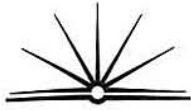
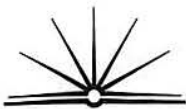


Having a sense of understanding nourishes belonging and a lack of understanding prevents belonging. Understanding is when a person feels they have accepted an individual and their behaviours. Belonging can be defined as the happiness someone feels in a safe and secure relationship. This relationship is formed by ~~the~~ an individual's connection with people, places and the larger world. From these connections people gain a sense of understanding which nourishes their sense of belonging. Those who do not make connections with people, places and the larger world often find themselves on the outside looking in; they feel excluded, isolated and alienated. Outsiders in this situation lack understanding and therefore prevent them from belonging. The texts 'Strictly Ballroom' directed by Baz Luhrman, the song 'A place



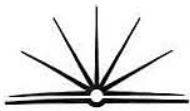
in 'this world' composed by Taylor Swift and the poem 'A Separation of Worlds' written by G. Kynk all strongly support the idea that having understanding nourishes belonging and having a lack of understanding prevents it.

'Strictly Ballroom' directed by Baz Luhrman expresses the idea that having a sense of understanding nourishes belonging and acceptance. Many characters in 'Strictly Ballroom' lack understanding but eventually gain more knowledge and understanding that allows them to feel accepted and included. Luhrman uses many techniques to convey ~~the~~ the character of Scott's dilemma of being caught in between two worlds, the ballroom dancing world and the Spanish community. To gain a

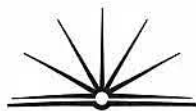


better understanding Scott takes risks and challenges his mother Shirley and the dance federation antagonist Barry Fife by ^{not} dancing federation steps. By dancing federation steps Scott lacked an understanding that allowed him to feel like he truly belonged, but by dancing from the heart with Fran and the Spanish community Scott was able to gain a better sense of understanding, knowledge and acceptance.

Luhrman uses many techniques to convey the idea that understanding nourishes acceptance. Colour is symbolically used in the film to contrast the two worlds which are the ballroom dancing world and the Spanish community. The Ballroom dancing world uses a



palette of bright colours. This is used in the costumes, make up, hair and the unbelievable lighting. By using bright colours Lührman expresses the idea that the ballroom dancing world is artificial and fake. The character of Fran doesn't fit into this world as she does not have a sense of understanding about it. She is portrayed as the ugly duckling in the beginning scenes of the film. Once she starts to dance one on one with Scott, Fran starts to gain a better understanding of dancing from the heart and so does Scott. The two start to feel accepted in the Spanish community where Fran is from. The Spanish community is expressed as dancing from the heart and soul this is shown by

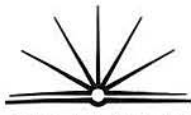


Luhman's use of earthy and warm colours. By doing this the ballroom dancing world is completely juxtaposed to the Spanish community.

Another technique used to convey the idea that understanding nourishes belonging and inclusion is the re-occurring motif of the dance shoes. The motif shows Scott and Fran's growing connection and growing sense of understanding.

The motif of the shoes is made up of the re-occurring close ups of the shoes. It shows dancing from the heart which is contrasted to the Federation steps.

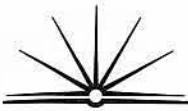
By dancing together Scott and Fran feel like they belong with each other as they gain



more understanding and a growing connection.

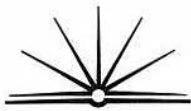
The symbolic use of glasses supports the idea that understanding nourishes belong. Doug and Fran both wear glasses. One Fran gains a better understanding and knowledge her glasses slowly come off. Doug hides behind his glasses just like he does behind the shadows. Not until he stands up for his son at the Pan Pacific he is finally brave enough to step ~~of~~ out of the shadows.

The song 'A place in this world' composed by Taylor Swift explores her journey of acceptance and understanding. Swift is trying to find a place



where she fits in or makes connections to people, places or the larger world. She is determined to find this ~~place~~ sense of understanding which can make her feel included, accepted and gain a sense of belonging.

Swift uses the technique of First person in the song to give a more personal understanding and feel to it. It also allows people to be able to relate to the situation. 'I'm on my own and I'm starting off' shows that Swift is ready to take off and search and journey to find belonging and understanding. 'I'm alone in this world' shows that she is taking a risk and trying to start off new and that she is going to find a place where

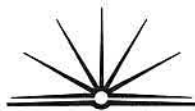


she is accepted by others.

Swift also uses repetition of 'Trying to find a place in this world' ~~show~~ this conveys how determined she is to find acceptance and gain a better understanding where she can belong.

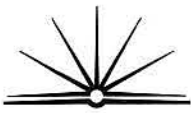
The tone of the song is positive and it shows that she is willing to face obstacles, challenges and barriers that block her sense of understanding. It shows that she is ~~going~~ going to conquer anything that stands in her way.

The poem 'A Separation of Worlds' written by G. Rynk conveys the idea of social classes the upper and lower classes. It



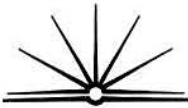
shows how the upper class lack understanding which ~~the~~ doesn't allow them to belong to the main society. It also shows how the lower class lacks understanding which ~~for~~ makes them not belong to the upper class world. But G. Kynk conveys the idea that both classes like the way society is. The classes only care about their own.

Kynk uses repetition of ~~my~~ 'In my world' and 'In your world' this is used to emphasise the differences between the worlds and how they are juxtaposed. He wants to completely separate the two worlds. He also uses a tone of moral indignation to convey his frustration and



disappointment with the upper class and how they excluded others not that aren't like them. Rynk also use the technique of first person to make the poem personal so that others in his situation can relate to the poem too. 'We want the barrier as much as you do!' This expresses how Rynk wants there to be a division between the upper and lower class. He believes that no matter how much understanding someone gains belonging to the world he is in is better than trying to belonging in the upper class.

It can be seen ~~seen~~ that the texts 'Strictly Ballroom', 'A place in this world' and 'A separation of



worlds' all strongly support the statement that having a sense of understanding nourished belonging and a lack of understanding prevents it.