

Early Activism

Your task is to research ONE of the following activists and use your findings to write a **narrative speech** that summarises the contribution of this person to the cause of social justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia.

A narrative speech is not the same as a persuasive speech. The facts should be presented without using language techniques to manipulate the listener to accept the message. It is simply a speech that presents factual information in a logical order.

You will present the speech in a subsequent lesson.

Use the following summary dot points to get started.

Jandamarra

- an early activist living in the late 1800s
- a Bunuba man
- lived in the Central Kimberley region of Western Australia
- held off pastoralists intent on taking over his land
- began a guerrilla war that targeted colonialists who were encroaching on Bunuba land

Pemulwuy

- a warrior active from the 1790s to the early 1800s
- a Bidjigal man
- lived in the Western Sydney region of New South Wales
- led a campaign of resistance against the British colonisers
- was declared an outlaw by Governor King in 1801

Tarenorerer

- a guerilla warfare strategist of the early 1800s
- a Tasmanian Aboriginal woman
- engineered her escape from European sealers who had captured her
- personally trained her warriors to use firearms
- employed highly effective battle tactics to foil her enemies

Windradyne

- a warrior active from the 1820s
- a Wiradjuri man
- lived in the Bathurst area of New South Wales
- led attacks on small farming outposts in an effort to repel invaders
- was officially pardoned by Governor Brisbane in 1829

Yagan

- a warrior active in the early 1800s
- a Noongar man
- lived in the Perth area of Western Australia
- befriended many early settlers but clashed with other settlers over food and resources
- was declared an outlaw

You should also read the information about the person you select in the 'Our Leadership and Activism' chapter of *The Little Red Yellow Black Book*, (pages 141-176). Skim through the pages until you find the name of the person you are researching. Write point form notes to assist you in your online research.

Go online to do some research about this person. You can find additional resources by conducting searches of the AIATSIS archives at: <https://aiatsis.gov.au/>

Speech Writing Planning Tool

Use this planning tool to develop your speech. Your aim is to simply offer a straightforward narrative account of the known details of the activist's life. Remember your goal is not to *persuade*, but rather to inform.

The ultimate purpose of the speech is to emphasise the importance of the person's contribution to Australian society and to the cause of social justice within it.

Quick Tips

- Make a solid introduction by naming and explaining facts about the identity of the person.
- Present facts in a chronological sequence.
- Add small units of content — one by one.
- Then work on showing the relationships between these facts.
- Look for points of comparison or contrast.
- Show cause and effect relationships.
- Finish with a general assessment of this activist's contribution to the struggle for justice.
- Note down any URLs that you use as sources.