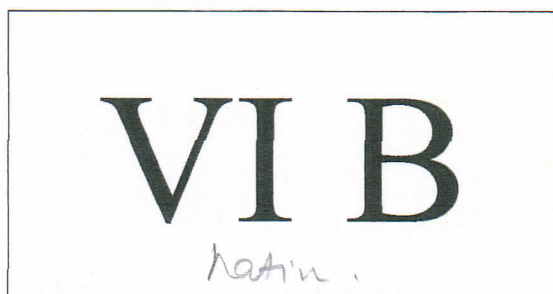


AGREGATION INTERNE D'ANGLAIS

SESSION 2011

Epreuves orales

EXPOSE DE LA PREPARATION D'UN
COURS



Ce sujet comprend 4 documents :

- Document 1 : "The Stolen Generation", article de Time Magazine
- Document 2 : "Took the Children Away", chanson de Archie Roach
- Document 3 : "Federal Parliament's Apology to the Stolen generations",
Source: site internet de The Australian
- Document 4 : document iconographique : Cootamundra Girls' Home by Rita Wenberg.

Compte tenu des caractéristiques de ce dossier et des différentes possibilités d'exploitation qu'il offre, vous indiquerez à quel niveau d'apprentissage vous pourriez le destiner et quels objectifs vous vous fixeriez. Vous présenterez et justifierez votre démarche pour atteindre ces objectifs.

Document 1

Monday, Oct. 02, 2000 [TIME Magazine]

The Stolen Generation

By Terry McCarthy/Sydney

When the welfare officers came to take three-year-old Archie Roach from his tin-lined house in Framlingham in southeastern Australia, they told his mother they were escorting him to a picnic. His aunt tried to scare them off with a gun, but it wasn't loaded. Institutionalized in a Melbourne orphanage, young Archie was told his family had died in a fire. His minders tried to force his hair straight, breaking comb teeth in his frizzy curls. It was a vain attempt by whites to make an Aboriginal child more like them. It didn't work, and the combs weren't the only casualties.

Roach, now 45, is one of an estimated 100,000 Aborigines, living and dead, who make up Australia's so-called Stolen Generation. Under a government policy that ran from 1910 to, unbelievably, 1971, as many as 1 in 10 of all Aboriginal children were removed from their families in an effort to "civilize" them by assimilation into white society. Their story of suffering, abuse, and lost identity--long Australia's dirty secret--is finally forcing itself out. It's an uncomfortable development for many Australians, especially at a moment when the country is basking happily in the spotlight of the Olympics. While a growing band of campaigners lobbies for an official government apology, John Howard, the conservative Prime Minister, has refused to say sorry and most Australians support his ungenerous stand.

The policy of "stealing" Aboriginal children, mostly those with some white blood, was devised in the early 1900s when eugenic theories were widely touted. In Australia government administrators thought that by bringing mixed-blood Aborigines into the white world, the color could be "bred out of them" over a few generations. Meanwhile the fully black population, regarded as irredeemably primitive, was expected to simply die out. The practice was not widely discussed until 1997, when an official inquiry found consistent patterns of physical and sexual abuse of the "stolen" children, of exploitation in the labor market and of social dislocation that led many into alcoholism, violence and early death.

Since then the outrage has mounted. Some 200,000 people marched across Sydney Harbor Bridge in May calling for reconciliation with Aborigines--the largest political demonstration in the country's history. In August former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser called for a national apology for the "stolen generations." Prime Minister Howard answered that modern Australians "shouldn't be required to accept guilt and blame for past actions." Last month two Aborigines lost a court case in Darwin in which they sought compensation from the government for being removed from their families as children.

- Roach, who was taken from his family because he had a white grandfather, knows what they went through. His third set of foster parents treated him well, as an equal to their own three children. But his life was shattered when Roach, 14, received a letter from his sister Myrtle, who had tracked him down through welfare agencies. Their mother, supposedly dead, had passed away the previous week.
- 35 Furious that he'd been lied to his whole life, Roach ran away from home and spent the next 14 years drinking, sleeping in parks, playing the guitar to earn enough for the next bottle. Finally, he dried out and began writing and singing songs, including his 1987 hit, *Took the Children Away*, which launched him on an upward musical career. But, he says, "I still feel the pain, every day. Sometimes it threatens to engulf me. But I'm not going to let it destroy me."
- 40 Howard, fearful that a formal apology would strengthen the case for compensation, has issued only a statement of "regret" for the Stolen Generation. Polls suggest that just over half the population supports him. Many already resent existing welfare payments to the mostly impoverished Aborigines. "The government can't even say the word s-o-r-r-y," Roach says. "Most Aborigines I talk to just want a simple statement from the heart. If you hit someone, you don't say, 'I regret what I did.'"

Document 2

"Took The Children Away"

This story's right, this story's true
 I would not tell lies to you
 Like the promises they did not keep
 And how they fenced us in like sheep.
 5 Said to us come take our hand
 Sent us off to mission land.
 Taught us to read, to write and pray
 Then they took the children away,
 Took the children away,
 10 The children away.
 Snatched from their mother's breast
 Said this is for the best
 Took them away.

15 The welfare and the policeman
 Said you've got to understand
 We'll give them what you can't give
 Teach them how to really live.
 Teach them how to live they said
 20 Humiliated them instead
 Taught them that and taught them this
 And others taught them prejudice.
 You took the children away
 The children away
 25 Breaking their mothers heart
 Tearing us all apart
 Took them away

One dark day on Framingham
 30 Come and didn't give a damn
 My mother cried go get their dad
 He came running, fighting mad
 Mother's tears were falling down
 Dad shaped up and stood his ground.
 35 He said 'You touch my kids and you
 fight me'
 And they took us from our family.
 Took us away
 They took us away
 40 Snatched from our mother's breast
 Said this was for the best
 Took us away.

Told us what to do and say
 45 Told us all the white man's ways
 Then they split us up again
 And gave us gifts to ease the pain

Sent us off to foster homes
 As we grew up we felt alone
 50 Cause we were acting white
 Yet feeling black

One sweet day all the children came
 back
 55 The children come back
 The children come back
 Back where their hearts grow strong
 Back where they all belong
 The children came back
 60 Said the children come back
 The children come back
 Back where they understand
 Back to their mother's land
 The children come back
 65
 Back to their mother
 Back to their father
 Back to their sister
 Back to their brother
 70 Back to their people
 Back to their land
 All the children come back
 The children come back
 The children come back
 75 Yes I came back.

80 Lyrics by Archie Roach 1990

Document 3

Federal Parliament's Apology to the Stolen Generations

The Australian February 13, 2008 12:00AM

"Today we honour the Indigenous peoples of this land, the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

We reflect on their past mistreatment.

We reflect in particular on the mistreatment of those who were Stolen Generations – this blemished chapter in our nation's history.

The time has now come for the nation to turn a new page in Australia's history by righting the wrongs of the past and so moving forward with confidence to the future.

We apologise for the laws and policies of successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians.

We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, their communities and their country.

For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.

To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters, for the breaking up of families and communities, we say sorry.

And for the indignity and degradation thus inflicted on a proud people and a proud culture, we say sorry.

We the Parliament of Australia respectfully request that this apology be received in the spirit in which it is offered as part of the healing of the nation.

For the future we take heart; resolving that this new page in the history of our great continent can now be written.

We today take this first step by acknowledging the past and laying claim to a future that embraces all Australians.

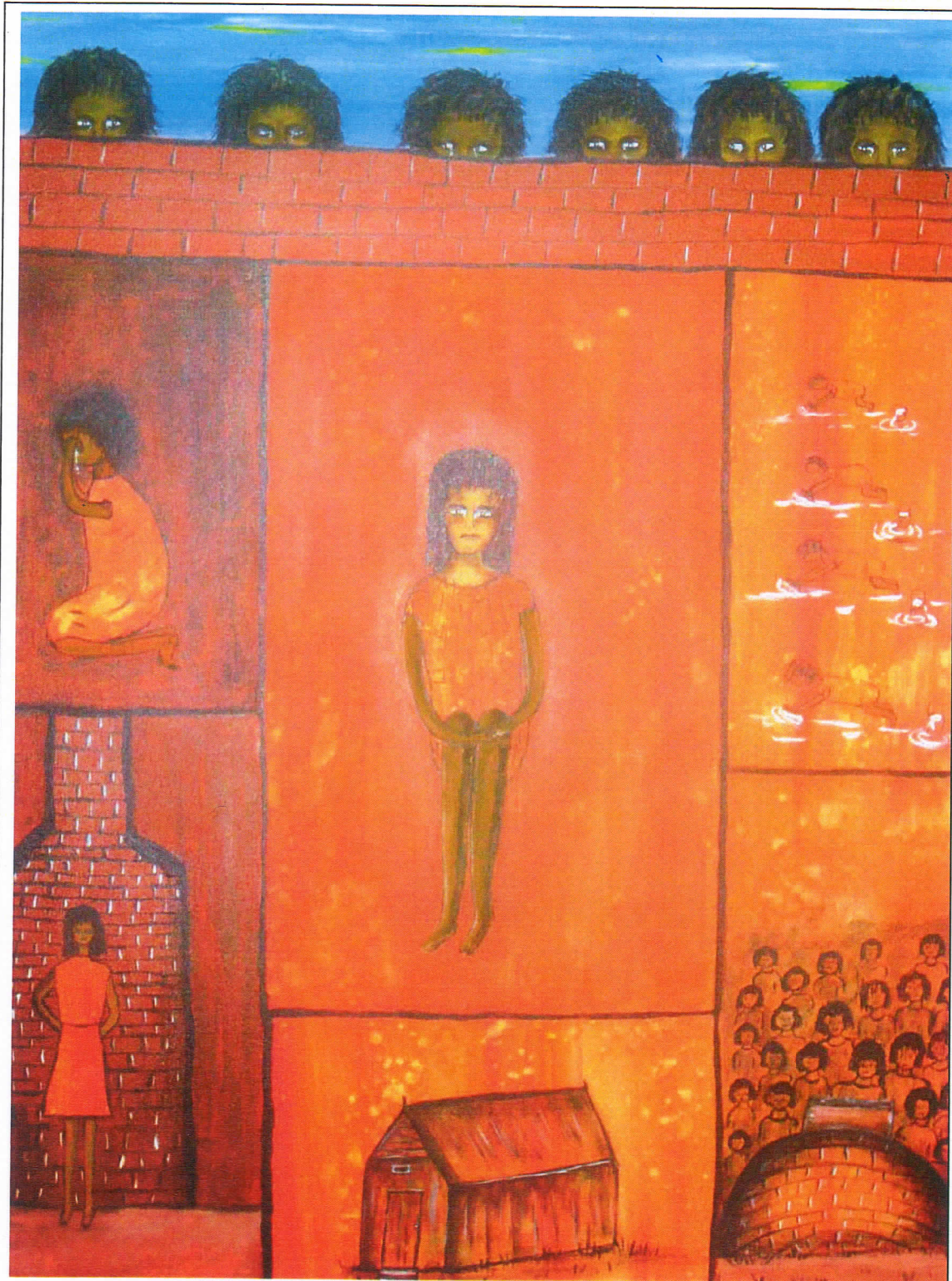
A future where this Parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again.

A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.

A future where we embrace the possibility of new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches have failed.

A future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility.

A future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities and with an equal stake in shaping the next chapter in the history of this great country, Australia."



Cootamundra Girls' Home by Rita Wenberg

Document 4