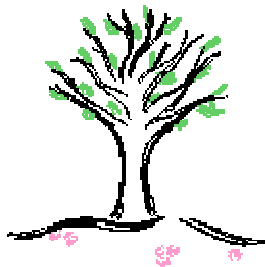


Reading Comprehension – Finding The Main Idea In Poetry

Bush Medicine

when I was a little girl
many women used to come
to my grandmother to be cured
she chewed some leaves
wrapped in more leaves
then used the juice to dry out
the **bothersome** sores
the women were always quiet
and somewhat apprehensive
now the **wise men** say
that there might be something
in my grandmother's cure
and the leaves that flavoured it
I only hope that one day
they too would be sure

By Konai Helu-Tharmanan



1. In this poem, it is most likely the poet's intention to:
A teach people how to prepare bush medicines
B ridicule doctors who won't accept bush medicines
C get readers to reconsider their attitude to bush medicines
D provide information on the collection of bush medicine ingredients
2. The writer's grandmother chewed leaves:
A to release the juices
B to help her concentrate
C because she was hungry
D because she liked the taste
3. In this poem the word **bothersome** is closest in meaning to:
A Painful
B Annoying
C Contagious
D Unpleasant
4. The leaves were used for:
A cooking food
B making baskets
C wrapping up parcels
D healing skin problems
5. The wise men referred to are probably:
A judges
B doctors
C lawyers
D teachers
6. The women who came to the grandmother were:
A wise and bothersome
B apprehensive and wise
C quiet and apprehensive
D apprehensive and bothersome
7. In your opinion, what is the poet's attitude to her grandmother?

8. What theme is developed in this poem?

Year 8 Homework Sheet for Week 4

Name: _____

Critical Reading

Includes – Novels, non-fiction books, magazines, newspapers and as negotiated with teacher

Book: _____

Author: _____

In your own words, summarise your reading for this week.

| Spelling | | |
|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| a | b | c |
| civil | America | Australian |
| dollar | ancestors | beseech |
| despair | business | communication |
| First Fleet | convicts | discrimination |
| graph | costumes | oppression |
| learn | heritage | persecuted |
| native | interpreter | population |
| proud | legend | restaurants |
| racist | naturalised | territorial |
| society | refugees | vaccination |

English Rules!

Highlight the correct alternative verb from the brackets.

1. A cage of monkeys (**is / are**) located at the back of the laboratory.
2. The block of flats (**stop / stops**) light to the building next door.
3. The fingers on each hand (**was / were**) stained by the chemicals.

Common Curriculum Elements

CCE number 15 is a really easy one - it is **Calculating with or without calculators**. Make a list of all the calculations you do in a day, then ask your parents what sort of things they would calculate in a day and you will see how important this one is.

Who is the target audience? How can you tell?

Would you recommend this reading to your friends?

Why/why not?

Parent Comment & Signature:

Teacher Comment & Signature:
