



BOARD OF STUDIES
NEW SOUTH WALES

Question 10 b.

"No paper qualification beats experience"

Good morning Students (anonymous)

The inevitable factor of ~~change~~ ^{influence from people} growly contributes to any individual experience of into the world. A stepping stone moving an individual into the world may be such something as simple as moving location, or a personal choice such as a higher education.

In Willy Russell's play 'Educating Rita' the star Rita sets herself a goal of completing an open university degree, in attempt of a higher education which would ultimately allow her bigger and better opportunities and choices.

Yet many obstacles ~~were~~ were thrown in her path, such as pressure from her husband Denny and father to have a baby and conform to



traditional social expectations to of middle class suburbia, become anything but an obedient wife and the mother of children.

Rita strives for more in life. A quest for self-difiment, "A better song to sing."

When the literature course begins Rita feels alone and isolated. "except 'I'm a half cast.' She feels ~~that~~ she cannot properly assimilate to the educated class yet cannot be apart of her old world either.

You may have come across a social class barrier once in your own experience of venturing into the world.

Rita attempts to change herself in order to blend in with that of the upper educated class. She changes her name to 'Rita', as finally her name is Susan; yet later

in the play she diminishes the change of name "I dropped that pretentious crap as soon as I saw it for what it was."

She understands that in order for genuine change, "You've got to do it from the inside". From the heart she learnt this as demanding women wanted to change and become new people from mostly a haircut at her salon.

Her tutor Frank, originally her key ~~despiser~~ to education and class ~~soon~~ starts to be seen for what he really is towards the mid end of the play. "A self pitying PUN Artist." He undergoes a lesson and experience of 'into the world' with the ~~experience~~ influence of Rita. Formally his student who is ultimately learns more from about



life and the real world than any text book can offer.

Perhaps you have taught one of your teachers something in your years of learning?

The people who make a society or a subculture always contribute to an individual's experience of their journey 'into the world.' Whether it be a lecturer, such as Frank, your heroes, & idols or even your peers, such as in the Australian film, *Rabbit's Blues*.

In this film, set in Cronulla, two teenage girls try desperately to become emerged with the 'in group' at their local school.

In doing so, the two become subject of guinea pigs to their 'superior's' wishes.

Whether this be sexual objectification



take away food deliveries, or subject to point & make fun at.

The film displays the surfing youth culture of the time, present today at your school as you may ~~have~~ be aware of?

Debbie subsequently becomes fed up of being treated like a ~~non~~ 'second class citizen' to the boys.

"When our bladders burst and our stomachs grumbled, the pigged out (on the backways food) the had retrieved for them.

Debbie, now a defiant young girl standing up for herself, attempts to go into the world by experiencing something regarded as 'for blokes' only. She surfs.

Her first wave is symbolic of her fighting against the harsh, preexisting social boundaries and



successfully proving her self ~~and~~ ~~as~~ worthy
to her criticising peers ~~very~~ much
like Rita they both take stands
for what they want and move
onto the world by achieving
something others tried to prevent.

In Michael Leunig's cartoon, where
a father is depicted with his
son, offers another insight into
the world.

Leunig uses minimalism to prioritise
the large television the two are
admiring in awe. Yet the TV
portrays a ~~green~~ landscape scene
identical to the view out of the
window.

This cartoon comments on the
ways people can shape your
understanding of and influence
you to see something with their
perspective. The father in this



cartoon prevents his child from experiencing going literally into the world and stepping outside by restricting him to ~~see~~ it via television.

The smile on the father's face suggests that this may have been what he was taught by his father and he is content with viewing the world in this way. The smile on the son's face suggests this naivety and oblivious to the situation.

~~not~~ literally, not stepping outside the box they live in.

The people Rita, Debbie and the father and son in Leunig's cartoon all have been prevented ~~from~~ in some ways from their experience of ~~into~~ the world. Let this be a lesson learnt to you.



as students, as you move to
sooN enough onto a new stage
of your lives, a rite of passage.
moving into the world, you may
be encouraged to move into
the world, yet you must be
aware of the human power to
prevent as well, especially from
authority figures.

So follow your hearts and
stay true to yourselves in your
personal experiences of unto
the world.

Yours etc,