

## **Australian Identity – what does it mean?**

What does it mean to be a member of Australian society in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? How do young people feel about their country, their community, modern values? Over the following weeks you will be provided with a selection of stimulus material related to the notion of Australian identity to supplement your set text *True Blue*. As you read and discuss the issues raised by the material, think about how you might create and present your own views on this theme.

Consider and discuss the following questions, recording your personal responses.

1. Describe a time when you felt proud to live in Australia.
2. In what ways do you think Australia is different from other countries?
3. What values do you think most Australians share?
4. Do you think Australian's have been influenced by the Australian Landscape? In what ways?
5. What does the term 'ugly Australian' mean to you?
6. Have you ever felt embarrassed to be Australian? If so, describe the incident that made you feel this way.
7. Is Australia an example of a successful multicultural society? Explain.
8. What does it mean to you to be an Australian?
9. What are our responsibilities as members of Australian society in the twenty-first century?
10. What are our responsibilities as Australian members of a global community?
11. What is patriotism? What are the positives and negative effects of patriotism?
12. Do you feel that you are a member of a community? Explain.
13. What sorts of people are marginalised, or live on the edges of Australian society? What are the causes and effects of this situation?