

Task Sheet – De Bono's Six Thinking Hats

White Hat Thinking – Gathering data

Gather information from the Dictionary of Sydney articles to build a picture of the events surrounding early contact between Aboriginal and European peoples. Make sure to record experiences of individual people and groups of people, as well as instances of conflict.

(Remember: The white hat is concerned with information; stay neutral and objective.)

Red Hat Thinking – Emotions/Feelings

Choose an Aboriginal Australian from the Dictionary of Sydney's articles. Write an account (in the first person) of their experience of an event associated with the arrival of Europeans. Your account must reflect this person's feelings.

Brainstorm a list of words to describe how YOU feel about the Aboriginal people's experience of the movement of people into their country.

(Remember: The red hat is all about feelings, intuition, hunches and emotions.)

Black Hat Thinking & Yellow Hat Thinking – Negative and Positive

Draw up a table that lists the advantages and disadvantages of the movement of people on the lives of Aboriginal Australians. Use evidence from the Dictionary of Sydney articles provided.

(Remember: The yellow hat is all about finding the positives, whilst the black hat is all about the negative viewpoint.)

Green Hat Thinking – creative thinking

Create an image or illustration that best describes or symbolises the experience of Aboriginal Australians during the period of early colonisation. Be sure to pay attention to the use colour to express emotion and meaning.

(Remember: The green hat is all about the creative effort.)

Blue Hat Thinking – metacognitive thinking (thinking about thinking!)

Decide on, organise and manage how the group will present their ideas to the class. (E.g. Will there be posters? A PowerPoint presentation? Speeches? Drama? Venn diagrams?, etc. In what order?)

Do not wait around until the other group members have completed their activity; you should be liaising with your group and organising how they will present their findings from the start. Plan the presentation by creating a written document that shows what the final product will look like. Include justifications for all decisions made.

(Remember: This hat is all about planning for, guiding towards and coordinating the final product.)