Start here.

In the text "Shoe Horn Sonata by John Misto

the Australian visions: resilience, sense of humour, courage and friendship have influenced the perceptions of Australia in many ways, the two women Bridie and Sheila are there to their story to show us the viewers/readers what Australian visions are presented in the text. The related text, an interview "Talking Heads" by Jan Ruff O'Herne who also went through imprisonment by the Japanese.

John misto had used novel techniques when writing the book Shoe Horn Sonata to convey the Australian visions we see in the text. The Australian vision of friendship shows us that all the Australian women in the camp stayed together and they were supporting each other through the tough times the women went through. The quote "I went to lipstick larry for quinine" shows what Sheila did to save Bridie when she got sick, and she couldn't let her die so she went to the Japanese for some quinine. This shows us the viewers what friendship they had Bridie and Sheila if they are doing something they promised to each other they will never do.

Courage is shown through Bridie mostly because Bridie was the brave one she stayed strong for all the women in the camp and especially Sheila, because she knew if Sheila didn't have anyone brave to stick with she would have died in the first couple of months.
Sense of humour is shown through Sheila when she got drunk and she was talking about Bridie burying her face in the bowl "you shovelled them how I buried my face—my snout as you called it as if it was a bowl of rice". Sheila was trying to be funny as she tried to imitate how Bridie ate in camp. When Bridie saw what she was doing she wasn’t very happy and she told Sheila what she thought of it. But because they had spent so many years together in camp Bridie didn’t want to end the friendship over something stupid.

Resilience is shown through the two women as they were locked up and they still had fun. They showed the Japanese nothing can ruin their fun.

Jan Ruff O’Herne was also a Japanese prisoner of war. She shared the same experiences as Bridie and Sheila did and the same Australian visions, resilience, courage, sense of humour and friendship. Jan had been also imprisoned for nearly the same amount of years as Bridie and Sheila did.

Sense of humour in talking heads was shown through notes saying "Be patient, the war will soon be over" and Bridie and Sheila got one saying "Keep smiling".

The Australian visions in the two texts stressed have influenced the perceptions on Australia in a way that it makes the reader think that the women were...
through all that torture and that the Australian government didn’t want to do anything to try free them, but instead send “keep smiling” notes. The government didn’t understand the damage the women suffered, they didn’t understand the torture they went through. It looked like they just didn’t care. Didn’t want to care. That was shown when they asked the women for their diary and they burnt them.