

1 Worksheet on Listening Comprehension

Text: Brendan Nelson, "Sorry Speech", February 13, 2008, part one.

The video version is presented on: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldzhzXffDxM>

An audio version and a transcript are on the CD-ROM of the Viewfinder Resource Book
Australia and New Zealand.

A INSTRUCTIONS

After Labour Prime Minister Kevin Rudd had made his famous "Sorry Speech", Dr. Brendan Nelson, Leader of the Liberal Party of Australia, spoke for the opposition.

Listen to the speech twice and take down keywords after the first time.

You cannot expect to understand every word you hear. Try to guess the meaning of unknown words from their context.

B QUESTIONS AND TASKS

1. Dr Nelson offers an apology to those Aboriginal people who were forcibly removed from their families

- ☐ in the 17th century
- ☐ in the 18th century
- ☐ in the 19th century
- ☐ in the 20th century

2. According to him Aboriginal people have lived in Australia for some

- ☐ 15,000 years
- ☐ 30,000 years
- ☐ 50,000 years
- ☐ 100,000 years

3. The First Fleet carrying British convicts and settlers arrived in Australia

- ☐ in 1688
- ☐ in 1738
- ☐ in 1788
- ☐ in 1838

4. In the process of shaping the nation both indigenous and non-indigenous ancestors

- ☐ have made involuntary sacrifices
- ☐ have made sacrifices which were different but equally important
- ☐ have made sacrifices which were of different importance
- ☐ have made voluntary sacrifices

5. Name two reasons why the white government introduced the policy of child removal.

6. Where were these children taken?

7. Why were many decent Australians hurt by the accusations of theft?

8. Dr Nelson gives two examples which illustrate how children were removed from their families. The first begins in a post office.

What happened to this child?

How old was he/she?

9. Some people argue that the removal of these children from squalor led to better lives. From his own childhood experience Dr Nelson knows that, nevertheless, a "source of deep and scarring sorrows" remains. What does he think of?

10. At the end of the first part Dr Nelson quotes Faye Lyman who was separated from her father when she was eight. She does not want people to say sorry but wants them to understand what they have done. What does she mean when she says "It hurts so much"?

(Karl Sassenberg)