3. Bringing them home DVD

Part A

Before watching the *Bringing them home* DVD, read the questions below. While you are watching the DVD make some notes in the table provided.

Discussion questions	Notes
After the opening section, the DVD switches between different people's accounts of separation from their families.	
Choose one of these stories. Name the character you have chosen.	
What stood out about the story you have chosen? (List two things that happened to the person.)	
What experiences do the people in the DVD share with those from the stories you have read?	
The DVD shows some black and white newsreels from the main period when children were removed.	
What information do they give?	
Who would have been watching these newsreels when they were first shown?	
Many viewpoints are presented in the DVD. These include Professor Mick Dodson, Sir Ronald Wilson, viewpoints of various people in the newsreels and the personal stories at the beginning of the DVD. Which viewpoints are most believable? Why?	

Part B

Working in groups, read out the following newsreel transcripts from the DVD while remembering the images that were presented with the voiceovers.

Newsreel 1

'Children of the Melville Island Mission Station arrive in Melbourne where they await transfer to a country home. A little bewildered by it all at first, their shyness is soon conquered and they're just happy kids on a corroboree'

Newsreel 2

'Mother very soon realised that she was indeed amongst friends – people who really cared for her and for her baby. The Aborigine has become a vanishing race, except on mission stations.'

Images, texts and contexts

1.	Select some keywords from each newsreel. Discuss the attitudes, assumptions and general beliefs that surround these terms.
2.	What images accompanied each of the newsreel excerpts? What is the general tone of the newsreels? Describe how this tone is established.
3.	Whose voices are represented by the newsreel texts? Who is speaking? Who isn't speaking?

Ways of telling

1.	The second newsreel says that Indigenous women and their babies were 'amongst friends' on the missions. From your reading of the stories, what were conditions like on the missions for most Indigenous children?
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2.	How do the stories told by the newsreel compare and contrast with the stories told by Julie Lavelle and Peter Costello (interviewees)?
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