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2012 HSC - Aboriginal Studies
Band 5/6
Sample 2 Question 20(a)

(a) Country has an extremely large importance in the lives of Aboriginal peoples ~~that~~ as it contributes to their spirituality as well as provides an opportunity to create a stable and secure economic base. The second source conveys Prime Gough Whitlam handing back the land to Vincent Lingiari who was an extremely important personality in the struggle for land rights during the 60's. It ~~is~~ is symbolic of the change in control of Aboriginal peoples lives, the ~~importa~~ country defines their lives and once it is in their control they may have self government.

Once Aboriginal Australians were dispossessed from their land they began to lose all connection to their spirituality and dreaming. This resulted in a severe loss of identity, kinship and obligations to land and people which was the heart of the Aboriginal culture. Country for Aboriginal people contained everything they needed

to survive, it provided them with a way of life. Native title is an opportunity to regain land, however those who were "most dispossessed" are unfortunately unable to regain their land. They lose as a result any ability to maintain traditional ties and connections to their history, which greatly influences their current ability to live a healthy life.

In today's society Native title and Country provides an opportunity for economic stability. Through controlling and possessing their land indigenous people can set themselves up for a stable future. Mayor Percy Neal of Yarrabah states that "when it comes to the traditional land owners it gives them a chance to get into economic development". Yarrabah, as an example of a community who has recently received their country, now in a similar way to Lingjari have control of their land. They have begun to discuss possible tourism

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opportunities which will not only bring money into the area, but will also increase employment as ~~opportunities~~ opportunities. This will boost the socioeconomic status of the community as they ~~would~~ would have more opportunities to improve health care and education standards.

Country is vitally important in the lives of Aboriginal Australians, as it provides them with opportunities to maintain their culture whilst also create a secure economic base. Aboriginal people would be able to regain a sense of who they are, moving forward to improve their disadvantage.

← Tick this box if you have continued this answer in another writing booklet.