This text deals primarily with the journey of ‘Mary’ back to his final resting place. However, there are many other journeys that either take place or are referred to within the text.

**Task 1**

How many journeys can you identify? Think of personal, spiritual and historical journeys as well as the more concrete ones. Add them to the mind map below:

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**Did you include any of the following?**

- John’s learning journey as he discovers more about his country and its history.
- The journey of the indigenous people in establishing equal rights.
- The voyages of discovery by the Dutch and British.
- The journey of the black cockatoo feathers, from bird to headdress to ceremony.
- The journeys of the indigenous people to the handover ceremony.
Journeys

Task 2

Working with a partner, choose one of these journeys to explore in more detail. Select five key moments from the journey and represent them using either hot-seating or storyboarding. Show your work to the rest of the class, who should be able to guess whose journey you are depicting.

Task 3

Now focus on John’s personal journey. Which do you think are the five key moments in the journey he takes? Choose the most important moments from the selection below and then chart them as an emotion graph by cutting them out and sticking them to the bottom of the graph below, in the order in which they occur in the book.

Use the x axis to represent time and the y axis to represent emotional tension. On your graph, plot how John’s emotional state changes over time.

- He visits the burial site of Mary.
- He remembers watching *Skippy the Kangaroo*.
- He rejects modern medicine.
- He sees the Murray River.
- He tells Craig about Mary.
- His wife stops him reading about the history of Australia.
- He sees the map of tribal Australia.
- John tells his class about Mary.
- He feels depressed and is prescribed pills by the doctor.
- He collects the headdress from Fiona and Bianca meets Ebony.
- John sees a black cockatoo.
- He persuades his father to return Mary to his people.
John’s emotional journey

John tells his class about Mary.

Low tension

High tension

Time