

Indians on Vacation by Thomas King Text Template

Engaging in Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy(CRRP)

Title of Text:	Indians on Vacation
Author:	Thomas King
Genre:	Fiction
Date of Publication:	2020

****Please ensure that you review the TVDSB CRRP Text Selection Criteria before proceeding****

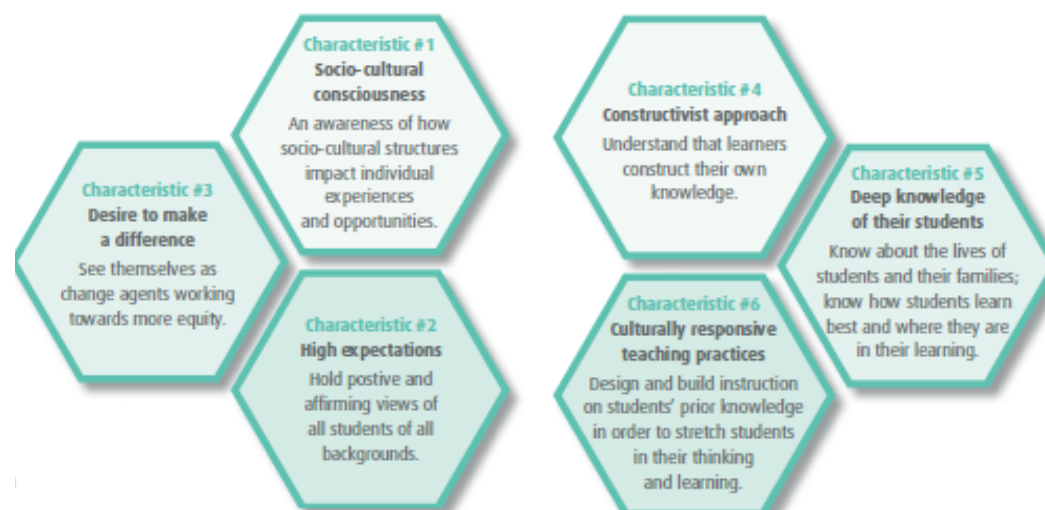
**** We strongly encourage all teachers who are considering teaching an Indigenous text to review the following resource:**

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1USC9mtUU49V3-FVCNJUgfMzQ1ppNxTQyIAYnkn0YDag/edit?usp=sharing>

Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy Overview

Culturally responsive and relevant educators share a mindset - a particular set of dispositions and skills that enables them to effectively support students in diverse settings (Capacity Building Series K-12). These are identified by Villegas and Lucas (2002): socio-cultural consciousness; high expectations for all students; desire to make a difference; constructivist approach; deep knowledge of students; and culturally responsive teaching practices. Culturally responsive and relevant pedagogy also includes adopting an ethic of critical care, using diverse texts, democratizing learning spaces and activities, empowering learners to confront and challenge social injustice, and adopting an asset-based, growth mindset about students' abilities. CRRP also encourages us to centre students' experiences and identities in our curriculum and instructional design. These texts and the introductory activities aim to have educators reflect intensively on classroom practices – text selection as well as instructional and assessment practices - as we seek to be more culturally responsive.

The Mindset of Culturally Responsive Educators



-Capacity Building Series *Culturally Responsive Pedagogy*, November 2013

Reflections to Consider:	<i>What cultural contexts, interests, capabilities and lived experiences do my students bring to their learning? (Diversity of race, ethnicity, class, gender identity, sexual orientation and ability).</i>
Suggested Grade and Level (based on maturity and depth of text):	
Author Bio:	Thomas King is an American-Canadian writer and broadcast presenter who most often writes about North America's First Nations. He lives in Guelph, ON.
Synopsis:	<p><i>Indians on Vacation</i> follows the married Indigenous couple on a trip through Europe. Bird unwinds his story in small chunks as he and Mimi follow the trail set out in a series of postcards sent by Mimi's Uncle Leroy.</p> <p>Inspired by a handful of old postcards sent by Uncle Leroy nearly a hundred years earlier, Bird and Mimi attempt to trace Mimi's long-lost uncle and the family medicine bundle he took with him to Europe.</p>
Potential Essential Questions/Topics/ Essential Ideas:	<p>Indigenous Identity</p> <p>Effects of Colonization</p> <p>Effects of Residential Schools</p> <p>Mental Health</p>
Commentary about the text:	<p>For Mimi, travel is an escape, a way to arrest time. For Bird, the trip is "exhausting." This dichotomy, as much as anything else, makes Bird and Mimi characters worth following. They are the engine driving this funny and deeply sensitive novel. <i>Indians on Vacation</i> presses sharply against the world with humour and heart – personalized demons and all.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Quill and Quire)</p> <p>"Reading Thomas King's INDIANS ON VACATION. Great grumpy dialogue + killer one-liners! Remind me not to irritate him. @HarperCollinsCA" - @MargaretAtwood</p> <p><i>"Indians on Vacation</i> is a witty, funny striking story that ponders the importance of history from the smallest personal connections to big-picture politics."</p> <p>(Vancouver Sun)</p>
Trigger Warnings: "The purpose of trigger warnings is not to cause students to avoid traumatic content, but to prepare them for it, and in extreme circumstances to provide alternate	<p>Novel content that may trigger students and or other staff (list topics below).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the novel contains "brief anecdotes about colonial Canada's residential schools" -effects of colonization -Mental Health

<i>modes of learning.</i> " (Lockhart)	
Companion Text Sets: (including links to teacher resources, short fiction, poems, video, articles, media texts, visual texts)	<p>David Robertson Reviews <i>Indians on Vacation</i> http://hamiltonreviewofbooks.com/blog/2020/11/16/david-a-robertson-reviews-thomas-kings-indians-on-vacation</p> <p>CBC Books <i>Indians on Vacation</i> https://www.cbc.ca/books/indians-on-vacation-1.5695420</p> <p>CBC's The Next Chapter "Why I Wrote <i>Indians on Vacation</i>" https://www.cbc.ca/radio/thenextchapter/full-episode-sept-26-2020-1.5736195/thomas-king-s-latest-novel-was-inspired-by-an-eventful-trip-to-europe-1.5736202</p>
Reflection Questions:	
Ways to value student voice and perspective:	
Potential teaching strategies, lesson ideas etc.:	

Template adapted from PDSB's ReThinking English: Culturally Responsive Classrooms

The above suggestions are not a complete list.

Did you come up with any new ideas or resources while using this text? Please let us know so we can add them to the template.

Contact us a.killian@tvdsb.ca or m.malone@tvdsb.ca