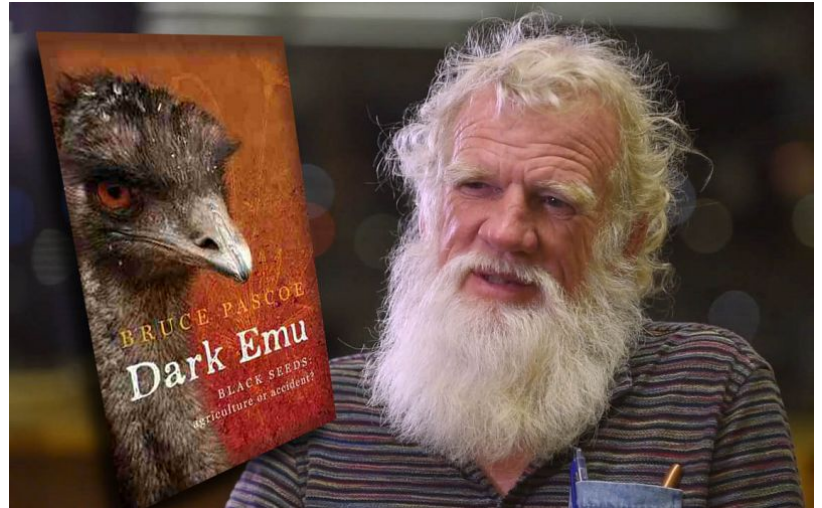
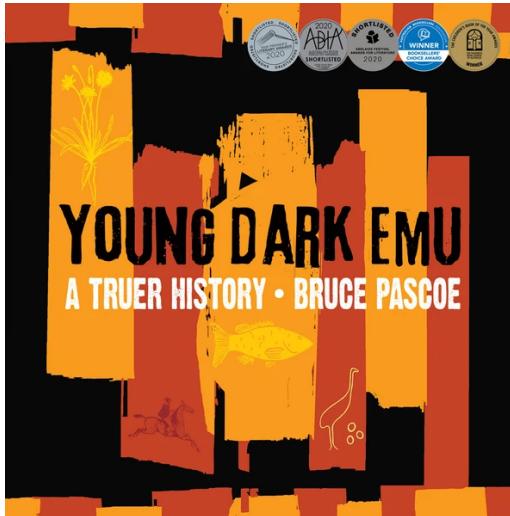


Online reading lesson 10 - Young Dark Emu

Clarifying words using Google.



- For this lesson, you are going to read one page from an information text, called "Young Dark Emu" by Bruce Pascoe. It is a young person's version of a text called "Dark Emu" also by Bruce Pascoe.
- His books use letters and diary entries from early European colonists to encourage modern Australians to consider why Australia was a fertile landscape before European colonisation.

Try your best to read this page or ask someone to read it with you:





68 SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

Australia is a drying continent. Climate change is leading us to look at things in different ways.

Indigenous species of plants and animals are hardy – they are already adapted to the Australian environment. They do not require any more water than the Australian climate supplies, no more fertiliser than our soils already contain and, as they are adapted to Australian pests, they need no pesticides.

These plants are an environmental boon. Apart from the fact that they are perennial with large root masses adapted to dry conditions, they sequester carbon. This means that they capture carbon dioxide before it enters the atmosphere and contributes to climate change. If we dedicated only 5 per cent of our current farming lands to these plants we would go a long way to meeting our carbon emission targets.

- I bet that you found that pretty difficult to read 😞, I know that I did!
- A lot of the words that the author uses will be new words to you.
- If you can clarify the meanings of those words, the whole page should be easier to understand.





- I am going to choose a word that I am unsure about - **indigenous** -
- Now I'm going to use a modern method of finding the meaning, which is perfect for an online lesson - use **Google!**

The screenshot shows a Google search results page for the word "indigenous". The search bar at the top contains the word "indigenous". Below the search bar, the results are categorized under "Dictionary". The word "indigenous" is displayed with its phonetic transcription "/ɪnˈdɪdʒɪnəs/" and the part of speech "adjective". The definition provided is "originating or occurring naturally in a particular place; native. 'the indigenous peoples of Siberia'". Below the definition, there are several "Similar" words: native, aboriginal, local, original, earliest, first, initial, and ancient. On the right side of the page, there is a section titled "See results about" which includes two suggestions: "Indigenous peoples" and "Indigenous Australians".

- Most of you have probably done this before, just type the word into google search, press go, and you can see the definition, google even tells you how to say the word.
- I can read that "**indigenous**" means originating in a particular place.
- Now I'm going to put this information into a table ↓
- Your task is to complete the table, I have included two more words from the text. You must choose four other words to clarify (find out the meaning) and create your own sentences.



Words, Meanings and Sentences.

Word	Meaning	My sentence
indigenous	Originating in a particular place.	Wombats are <i>indigenous</i> to Australia.
environment		
climate		