

Assignment sheet

Write a 1200 word imaginative narrative based on the following scenario. As you write, keep the **theme** in mind: *the dynamic relationship between language, personal identity and belonging*. Think and plan carefully to ensure that you deliver the theme with impact and flair. Use the answers and choices you made in the **Assignment guide** to get started.

The Scenario

Imagine that you live on a different planet with thousands of other people from Earth. Unfortunately, all the other English speakers who made the one-way journey from Earth caught a disease and died while they were still on the way to the new world. You survived, but now you find that you are the only speaker of the English language on the planet. When you need to communicate with other people, you cannot use English. They don't understand you.

How will you try to communicate with them?

Will you decide to learn the main language spoken on the planet?

Or will you try to teach others to speak English?

How will you feel if you lose your home language?

What effect will this have on your sense of your own family and cultural history and your sense of personal belonging in this new place?

This scenario may sound dramatic and unrealistic, but it is comparable to the devastating effects that colonisation had on the passing on of Indigenous Australian languages to future generations. The sense of loss, displacement and disorientation experienced by the people affected still reverberates through our society today, affecting people's sense of personal identity and belonging.