

Module C: The Craft of Writing

Love and Honour and Pity and Pride and Compassion and Sacrifice

Nam Le

Syllabus content (Mod C – *The Craft of Writing*):

- How can texts expand **knowledge**, **skills**, and **confidence**
- How can texts be of an **enduring** and **quality** nature

Themes in Love and Honour:

- Depth of familial relationships
- Understanding of ethnicity
- Art of writing
- Childhood trauma

Form, **Purpose** & **Audience** of Love and Honour:

Love and Honour is a short story written in the modern day to provide a new perspective on immigrant families. Through a distinctive narrative voice Le seeks to engage a wide, modern audience in issues foreign to them. Le wrote to provide some entertainment, but mostly to detail and provide a perspective on his heritage.

Vocabulary list:

Context:	- Post-modernism: meta-fictional narrative which explores the process of writing and the creative process - Writing competitions and writing for an external criterion – shapes the writing process -
Ideas:	- Dysfunctional family - The writing/creative process - Finding the meaning and impact of memories
Literary Devices:	- Onomatopoeia - Motif - Sensory imagery - Flashbacks - Similes - Repetition - Truncated sentences - Rhetorical questions

Quote	Themes	Techniques	Analysis
<i>dull thluck thluck</i>	Post-modernist (writing)	Onomatopoeia	This establishes writing as a dull and lifeless process which is just defined by the boring and annoying sounds of a typewriter.
<i>The fields are glass</i>	Family	Motif	Nam reflects on the fragile relationship with his father and how it is torn apart by what happened in the Vietnamese <i>fields</i> a long time ago.
<i>Everything smelled of wet leaves.</i>	Environment	Hyperbole Pathetic fallacy	Nam exaggerates the affect of the rain and it reflects the dour mood of the situation.
<i>I left exorbitant tips.</i>	Brokenness	Imagery	Nam leaves these large tips as the bartender makes up for his lack of family and looks after him.
<i>And they would have been useful to someone.</i>	Brokenness	Irony	Nam feels that at least in law he was able to change lives, while in writing he is unable to. Post-modern perspective upon his writings.
<i>How hard could it be?</i>	Writing	Rhetorical question Irony	Writing is much harder than Nam makes it out to be as he struggles with writer's block and creating a good story.
<i>You could totally exploit the Vietnamese thing</i>	Family	Motif	This forms a reoccurring motif of reflecting back on Nam's family and how his life was defined by his Vietnamese heritage and experiences.
<i>his clothes heavy with his life.</i>	Brokenness	Metaphor Imagery	The homeless man is defined by his broken relationship with life and how he has an inherent brokenness with his money and fortune.
<i>childish sitting between two men trading war stories.</i>	Family	Imagery	The imagery of Nam's father demonstrates how he was reclusive and innocent compared to all the other Vietnamese men however he harbour the most horrific story from when he was in a 'massacre'.
<i>It took me a while to reconcile my father with the story he was telling.</i>	Family	Motif	It takes Nam a bit to realise that his father experienced and lived through this massacre, and this has scarred and damaged him and his life.
<i>My mother tried to cover my eyes,</i>	Brokenness	Metaphor	As Nam's grandmother protected his father, Nam's father tries to protect Nam from the horrid and different outside world by the physical act of not telling or telling.
<i>His sacrifice was complete... To all that, I was inadequate.</i>	Brokenness	High modality	Nam reflects on compare to all the sacrifices that Nam's father made for him, Nam feels inadequate as a child. The high modality of this statement demonstrates how broken and strained their relationship is – becoming defined by the past.
<i>he would speak to a friend, to anyone, and it undid me</i>	Family	Metaphor	Nam's father disowns and shuns his son, which is very emotional distressing for Nam as reconciles their relationship.
	Family	Metaphor	

Quote	Themes	Techniques	Analysis
<i>He had been buried alive in the warm, wet clench of his family, crushed by their lives.</i>		Imagery	Nam's father has been suffocated by the actions and may that his family acts – connecting to his time in the pit literally buried by corpses of his family – which leads to broken relationship between family members.
<i>I hated what I was doing</i>	Family	Anaphora	The repetition of “I hated”, demonstrates how even though he was doing a successful job that made his father proud, Nam hated doing it as it was making his father proud.
<i>I had nothing but hate in me,</i>	Brokenness	Hyperbole	This imagery describes how Nam's father has become consumed by feelings of hate and how this led to a character who is broken emotionally as he tries to navigate the complex world around him.
<i>He was twenty-five years old then</i>	Family	Juxtaposition	Nam juxtaposes how he and his father responded to the world around them when they were 25. Nam left the legal profession and ran away to Iowa. While Nam's father ran away to Australia from torture in Vietnam.
<i>he would recognise himself in a new way.</i>	Family	Irony	Nam wants his father to realise how transformative his incarceration was and to accept that a story will be written about him and it will come to define his life – as Nam is now retelling his own father's story.
<i>ashes, given body by the wind</i>	Environment	Imagery	This vivid imagery demonstrates how the story and all of Nam's hard work was taken away in the wind and represents the fragility of the written word.
<i>black and braided</i>	Environment	Pathetic fallacy	The dour environment reflects how Nam feels after his life has been turned by this moment and he has become twisted by grief as he was so long driven by purpose.
<i>shattered by a small stone dropped like a single syllable</i>	Brokenness	Sibilance	The repetition of ‘s’ reflects the negative nature of the situation and how one action or word can change the whole course of one's life – it also reflects upon the fragility of life.

Module C: The Craft of Writing

Eulogy for Gough Whitlam

Noel Pearson

Syllabus content (Mod C – *The Craft of Writing*):

- How can texts expand **knowledge, skills, and confidence**
- How can texts be of an **enduring** and **quality** nature

Themes in Eulogy for Gough Whitlam:

- Equality and universal opportunity
- Overcoming discrimination for positive change
- Activism and the power of democracy
- Leadership and legacy

Form, Purpose & Audience of Eulogy for Gough Whitlam:

Pearson wrote this eulogy in 2014 for Gough Whitlam.

To commemorate Whitlam's legacy and especially the effect that he had on Aboriginal people. The audience was everyone who was listening to his speech and appreciating the effect he had as Prime Minister.

Vocabulary list:

Context:	- Institutionalised discrimination for many years – which was only just being recovered from at the time - Effect of strong Labor Prime Ministers on the Australian country - Commemoration for the effect he had on the Australian public
Ideas:	- Aboriginal rights - Power of the politic - Power of the people - Management versus reform - Hero mentality - Assistance/support of minorities - 'Old man'
Rhetorical devices:	- Anaphora - Juxtaposition - Motif - Poetic triplet - Metaphor - Allusion - Intertextuality - Alliteration - Rhetorical question

Key persuasive devices:

Logos:	Persuasion by logical thought, fact and rationality.
Ethos:	Persuasion by authority and credibility, building a reliable/credible speaker/argument.
Pathos:	Persuasion by appealing to emotions to make them feel certain ways.

Quote	Persuasive Qualities	Techniques	Analysis
<i>wood heap of the nation's democracy</i>	Pathos	Imagery	This gives context for Whitlam upbringing and how democracy at the time was failing people (especially the Indigenous)
<i>old man</i>		Repetition	Pearson repeatedly uses this term of endearment to refer to Whitlam as he speaks of the profound effect he has made on him.
<i>his nemesis, Queensland Premier Joh Bjelke-Petersen</i>	Logos	Imagery	Pearson describes the depth of the enmity between Bjelke-Petersen and Whitlam, and how they were opposed as they sought to steer the course of the nation.
<i>Old man Koowarta died a broken man</i>	Pathos	Imagery	Pearson describes how Koowarta was broken up about the decision and how the government spited him about the land, it gives the responder context for the great works that Whitlam did.
<i>no political or media uproar</i>		Anaphora	Anaphora is used to describe how there was no outcry for the actions the Queensland government did, and sets the stage for how Whitlam changed the situation.
<i>importance to the history of Australia would have been lost without the Whitlam program.</i>	Pathos	Hyperbole	Pearson describes how without these programs, the course of Indigenous rights would have been totally lost. So, the actions of Whitlam are shown to have profound significance.
<i>three highly charged years</i>	Pathos	Emotive language	Pearson expresses his appreciation for Whitlam in this emotionally charged statement, as reflects on the power of those years to shape lives.
<i>what did this Roman ever do for us?</i>		Rhetorical question Intertextuality	This comedic and satirical statement reflects the gravity of the effect that Whitlam had on lives, that he also became like God (in life of Brian) as he seeks to change the world around him.
<i>management as opposed</i>		Juxtaposition	There is a contrast between reform and management, and how Whitlam desired to reform the entirety of Australia to help it develop.
<i>harboured not a bone of racial, ethnic or gender prejudice in his body.</i>	Pathos	Poetic triplet Metaphor	The metaphor of his bones and the triplet of how they are lacking in prejudice demonstrates how Whitlam was supporting of everyone and wanted everyone to have a fair go.
<i>greatest white elder</i>	Ethos	Hyperbole	Pearson expresses how much Whitlam was able to change in his time in government, and Pearson (as an Aboriginal man himself) bestows the title of white elder to show the profound effect that Whitlam has had on many Aboriginal lives in way of his reforms.

Module C Response Structure:

Module C does not really include essays, instead responses are based upon your interaction with the text in your creative/persuasive/discursive response.

Key Stylistic features:

Love and Honour:

Form:	Creative/Stylistic feature:
Creative	- Meta-fictive narrative - Linear story - Flashbacks - Strong themes - Strong control of language - Narrative voice: bleak and cynical - Semi-autobiographical
Persuasive	- Strong/vivid imagery - Repetition of key ideas - Stories within stories - Building ethos (authority)
Discursive	- Flashbacks/anecdotes - Comments upon current culture - Comments upon the writing process - Semi-autobiographical

Form:	Literary Devices:	
	Technique	Quote
Creative	Onomatopoeia	<i>thluck thluck</i>
	Sensory imagery	<i>rain fell on the streets</i>
	Simile	<i>looked like it had just been pulled out of a washing machine</i>
	Poetic triplet	<i>Red faces, raised voices, spilled drinks.</i>
	Motif	<i>And Child?</i>
	Repetition	<i>I drank</i>
Persuasive	Rhetorical question	<i>How hard could it be?</i>
	Ethos	<i>totally exploit the Vietnamese thing</i>
	High modality	<i>He must have thought my head was bowed in modesty</i>
Discursive	Flashbacks	<i>smacking my cheeks lightly</i>
	Anecdotes	<i>speaking in Vietnamese proverbs</i>
	Intertextuality	<i>Kafka Vintage Classics</i>
	Personal perspective	<i>it was late November, and my final story for the semester was due in three days</i>
	Interjection	<i>It was a fucking great story.</i>

Eulogy for Gough Whitlam:

Form:	Creative/Stylistic feature:
Creative	- Power of language - Vivid imagery - Shaping responder understanding
Persuasive	- Ethos – enforces credibility as a speaker - Logos - Pathos - High modality - Repetition
Discursive	- Personal perspective, autobiographical - Anecdotes - Comical, modern references/humour - Non-linear narration - Vivid descriptive language - Motifs

Form:	Literary Devices:	
	Technique	Quote
Creative	Poetic triplet	<i>racial, ethnic or gender</i>
	Motif	<i>old man</i>
	Metaphor	<i>the vitality of our democracy</i>
	Alliteration	<i>the reward for public life is public progress</i>
Persuasive	Pathos/emotional language	<i>humiliated and degraded our people</i>
	Poetic triplet	<i>racial, ethnic or gender</i>
	Repetition	<i>no political or media uproar</i>
	Emotional language	<i>discrimination my father and his father lived under since my grandfather</i>
	Logos/intertextuality	<i>Civil Rights Act 1965 in the United States</i>
Discursive	Rhetorical question	<i>what did this Roman ever do for us?</i>
	Motif	<i>old man</i>
	Imagery	<i>died a broken man</i>
	Anecdote	<i>My home was an Aboriginal reserve</i>
	Comical imagery	<i>wood heap of the nation's democracy</i>

What am I writing?

Creative

→

Love and Honour

Discursive or Persuasive

→

Eulogy for Gough Whitlam