

Section 2—'Reflections' on Teaching about Asia

Aims

- To introduce the text *Reflections: Texts from Asia for the Middle Secondary English Classroom*.
- To develop a range of ways of using the text in English classrooms.

Introduction

This section is about the text:

Bott, A, Grafton, L, Millard, C & Trevaskis, D 1998 *Reflections: Texts from Asia for the Middle Secondary English Classroom*, Curriculum Corporation, Victoria.

Some of the texts in this anthology are presented in translation while others were originally written in English. The texts provide a range of genre and a variety of styles including myths and legends, memoirs, visual texts, poetry, reports and extracts from novels. Diversity is portrayed through texts from Japan, Laos, Bhutan, Indonesia, China, Hong Kong, India, Korea, Malaysia and Singapore. Activities are provided.

Expertise Required

Presenters require:

- Knowledge of the contents of *Reflections*, the 'Studies of Asia emphases across the curriculum' and State and Territory curriculum frameworks.
- Familiarity with other key resources such as *Hanabi*, *Same Difference* and *Many Flowers*.

Resources Required

- OHTs 2.1–2.3.
- Resource 2.1.
- A large map of the Asian region.
- Post-it notes, card, string and pins.

Bibliography

See Resource 1.5.

Delivering the Section

1. Issues from the previous section (10 minutes)

Provide time to discuss issues arising from the previous section and for participants to ask further questions of clarification.

2. The Purpose of the Section (5 minutes)

Show and discuss OHT 2.1: 'Aims of the Section'.

3. Where Have We Been and Where are We Going? (30 minutes)

This activity is designed to show the geographical spread of the texts in *Impressions* and *Reflections*.

- Display a large map of the Asian region with coloured cards surrounding it. Each coloured card represents one country and is linked to the appropriate country by a string. Have affixed to the cards 'post it' notes detailing title, author and genre of the texts from *Impressions*.
- Refer participants to the Contents pages of *Reflections* (or provide a photocopy).
- Ask participants to form pairs or small groups and assign one or two chapters to each. On different coloured 'post it' notes, ask them to detail the title, author and genre of the texts in their chapter(s) and place them on the appropriate country card.
- Allow time for participants to view the display.

4. Close Examination of One Text (30 minutes)

- Direct participants to pp. 30–31 and ask them to read the paragraph about the visual text *Goodbye and Good Luck* and to examine the painting.
- Next, ask participants to turn to page 35 to review the questions associated with this visual text.
- In pairs, ask participants to discuss the text and questions and to identify any issues and questions associated with using this text in the classroom.
- Record questions and issues and invite participants to discuss each in turn with a view to providing strategies to support the teaching of the text.
- Ask participants to identify the English outcomes achievable through the use of this text and the questions provided.

5. Using *Reflections* in the Classroom (40 minutes)

In this activity, participants work in pairs or small groups to develop their knowledge and understanding of a particular chapter in *Reflections* and ways it could be used in the classroom. Each pair or group reports to the whole group and the materials developed are collected and photocopied for distribution.

- Use OHT 2.2: 'Using *Reflections* in the Classroom' to explain the task and distribute copies of **Resource 2.1: 'Planning Proforma for *Reflections*'**. Explain that the proforma provides a structure for recording ideas about using the text.

Try to ensure each of the chapters of the text is considered and remind participants to think about a broad range of activities, including speaking and listening, reading and viewing and writing activities.

- Explain that participants have 30 minutes for this activity and they will report to the whole group on **one aspect** of their work. That is, they will report to the whole group, by recording on an OHT, the information they have developed for **one** of the extracts/visual texts from their chapter.
- After 30 minutes, provide each group with an Overhead Transparency copy of **OHT 2.3: 'Reporting Sheet: Reflections'** and ask them to fill it in with information about one of the extracts from their designated chapter in *Reflections*.
- Ask each group to use its OHT as the basis of a report to the whole group.

Collect the written materials and reproduce them for all participants.

6. Reflection (10 minutes)

Provide time for participants to reflect on the session.

- Ask participants to complete a Reflection sheet.
- Provide participants with the opportunity to debrief. This could take the form of:
 - Offering one insight they have gained from the session in a 'round robin' oral report to the whole group.
 - Sharing insights with a partner.
 - Being invited to record any questions or issues they would like addressed in relation to using *Reflections* in the classroom for later consideration.

Aims of the Section

The section aims:

- **To introduce the text *Reflections: Texts from Asia for the Middle Secondary English Classroom*.**
- **To develop a range of ways of using the text in English classrooms.**

Using *Reflections* in the Classroom

Consider a chapter from the text and:

- **identify the issue / theme for 2–3 of the extracts / visual texts in your chapter**
- **identify English learning outcomes and Studies of Asia emphases**
- **identify other texts which could be used to support the teaching of this issue / theme / text type including material in other chapters of *Reflections*, *Impressions*, *Dimensions*, other Access Asia materials and texts you currently use in your classroom which could provide a contrast or describe similarities in the themes of texts across cultures**
- **develop some teaching and learning activities to supplement those provided in *Reflections*.**

Reporting Sheet: *Reflections*

Chapter 1 2 3 4 5 6	Title of Extract/Genre:
Issue(s)/Theme(s):	
English Outcomes and Studies of Asia Emphases	
Teaching and Learning Activity(ies)	
Other Texts:	

Resource 2.1

Planning Proforma for *Reflections*

Chapter 1 2 3 4 5 6 (circle)	Text Type:
-------------------------------------	-------------------

Extract or Visual Text	Issue(s) or Theme(s)	English Outcomes and Studies of Asia Emphases	Teaching and Learning Activities	Other Texts