

## Task for *Us Mob Walawurru*

### 'Native Ward': Three-level guide

Students work in pairs to complete this sheet after they have re-read pages 63–65. They need to discuss every statement and circle **Yes** or **No** after reaching consensus. They need to be able to justify their answers when sharing in a larger group or with the class.

#### 1. Literal level

Does the text say this? What words support your answer?

- 1) Ruby thought that the 'wide open doorway' was the entrance to the main hospital where she would find her Uncle Jack. **Yes/No**
- 2) The Indigenous patients were lying in beds inside the ward. **Yes/No**
- 3) Auntie Alice had been to this hospital before. **Yes/No**
- 4) The Native Ward was empty because all the sick people were outside. **Yes/No**
- 5) 'Native is a whitefella word for Anangu.' **Yes/No**
- 6) The word 'Ward' means homestead. **Yes/No**

#### 2. Interpretive level

Does the text give you this idea? What words and phrases support your answer?

- 1) The administrators of the NT (where Alice Springs is located) felt strongly that Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians should NOT be treated in the same building. **Yes/No**
- 2) Indigenous people received the same level of health care as non-Indigenous people in Alice Springs in the 1960s. **Yes/No**
- 3) Auntie Alice's explanation 'Native is a whitefella word for Anangu and ward is this homestead' is because she wished to shield her niece from information that would be hurtful and difficult to comprehend for the young girl. **Yes/No**
- 4) Non-Indigenous people in Alice Springs enjoyed more family support when they were ill – compared to Indigenous people. **Yes/No**
- 5) Uncle Jack was lying on a mattress under a tree because there was no space in the ward. **Yes/No**
- 6) Everybody smiled because they all knew Auntie Alice and her family. **Yes/No**

#### 3. Applied level

Do you agree with this? Why/why not? Be prepared to share your responses.

- 1) The laws of Australia in the 1960s enforced a system of 'apartheid', ensuring that the non-Indigenous colonial settlers were given preferential treatment in all things, including health and education. **Yes/No**
- 2) Health care in Australia is now fully impartial, meaning that everyone in Australia has access to the best health care available. **Yes/No**
- 3) The word 'Native' is a pejorative word. **Yes/No**
- 4) Everyone is a native. **Yes/No**
- 5) Indigenous people in Australia have reason to feel that they are not treated equally. **Yes/No**