

External assessment 2025

Stimulus book

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies

General instruction

- Work in this book will not be marked.

Source 1

Artworks by Segar Passi

Kerkar meb 1 (2010) and *Kerkar meb 2* (2011) are artworks by Uncle Segar Passi, a Senior Meriam Elder and Dauareb man. *Kerkar meb 1* and *Kerkar meb 2* are part of the collection held by the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art.

Kerkar meb 1

This content has been redacted for copyright purposes.

Redacted image can be viewed online:
Passi, S. (2011). *Kerkar meb 1* [Painting]. Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. South Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.
<https://collection.qagoma.qld.gov.au/objects/14159>

Kerkar meb 2

This content has been redacted for copyright purposes.

Redacted image can be viewed online:
Passi, S. (2011). *Kerkar meb 2* [Painting]. Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. South Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.
<https://collection.qagoma.qld.gov.au/objects/1415>

Source 2

Excerpt from an online article by Duane Hamacher, 2021

Duane Hamacher is Associate Professor of Cultural Astronomy at the University of Melbourne. He has worked for Meriam Elders to document the astronomical knowledge and traditions of eastern Torres Strait Islander peoples.

This excerpt uses words from the Meriam Mir dialect.

This content has been redacted for copyright purposes.

Redacted text can be viewed online:

Hamacher, D. (2021), 'Sky fireballs and a shark in the stars: Indigenous art and astronomy', *Pursuit*.
<https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/sky-fireballs-and-a-shark-in-the-stars-indigenous-art-and-astronomy>.

Source 3

Yirrganydji calendar, 2016

The Yirrganydji calendar appears on Indigenous Weather Knowledge, a website that was launched in 2002 as a partnership between the Bureau of Meteorology, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) and Monash University's Centre for Indigenous Studies.

The lands and waters of the Yirrganydji people extend along the coastal strip of land between Gimuy/Cairns and Didju/Port Douglas, including Freshwater Creek and the Barron River.

This content has been redacted for copyright purposes.

Redacted image can be viewed online:

The Bureau of Meteorology, (2021). *Yirrganydji calendar*. <https://www.bom.gov.au/resources/indigenous-weather-knowledge/indigenous-seasonal-calendars/yirrganydji-calendar>

Source 4

Noongar calendar

Noongar are the Aboriginal people of the south-west region of Western Australia. Noongar Boodja (Country) is defined by 14 different areas with varied geography and 14 different language groups.

Many organisations in Western Australia, including Edith Cowan University, the Department of Parks and Wildlife and Tourism Western Australia, use Noongar seasons in their publications.

This content has been redacted for copyright purposes.

Redacted image can be viewed online:

Arts Margaret River (2021). *Six Seasons of the South West*. <https://artsmargaretriver.com/six-seasons-of-the-south-west/>

Source 5

Excerpt from an interview with author Kim Scott, 2021

This excerpt is taken from an interview with Kim Scott about science in Noongar culture. Scott is from the south coast of Western Australia and describes himself as ‘a descendant of those who first created human society along that edge of ocean, [who] is proud to be one among those who call themselves Noongar’.

This content has been redacted for copyright purposes.

Redacted text can be viewed online:

Crow, T. (2021, February 7). ‘No such place as wilderness’ *Particle*. <https://particle.scitech.org.au/earth/no-such-place-as-wilderness/>.

Source 6

Excerpt from the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), 2007

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday 13 September 2007. UNDRIP sets out how governments should respect the human rights of Indigenous peoples. The Declaration consists of 46 articles. Each article describes specific rights and actions that can be taken to protect those rights.

Australia formally endorsed UNDRIP in 2009.

The General Assembly

...

Solemnly proclaims the following United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a standard of achievement to be pursued in a spirit of partnership and mutual respect.

...

Article 13

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to revitalise, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures, and to designate and retain their own names for communities, places and persons.

...

Article 25

Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

...

Article 31

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures ... They also have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions.

Source 7

Excerpt from a media statement released by the Queensland Government, 2023

This media statement was released to announce that the traditional name, K'gari¹ had been officially restored to the place formerly known as Fraser Island.

K'gari is the name that has been used by the Butchulla people for more than 60,000 years. Butchulla Country (land, sea and sky) is situated in the Fraser Coast region of Queensland and extends to K'gari, a place of immense importance to Butchulla people.

The Premier joined the Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation² today for an emotional ceremony to formally reinstate the name used by Traditional Owners for the world's largest sand island — K'gari (formerly Fraser Island).

K'gari — the white spirit who was sent down from the sky to help make the land and the seas which are home to the Butchulla people — was officially welcomed home today by generations of Butchulla people and guests.

Guests were welcomed on Country with a smoking ceremony, traditional dance and song, as well as a formal plaque unveiling.

The Government has worked closely with the Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation, tourism bodies, government agencies and the Fraser Coast Regional Council over many years to progressively embed the island's original name.

In 2017, the Fraser Island section of the Great Sandy National Park was renamed K'gari (Fraser Island) and in 2022, the island's World Heritage Area was renamed K'gari (Fraser Island) World Heritage Area.

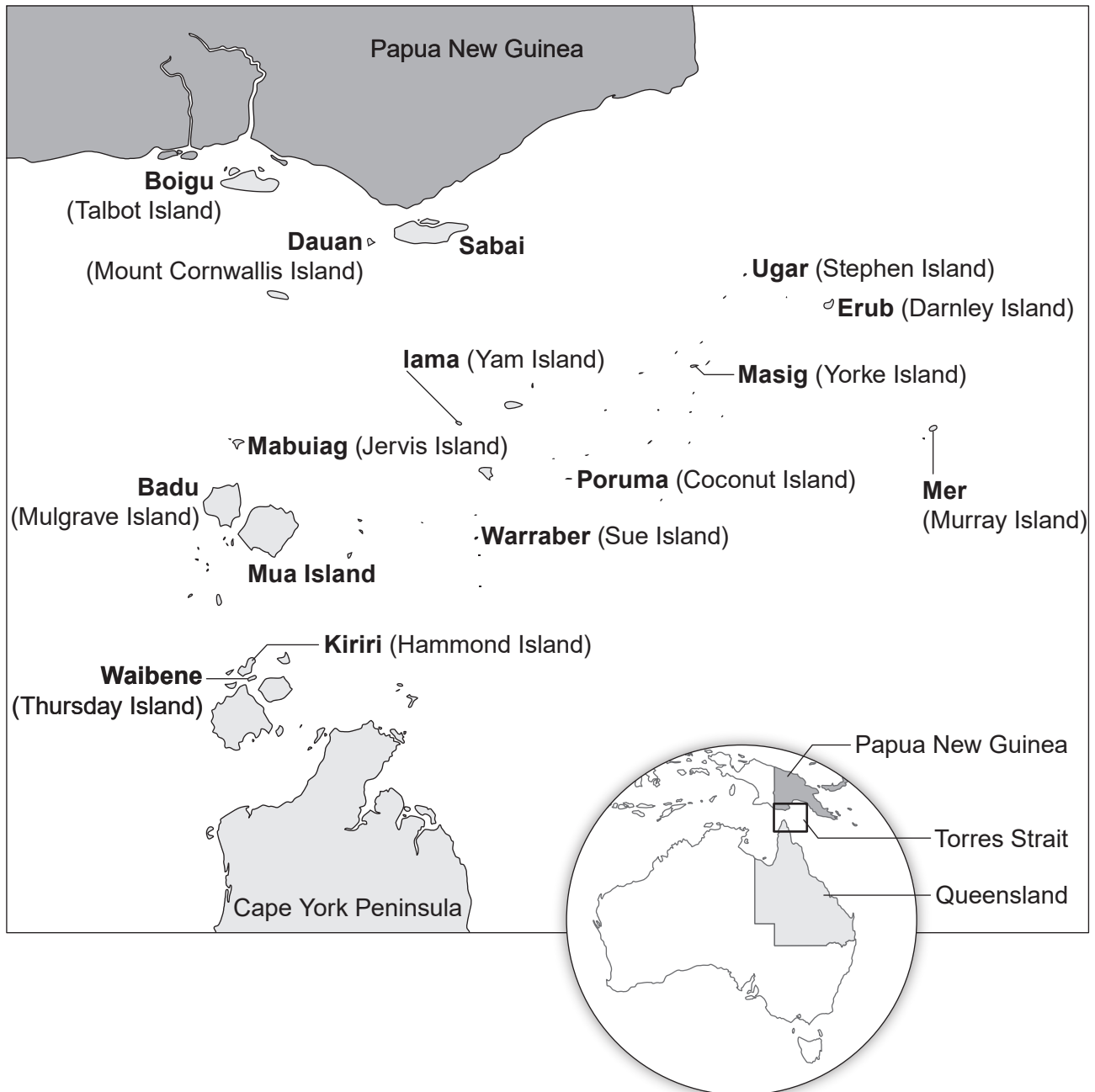
1 pronounced gari

2 the Native Title Aboriginal Corporation that represents the Butchulla people

Source 8

Map of the Torres Strait Islands

The map uses the naming conventions supported by the Gur A Baradharaw Kod Torres Strait Sea and Land Council Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal Corporation (GBK). The traditional place names are written first, in bold, and the English place names are in brackets. GBK is the peak body of all registered Native Title Bodies Corporate across the Torres Strait, representing the collective interests of the regions' Traditional Owners.



Source 9

Map and excerpt from an online article by Tourism Australia, 2022

Tourism Australia is the Australian Government agency responsible for attracting international visitors to Australia, both for leisure and business events.



This content has been redacted for copyright purposes.

Redacted text can be viewed online:

Tourism Australia. (2022). *Tourism Australia adopts Aboriginal dual naming*. <https://www.tourism.australia.com/en/news-and-events/news/tourism-australia-adopts-aboriginal-dual-naming.html>

Source 10

Excerpt from an online opinion article by Karen Mundine, 2021

Karen Mundine is a Bundjalung woman. The Bundjalung people are the custodians of the lands around the northern coastal areas of New South Wales. Mundine is also the CEO of Reconciliation Australia, the lead body for reconciliation in Australia. The article discusses the findings of the *2021 State of Reconciliation in Australia report* and was published on the website for the Committee for Economic Development of Australia.

Reconciliation cannot just be about awareness raising and knowledge.

...

The issues that seem so difficult to progress are the ‘braver’ issues. A braver reconciliation is one where we move our efforts from focussing on the preconditions for reconciliation, to focussing on more substantive change.

For reconciliation to be effective it must involve truth-telling, and actively address issues of inequality, systemic racism and instances where the rights of First Nations peoples are ignored, denied or diminished.

...

And as we move closer to achieving some of the key prerequisites — truth-telling, negotiations around treaties, and greater control by First Nations peoples over their own affairs — the reconciliation journey may become more difficult.

We saw again the predictable annual debate on 26 January, but each year it is obvious more Australians understand the difficulty of that date for First Nations peoples.

...

This debate demonstrates the importance of truth-telling in moving forward. Much of Australia’s telling of its history is silent on the occupation of Australia by First Nations peoples, covers up the brutal nature of colonisation and omits the resilience and contribution of First Nations peoples.

All Australians need to understand a full account of our shared history and its impact on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander societies post-colonisation, as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s contribution to the nation.

...

It is now that we must take on the substantive change that will propel us towards a more reconciled country.

References

Stimulus 1

Passi, S. (2011). *Kerkar meb 1* [Painting]. Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. South Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Passi, S. (2011). *Kerkar meb 2* [Painting]. Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. South Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Stimulus 2

Hamacher, D. (2021), 'Sky fireballs and a shark in the stars: Indigenous art and astronomy', Pursuit. <https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/sky-fireballs-and-a-shark-in-the-stars-indigenous-art-and-astronomy>.

Stimulus 3

The Bureau of Meteorology, (2021). *Yirrganydji calendar* <https://www.bom.gov.au/resources/indigenous-weather-knowledge/indigenous-seasonal-calendars/yirrganydji-calendar>

Stimulus 4

Six Seasons of the South West, (2023). Australia's South West [image of Noongar calendar]. <https://www.australiassouthwest.com/six-seasons-of-the-south-west/>

Stimulus 5

Pan Macmillan Australia. (2023). *Kim Scott* Pan Macmillan Australia. <https://www.panmacmillan.com.au/?authors=kim-scott#:~:text=Kim%20Scott%20%2D%20Pan%20Macmillan%20Australia>

Crow, T. (2021, February 7). 'No such place as wilderness' Particle. <https://particle.scitech.org.au/earth/no-such-place-as-wilderness/>.

Stimulus 6

United Nations (2007). *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf

Stimulus 7

Queensland Government (2023, June 7). *Traditional name restored to world's largest sand island* [media statement] <https://statements.qld.gov.au/statements/97872> Licensed Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence (CC BY 4.0).

Stimulus 8

Adapted from Torres Strait Islands Map by Kelisi (2024) <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:TorresStraitIslandsMap.png&oldid=907041113> CC BY-SA 3.0

Reference UN Atlas of the Oceans: Torres Strait. (2016). <https://www.oceansatlas.org/subtopic/en/c/937/>

Stimulus 9

Tourism Australia. (2022, March 14). *Tourism Australia adopts Aboriginal dual naming* <https://www.tourism.australia.com/en/news-and-events/news/tourism-australia-adopts-aboriginal-dual-naming.html>

Stimulus 10

Mundine, K. (2021). 'Moving from safe to brave: 2021 State of Reconciliation in Australia'. Committee for Economic Development in Australia <https://www.ceda.com.au/news-and-resources/opinion/indigenous-affairs/moving-from-safe-to-brave-2021-state-of-reconcilia> Licensed Creative Commons Attribution-NoDerivatives 4.0 (CC BY-ND 4.0)



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