# BlackWords Short Story Lesson Plans

# ‘Show Day’ by Adrian Stanley

The following questions are designed to support the reading and comprehension of ‘Show Day’ by Adrian Stanley. The framework used the [taxonomy of skills in reading and interpreting fiction](https://www.jstor.org/stable/1162351?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents) designed by George Hillocks and Larry Ludlow (1984).

## Literal Level

**1. Basic Stated Information**

On what basis are the judges for the show selected?

**2. Key Detail**

1. What punctuation mark does Stanley use throughout the story when using the word Aboriginal?
2. What title is given to Horrie, the owner of the hardware shop?
3. What type of beer does Horrie brew?

**3. Stated Relationship**

1. How do Carl and Tracey know the judges?
2. What criteria do the judges use for selecting the winning cake and beer?

## Inferential Level

**4. Simple Implied Relationship**

1. What words would you use to capture the personalities of My Grey, the green grocer, and Mrs Farquhar, the baking judge?
2. What is the difference between the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander use of the title ‘uncle’ and its use in this story?
3. What is the significance of the mopoke call at the end of the story?

**5. Complex Implied Relationship**

1. What impression are readers left with about this small country town and people who live in it (including the judges), and their relationships?
2. In what sense might Stanley being using show day in this small country town in a metaphorical way or as an analogy?

**6. Author’s Generalisation**

What might Adrian Stanley have to say about the on-going consequences of racism for Aboriginal (and Torres Strait Islander) Peoples?

**7. Structural Generalisation**

The story centres on one day in the life of a town, show day. What opportunities does this provide for the writer? How does this focus play a role in influencing our interpretation of people, relationships and events?