Red

Red is the color
of my Blood;
of the earth, of which I am a part;
of the sun as it rises, or sets,
of which I am a part;
of the blood
of the animals,
of which I am a part;
of the flowers, like the waratah,
of the twining pea,
of which I am a part;
of the blood of the tree
of which I am a part.
For all things are a part of me,
and I am a part of them.

W. Les Russell

W. Les Russell was born in Melbourne in 1949.
His traditional name is Boolidt Boolidtha.
He spent his early years in rural Victoria.
Dust Storm

Old man kicking up dust —
    Emu’s close by —
    Old man waving red rag,
    Emu opens his eyes.

Old man moving faster,
    Dust swirling mad and high —
    Emu’s senses tells him be cautious
    As old man and weapon close by.

Hunting Emu can be fun
    And played for hours —
    Only trouble is dust storm —
    Bringing on showers.

Old man moves for cover,
    Cliff is overhanging —
    Old man wait in comfort —
    Cliff blocks out the sun.

Aunty Beryl Carmichael

Aunty Beryl Carmichael was born on Old Menindee Mission, NSW, in 1935. Her traditional name is Yungha-dhu. Aunty Beryl is an elder of the Ngiyampaa tribe from the Darling region of NSW.
In the texts

1 Poetry expresses thoughts and feelings.

Read the poems on pages 98 and 99 aloud to a classmate.  

a List the things that the author of Red feels a part of.

b What is Dust Storm about?

☐ a hunting lesson
☐ an emu hunter’s day
☐ predicting desert weather
☐ how emus find food

2 Count the punctuation marks in the poems.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Red</th>
<th>Dust Storm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>, comma</td>
<td>a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>; semicolon</td>
<td>b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— dash</td>
<td>c</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. period</td>
<td>d</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

e Why do you think Red has semicolons at the end of some lines instead of commas?

f Why do you think Dust Storm has dashes instead of semicolons?

g Why do you think there is no punctuation at the end of some lines?

3 a Which clause is repeated in Red?

b Which preposition is repeated in Red?

c What effect does repeating this word have? Hint: prepositions relate one thing to another.

4 Write different titles for the poems. Think about how the poems make you feel.

a Red:

b Dust Storm:

5 The poems are by Aboriginal writers. Do you think a non-Aboriginal person could write about these topics? Explain your answer.
Read and learn

1  a  Label these things from the text on page 98.

2  Write definitions for these words.
   a  rural:
   b  Mission (proper noun):

3  Explain what the writer is saying in the last two lines of Red.

4  In Dust Storm, what do the emu’s senses tell it?

5  What can spoil the fun of hunting emus?

6  Explain why hunting emus could be fun.

7  What weapon might the old man carry?
Your turn

1. What do you think of the poems on pages 98 and 99?
   Give reasons for your answers.
   
   a. Which topic do you like most?
   
   b. Which poem is easiest to understand?
   
   c. Which poem uses more descriptive language? Give examples.
   
   d. Which poem paints the most interesting picture? How does the writer do that?
   
   e. What is the difference in the layout of the poems?
   
   f. Which poem do you like best and why?

A response is a personal reaction to a text. It uses:
- relating, action, thinking and saying verbs
- present tense or past tense
- persuasive words, if making a judgement.
2 Look at the setting sun on pages 98 and 99.

a Choose an Aboriginal word for sun. There are about 200 different Aboriginal languages; here are the words for sun from four of them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Spoken in</th>
<th>Word that means sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kamilaroi</td>
<td>New South Wales</td>
<td>yaraay (say “ya-ray”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaurna</td>
<td>South Australia</td>
<td>tindo (say “tin-doe”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagiman</td>
<td>Northern Territory</td>
<td>ngurrun (say “n-grr-en”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yawuru</td>
<td>Western Australia</td>
<td>rumarra (say “roo-murra”)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b Plan a poem where you imagine the sun is like a person (this is called personification).

Write some of the things the sun does that a person also does, eg gets up, rises.

c Write some of the things that a person does that the sun could do, eg looks, watches, rests.

d Write your poem from these ideas — it does not have to rhyme. Start the first and last lines with the sun’s name.

3 An Aboriginal artist may paint the sun in this way. Draw a scene from your poem.
1 A synonym is a word with the same or similar meaning as another word. Synonyms expand your vocabulary and make your writing more interesting. Using a thesaurus, find five synonyms for each adjective.

a small
b sad
c silly
d smooth
e still
f smart

2 Rewrite these phrases with synonyms from question 1.

a a small mistake
b a sad child
c a silly joke
d a smooth beach
e a still pond
f a smart dog

3 Use a thesaurus to find a suitable synonym for the colored words.

a The example the teacher gave was a bad ___________________________ one.

b The old ___________________________ actor hobbled across the stage.

c We walked ___________________________ all the way down the corridor.

d They needed help to lift the heavy ___________________________ packages.

e Grandma rubbed Tom’s stomach carefully ___________________________ to ease the pain.

f When you have finished, please revise ___________________________ your writing.

4 Using a thesaurus, find three synonyms for each verb.

a run
b roll
c rest
d rescue
5 Use synonyms from question 4, or from a thesaurus, to complete the sentences.
   a I’ll have to ___________________________ for the bus.
   b Please ___________________________ my fish and chips in paper.
   c I’ll need to ___________________________ at the top of the hill.
   d We hope to ___________________________ the trapped horse.

6 An antonym is a word that means the opposite of another word. Some dictionaries give an antonym for a word after its meaning. Draw lines to match the antonyms.
   a many ancient
   b tall steady
   c modern short
   d wobbly clean
   e soiled few
   f hold release

7 You can often make an antonym by adding a prefix or suffix to a word.
   Add the prefix un, in or im to make antonyms of these words.
   a possible
   b active
   c patient
   d perfect
   e formal

8 Add the prefix dis or mis to make antonyms of these words.
   a honest
   b informed
   c match
   d respect

9 Change the suffix less or ful to make antonyms of these words.
   a hopeful
   b joyless
Interesting things I’ve read, seen or done lately.

**Cut and stick pictures from magazines or newspapers.**

**Unit 9: Snow Rescue**

- Best part
- Hardest part
- Most interesting

**Unit 10: Earth and dust**

- Best part
- Hardest part
- Most interesting

**Cool games**

cut and stick pictures from magazines or newspapers.

**Plays**

**Great websites**
BOOKS READ

DIARY!

drawings

poetry

photos

MUST SEE CHARACTERS!
This is a test to see how well you understand what you have read, and to see what you know about using language, spelling and punctuation. It is also a writing test.

Instructions
Read each question carefully. Some questions will ask you to read a text from another page in this book before answering.

Use a pencil. DO NOT use a pen. If you make a mistake, erase it and try again.

Read the texts on page 90, and answer questions 1 to 4.

1 An avalanche is a mass of
   O snow which slides down a mountain.
   O snow, rock and soil.
   O snow, rock or soil which slides down a mountain.
   O snow and rock sliding down a mountain.

2 The worst avalanche in history killed 1,800 people in Peru in 1970.
   O True
   O False

3 Choose the best answer.
   Avalanches are caused by
   O people messing about in snow.
   O rain, wind and storms.
   O natural and human actions.
   O falling trees, wind and weather.

4 The fastest avalanche happened when
   O snow rushed down Mount St. Helens.
   O a volcano erupted in Washington, USA.
   O rock and snow reached 250 mph.
   O rocks fell into a volcano.

Read the texts on page 91, and answer questions 5 to 8.

5 Four verbs in How to Start a Snowmobile are:
   O pull, turn, ready, locate.
   O locate, pull, attach, ready.
   O locate, pull, turn, attach.
   O turn, attach, pull, kill.

6 The kill switch and the choke are
   O under the handlebars.
   O on top of the handlebars.
   O on top of and under the handlebars.
   O on the right side of the handlebars.
7  The choke should be
   〇  attached to your wrist.
   〇  pushed in to make it work.
   〇  pulled out to make it work.
   〇  pulled out, then pushed in.

8  Which statement do you think is true?
   Dogs are used in snow rescues for their
   〇  ability to be trained and sense of smell.
   〇  obedience and kindness.
   〇  energy and sense of smell.
   〇  ability to carry rescue equipment.

Read Red on page 98, and answer questions 9 to 12.

9  The poet says he is part of
   〇  the earth, blood, animals and flowers.
   〇  the earth, the blood of animals and trees, and the sun.
   〇  animals, sun, flowers and blood.
   〇  the earth, flowers, trees and me.

10  Which statement is false?
   〇  The poet has an Aboriginal name and an English name.
   〇  The poet moved to Melbourne in 1949.
   〇  W. Les Russell grew up in Victoria.
   〇  W. Les Russell was born in Melbourne.

11  The poet says “all things are part of me, and I am a part of them”.
    What does he mean?
    〇  Everything must live together.
    〇  The land and living things must respect humans.
    〇  The land and living things are linked.
    〇  Animals, plants and the land belong to humans.

12  This poem is mainly about
    〇  the color red.
    〇  things that are red.
    〇  how red things belong together.
    〇  how things connected to the poet are red.

Read Dust Storm on page 99, and answer questions 13 to 18.

13  The words Emu’s close by mean
    〇  emus are close by.
    〇  an emu is close by.

14  The words Emu’s senses tell him be cautious mean
    〇  the senses of emus are warning them.
    〇  the senses of an emu are warning him.

15  When it rained, the Old Man moved out of the sun.
    〇  True
    〇  False

16  The poet is
    〇  a man called Yungha-dhu.
    〇  an Aboriginal woman from the town of Darling.
    〇  an elder of her tribe.
    〇  a woman called Beryl, who was born in a church.

17  The punctuation marks at the ends of the first two lines are
    〇  dashes.
    〇  colons.
    〇  semicolons.
    〇  hyphens.
18 Hunting emus can be
   O fun but ends too quickly.
   O boring but necessary for food.
   O fun and goes for hours.
   O dangerous because of the hot weather.

19 Which preposition correctly completes the sentence?
   A climber found a cliff ________ the mountains.
   O under
   O in
   O above
   O of

20 Write a preposition to correctly complete the sentence.
   The helicopter sat ________ the ground, waiting for the rescue team.

21 Which word is an antonym of swirling?
   O whirling
   O still
   O dust
   O spinning

22 Which word is a synonym of avoid?
   O hug
   O embrace
   O escape
   O consider

23 Adding which suffix forms an antonym from the word taste?
   O less
   O ful
   O y
   O un

The spelling mistakes in these sentences have been circled. Write the correct spelling for each circled word in the box.

24 The rescue team is ________ that the climber is safe.

25 Emily’s school project was ________.
Tiny, your pet Saint Bernard rescue dog, is sick! Tiny has helped with many rescues and now needs to get to a veterinary hospital. Write a procedure for getting Tiny from your house to the veterinary hospital. Remember: Tiny is big and heavy, so you’ll need more than one person to move her.

Write a short statement that introduces what the procedure is about.

Use dot points to list everything you will need to move Tiny. How will she be lifted? How will she travel?

Write steps for the procedure. Give clear, simple instructions and number each step. Use action verbs and connectives, eg first, then, next, after, this, finally.

After the steps, write a short statement that sums up and says what happens next.