students to respond to the following questions:
 - 1 Who is Kevin Rudd apologising to?
 - 2 What is he apologising about?
 - 3 Why is he apologising?

Reflect

- During the speech, ask students to look at how the filmmaker uses Laura to draw attention to the way people are feeling in the room and also to focus on how Laura herself is feeling.
- View the whole episode from the beginning scene where Laura accidentally sinks Michaelis's boat. Ask students to consider what apology Laura needs to make. Who has she offended and what did she do wrong? Ask students to write an apology letter from Laura to Michaelis.

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- Student Activity Sheet E1.1: I'm sorry



ACTIVITY 3: AUNTY BEV'S STORY

Subthemes: Indigenous perspectives; Language and scripting; Politics

Discover

- Aunty Bev tells Laura a little about the story of how she was taken from her mother when she was so young she can no longer remember her. As a class, discuss how Aunty Bev feels about this now and what impact this story might have on Laura. Ask students how they feel about this story.
- Play the clip from R10333 'Kevin Rudd's apology speech, 2008 - item 2 of 6' to the class. Focus on the story of one woman, Nanna Nungala Fejo. Ask students to note any information that they think is important in the story. Have students read the story of Nanna Nungala Fejo in the transcript from this resource.

Reflect

- In small groups, discuss and compare this story to that of Aunty Bev.
- Have students draft a letter to the Prime Minister describing how they feel about this situation and what it means to them.
- You could show students selected clips from the film *Rabbit-Proof Fence* for more insight into the way children were taken from their families. Clips from the film with teachers' notes are available from australianscreen, 'Rabbit-Proof Fence (2002)', <http://australianscreen.com.au/titles/rabbit-proof-fence>
- Please note that *Rabbit-Proof Fence* is rated PG (parental guidance) and permission should be gained from parents and the school principal before viewing. It is recommended that teachers view all film content before introducing it to students to ensure that it is appropriate for the class.

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- Student Activity Sheet E1.3: Dear Prime Minister

ACTIVITY 6: TWO APOLOGIES

Subthemes: Indigenous perspectives; Politics; Relationships

Discover

- The story in this episode is about two apologies:
 - 1 Laura's apology to Michaelis for sinking his dinghy and disposing of his dog's ashes
 - 2 Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's apology to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Discuss the nature of an apology and why it is sometimes so hard to say sorry.
- at the script for Episode 1: 2008: Laura and find the scene where Laura apologises to Michaelis. She never really articulates what she did but the apology is understood and accepted anyway. Compare this with Prime Minister Rudd's apology speech where he clearly outlines all the actions and events he is apologising for.



Reflect

- Discuss the way in which Laura apologises and how Michaelis receives it. What do students think of this as an apology? Do they think it is good enough? Why or why not?
- Compare the ways in which both apologies are received by the people being apologised to. In Prime Minister Rudd's case these are the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, represented in this story by Aunty Bev and Laura's family, and in Laura's case, it is Michaelis.
- Using these discussion points as a guide, ask students to write a letter of apology to a teacher, friend or family member.

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- Student Activity Sheet E1.6: Comparing apologies

EPISODE 3: 1988: LILY

Unit focus: English

Year level: Years 3–6

EPISODE CLIP: FIRST DAY

ACTIVITY 8: REFUGEES

Subthemes: Language and scripting; Politics

Discover

- Lily's neighbour Mrs Benson remarks, 'You know there are laws against turning your house into a refugee camp.' As a class, discuss this comment and what it means. Ask students why they think Mrs Benson made this statement. What might she be afraid of? Introduce the term 'prejudice' and discuss its meaning with the class.
- Ask students to consider and respond to the following question: What is a refugee camp?
- Explain to the class that there are still many refugees in immigration detention centres in different parts of Australia waiting to be processed.

Reflect

- Ask students to find a variety of newspaper articles regarding recent Australian reports about asylum seekers, legal and illegal refugees, and detention centres. Students should read a selection of these articles and list them and their references including date and place of publication. The students are to nominate if they feel the article is for or against asylum seekers coming to Australia. As a group, they are to present a brief report to the class, describing one event that made national headlines in Australia about refugees.

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- Student Activity Sheet E3.8: The law and refugees



EPISODE 12: 1898: ROWLEY

Unit focus: English

Year level : Years 3–6

EPISODE CLIP: FOUNDING THE ALP

ACTIVITY 6: THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY (ALP)

Subtheme: Culture; Currency; Politics

Discover

- Ask students to reflect on what they found out about the formation of the Australian Labor Party (ALP) from viewing the clip. They should respond to the following questions:
 - 1 What historical information was presented?
 - 2 How did the filmmaker present this information to the audience?
- Ask students to reflect on what they saw and heard in the clip, particularly the way the characters interact, and discuss pertinent issues.

Reflect

- As a class, discuss what point of view (POV) the clip presents regarding the actions of the ALP to support workers' rights.
- Ask students to pretend they are either a worker or an employer in 1898. Have them design and create a half-page flyer that advocates for or against workers' rights. They should use text and images to explain their POV. The episode stills could be useful for this activity.

Download

- Student Activity Sheet E12.6: A point of view



Name: _____

Student Activity Sheet E1.1
Activity 1: Laura's apology

Episode 1: 2008: Laura
Clip: The apology

I'm sorry

- 1 List the significant events that occurred in this clip and describe what happened.

- 2 View the whole episode from the beginning scene where Laura is playing by the canal. Consider what apology Laura needs to make, who she offended and what she did wrong. Write an apology letter from Laura to Michaelis.

Dear Michaelis,

Yours sincerely,



Name: _____

Student Activity Sheet E1.3
Activity 3: Aunty Bev's story

Episode 1: 2008: Laura
Clip: The apology

Dear Prime Minister

Draft a letter to the Prime Minister describing how you feel about his apology to the Stolen Generations.

Dear Prime Minister,

Yours sincerely,



Name: _____

Student Activity Sheet E1.6., page 1 of 2
Activity 6: Two apologies

Episode 1: 2008: Laura
Clip: The apology

Comparing apologies

The story in this episode is about two apologies: Laura's apology to Michaelis for the sinking his dinghy and disposing of his dog's ashes, and Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's apology to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

- 1 Look at the script for Episode 1: 2008: Laura, and find the scene where Laura apologises to Michaelis. Consider the way she apologises and how Michaelis receives it. What do you think of this as an apology? Do you think it is good enough? Why or why not?

- 2 Compare the ways in which both apologies are received by the people being apologised to. In Prime Minister Rudd's case it is Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, represented in this story by Aunty Bev and Laura's family, and in Laura's case, it is Michaelis.

- 3 Write a letter of apology to a teacher, friend or family member, keeping in mind what you have learned from the clip.



Name: _____

Student Activity Sheet E1.6, page 2 of 2
Activity 6: Two apologies

Episode 1: 2008: Laura
Clip: The apology

Dear

Yours sincerely,



Name: _____

Student Activity Sheet E3.8
Activity 8: Refugees

Episode 3: 1988: Lily
Clip: First day

The law and refugees

1 Lily's neighbour Mrs Benson remarks, 'You know there are laws against turning your house into a refugee camp.' Why do you think Mrs Benson made this statement? What is she afraid of?

2 What is a refugee camp?

3 What is meant by the word 'prejudice'?

4 Where are the Australian immigration detention centres?

5 Research newspaper articles on asylum seekers coming to Australia. Note the date they were published, the title and the name of the news-media outlet. Do you think the article is for or against asylum seekers coming to Australia?

Date	Article title	Publication	For or against



Name: _____

Student Activity Sheet E12.6
Activity 6: The Australian Labor Party (ALP)

Episode 12: 1898: Rowley
Clip: Founding the ALP

A point of view

1 After watching the clip 'Founding the ALP', respond to the following questions:

a What historical information was presented?

b How did the filmmaker present this information to the audience?

2 What point of view was presented to the audience about the formation of the Australian Labor Party (ALP) and workers' rights?

3 Pretend that you are either a worker or an employer in 1898. Design and create a half-page flyer that advocates for or against workers' rights. You should use text and images to explain your point of view.
