

A Prayer for Blue Delaney



TOPIC Child migration scheme

In the beginning of the novel, Colm "migrates" from England to Australia. That was a common thing back then. Research the **CHILD MIGRATION SCHEME** and present your findings. This could be a start: <http://www.murdoch.edu.au/elaw/issues/v9n4/buti94.html>



<https://pixabay.com/de/schiff-sonnenuntergang-meer-2166704/>



Writing a characterization

You got to know one character from the beginning of the novel a little bit better (Colm, Tommy, Sister Mercia). The author of a story can present the characters in many ways. They may describe them (= direct) or show the reader what they are like through their language and way of speaking, their actions, feelings, thoughts, words... (= indirect).

Choose one character and collect information on them. Is this person characterized in a direct way or indirect way?

Write a characterization for this person. If you need help how to write a characterization, scan the code.



TOPIC Belonging

Few of the children actually belong to any one place – they are either orphans, indigenous children taken from their parents or estranged from their families. Those that do 'belong' are not necessarily living with their biological parents, e.g. Doreen's kids are not all 'hers' and Lily lives with her grandmother, who maintains her Chinese culture while living in the heart of Australia.



How do we know we belong somewhere? How do you feel when you know you belong? What does it feel like when you know you don't belong? What sort of things impact on this feeling? Discuss the ability of humans to adapt: to new friends, new cities, new homegroups, new teams, new family situations.





Book review

Write a book review for the novel **A Prayer for Blue Delaney** as you would find it on amazon, Thalia and sort. Tell people if they should buy the book or not and why.



TOPIC Colm's Journey

Map Colm's journey from Liverpool to Australia and then around Australia with Bill. You could use GoogleMaps "My Maps" for that. Add important information, feelings, events at each location.



TOPIC Immigration

Why did Chinese people immigrate to Australia in the late 1800s? Research the particulars and try to find specific information about a family who moved here in that time. Where are their descendants now?



CREATIVE WRITING – Choose one task:

* Choose a passage and rewrite it from Colm's point of view. Use the phrase "I felt" at least twice.

OR

* Write a letter to Lily, describing the theatre and your life in Melbourne (as Colm).