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2012 HSC - Aboriginal Studies

Band 5/6

Sample 3 Question 12(a)

Question 12

a) Australian Aboriginal people within society today ~~are at alarming~~ face many alarming health problems and are at great risk of serious health issues, such as Cancer. Although improved, Aboriginal individuals are still being impacted on by such health issues as Diabetes 1 and 2, infections, HIV and STI diseases, chronic heart problems and a poor diet resulting in weight gain and minimal physical ~~active~~ activity. The Indigenous peoples of Australia face a low ~~#~~ life expectancy rate with Aboriginal females dying around the age of 71 and Aboriginal males at a young 67. This highlights the poor health of Australia's indigenous people ~~as there is~~ and further indicates the alarming health problems within Indigenous communities. Furthermore, Aboriginal Infant mortality rates are 3x higher than the Australian average, with 32.7% of indigenous peoples smoking, 43.8% living under the federal poverty line and 50.7% of the community referring to a health clinic for advice and assistance, rather than a doctor. This indicates that Aboriginal people

share a distrust ⁱⁿ ~~with~~ doctors, due to their ^{negative experiences} ~~in~~ ^{the} past, however as this is the case, the other 50% of Indigenous people are receiving no or little treatment, increasing their health problems. Overall, drug and alcohol use is still occurring within Indigenous communities, leaving further health risks and problems ~~at~~ to prevail within and throughout Aboriginal peoples communities and lives.

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