

ACTIVITY 01

Describing the Escapee

LEARNING AREA:	Auslan (V9) – L1 pathway
YEAR LEVEL(S):	7-8 (Year 7 entry)

CONTENT DESCRIPTIONS	CONTENT ELABORATIONS
<p><i>Interacting in Auslan:</i> Interact with others using modelled language to exchange information in familiar contexts about self and personal worlds.</p> <p>AC9L1AU8EC01</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> describing and comparing people and objects using depicting signs.

LEARNING INTENTION/S

I will describe the deaf convict James Smith’s physical appearance. I will make use of depicting signs to describe his scars, tattoos, and other marks.

SOURCES

General introduction to the convict system (video)
 James Smith story (curator video)
 James Smith’s Convict Indent (document)
 James Smith’s Certificate of Freedom (document)
 Student Handout

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Show the video “General introduction to the convict system” or give a teacher-led explanation of the system.
2. Print James Smith’s Certificate of Freedom, discuss descriptive remarks about him (clarifying that many are descriptions of tattoos).
3. Assign students to work in groups of two or three, adopting roles of police/prison officer/newspaper reporter and witnesses/fellow convicts.
4. Police officer to question witnesses in Auslan about appearance of James Smith, in order to develop an identikit picture of him.
5. Witnesses to describe Smith in Auslan, using the Certificate of Freedom remarks, ensuring that they use at least three depicting signs.
6. Students to switch roles if time allows.

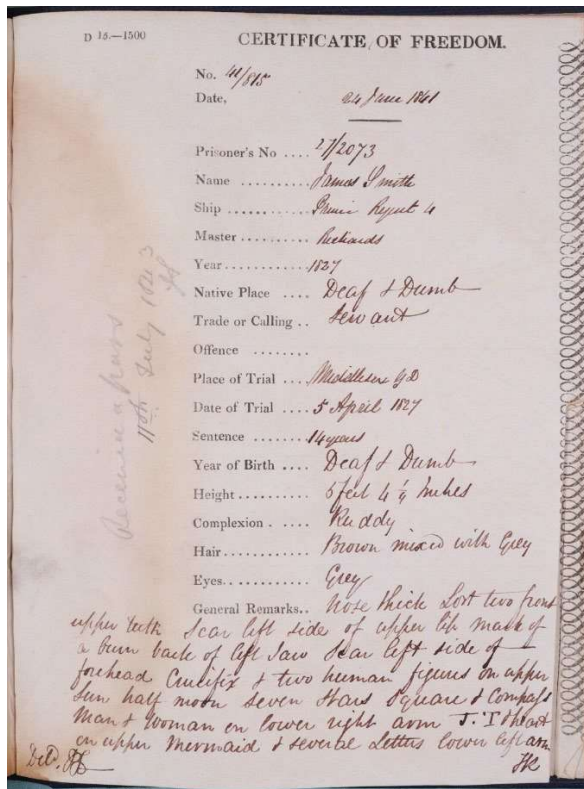
KEY CONCEPTS/VOCABULARY

Convict, scar, tattoo, other...

Describing the Escapee

Deaf convict James Smith was a bit of a wild character. The police are after him this time, and they need a good description. Practice describing him so that the police can find him. You can use the description on his Certificate of Freedom.

Certificate of Freedom from 1841



Transcript of the description:

Nose thick Lost two front upper teeth Scar left side of upper lip Mark of a burn back of left jaw Scar left side of forehead Crucifix & two human figures on upper Sun half-moon seven stars square & compass Man & Woman on lower right arm J. T & heart on upper mermaid & several Letters lower left arm.

- Work in groups of two or three
- One person is a policeman or newspaper reporter, trying to draw an identikit to help identify James, who has run away (again!).
- The other group member/s are witnesses. Use the description of James to describe him in detail to the police.
- Conversation should be in Auslan, and your description must include at least three depicting signs.
- See how close the identikit is to the description on James' certificate.