Advanced English Module C

History and Memory

History and Memory

Related and supplementary texts

In this section of the course you must have a detailed understanding of your prescribed text and a variety of related texts of your own choosing. You must be able to compare and contrast your related texts with your prescribed text according to the issues that arise out of your study of History and Memory. Your related texts must represent a variety of forms.

The following is a list of possible related texts for you to explore. You do not have to choose from this list and it is meant as a starting point only. You should begin researching and selecting your related texts immediately and begin making notes on your chosen texts. Add to this list as new ideas come to mind.

For extended works such as novels, films and plays, try to select a number of key moments and passages that deal with the ideas about History and Memory to analyse in detail rather than the entire work.

NOVELS

Ackroyd, Peter Chatterton

The plot centres on the discovery by Charles Wychwood, an aspiring poet, of an old manuscript that he believes to have been written by Thomas Chatterton, the 18th-century English poet who committed suicide at 18. Or did he?

Ackroyd, Peter Dan Leno and the Limehouse Golem

A clever construction built from third person narrative, journal entries, court reports and genuine history. Ackroyd captures the atmosphere of Victorian London and many well known Londoners play cameo roles.

Ackroyd, Peter English music

Outside the hall in 1920s London where Timothy Harcombe works nightly with his father, a sign reads, "Clement Harcombe. Medium and Healer." But it is Timothy who seems to have the greater power.

Bradley, James Wrack F BRA:J

While searching for the wreck of a Portuguese ship in the sandhills of the southern coast of New South Wales, archaeologist David Norfolk stumbles upon the body of a man murdered fifty years before. In a shack nearby, an old man lies dying - he too knows something of the ship, and perhaps also its cnnection to the centuries-old enigma of Java la Grande, a shadowy continent to the south of Timor charted by French mapmakers in the 16th century.

Byatt, A.S. Possession: a romance F BYA:A

Two contemporary scholars, each studying one of two Victorian poets, reconstruct their subjects' secret extramarital affair through poems, journal entries, letters and modern scholarly analysis of the period.

Carey, Peter True history of the Kelly Gang F CAR:P

Carey's retelling of the Ned Kelly legend paints a vivid picture of an Australia where English landowners skim off the country's best territory while government land grants allow the settlers just enough acreage to starve.

Froer, Jonathan Safran Everything is illuminated

F FRO:J

With weathered photograph in hand, a young man visits the Ukraine to find the woman who might, or might not, have saved his grandfather from the Nazis. Accompanied by Alex, his youthful and seriously inadequate Ukranian translator, an old man haunted by his memories of

the war, and a mongrel bitch named Sammy Davis Jr Jr, he is led on a quixotic search across a devastated landscape and back into an unexpected past.

Ishiguro, Kazuo When we were orphans

F ISH:K

Moving between London and Shanghai of the inter-war years, this is a story of memory, intrigue and the need to return; of a childhood vision of the world surviving deep into adulthood, indelibly shaping a person's life.

Kundera, Milan The book of laughter and forgetting

F KUN:M

This book is a novel in the form of variations. Various parts follow each other like the various stages of a journey leading into the interior of a theme, the interior of a thought, the interior of a single, unique situation.

Marquez, Gabriel Garcia One hundred years of solitude

F MAR:G

A band of adventurers establish a town in the heart of the South American jungle. The occasion marks the beginning; of the world, of a great family, of a century of extraordinary events, and of a quite extraordinary novel.

Orwell, George Nineteen eighty-four

F ORW:G

Hidden away in the Record Department of the sprawling Ministry of Truth, Winston Smith skilfully rewrites the past to suit the needs of the Party. Yet he inwardly rebels against the harsh totalitarian world he lives in.

Orwell, George Animal farm

F ORW:G

At Farmer Jones' farm the pigs lead a revolt to drive out the humans and put themselves in charge of the new totalitarian state in this classic satire on communism.

Sebald, W.G. Vertigo

F SEB:W

Part fiction, part travelogue, the narrator of this compelling masterpiece pursues his solitary, eccentric course from England to Italy and beyond, succumbing to the vertiginous unreliability of memory itself.

Sebald, W.G. Rings of Saturn

F SEB:W

"The rings of Saturn" is a record of a journey on foot through coastal East Anglia. Sebald's own story becomes the conductor of evocations of people and cultures past and present.

Swift, Graham Waterland

F SWI:G

This is the story of Tom Crick, a history teacher whose subject is about to be squeezed out of the curriculum due to lack of relevance. Tom begins to tell his pupils 'relevant history' - the history of the Fens where they live.

POETRY

Heaney, Seamus New selected poems: 1966-1987

821.914 HEA

"Digging" (p.1) and "The follower" (p. 6)

Lowell, Robert

Robert Lowell: collected poems

811.52 LOW

"For the Union dead" (p. 376)

Wordsworth, William

Wordsworth, William: the major works

821.7 WOR:G

"Tintern Abbey" (p.131) and "The prelude" (book 1) (p.375)

DRAMA

Flannery, Peter Singer

Having formed a relationship with the daughter of his former Ukrainian guard at Auschwitz, Singer uses her as a decoy to trap her father. As he confronts the old man with his sins, we realise that the past can become a prison.

Mortimer, John A voyage round my father

This is the story of Clifford Mortimer, a strong-willed eccentric lawyer, as brave as he is stubborn. It is a touching portrait of fathers and sons and a celebration of life.

Stoppard, Tom Arcadia

822.914 STO

Arcadia is a brilliantly inventive play that moves back and forth between centuries, populated by a varied and vastly entertaining cast of characters. Included in *Tom Stoppard : Plays 5-* a collection of 5 plays.

Stoppard, Tom Indian ink

822.914 STO

Flora Crewe, a young poet travelling in India in 1930, has her portrait painted by an artist. Over 50 years later, the artist's son visits Flora's sister in London while her would-be biographer is following a cold trail in India. Included in *Tom Stoppard : Plays 5-* a collection of 5 plays.

Wright, Doug I am my own wife

The tale of an East German transvestite which, as a performance, became a political act. This piece is a one-character play and relates to a real-life transvestite who assumed several guises to survive.

NON-FICTION

Allende, Isabel Paula

F ALL:I

In 1991, Isabel Allende's daughter Paula fell gravely ill and sank into a coma. Allende wrote this account during the long hours spent in the corridors of a Madrid hospital and in a hotel room where she lived for several months.

Allende, Isabel My invented country: a memoir

863.64 ALL

Exploring the events of her life and the country in which she lived until Pinochet's military coup, Allende takes us on a highly personal tour through Chile, bringing it to life.

Axelrod, Toby Rescuers defying the Nazis: non Jewish teens who rescued Jews

940.5318 AXE

Many European Jews who survived the Holocaust did so with the help of non-Jews. This book describes the experience of a few young people who participated in the effort to save Jews from the Nazis.

Axelrod, Toby In the Camps: teens who survived the Nazi

940.5318 AXE

Concentration Camps

Among the first to die in Nazi concentration camps were the youngest and the oldest. Most of those who survived were teenagers. In this book individuals who were teenagers during the

Bird, Carmel (ed.) Stolen children: their stories

305.89915 STO

A collection of documents and personal stories of indigenous people that appear in the Report from the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission "Bringing them home".

Blum, Jenna Those who save us

Family secrets of Nazi Germany are told in two narratives that alternate between New Heidelberg, Minnesota, in the present, and the small town of Weimar near Buchenwald during World War II.

Clendinnen, Inga Tiger's eye

920 CLE

In her early 50s, Australian historian Inga Clendinnen found herself diagnosed with an incurable liver disease. As her body and her mind deteriorated, she felt a need to write -- about her childhood as well as her experience with illness. The result is Tiger's Eye, a moving story about the fragility of self and the strength of the creative spirit.

Fleming, Ann Marie The Magical Life of Long Tack Sam

GRA F FLE

A full-color graphic memoir inspired by the award-winning documentary - and the life and mystery of China's greatest magician. Who was Long Tack Sam? He was born in 1885. He ran away from Shangdung Province to join the circus. He was an acrobat. A magician. A comic. An impresario. A restaurateur. A theater owner. A world traveler. An East-West ambassador. A mentor to Orson Welles. He was considered the greatest act in the history of vaudeville. In this gorgeous graphic memoir, his great-granddaughter, the artist and filmmaker Ann Marie Fleming, resurrects his fascinating life for the rest of the world. It's an exhilarating testament to a forgotten man.

Hughes, John The idea of home

828.43 HUG

Hughes charts the effect that his mother's and grandparents' stories and memories of the Ukraine had on him as a child, and the way they shaped his imagination and determined his idea of himself.

Johnson, Len Love letters from a war: the letters of Corporal John 940.548 JOH Leslie Johnson & his family June 1940 - May 1941

A moving account of love and loss, of the daily minutiae of family life in a small rural community and of the hellish conditions of the Siege of Tobruk. It is the extraordinary story of an Australian family at war.

King, Jonathan Gallipoli: untold stories from war correspondent Charles 940.425 KIN Bean and front-line Anzacs

Tells the real story through the private diaries and newspaper reports of Charles Bean, Australia's official war correspondent and Sydney Morning Herald journalist.

Kustanowitz, Esther The hidden children of the Holocaust: teens who hid from 940.5318 KUS the Nazis

Very few children survived the Holocaust. Among those who did were children whose parents, anticipating the danger, sent their children out of Europe to safety. Other children survived either by disguise or by hiding.

Malouf, David 12 Edmondstone Street

828.33 MAL

Each house, like each place, has its own topography, its own lore. A complex history comes down to us, through household jokes and anecdotes, odd family habits and irrational superstitions that forever shape what we see.

Rosenberg, Jacob East of time

920 ROS

The setting is Lodz, Poland, in the years of the author's childhood, when he witnessed the grand belief in a just new world overtaken by the cataclysmic events of the 1930s, imprisoned between

the walls of ghettos, and finally silenced at Auschwitz. life

Richmond, Theo Konin: one man's quest for a vanished Jewish community

Richmond, a filmmaker living in England, offers a vivid portrait of Konin, the small town in Poland from which his parents came. He reflects on the vanishing world that he remembers hearing about from family, as he grew up.

Seymour, Miranda In my father's house

920 SEY

'Dear Thrumpton, how I miss you tonight,' wrote George Seymour in 1944, when he was aged twenty-one. But the object of his affection was not a young woman, but a house -- ownership of which was then a distant dream. Thrumpton, a beautiful country house in Nottinghamshire, the idyllic home where Miranda Seymour grew up. But her upbringing was far from idyllic, as life revolved around her father's capriciousness. The House took priority, and everything -- everyone -- else was secondary. Both biography and family memoir, this is a riveting and ultimately shocking portrait of desire both overt and suppressed and the devastating consequences of misplaced love.

OTHER NON-FICTION

Keating, Paul Speech: Funeral service of the Unknown Soldier 1993

Available at http://www.keating.org.au/main.cfm

Keating, Paul Speech: Port Moresby Anzac Day address 1992

Available at http://www.keating.org.au/cfm/details.cfm

"The Australians who served here in Papua New Guinea fought and died not in defence of the old world, but the new world. Their world. They died in defence of Australia ... battles in PNG were the most important ever fought".

Keating, Paul Speech: Remembrance Day address 1993

Available at http://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/keating.htm

Howard, John Speech: Remembrance Day commemorative address 1997

Available at http://www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/howard.asp

TELEVISION DRAMA

All the King's men

All the King's Men is the story of the rise and fall of a political titan in the Deep South during the 1930s. Willie Stark rises from hardscrabble poverty to become governor of his state and its most powerful political figure. From the novel by Robert Penn Warren.

Changi Written & directed by John Doyle

A moving account of the experiences and memories of a group of Australian Diggers held in the infamous Japanese prisoner of war camp.

Perfect strangers Stephen Poliakoff

A darkly comic tale of a young man coming face to face with his huge family - a variety of eccentrics, all of whom are hiding secrets from their past - at an elaborately organised family reunion, held in a grand London hotel.

Shooting the past

Stephen Poliakoff

Chris Anderson is developing a country house on the outskirts of London into a business school, which would be fine ... if it were not the home of a unique photographic collection, cared for by a small but determined staff.

FILMS

Eternal sunshine of the spotless mind (M) Director: Michael Gondry

DVD F ETE

A comical and poignant look at break-ups, breakdowns and breakthroughs. Joel is stunned to discover that his girlfriend, Clementine, has had their tumultuous relationship erased from her mind.

La Jetee (PG) Director: Chris Marker

DVD F LA

The story is almost entirely narrated using black and white stills. After Paris is destroyed by a third world war, the surviviors are forced to retreat underground where the scientists conduct strange time travel experiments in an effort to escape from a terrible present to a better past or future.

Persepolis (PG) Directed by: Marjane Satrapi and Vincent Paronnaud

DVD F PER

'Persepolis' is an animated film that tells the story of Marjane Satrapi's life in Tehran from the ages of six to fourteen, years that saw the overthrow of the Shah's regime, the triumph of the Islamic Revolution and the devastating effects of war with Iraq. Satrapi bears witness to a childhood uniquely entwined with the history of her country. When Marjane refuses to remain silent at the injustice she sees, her parents send her abroad to Vienna to study for a better life. There she finds herself in a different culture loaded with abrasive characters and profound disappointments that deeply trouble her. When she returns home, she finds that both she and her homeland have changed too much and she must decide where she truly belongs.

The nasty girl (PG)

DVD F NAS

Sonja is the pride of her small German town. She's innocent, intelligent and a successful teenage writer. But when she wants to write about 'Life in my town during the Third Reich', Sonja finds the whole town turning against her.

DOCUMENTARIES

Anker, Daniel

Hollywood and the Holocaust

Through film excerpts of Hollywood's most important Holocaust movies this documentary chronicles the American film industry's complex and contradictory responses to the horrors of Nazi Germany and how these films shaped our perception of World War II. This documentary examines America's film industry in the 1930s, showing that US political interests of the time and business links with Germany resulted in American newsreels being often nothing more than direct translations of Nazi propaganda.

Caneva, Lina

The mascot

The journey of Alex Kurzem, who is trying to reclaim his past from wartime Europe. While German death squads killed his family, Nazi soldiers saved him and transformed him into their five- year-old "Aryan mascot".

Channel Four (PBS)

The Blitz: London Firestorm

The Blitz innovatively mixes computer-generated images and archive footage to create visually spectacular scenes of an event that changed lives of so many, forever. On the evening of the 29th December 1940, the German Luftwaffe attacked London with devastating results. Tens of thousands of incendiary bombs were dropped on the heart of the city. Firemen and volunteer workers risked their lives fighting all night to control the burning buildings - many risking their lives. Many Londoners fled for the protection of shelters, uncertain if their home would still stand

after the bombing.

Chang, Jung Wild swans

This epic account of the lives of three generations of Chinese women captures the turbulent transformation of China in the 20th century. This recounts the family history interwoven with archival and contemporary footage.

Denton, Andrew Andrew Denton's Gallipoli: Brothers in arms

The Dawn Service at Anzac Cove in Gallipoli, once a modest gathering of souls, has become an event on a scale that rivals the original invasion, as more Australians are drawn to its shores year after year.

In 2006, Andrew Denton went to meet some of these pilgrims, to listen to their stories, to ask why they had made the journey and what they were learning from it.

Focusing on the war-time experiences of three pairs of brothers, as told by the families who remember them, Andrew returned with a portrait of a special place, which then as now, is crucial to our understanding of ourselves and our nation.

Field, Connie The life and times of Rosie the riveter

During World War II women flocked to war production work as an opportunity to learn new skills and make higher wages. The documentary presents these women's experiences as they developed throughout the war years.

Film Australia The Buchenwald Ball

This is a film about a group of men, now in their seventies and eighties, who, as boys, survived the Nazi concentration camps of World War Two. They came to Australia at the end of the war in Europe after they were liberated from Buchenwald, a notorious concentration camp in Germany. The film focuses on how they have rebuilt their lives after a childhood and adolescence of loss and horror. It is an intensely moving and uplifting study of memory, loss, friendship and family. An important first-hand account of what happened to many Jewish people during and after the Second World War, this story of resilience and courage is told with humour and optimism.

Fimeri, Wain Love letters from a war

Composed of both archival and re-created drama, "Love letters from a war" is told in John and Josie Johnson's own words, as they come to terms with being apart and the uncertainty of World War Two.

Four corners (ABC) Gallipoli, the fatal shore

The Gallipoli campaign from both the Anzac and Turkish perspectives. It explodes some old myths and provides new facts through interviews with Anzac and Turkish veterans of Gallipoli, archival footage and reconstruction.

Moll, James The last days

This documents the memories of those who lived through the Holocaust by recording the stories of five Hungarian Jews, now living in the United States, who managed to survive. Most telling are the details.

Morris, Errol The fog of war: eleven lessons from the life of Robert S. McNamara

Robert S. McNamara discusses his experiences and lessons learned during his tenure as Secretary of Defence under John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson.

Singer, Henry 9/11: The Falling Man

It was one of the most photographed and videotaped moment in history - two of the world's tallest buildings destroyed by hijacked planes. A photo of a falling man was the most controversial and one of the most unforgettable images from 9/11. This documentary details Esquire journalists Tom Junod's efforts to identify the man in the stark photograph - falling, headfirst, after he jumped from the burning upper reaches of one of the stricken towers. The

picture of the Falling Man, frozen in midair, is almost zen-like with his body parallel with the twin towers of the World Trade Centre. The photo was considered exploitative and voyeuristic and was rarely seen again. Shown instead, were the more acceptable pictures of the heroic deeds of rescuers working through the rubble.

Thomas, Anthony (M) Tiananmen Square: the Tank Man

On June 5, 1989, one day after Chinese troops expelled thousands of demonstrators from Tiananmen Square in Beijing, a solitary, unarmed protester stood his ground before a column of tanks advancing down the Avenue of Eternal Peace. Captured by Western photographers watching nearby, this confrontation became an icon of the fight for freedom around the world. The search for the identity, fate, and significance of the Tank man to the Chinese leadership reveals China's startling social compact- its embrace of capitalism while squashing dissent - designed to stifle the nationwide unrest of 1989.

WEBSITES

Australian memories of the Holocaust

www.holocaust.com.au

Designed to impart information about the Holocaust, also known as the Shoah: the persecution and mass murder of European Jewry and other minority groups which occurred in Europe from 1933-45. The site is aimed at students, teachers and people with a genuine and serious interest in the subject. imperative to teach Alongside the summary information about each main topic of study appear the memories of people who experienced the events first hand and are now living or lived in Australia.

Holocaust Cybrary remembering the survivors

www.remember.org

Forum for Holocaust survivors and their descendants, to promote remembrance.

The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority www.yadvashem.org
Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, is the Jewish people's memorial to the murdered Six Million and
symbolizes the ongoing confrontation with the rupture engendered by the Holocaust.

Holocaust Survivors

www.holocaustsurvivors.org

An excellent educational resource about the Nazi Holocaust of Jews in World War II, which includes interviews, photographs and audio.

OTHER

Briggs, Raymond

Ethel & Ernest: a true story

GRAF BRI:R

This is the story of Raymond Brigg's parents from their first chance encounter to their deaths, told in unique strip-cartoon format. This is the reality of two decent, ordinary lives, of two people who become representative of us all.

Clendinnen, Inga

Building Treblinka from Agamemnon's Kiss: selected essays

828.43 CLE

A thrilling selection of essays by one of Australia's most celebrated writers. Clendinnen writes about everything from the books that terrified her as a child to what history can teach us about our own times.

Clendinnen, Inga Essay - The History Question: who owns the past? CR 003319
This article discusses problems involved with the goal of (former) Australian Prime Minister John

Howard to improve the state of teaching history in schools. The Prime Minister desires a structured narrative which is an objective record of achievement that would make Australians proud of their country, forebears and themselves. The author pointed out that human affairs would always involve more than one narrative. The song "Waltzing Matilda," by Banjo Paterson is discussed.

Fleming, Ann Marie The Magical life of Long Tack Sam GRA F FLE

A tale of the life and mystery of China's greatest magician. Who was Long Tack Sam? He was born in 1885. He ran away from Shangdung Province to join the circus. He was an acrobat, magician and comic: an East-West ambassador, and was considered the greatest act in the history of vaudeville. In this memoir, his great-granddaughter, the artist and filmmaker Ann Marie Fleming, resurrects his fascinating life for the rest of the world.

Satrapi, Marjane Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood GRA F SAT: M

The story of a girl growing up in Iran during the Revolution, Persepolis tells the story of Marjane Satrapi's life in Tehran from the ages of six to fourteen, years that saw the overthrow of the Shah's regime, the triumph of the Islamic Revolution and the devastating effects of war with Iraq.

Satrapi, Marjane Persepolis 2: The Story of a Return GRA F SAT: M Here we follow Satrapi through the next eight years of her life: four years of high school in Vienna, followed by four years back home in what is now a fundamentalist Iran.

Spiegelman, Art The Complete Maus: a survivor's tale GRA F SPI:A

This is the story of Vladek Spiegelman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe, and his son, a cartoonist coming to terms with his father's story. *Maus* approaches the unspeakable through the diminutive. Spiegelman portrays the Nazis as cats, the Jews as mice, the Poles as pigs and the Americans as dogs. They are all terrifyingly human. Its form - the cartoon - shocks us out of any lingering sense of familiarity and succeeds in drawing us closer to the bleak heart of the Holocaust.