

Section II, Question 3:

The fact that different perspectives are influenced by individuality, personal history and culture is best demonstrated in the play, "Educating Rita" by Willy Russell, the set poems of Peter Skrzynecki in "Immigrant Chronicle", in the focus of his poem, "10 Mary Street", the prose, "Sky-high" by Hannah Robert in the stimulus booklet "Changing" (BOS) and the interview, "Earthing" in the SU (May, 2001), and the two feature articles, ~~for~~ "The accidental author" in the Sydney Morning Herald (August, 2001) and "The master of the edge" in the Weekend Australian (August, 2001).

In the play, "Educating Rita", the composer deliberately set up to contrasting characters, Rita and Frank. They ~~both~~ had a different attitude towards life, because of their personal history which was different. Frank had a good education and a formal

registers, coming from an "Edensor educated class. Rita on the other hand, came from the working class and therefore, had poor education and not ~~many~~ ^{many} choices.

Rita's individuality was different as well. The composer showed this through her Liverpudlian slang and her ellipses. She talk fast and was motivated to change, but she did not how to, because her "culture" or social class did not teach her. Therefore she went to the open uni, where Frank had to teach her that. His individuality was more calm and pessimistic, which was shown through slow stagemovements, and his register was a formal one with an English Standard accent. His pessimistic perspective is shown through his use of alcohol, which changes at the end of the play, where he goes to Australia. Rita, left her

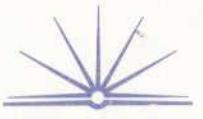
social class behind, and personal history behind, partly even her own personality, to become more educated and to have more choices and a wider range of perspectives which she indeed has at the end of the play:

"I dunno. I might go to France.
I might go to me mother's. I might even have a baby. I dunno. I'll choose.
I dunno."

In the poetry of "Immigrant Chronicle", Peter Skrzycki talks about his individuality, personal history and culture and how his perspective is different to the perspective of his parents, migrants of Australia from Europe after WW2.

This is best conveyed in his poem, "10 Mary Street", where he talks about his home and daily life, "for nineteen years" and how he became assimilated to Australian culture, "I swear I will stay off strawberries

"and peas forever" and feels more and more alien towards his parents who ~~are~~ still try to preserve their European culture, "since nineteen years", "they kept pre-war Europe alive. The poet conveyed this message through making a description in free-verse. He focuses on the food his parents ate and grew, to show the differences in their perspectives. While he "stayed off strawberries", his parents tried to hold on to their personal history and culture and "ate kielbasa, salt herring and rye bread". The poet is making a list of food they ate and grew, ~~and the~~ e.g. "spinach, carrots and tomatoes". Through making this lists of images, the poet shows the different perspectives and the perspective of trying to keep "pre-war Europe" alive. Furthermore, he makes it more vivid for the reader what it might have been like, especially when the



only personal history is full of pain and suffering from the 2nd world war. In the prose, "Sky-high" by Hannah Robert in the stimulus booklet "Changing" (BOS), it is presented how the perspective of yourself ~~and~~ and the environment surrounding you influences your view of life and how it can change ~~to~~ through your personal history. As child she was "spinning on the washing line", later * ^{with years} she could not see the washing line as entertainment anymore, but as a object of work. It also talks about how you had to entertain yourself in the 60's, 70's in Australia.

In the Interview, "Earthling" in the ITU (May, 2001), Zeljko, a social anthropologist describes his experiences & with the Yanomami Indians of the Amazon in Venezuela. He shows how different perspectives are



influenced by individuality, personal history and culture. For instance, he explains that these Indians do not have a concept of "believe" so they only "know" or "do not know" which changes their attitude towards life.

This is demonstrated through the interviewer asking simple, direct and pertinent questions which are answered in long descriptions and detailed examples.

Through composing their texts in particular ways, through comparing and contrasting their experiences and views and through manipulating the ways their perspectives are presented to their audience, the writers ~~also~~ always showed that different perspectives are influenced by the individuality, personal history and culture.