

Question 1:

- a) One particular message that highlights an aspect of belonging, or not belonging, in this case, is the image of "paper scraps/draw themselves aside". As the person walks along the road, they feel as if they have no connection to any other soul in the town, not even to the paper littered along the road.
- b) Belonging is expressed in the script through dialogue. We see that the father belongs to a place because he feels that he "signed on the dotted line" making the land his. He works hard "to make it pay" and he has a sense of familiarity with this land, knowing the boundaries and having a ~~good~~ sense of connection through the camp fires. Likewise, Albert feels a connection to place and time saying that "this land, consumes me". He explicitly states "here where I belong" as generations "past to infinity" have had that connection to the land.
- c) A sense of community is created by the website through the use of interactivity and layout. It is possible to "Submit Your Story" inviting the responder to participate in this sense of community and belonging. Furthermore, the actual content of the story is given prominence on the website with your eyes drawn towards the story emphasised by the italics. The actual content in this particular example heightens the sense "of people getting together" and helping one another out.
- d) The writer of this article has made an explicit connection between the general store and the community by showing it as a place where people "gravitate towards" where a familiarity is shown particularly through the ~~fact~~ fact that the general store

is the go to place in the event of any event. The general store is described as a "community tradition", a "local connection" and this has been proposed as something people desire, an "old friend" not just a "self-serve supermarket" but a place that makes shopping a more social and "personal affair".

e) We can compare Back In Business with One Night The Moon to see how both texts demonstrate a vital desire to belong to a place, have a sense of place. Back In Business shows that the general store was a familiar place where everything that one needed could be sourced. The author shows this by listing off a range of items "from Roman Candles ... to footwear". The author demonstrates that the shop keeper Morris Pratt knew everyone well repeating the word "well" to emphasise this before ~~there~~ reinforcing her claim with examples. This sense of belonging to a place is directly stated by the author when she said that the general store taught her "what it meant to look out for others" ~~what and~~ more importantly - "how it felt to belong". This is the crux of just why the general shop makes the connection between place and belonging - it is the one place that ~~people~~ everyone in the community has in common.

Similarly, although there may not exist as strong a link between place and belonging, One Night The Moon certainly expresses a desire on behalf of the ~~personae~~ characters to belong to a place. The father bought the land and believes that it is his, he works hard to ensure that he looks after the land so he can "make it pay". He states that the land belongs to him and repeats three times "They won't take it away" expressing his conviction as to just how much the land connects him, makes him feel as though he belongs.

likewise, Albert states that "This land is me" showing an even stronger connection to place. This land is all that he has known, it's where he belongs, and where his ancestors have and always will belong. He too repeats that "They won't take it away" expressing with the father his strong convictions.

Both texts make the obvious connection between a sense of place and the concept of belonging, be it to that place, a community or otherwise.

Question 2:

Good morning ladies and gentlemen,

Belonging is up to you... clichéd as this may sound, it is a sad but true fact of life. Before I begin, ask yourself this, What is belonging? What does it mean? Do I belong? Today, I hope to challenge, even change, your perception of belonging.

So, what is belonging? Any ideas? ~~It~~ Each person's opinion of belonging is different. I'm not going to tell you that my view is correct and yours is wrong nor am I going to tell you that mine is the only belief. Instead, I'm going to challenge you to question your belief.

I believe that belonging comes with a sense of identity. It is human nature to want to belong, right? Don't you hate it when you turn up at a work conference and stand there by yourself? What's the first thing you do? Introduce yourself to others, get talking. See what I mean when I say we have an innate desire to belong?

But, at the same time, we desire to be individuals. Confused? None of us like to be exactly the same. Though we may belong to a certain group, we each have individual tastes, preferences. Take this iPhone. A rather bland, generic looking device, millions of people on Earth own exactly the same object. Yet, we each manage to find a way to different ourselves. An old coloured skin, an obscure wallpaper. Something different to make ourselves stand out in the crowd.

Now, I've just given you two completely competing statements. This is designed to make you THINK, think about your own situation, where you belong, do you belong? Hence I'm going to give you my explanation

to not accept, but to think about.

Humans are naturally or socially competitive. Most point really but let's accept the fact that we are. We each want a sense of identity, this is what the iPhone skin is. Yet at the same time, we all want to belong, this is why we BOUGHT the iPhone to start with, because Joe Bloggs bought one. But, my ~~exp~~ explanation here is that our innate sense of belonging is inextricably linked to our sense of competitiveness... especially in this line of work. Don't believe me, here's a more practical example.

You each are good friends but at the same time, you are each competing against each other. Competing for the highest profit, the largest sale, the biggest salary. Because each of you believes that this is what identifies you, why you belong in this business.

If ~~only~~ one of your team were to be given a chance to be promoted, earn double, all the perks and perqs. Which one of your "friends" would you stab in the back to get that promotion. Your identity in this business is linked to a monetary value and therefore, your belonging is linked to dollar sign. Why do you think I used the iPhone example instead of some cheap \$10 Nokia. Because the iPhone says "status", slapping on an expensive ~~skin~~ looking leather case says "more status".

I want you to leave and think about this. Do you really want your life's identity to be an iPhone toting, backstabbing consumer? Let's face it, you all belong to the capitalist world! You work in a bank! But do you want to belong to this capitalist world for the rest of your life where your identity is determined by the car you drive, house you own, clothes you wear?

After all, belonging is up to you.
Thank You.

Question 3:

"The Struggle to belong and find one's place is significant in the lives of some people".

the struggle to belong and to find one's place is not only significant but is paramount in the lives of all people. Belonging involves finding a sense of identity, be that to belong or not to belong. Without a sense of identity you ~~won't know~~ will never belong. This is a struggle faced by practically every human. In particular, this struggle is shown through Peter Skrzynecki's Immigrant Chronicle namely St Pats and Felicks Skrzynecki, as well as through John the Savage in Aldous Huxley's novel Brave New World.

One of the key struggles to finding your identity and belonging is often a struggle between two conflicting worlds, and it is not until these two worlds can be bridged that we can find our place in life. ~~This is clearly demons~~ This can often be influenced by many factors, including our institutions as shown in St Patrick's College. There, the persona is pushed by his mother to attend a school where he did not feel welcome from day one. The fact that "Our lady" was "overshadowed by clouds" is a metaphor for the rest of his schooling career. He constantly feels "like a foreign tourist" & "Uncertain of my destination". ^{the simple expression of his feeling of alienation} Despite the early years being key to developing an identity, Skrzynecki during his time never did. "Our lady ... unchanged by eight years weather" also reinforced how unchanged he himself is. He had never found his place even to the last day there is still "the darknesses around me". St Pats as an institution failed him in finding his true identity and left him struggling to find where he belonged, ~~where~~ his place ~~was~~ is.

Similarly, in Brave New World, the Savage attempts to find his place but is thwarted at every attempt by society. Although the motto "Community, Identity, Stability" is constantly repeated, the Savage never feels like he fits in at all. He was not raised as the rest of society was and therefore has not been indoctrinated with the mantra that "everyone belongs everyone else". ~~the~~ He does not fit into the world in which he has now breathed but he cannot go back to his previous world on the reservation. He looks different, and is therefore automatically and outcast by the social rules of the reservation. His attempts at bridging both worlds fail with modern society thinking ideas such as marriage crazy. In his struggle to belong, he makes the conscious decision to not belong to either world, but to his own world, of his own making. These actions show just how significant finding his identity and place is in his life. Much like Skrzynecki, without bridging two worlds or finding his own, he will never belong, never find his place.

Comparatively, we can juxtapose the actions of the Savage to that of Feliks Skrzynecki. Both find their own world, in the case of Feliks, he "kept peace only with the Joneses / Of his own mind's making". From early on, Feliks accepted that he would never fully belong to Australia, choosing to keep alive memories of "pre-war Europe". This places him in a direct confrontation with Peter Skrzynecki. Although they have a loving relationship, shown by the use of "my" in the first stanza, they come from two different worlds. Skrzynecki belongs to the world of his mother's "employer's sons", the world of education, Latin, of Caesar's "Gallic Wars". Whereas Feliks is "skilled in slaughtering" ^{sibilance} emphasizing the connection that Feliks has with the land. Feliks finds his place, his garden is "like an only child". Feliks has created his own world and states that his father is as "happy as I have never been". Without

bridging both worlds, ~~later Skrzynecki~~ or creating this ~~barrier~~ ^{divide} between his father's world and his is heightened even further when Skrzynecki "forgets my first word". The extended metaphor of "pegging my tent further and further south of Hadrian's Wall" ~~the~~ demonstrates that Skrzynecki cannot bridge the divide and will not be able to create his own world unlike his father. He will continue to struggle to belong, to find his identity and his place.

This struggle to belong, to find one's place is an important element of human nature. An instinctive need that needs to be fulfilled. To do so often involves overcoming divides, finding your identity and then finding your place. It is hard but possible. Feliks Skrzynecki manages to be content with the world he created for himself. John the Savage also attempts this but cannot escape Society - his attempt fails and it leaves him with no place he can belong. He ~~and~~ chooses to end his life instead. Peter Skrzynecki struggled throughout his early life to find his true identity of the influences of both his worlds was too strong serving only to widen the divide leaving him unsure as to his place. Belonging is a natural human instinct, we struggle to belong and without finding one's identity, we can never find our place. The struggle to belong continues.