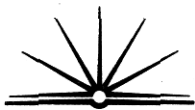


Section II Question 2

A good insight into the meaning of perspective or point of view, has been gained through the study of the texts "Through Australian Eyes" (William ~~Fitzwater~~ Fitzwater) and "Whose life is it Anyway?" a play by Brian Clarke. The "Time" magazine article (26th August, 1976) concerning Christopher Reeve, and the stimulus text "Sky High" by Hanna Robert give further understanding of the notion of perspective.

The material studied shows that perspective is influenced by past experiences and age as well as the values of families and cultures. Personality types and jobs held, also play a part in the forming of perspective.

Ellen Youie's story in "Through Australian Eyes" demonstrates the influence of past experiences and cultural background on perspective. Ellen, a 17 year old girl born in ~~Australia~~ Australia to Chinese parents, visits China. She is unable to speak the language, and because of her upbringing in Australia, feels more Australian than Chinese. However, when visiting



her mother's village in China, she begins to feel a bond with the people in there. She recognises her own mother's hard-working nature in the behavior of villagers.

Angela Sarantidis's perspective of Greece and Greek people has been formed through her mother's perspective. Angela visits Greece and discovers that it is a different people and way of life than her mother has described to her. Her mother's perspective was formed in a long past era. Angela finds a society in which young people have a far greater measure of freedom than she thought. Angela's experience in Greece changes her perspective completely.

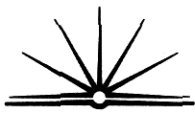
In "Whose life is it Anyway?", after ~~the accident~~ ^{becoming} paralysed from the neck down, Ken Harrison's perception of himself changes. Once an active, independent member of society, Ken says after his accident - "I am not human". Before his unfortunate experience, Ken was a sculptor and engaged to be married. His perspective on life was optimistic. Following the accident, he believes that he would be better



off dead than ~~long~~ living his life completely dependent on others. Clarke uses a clever garden metaphor to describe the way he feels. Ken says he belongs on "the compost heap", and refers to himself "as a plant". The contrast between the life Ken had and the one he could expect in the future is so great that he wants to end his life.

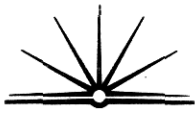
The way that a person's job influences their perspective is shown in "Whose life is it Anyway?", Dr Emerson does not allow for differences in circumstances "a doctor cannot accept the choice for death". This idea has been planted firmly in his mind during his medical training and time as a doctor. He ~~does~~ does not see that Ken has right to choose to die. To stop him, Dr Emerson plans to have Ken classed as mentally incompetent to be responsible for himself. He is so sure that he is right, probably because society always looks up to doctors and treats them as though they are above normal human beings.

The part played by personality in the forming of perspective is shown through comparison of Ken Harrison's perspective and that of Christopher Reeve in the "Time" magazine. Christopher



Reeve shows that he has a very different perspective to that of Ken Harrison. Like Ken ~~he~~ he suffered a spinal-cord injury which left him paralysed. Unlike Ken Harrison, Reeve wants to go on living. He believes "we can cure ~~spinal-cord~~ spinal-cord injuries too if there's the will". The difference in perception is due to several factors. In the beginning, Reeve also felt "I was no longer a human being". ~~However~~ However his wife Dana said to him "you're still you, and I love you". Unlike Ken Harrison, Reeve had a wife and children who value him even though he was paralysed. Reeve also has a more optimistic personality. Maybe he believes in what ~~seems~~ seems impossible because he played "Superman", witnessing man walking on the moon also was a experience which influenced Reeve. That seemed once to be an impossible dream, Reeve is "Preparing to Walk".

"Sky High" shows that age is a factor in the shaping of perspective. Through the technique of flash back the writer describes the way she viewed a ~~rotary~~ rotary clothes line when she was a child. ~~It was a line~~ she was always hanging ~~around~~ around on the



rotary clothes lines, but now she is a ~~adult~~ adult she can't playing it anymore she said "too many things ~~to~~ tying me on the ground".

Through the text we have studied this year, we know that as we go through ^{more} ~~more~~, ~~with~~ ~~more~~ ~~experience~~, the more experience we'll gained.