

The art of the Torres Strait tells stories both ancient and contemporary, and is celebrated around the world. This work by F.J. Mye (2008) refers to The Coming of the Light or the arrival of Christianity to the island of Erub in 1871, an event which is still celebrated today.

Look closely at this artwork and list the elements of the **natural environment** that you recognise:

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Do you feel this work depicts:  
*(circle your answer)*  
balance **or** imbalance  
harmony **or** conflict  
symmetry **or** irregularity  
a clear **or** confused sense of culture  
times past **or** times present

What symbols do you see that connect to the culture of the **Torres Strait Islander people**?

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2/20                      *Coming of the light*                      F.J. Mye, 2008

What **symbols of Christianity** do you see in this work?

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What method and medium has the artist used to make this work?

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What do the numbers **2/20** mean?

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What **viewpoint** or **message** might the artist be trying to communicate in this work?

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Lindeman Island became a popular tourism destination in the 1920s following interest from marine scientists conducting expeditions to study the reef. The local Ngaro people who has previously fought to protect their lands, were recruited as a source of cheap labor. Exotic images of coconut palms and Islanders dancing the hula in grass skirts and leis appeared before the Ngaro people disappeared from promotional materials all together in the later 1960s and early 1970s.

What does the Great Barrier Reef promotional poster tell you about the lifestyle of **Australians at the time**?

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List four key words to **describe** the Lindeman Island colour poster from the 1950s.

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Does it make you want to go for a **holiday** to the Great Barrier Reef? Why?

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**Lindeman Island, Great Barrier Reef, Frank Rowland (1959)**

Juxtaposed against Bustard's peaceful tropical paradise this later advertising poster highlights the dynamic sport of water skiing, which was relatively new and rising in popularity in Australia in the 1930s and into the 1940s .



**Lindeman Island cruise and tariff brochure (1962)**

This brochure from the early 1960s highlights the move away from depictions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to indeterminate 'Pacific Islanders', symbolised by girls dancing on the beach in the moonlight wearing grass skirts and leis.

What do you notice about the sketch from the Lindeman Island brochure from 1962?

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How might the Ngaro people have felt about tourists visiting and enjoying the island?

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What does the term **'juxtaposition'** mean in relation to an artwork?

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Each of us has a story to tell, a place that resonates. Think of a place special to you or your family (past or present). Consider how place might juxtapose with culture. Culture may be your ancestry, religion, belief system or set of values.

Use symbols or imagery to plan an artwork that explores your culture and place.

Sketch and annotate three options; experimenting with composition and colour as you plan.



**Option 1:**

**Culture** has been represented by:

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**Place** is represented by:

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**Option 2:**

**Culture** has been represented by:

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**Place** is represented by:

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**Option 3:**

**Culture** has been represented by:

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**Place** is represented by:

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