

AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENT: TELLING A STORY

This authentic assessment example is from an Art and Education Unit called Making a Healthy Planet: Transdisciplinary Transformations from the Graduate Certificate in Planetary Health degree.

The contributing Academics are Dr Helen Widdop-Quinton and Associate Professor Jeannie Rea.

Overview	Length	Weighting	Due
Write a non-fiction narrative blog post telling the story of a community that has initiated and followed through actions contributing to making a healthy planet.	1500 words	25%	After Session 2 of 8

Purpose

The purpose of this assessment task is to:

- Build upon your learning over the previous three units as you apply knowledge and skills to a challenge to write about others, respectfully recognising their standpoints and perspectives, whilst acknowledging your own subject position
- Draw upon the traditions of storytelling, as well as contemporary analysis and practice, to write a non-fiction narrative blog post
- Address complex issues through a transdisciplinary lens and social change discourse informed by Indigenous critical studies

It aligns with the following learning outcomes:

LO1: Identify and evaluate transdisciplinary discourses and movements addressing complex issues and challenges to making a healthy planet for all

LO2: Critically assess theories on the conditions for social change and apply to a contemporary example of community capacity building and resilience

Assessment requirements

In your planetary health studies, you have used different communicating formats. In this task, you will tell the story of a community that initiated and followed through on actions contributing to making a healthy planet. Your story-telling will draw on further practice and wisdom – a touch of the creative writer, investigative journalist, oral historian, educating Elder and the fireside spinners of yarns.

You can make your own choices about what constitutes a community. You may want to consider a possible angle, such as from the point of view of an individual or group, e.g. children, young men, older women, etc. Reference your work in the usual way.

Post your story on the class blog site and invite responses from peers.

Instructions

1. Carefully read the assessment requirements, criteria and rubric for this task
2. Read some examples of narrative stories
3. Find a topic to write about – noting you are telling the story of a community that has actively engaged in making a healthy planet
4. Make notes of what “facts” you want to use – noting too what you need to reference
5. Start constructing your narrative – the tale you want to tell
6. Write a first draft – consider whether it reads like an essay or report, or a long blog that others may be attracted to read
7. Finalise your work and submit it to the class blog site after Session 2

Assessment criteria

Criterion 1: The “telling of the story”

Criterion 2: Engagement through a transdisciplinary lens, considering social change discourse informed by post-colonial and Indigenous critical studies

Criterion 3: Contribution to the discourse of making a healthy planet