



3055 BA SANGAM COLLEGE

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LESSON NOTES

School: Ba Sangam College

Year/Level: 11

Name: _____

Subject: English

Worksheet 21

Year: _____

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 (Minor characters)

1. Atkinson

Atkinson and Johnson have pakeha views on the land they occupy. It is a possession to be used for profit. Mrs. Atkinson comes to realize his greatness in Aroha, but it is too late. Roy McDowell's treatment for Queenie represents the power of the pakeha's. they can take what they want without really paying for it. Mr. Clive Atkinson represents the pakeha who now controlled the land the Maoris held and employs them. He is a wealthy man and owns the orchard. He sees the land simply as a possession which can earn money. Aroha's post has no meaning for him.

**“Land pay or it is a burden
And it is a burden, you sell it”**

Moreover, he lacks patience. This is revealed when he could not stop waiting for his wife, Mrs. Atkinson and his daughter, Sylvia. He treated Mataira family as his servants. He is also greedy since he influences Aroha to sell her land with his land which will fetch him a great sum of profit.(the value of land will be higher)

2. Johnson

Mr. Johnson like Mr. Atkinson, sees the land as something to buy and sell. The most important achievement to him was transforming the land, stripping the native bush and making it like the English land as much as possible. He makes no attempt to pronounce Maori names and even has less sympathy to Maori values than Atkinson.

“ The very land we're standing on was thick virgin bush.....He'll get you a good price for it”

Mr. Johnson is one who delivered the speech during Sylvia's wedding. His speech reflected the hatred towards the Maoris. (He being a pakeha, did not like the Maoris, this portrays the theme of racial prejudice)

3. Roy McDowell (21 years old)

Roy McDowell shows that Aroha's dream of Maori and pakeha living together as equal is false. Just as the pakeha has taken the Maori land and not suffered, Roy can seduce her daughter without accepting the consequences. The white man can do as they like and she is helpless.

“Okay before the white man came, but now!

Well this is the white man country now”

Moreover, Roy is a betrayer. He refuses to marry Queenie after he makes her pregnant. He gives the following reasons:

- that Queenie is a Maori and he is a Pakeha,
- his family will not accept her since Queenie is a Maori.
- Roy says Queenie is too young to get married.

Activity

(5 marks)

Fill in the blanks.

1. Mr Atkinson sees the land simply as a _____ which can earn money.
2. Mr. Johnson's speech reflected the _____ towards the Māori's.
3. Roy _____ to marry Queenie after he makes her pregnant.
4. Roy's family will not _____ Queenie because she is a Maori.
5. Mr. Johnson did not like Maori, this portrays the theme of _____.