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| Understanding Theme |  | EnglishYear 9Term 3 2015 |
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| OverviewStudents need to understand that a film has a message and that they can write an essay about a message just as we have written about characteristics.ObjectivesUsing the website misslawler.com – explain to students how to find a theme in a text using a Hobbit example. Students will be familiar with this from last term. Then ask them to think of message from Simon Birch. Class brainstorm* Students will recall their knowledge of The Hobbit and learn to understand theme
* Students will think about theme in relation to Simon Birch and do a range of activities according to skill level.

ActivitiesStudents will watch 3 clips from the film based on the idea of Tolerance Definition: Putting up with other people whose opinions or behaviours you don’t like.* 9:15 Miss Leavy shows no tolerance
* 1.13 Rev Russell shows no tolerance
* 40.30 Ben shows tolerance
* 1.25 and 1.38 Joe shows no tolerance

Students will work in study groups according to ability (as designed at the end of last term)Advanced students will write an essay over 2 lessons based on the theme.Middle level students will follow some structured questions and discussion activities to improve their ability to explainBasic level students will work with teacher to enable them to produce one theme paragraph using SEED structureAdaptationsEvaluation |  | Materials* Website resource
* Learning groups
* Pre-written essay laminated for Sharks

Other ResourcesExamples of other themes in the film:Religious Belief – your life is pre-determined by a higher powerLove – Simon’s love for Rebecca and JoeDetermination – Joe in his quest to find his father, Simon in his drive to be a heroGrowing Up – There comes a time in everyone’s life where things change and you have to accept and adapt to those situations |