

Student Activities Sheets

A CREATIVE COMPETITION

Activity

Setting the scene

All cultures create objects and emblems whose purpose is to commemorate historical events, people or ideas that have meaning and value for the community at large. Commemorative works such as memorials are a physical expression of unity and beliefs within a community. As permanent objects, their strength resides in the fact that they will remain a lasting physical feature to be acknowledged by future generations.

What to do

- Become familiar with the National Police Memorial located in the national capital.
- Create a 1000-word competition brief for a memorial commemorating your school.

Include in your competition brief the following:

- The location of the memorial (supply photographs or drawings of the proposed site). Explain why you chose the site in relation to the school and its surrounds.
- Commemorative purpose. What key messages do you want the memorial to convey?
- Specific design requirements. Are there any size or height limitations? What durable materials will it be made of?
- Background information, including a history of your school and why it requires a memorial.
- Environmental impact. Can the site for the memorial be altered dramatically or does the memorial need to be sensitive to the surrounding landscape?
- Guidelines for disabled access.

Be creative

Produce a one-page media release to promote your competition. Use words and images that will encourage national media coverage.



NATIONAL POLICE MEMORIAL CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Activity

Setting the scene

In 2001, the Australasian Police Minister' Council resolved that a National Police Memorial be established in the nation's capital as a collaborative effort between the Australian Federal Police, state and territory police jurisdictions and Australia's police associations through the Police Federation of Australia.

Following this resolution, a Steering Committee was established which brought the project to fruition, overseeing every aspect, from site selection to design and construction. The Committee's efforts have resulted in a memorial of which they, the policing community and all Australians can be justly proud.

What to do

- Become familiar with the National Police Memorial situated in Kings Park, Canberra.
- Critically analyse the memorial, its role, function and commemorative purpose.
- Describe, in detail, the physical appearance of the National Police Memorial.

Answer the following questions:

- What does this memorial commemorate?
- What is the memorial's role and function?
- Do people have the opportunity to connect and find solace when visiting the memorial?
- Why is this memorial located in the national capital of Australia?
- Is it appropriate to build a national memorial in Canberra?
- How has the memorial affected the surrounding environment? Has the memorial enhanced or worsened the appearance of the area (include reference to lake vistas, vegetation and pedestrian traffic)?
- How will this memorial change in years to come?
- What is the educational purpose of the memorial?
- Does the memorial affect the reputation of Australian police officers?
- Is there a memorial commemorating police officers in your city or town?

Be creative

Instead of creating a memorial, think of other ways to commemorate the unpredictable nature of policing. What can your school do on National Police Remembrance Day to acknowledge the important role police officers play in the Australian community?