

# Student Activity

## Word blast from the past!

The following words appear in the YA novel, *In Lonnie's Shadow*.

Test your knowledge about them: Match a word from the word list with its meaning from those given on the following page.

Write your answers here: (E.G.1. j)

ANSWER BOX

1. \_ 2. \_ 3. \_ 4. \_ 5. \_ 6. \_ 7. \_ 8. \_ 9. \_ 10. \_ 11. \_ 12. \_ 13. \_ 14. \_ 15. \_ 16. \_

### Word list

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Blinkers         | 9 Horse brass     |
| 2 Bustle           | 10 Larrikins      |
| 3 Dark lantern     | 11 Macassar       |
| 4 Duck shoving     | 12 Night horse    |
| 5 Filigree         | 13 On the wallaby |
| 6 Fob watch        | 14 Plum duff      |
| 7 Glass and Bottle | 15 Stave          |
| 8 Hobble           | 16 The Push       |

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## **Meanings**

- a. Cabman's phrase. Think of our modern taxi rank but with horse drawn cabs! Instead of the cabbies lining up at a cab rank and waiting their turn in a queue for a fare, they would pick up clients who waved them down in the street, or go touting up and down in the neighbourhood of the taxi rank. These days we call it 'queue jumping'.
- b. Tramping around the country on foot, either looking for work or food, or aimlessly wandering by day and begging for food and shelter of a night. Often in the bush the only tracks visible were those worn down by the wallabies. Going along these tracks may lead to water, or be aimless and rambling.
- c. Tying legs together to keep horses from straying, which caused horses to walk lamely.
- d. Gang of larrikins, who roamed the streets using broken bottles as weapons.
- e. Term commonly used for a quiet old horse, kept outside overnight on a homestead and used to muster the other horses in the morning.
- f. Playful youngsters or youthful hoons. Used for streetwise gangs, also known as 'roughs', who roamed around. Thought to come from 'larking about', or from the French *larron* which signifies a thief.
- g. Once a prison term. Thieves' English for a crowd or a group involved in a robbery. Commonly used to describe a gang of larrikins, who often took on the street or place name (e.g. The North Melbourne...).
- h. Hair oil.
- i. An ornament displayed on a horse's harness.
- j. Flaps on a bridle to stop a horse from seeing sideways.
- k. A pad, cushion or wire framework worn under the dress of women. This puffed out the dress on the back part of the body below the waist.
- l. Lacy, delicate and ornamental ironwork used to decorate building exteriors.
- m. One of the thin narrow pieces of wood used to form the sides of a cask, tub or barrel.
- n. Watch, commonly attached to a chain, which fits into a small pocket.
- o. Suet pudding with raisins and currants.
- p. Lantern with shades to cover the light if needed.

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***Teacher's Guide:***

ANSWERS to Word blast from the past!

1j, 2k, 3p, 4a, 5l, 6n, 7d, 8c, 9i, 10f, 11h, 12e, 13b, 14o, 15m, 16g

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