

FIRST NATION PEOPLES

KANYINI

The Kuniya Walk near Mutijulu Waterhole. Image Source: <https://parksaustralia.gov.au/uluru/do/walks/kuniya-walk/>

Human Wellbeing

**Grace Larobina, GTA NSW & ACT Councillor,
Head of Geography, Hills Grammar School**

INTRODUCTION

Kanyini (2006) – <https://vimeo.com/292549994>

Kanyini Study Guide – <https://theeducationshop.com.au/downloads/atom-study-guides/kanyini-atom-study-guide/>

SYLLABUS

- HUMAN WELLBEING IN AUSTRALIA
- IMPROVING HUMAN WELLBEING

AIM Using a variety of Visible Thinking Strategies [VTS] to explore human wellbeing.

Before watching *Kanyini*

TASK 1: Read the following information taken from the Kanyini Study Guide and select what you think is the essential SENTENCE - PHRASE - WORD

Kanyini is a story told by an Aboriginal man, Bob Randall, who lives beside the world's greatest monolith, Uluru, in central Australia. Based on Bob's own personal journey and the wisdom he learnt from the old people living in the bush, Bob tells the tale of why Indigenous people are now struggling in a modern world and what needs to be done for them to move forward. A tale of Indigenous wisdom clashing against materialist notions of progress, this is not only a story of one man and his people but the story of the human race.

Kanyini is a Pitjantjatjara word meaning: Interconnectedness; to care for, to support, to nurture and protect.

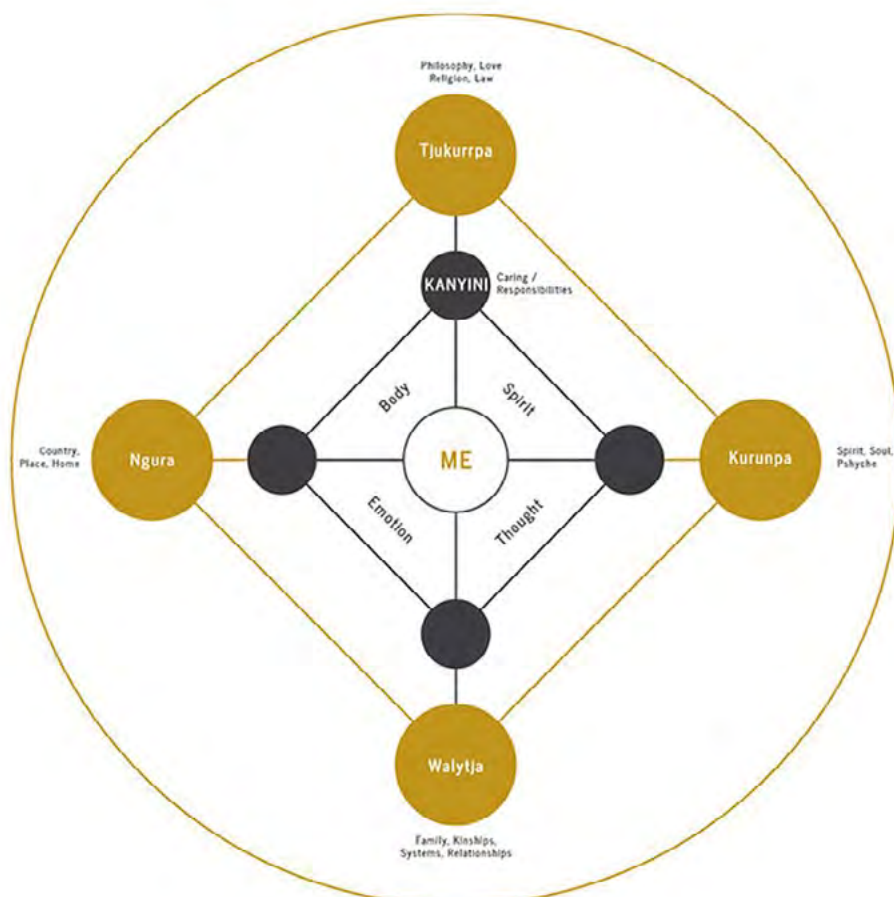


Image source: <http://www.kanyini.com/what-is-kanyini.html>

FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES

This film provides a very accessible overview of the history of the ongoing effects of white settlement on Indigenous Australians. It should be of interest to students and teachers in secondary schools and in the broader Australian community. It graphically covers the significant areas in which Aboriginal people have suffered dispossession and puts into context the ways in which this dislocation from tradition, land, spirituality, and family continues to affect their lives today."

Kanyini premiered at the Sydney Film Festival in June 2006.

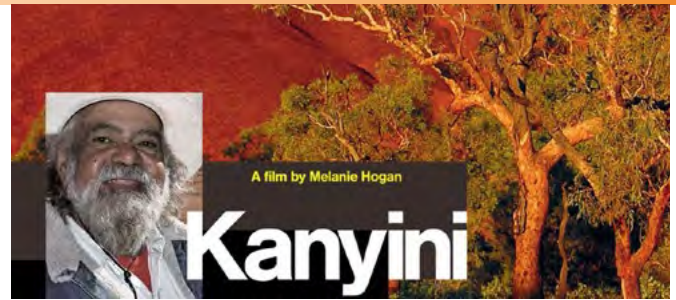


Image source: <http://www.kanyini.com>

STAGE 2: EXTEND

GROUP REFLECTION- [VTS] MICRO LAB PROTOCOL

In groups of THREE, discuss your answers to the above questions?

STAGE 3: CHALLENGE

INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION

After your group discussion, consider what you think is the most pressing issue facing Aboriginal Australians. Justify your idea.

After watching *Kanyini*

Four Pillars of traditional Indigenous society

Things Bob Randall believes are at the heart of the matter:

1. Belief system
2. Spirituality
3. Land
4. Family

TASK 4: Discuss with others how the loss of each of these **Four Pillars** has resulted in the present situation many Indigenous Australians face.

TASK 5: TURNING THINGS AROUND

Bob Randall (and others) has ideas about how the situation in which many Indigenous Australians find themselves can be turned around.

Many programs, some costing a lot of money, have been developed and tried in the past, but they don't seem to have had the desired results in many cases.

As Bob Randall says:

"You threw me a line called Welfare, but it's not as good as what I had ... the chaos and sadness we are feeling now is a result of our history ...

Open truth will set us free, not hidden truth."

[VTS] WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?

Choose ONE of the **Four Pillars** of Aboriginal traditional society listed above, and explain your understanding of both the consequences of loss and possible ways to improve the lives of Indigenous Australians in this area.

SENTENCE
PHRASE
WORD

TASK 2: Share with the person next to you and submit your word to the Word Cloud. <https://coolinfographics.com/word-clouds>

TASK 3: (VTS) CONNECT, EXTEND, CHALLENGE

STAGE 1: CONNECT

INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION

1. Have you been to, or lived in, central Australia and/or visited Uluru?

If so, describe what Uluru and the surrounding countryside is like.

2. Do you know any Aboriginal Australians?
3. How do you perceive the way Aboriginal people are portrayed in the media, specifically in current affairs, and television news programs?
4. What do you believe are the major problems confronting Indigenous Australians today? How are they similar to, and unlike, problems other Australian citizens might face?
5. What is your understanding of the term 'The Stolen Generation'?
6. What do you think is meant by the term 'a black armband view of history'?
7. Do you believe reconciliation is a problem?

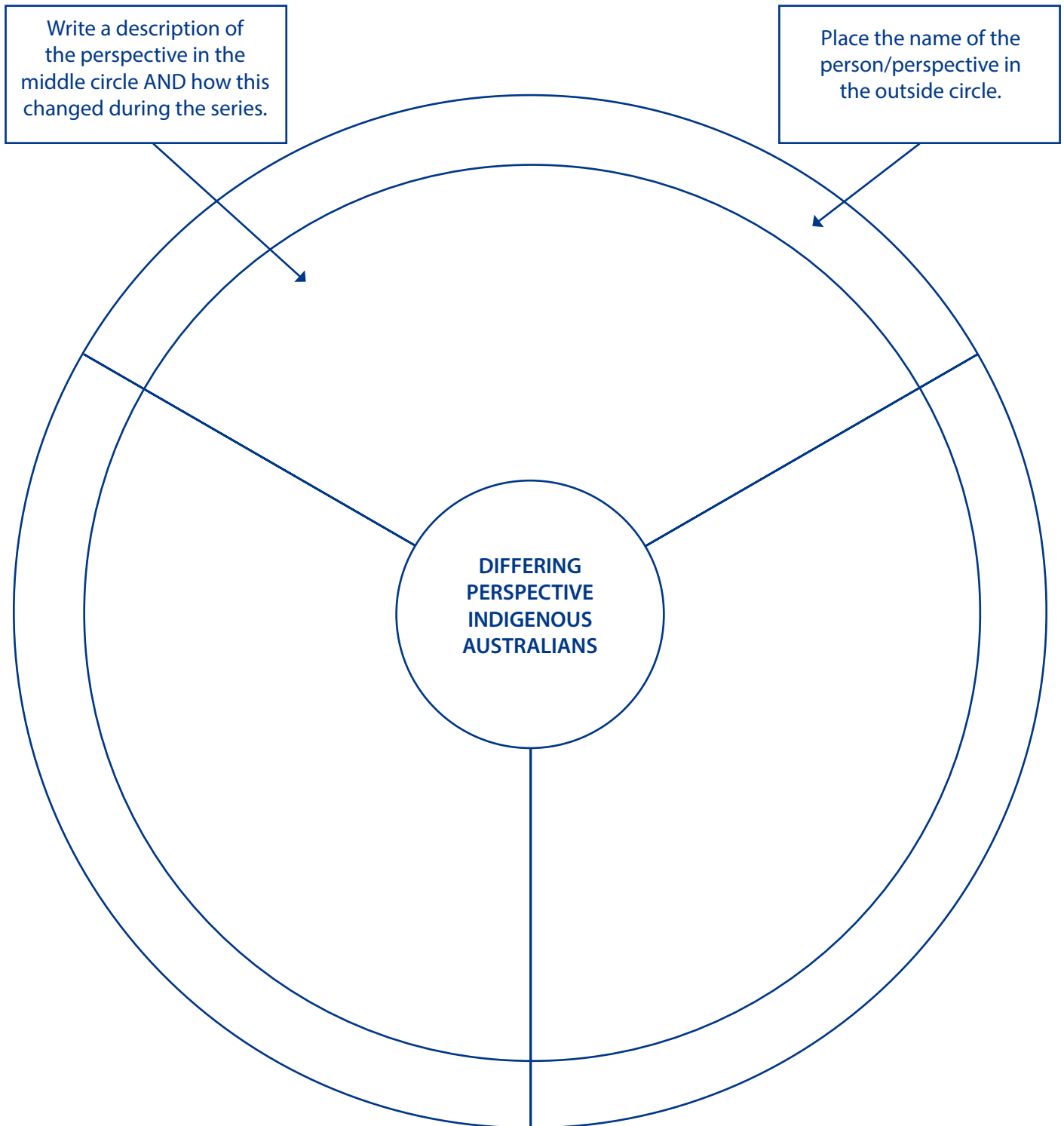
Adapted from Kanyini Study Guide 2006

FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES

TASK 6: CIRCLE OF VIEWPOINTS

Identify at least THREE different perspectives about the lives of Indigenous Australians.

Then provide a description of each of those perspectives AND how they changed during the "KANYINI".



FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES



Bob Randall – Yankunytjatjara Elder and a traditional owner of Uluru . Image source: <https://www.globalonenessproject.org/people/bob-randall>

TASK 7: HUMAN WELLBEING ISSUES

[VTS] CLAIM – SUPPORT – QUESTION

Using Internet resources, investigate **ONE** of the following:

CLAIM – Aboriginal Australians have higher rates of:

- Imprisonment
- Suicide
- Unemployment
- Domestic violence
- Lower life expectancy
- High rates of obesity
- Diabetes and kidney disease.
- Alcoholism
- Substance abuse, including petrol sniffing

SUPPORT

- a. An overview of the issue you have chosen
- b. Accurate, current statistics on the issue you have chosen
- c. An explanation of the differences in opportunities between rural and urban
- d. **ONE** already tried solution to address the issue

QUESTION

List **THREE** questions that have arisen after your research in this issue.

Image source: <https://www.globalonenessproject.org/people/bob-randall>

EXTEND

Find **ONE** other person that has completed the same issue and suggest **ONE** way that you believe the issue could be changed.

ETHICAL RESEARCH

Provide a bibliography of sources that supported your research.

TASK 8: IMPROVING HUMAN WELLBEING

How effective are government and non-government strategies that aim to improve human wellbeing in Aboriginal Australian communities?

Examples of websites that can be used to explore strategies to improve human wellbeing can be found in the Appendix.

For each website:

- a. Identify an initiative by the government and non-government organisation
- b. Outline the initiative.
- c. Has the initiative been effective in improving wellbeing? Provide evidence to support your answer.

References and further reading

Knowledge Circle | Australian Institute of Family Studies – <https://aifs.gov.au/past-projects/knowledge-circle>

NGOs best placed to improve Indigenous health | Fred Hollows Foundation – <https://www.hollows.org/au/latest/non-government-organisations-best-placed-to-improve-indigenous-health>

Close the Gap Campaign | World Vision Australia – <https://www.worldvision.com.au/global-issues/work-we-do/supporting-indigenous-australia/closing-the-gap>

Close the Gap: Indigenous Health Campaign – <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-social-justice/projects/close-gap-indigenous-health>

Project Zero – <https://pz.harvard.edu/thinking-routines>

Kanyini – <http://www.kanyini.com/>

