

**How has *The Arrival* been constructed and how does it OPERATE to create meaning?**

- No dialogue or commentary
- Images
- Colours
- Medium
- Layout and structure
- (Re)appearance of characters
- Symbols
- Narrative development
- Elements of visual literacy (vectors, lighting, foregrounding, juxtapositioning, angles, visual allusions, puns etc)

**How do you make meaning from the CULTURAL aspects of *The Arrival*?**

- Setting
- Themes
- Historical knowledge
- Cultural knowledge
- Political knowledge
- Social norms
- Traditions and festivals
- Institutions
- Motifs and symbols
- What does the absence of dialogue suggest?
- Why does the man leave his family behind?

**What CRITICAL readings are available in *The Arrival*?**

- With whom does Tan empathise, and how do you know?
- Who are cast as the villains, heroes and compassionate ones, and what makes you think so?
- Who might not accept Tan's version of the experience of migration? Explain.
- Is the ending plausible, deserved, or ill-conceived according to current policy in Australia or elsewhere?
- What do you think Tan hopes to achieve with the absence of dialogue or commentary?
- How do the visual allusions and puns reinforce Tan's message?