

Activity 1: (Answers) Completion of the crossword below, will introduce a few keywords that will be used throughout this presentation.

N X O M **N** N O D J E C D S O **R**  
A N L R T **O** C L U F **E** Q J W **E**  
Z R O K B K **I** R M **P** Y S A W **S**  
**C** **U** **L** **T** **U** **R** **E** **T** **A** **T** **G** R M T **U**  
O C P H K O X **C** **A** **U** V V I K **R**  
Z N Z O I K **S** Y **M** **I** F Z N H **R**  
C V A C E **D** O **M** F P **T** R J E **E**  
**R** **E** **C** **O** **N** **C** **I** **L** **I** **A** **T** **I** **O** **N** **C**  
Z B P **A** H **N** H L X J K B **N** H **T**  
U Q **L** D **G** W W G A L S I L **I** **I**  
Q A Y **U** C C K R O B T A G B O  
C N **R** **T** **N** **A** **C** **I** **F** **I** **N** **G** **I** **S** **N**  
T **R** Y H Q P F L J U M I W C G  
**U** A F K X V O A A R S W W I O  
H D F A N Y M G E H Y Y D F R

1. What is the name of the stone arrangement site? *Gummingurru*
2. If you were required to perform a tradition as part of joining a club, what would the process be called? *initiation*
3. What is the word for something of great importance or meaning? *significant*
4. Ideas, customs or traditions that belong to a particular society. *culture*
5. A piece of land as a whole rather than just a point. *landscape*
6. When two parties recognise differences and forget past indiscretions. *reconciliation*
7. If someone was to rise from the dead or if a place was used again for a purpose, what could this be called? *resurrection*

Activity 2: (Answers) From information in the presentation, imagine the year is 1880 and Gummingurru is still ceremonially used by Aboriginal people. Complete the following question.

What part does Gummingurru play in the Bunya nut festival? (hint: What is the traditional use of Gummingurru?)

*Aboriginal culture recognises an affiliation with the land rather than one particular point or location. The bunya nut festival is a place where Aboriginal Clans meet to socialize, trade discuss issues and settle disputes. Initiation into adulthood is a requirement to be able to attend the bunya nut festival. Gummingurru is a male bora ground, a place for young men to be initiated into adulthood, and so was an important stop for Aboriginal Clans travelling to the bunya nut festival.*

What do stone arrangements at Gummingurru signify?

*The stone arrangements at Gummingurru represent Aboriginal history, laws, yuri's (totems), beliefs, traditions and practices. Stone arrangements at Gummingurru are associated with other sites in the landscape by stories and songs.*

Gummingurru has both physical and non-physical (e.g beliefs, songs, stories) significance to Aboriginal people. Describe components of each.

*The stone arrangements at Gummingurru hold the physical significance of the site to Aboriginal people. Stone arrangements represent evidence of Aboriginal people's past occupation and affiliation with the land. They are arranged in ways to physically signify non-physical components of Aboriginal culture. For example, they are like a book for Aboriginal people to interpret. Stone arrangements identify stories that are cultural significant to Aboriginal people.*

Activity 3: (Answers) This presentation is similar to activity 2 except that we are back in the present day. Complete the following questions.

How has the cultural significance of Gummingurru changed from 1880?

*For a number of reasons some of the non-physical components of Gummingurru have been lost to current day Australians and Aboriginal Australians. As part of resurrecting the site, Aboriginal people are using Gummingurru for reconciliation, creation of an understanding between cultures, to teach younger generations and a way of allowing Aboriginal people to reconnect to their past ceremonies and traditions.*

How are Aboriginal and Europeans views of culture different?

*This question is based on physical and non-physical components of cultural heritage. European views are mostly associated with physical cultural heritage such as an object or location. This has caused Gummingurru to become seen as a cultural heritage location rather than as a greater part of the landscape and the bunya nut festival. An example of this is the preservation of Gummingurru, while other sites in the area associated with the Bunya nut festival have since been lost.*

How has Gummingurru changed since European settlement?

*Since settlement of the area, Aboriginal ceremonies at Gummingurru have ended. Aboriginal people were removed from the area which meant a loss of traditional use at the site. There has been a lack of recognition of the non-physical aspects of the site by western culture. European land practices such as grazing and the lack of knowledge of the site has seen a number of stones moved from their original positions. Currently at the site a number of stones have been used to hold fence posts in position.*

Do you think current day management of Gummingurru effects cultural significance?

*Current day management includes brush cutting, slashing, burning and the lifting of stones out of the ground. There is no real right or wrong answer to this question; it is an opinionative question to get the students thinking. In the past it is believed that on returning to the site for ceremonies, Aboriginal people moved dislodged stones back to their original position so it can be argued that this is a continuation of tradition by Brian. This can also be seen as a resurrection of the site by Brian (current custodian).*

How has settlement affected the physical and non-physical aspects of Gummingurru compared to activity 2?

*In post Aboriginal times much of the cultural significance has been lost. Because most Aboriginal history is verbal, gaps in generation or dislocation from country has meant that the meaning of stone arrangements at Gummingurru are not fully understood. This has placed a greater significance on the physical components of Gummingurru.*

Activity 4: (Answers) Compare your answers to activities 2 and 3, and arrange the main points and differences in the table below.

*Students should be able to recognise a number of difference between the two time periods. By placing them in a table format it is expected that they will be able to put the differences into better perspective.*

Activity 5: (Answers) Student Reflections

Briefly write a reflection about your time at Gummingurru. Things to include can be, what you thought of the site, what you think is important about the site, what is the value of the site as a reconciliation tool and if past cultural significance is being maintained by current day practices (in terms of both Aboriginal and European cultural perceptions).

*This question is purely based on the students' perceptions and views of Gummingurru. The question is aimed at combining the answers from all the activities, as well as student experiences at the site to identify changes in the cultural significance of Gummingurru from past and present and how these are managed current day.*