

## **Janette Turner Hospital: *Collected Stories***

### **Rich Assessment Task 3 (Responding): I-Search**

#### **Task:**

- 1. You are to conduct an independent research project into an aspect of Janette Turner Hospital's stories that has captured your interest. You will then reflect on the personal significance of your findings and present them in a form of your choice.**

This might stem from an aspect of their construction or style, Turner Hospital's thematic or ideological concerns, from an aspect of your own context or from consideration of a particular theoretical viewpoint. Some suggested topics are listed overleaf; however, you are encouraged to develop a topic of investigation that is based on your own interest.

Having conducted your investigation, using a wide range of secondary sources as well as *Collected Stories*, you will need to present your findings. You can do this in any appropriate form, such as a multimedia presentation, formal report, academic journal article, speech, workshop or so on. You are expected to use the conventions of your chosen form effectively.

An essential component in your investigation is the evaluation of, and reflection upon, your findings. Consider how your new insights into Janette Turner Hospital's work have had an impact upon you, personally, and your understandings of your self, your world and/or its literature.

An I-search is supposed to be a highly personalised investigation. You are encouraged to investigate a topic of personal interest or relevance, present your findings in a carefully considered form of your choice and to demonstrate critical reflection of your research in light of its personal impact.

#### **Conditions:**

- You will be expected to outline a research proposal beforehand and submit this along with a properly formatted reference list, in conjunction with the text that presents your findings. Although length will vary depending on the form of your text, aim for a comparative length of 1000 words.

#### **Hand in:**

- Research proposal
- Reference list
- Final text

#### **Due:**

#### **Further notes:**

- See over for suggested topics and procedure.
- See over for assessment rubric.

## Suggested topics:

Note that these are suggestions only. You are encouraged to develop an original topic.

- How is the idea of cultural displacement represented in JTH's stories?
- Is JTH's expatriate view of Australia tinged with nostalgia or criticism?
- What comments about Indian culture are made in JTH's stories that explore this culture?
- Do the experiences of women vary across the cultures explored in JTH's stories?
- How is grief (or another acute emotion) represented in JTH's stories?
- What is the significance of weather imagery in JTH's stories?
- What is behind JTH's fascination with littoral zones?
- What role does memory play within the stories of JTH?
- How does JTH manipulate the short story form?
- How has JTH influenced my understanding of x?

## Procedure:

- 1) Reflect on your current understanding of JTH and her work, deciding upon a particular aspect that is of personal interest or relevance.
- 2) Create a research proposal:
  - a) Determine a single main focus question to direct your reading and research.
  - b) From this single focus question, devise four or so supporting questions to frame your investigation.
  - c) Identify the intended outcomes of your research.
- 3) Using the *Collected Stories* as your primary source material, as well as secondary sources such as critical commentary, biographical references, interviews and discussions with JTH and theoretical reading, conduct your investigation to resolve your focus questions. Make extensive notes as you do so, keeping a detailed reference list.
  - a) You may revise your original research question as your investigation brings to like new understandings. Throughout the project, reflect on your original question(s) and be prepared to adapt to follow new lines of inquiry.
- 4) Reflect on your research findings, drawing conclusions regarding your main focus question.
- 5) Evaluate the personal impact of your findings. This may be in terms of how you have been influenced to reflect on your sense of self or some understanding of the world, its people or its literature.
- 6) Plan a text in which to present your findings.
  - a) See [this guide](#) for some suggested multimedia presentation tools.
  - b) Alternatively, you could present their findings as a formal report, academic journal article, series of blog posts, speech or a feature article. This [blog post](#) has further interesting ideas.
- 7) Draft and edit your text.
- 8) Submit final product

