

CROW COUNTRY

THEMES

Works of literature have themes that develop as the story unfolds. These express ideas about human experiences and real-life issues. Characters and events in the plot often highlight a text's themes and important messages.

The questions below will help you explore some of the themes in *Crow Country*. What does the novel have to say about each of the following themes?

Belonging

- Who is alone?
- Who is most in need of belonging?
- What is the Boort community like?

Family

- Some of the families in Boort have conflicts or fractures. What are the causes of these?
- Do the families all have happy endings?

Growing up

- Which characters learn lessons? What lessons do they learn?
- Are any characters on a journey? What sort? From where to where?

Prejudice and discrimination

- Consider the lives of Jimmy, David, and Walter. What prejudices are they exposed to?
- Are the prejudices resolved?
- What other prejudices are there in the novel?

Secrets

- Many characters suffer because of secrets. What are they? Who keeps them?
- Why are they hidden?

Justice and restitution

- There are characters with good and bad qualities, as well as histories of crime and transgression. What are some of these incidents?