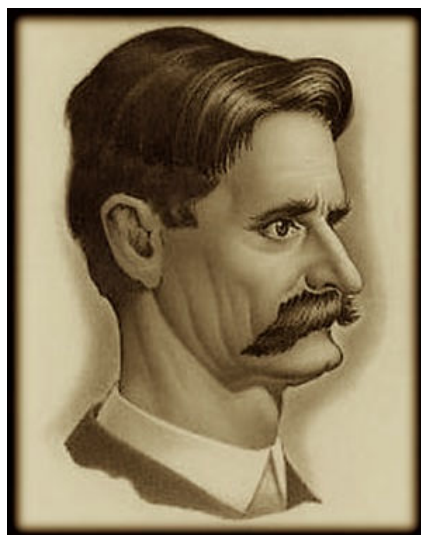


YEAR 12 STANDARD ENGLISH

PODCASTING TASK USING HENRY LAWSON'S SHORT STORIES



http://www.rba.gov.au/Museum/Displays/_Images/1960_1988/henry_lawson_big.jpg

The Task

To develop and trial a learning activity on the short stories of Henry Lawson using podcasting.

Process

1. Students will read the short stories of Henry Lawson – *The Drover's Wife*, *The Loaded Dog* and *In a Dry Season*.
2. Students will identify and explore the ways in which the “distinctively visual” images we see in the stories are created.
3. Students will be instructed on how to create a podcast using *Audacity*.
4. Students will write a “pitch” to a film producer promoting one of these stories as vastly suitable to be made into a film. Here students will stress the many visual elements in the story.
5. Students will turn this script into a podcast suitable for sending to a film producer.

The Pitch

Some suggestions for beginnings:

Mr Spielberg,

- “I believe I have a story that could become the next big movie blockbuster”.
- “Can you imagine...”
- “Do you want to give your audiences a big laugh”.

Body:

- You will need to give some details of the plot, characters, setting.

- You must emphasise the visual elements in the story – describe in some detail how Lawson creates his scenes and how successfully you believe these would translate to the big screen: eg the very visual description of the drover's wife after fighting the bushfire; all the visual elements of the chase in *The Loaded Dog*; the detailed descriptions of the character types in *In a Dry Season*.
- Respectfully suggest some camera shots and angles that could be used.
- Suggest style of music.
- Suggest some actors to play the roles.

Language: Persuasive language: very positive colourful descriptive words, some imperatives, quoting of some dialogue.

Length: 2-3 minutes.

Look at trailer for Baz Luhrmann's new film Australia at

<http://www.englishteacher.com.au/resources/LawsonAustralia.mov>.