

## Task for *The Garret: The Drover's Wife*

### Communication forms: student and teacher resource

<b>Written communication</b> Communicate the message on this slip to the other members of your group, using written communication. That's right you just have to rewrite the material. It seems easy – but the next person in the line also has to write the information out before passing it on, and you have a time limit. How will you make sure you get all of this information across? Will aspects like tone and intonation be compromised?	<b>The written material</b> <i>The Drover's Wife</i> is utterly authentic, brilliantly plotted, thoroughly harrowing and entirely of our times, exploring race, gender, violence and inheritance.  Deep in the heart of Australia's high country, along an ancient, hidden track, lives Molly Johnson and her four surviving children, another on the way. Husband Joe is away months at a time droving livestock up North, leaving his family in the bush to fend for itself. Molly's children are her world, and life is hard and precarious with only their dog, Alligator, and a shotgun for protection – but it can be harder when Joe's around.  At just twelve years of age Molly's eldest son Danny is the true man of the house, determined to see his mother and siblings safe: from raging floodwaters, hunger and intruders – man and reptile. Danny is mature beyond his years, but there are some things no child should see. He knows more than most just what it takes to be a drover's wife.  One night under the moon's watch, Molly has a visitor of a different kind – a black 'story keeper', Yadaka. He's on the run from authorities in the nearby town, and exchanges kindness for shelter. Both know that justice in this nation caught between two worlds can be as brutal as its landscape. But in their short time together, Yadaka shows Molly a secret truth, and the strength to imagine a different path.  Full of fury and power, Leah Purcell's <i>The Drover's Wife: The Legend of Molly Johnson</i> is a brave reimagining of the Henry Lawson short story that has become an Australian classic. Brilliantly plotted, it is a compelling thriller of our pioneering past that confronts head-on issues of today: race, gender, violence and inheritance.
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<p><b>Verbal communication</b></p> <p>Communicate the words and phrases on this slip to other members of your group by whispering each to the first group member, who will pass it down the chain until it reaches the last person. This person should then try to repeat the phrase back to the group. The first person should then go to the end of the line, with the next phrase started by a new group member.</p>	<p><b>Words and phrases</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• anticipation</li> <li>• courageous</li> <li>• candy crunching coconut lovers</li> <li>• red roses with thorny stems</li> <li>• a bunch of yellow bananas launched on a blue boat</li> <li>• the funny bunny hid the coloured candy in the coloured can.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Non-verbal communication</b></p> <p>This communication challenge works like charades. You need to communicate the message to your group using only gestures and mime – no speaking! When a group member guesses correctly, they take a turn, using a new card.</p>	<p><b>Words and phrases</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• playing basketball</li> <li>• cooking pancakes</li> <li>• writing a letter</li> <li>• flying a drone</li> <li>• sleeping in a hammock</li> <li>• watching a romantic comedy.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pictorial communication</b></p> <p>This communication challenge works like the game Pictionary. You need to communicate the message to your group using only illustration. You cannot write numbers, letters or other symbols. When a group member guesses correctly, they take a turn, using a new card.</p>	<p><b>Words and phrases</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• book</li> <li>• socks</li> <li>• holiday</li> <li>• listen</li> <li>• Gummy Bears</li> <li>• hibernation.</li> </ul>

### Verbal communication playing cards

anticipation	courageous	candy crunching coconut lovers
red roses with thorny stems	a bunch of yellow bananas launched on a blue boat	the funny bunny hid the coloured candy in the coloured can

### Non-verbal communication playing cards

playing basketball	cooking pancakes	writing a letter
flying a drone	sleeping in a hammock	watching a romantic comedy

### Pictorial communication playing cards

book	socks	holiday
listen	Gummy Bears	hibernation