Task for *The Divine Wind* by Garry Disher

**Three level guide**

Read the first paragraph of the novel and then complete this exercise to improve your reading comprehension and to engage at once with the world of the novel.

**Level one: These are the facts**

Put a T for True against those statements which can be found in the paragraph, although the words may not be the same. Be ready to explain your choices. Otherwise put an F for False.

( ) 1. Fear now made people see their old friends as strangers.
( ) 2. The narrator says that people are no longer so certain about the past.
( ) 3. The narrator’s father offers shelter to a young Japanese woman, Mitsy Sennosuke, because his son is in love with her.
( ) 4. Japanese bombs were falling.
( ) 5. The narrator says that his sister is missing in a war zone.

**Level two: Drawing conclusions**

Put a T for True against those statements which are implied by the author. Be prepared to justify your choice. Otherwise put an F for False against the statement.

( ) 1. On balance people hope that things will go on in the future as they have in the past.
( ) 2. If the narrator’s father had known that his son loved Mitsy he may not have offered her sanctuary.
( ) 3. The missing sister is likely to be a problem between Mitsy and the father and his son.
( ) 4. Maybe fear will finally come between the narrator and Mitsy.
( ) 5. There is something significant about the narrator juxtaposing ‘Japanese woman’ and ‘Japanese bombs’ (‘juxtaposing’ means ‘putting next to each other’).
Level three: Into the world beyond the text

Put a T for True against those statements that you think Garry Disher would agree with. Otherwise put an F for False. Be prepared to justify your choice.

(     ) 1. It sounds as if *The Divine Wind* is going to be a love story more than anything else.

(     ) 2. It’s true that fear can make people act in strange ways.

(     ) 3. Major wars change things forever.

(     ) 4. A novel about race relations in Australia is a bit out-dated in the 21st century.