

**LESSON NOTES****School: Ba Sangam College****Year/Level: 11****Name: _____****Subject: English****Worksheet 20****Year: _____**

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| Strand | Reading and Viewing |
| Sub Strand | Text Types: media, everyday communication, literary text. |
| Content Learning Outcome | Read and demonstrate understanding of a variety of complex texts. |

Drama: Title: The Pohutukawa Tree**Playwright: Bruce Mason****Characters** (Major characters)**1. Aroha**

Aroha is the central figure in this play, all of its conflicts are focused on her. She comes from a noble Maori family, yet is treated by the pakeha land owners as a little more than a servant. Her most notable ancestors believed in Maori gods and his religion, but in doing so- many converts, take the pakeha religion more seriously than the pakeha's around her. She wants her family to be solid and aging like the Pohutukawa Tree, but they reject her conservative ideas.

2. Queenie

Aroha has allowed Queenie little freedom as she is rather innocent and inexperienced. She is keen to break away from her mother's control and this is part of Roy's attraction. Her conversation with Rev. Sedgwick shows her intelligence. She learns fast once she becomes pregnant and Roy rejects her. In the end she takes Aroha's place in the tribe, as its queen. Her real name is Isobel and she is 17 years old.

3. Johnny

Johnny is eighteen years old. He is a rebellious and angry young man. He starts drinking and out of respect he hides it from his mother. However, after his sister's pakeha boyfriend rejects her, he loses his control of anger. He also loses his home to the neighboring pakeha's.

4. Reverend Sedgwick

Mr. Sedgwick is well mannered and friendly. He offers advice and arranges for Queenie and Johnny to be accepted by the tribe [in Tamatea]. Mr. Sedgwick respects the outsiders [an Englishman] and the voice of the moral authority [as a minister to Te parenga]. Even so Sedgwick is an outsider; he is the moral voice of the family and for Roy, even if they do not listen to them.

Activity**(10 marks)****True and False.** Identify whether the given sentences are true or false.

1. Aroha is the central figure in this play. _____
2. Queenie is very intelligent. _____
3. Reverend Sedgwick is a very cunning man. _____
4. Johnny is a short tempered and rebellious young man. _____
5. Aroha has adopted to the Pakeha way of living. _____
6. Queenie was accepted as their queen in Tamatea. _____
7. Mr Sedgwick is the moral voice for Aroha's family. _____
8. Johnny is a 25-year-old man. _____
9. After becoming pregnant, Queenie was married to Roy. _____
10. Johnny and Queenie rejected her mother's conservative ideas. _____