

**Level 3 NCEA DRAMA  
91512 (3.1) Resource B  
Statement of Intention**

**Role: Tero, Matiu**

**Play: Mauri Tū**

**Playwright: Hone Kouka**

**1. Give one key phrase that sums up what you want the audience to understand from your performance.**

Māori culture is not so strong anymore and how your culture cannot be an excuse for your actions nor can they be a reason for any crime. In order to be happy people should know where they come from and what their culture is about.

I want the audience to be more accepting of others, especially as they don't know what's happened in your past. People will do anything to fit in so have compassion for others. However, culture is never an excuse for your troubles.

**2. What is the action line of your scene? How does this fit into the larger play?**

"So this is what it's like when a Māori speaks in his own tongue" this line sums up how people are when they are not so sure of other customs and other races. Also that being Māori doesn't mean you can automatically speak Te Reo. We should be aware of other cultures.

**3. Describe your role, including physical and emotional characteristics, action, attitudes and behaviours, and how your role relates to others.**

Showing how culture brings real inner strength and the struggle to belong are the most important motives in my performance.. In these scenes I show a Kaumatua contrasted with a young prisoner in a 1990's cell. He is drained from despair, because what landed him there was an assault charge when he let his anger get out of control. This happened because he used attitudes to his culture as an excuse for violence, instead of being open.

My role as a young man Tero struggles to feel belonging to a specific group. He has tried to fit in but has been rejected and he feels he has to make himself fit in if possible. He acts stanchued when faced with problems in life. Because he feels he doesn't fit in he is sad, and has the weight of not knowing that he is belonging to a group and is left out. The stress on Tero is huge he cannot handle this and he is a broken man who simply can't cope. My role doesn't relate to other characters. Tero feels he doesn't belong, so he can't relate to his family as they have brushed him aside. He had trouble socialising and fitting in and is only free whilst driving 'antisocial'. Whilst driving Tero feels alive, apart from this Tero has no action and this shows his distance from others.

**4. What time and place is your play set? How does the setting relate to key social/historical ideas of the time, the theatre form/period, of key ideas still relevant today?**

The play is set in the 1990's on a Marae and in a prison cell. This comes at a time where Māori culture hasn't been as strong so there is an increase in Māori politics/pride. Some don't live in a traditional Māori manner. (American pop culture is strong) The idea that traditions of Māori and their values has been recognised and that we need to keep them strong for the future generations.

Māori culture over the 1990's period was seen as a diminishing culture, so there is a push for Māori to get back to their roots. Tero is using Māori culture as an excuse for his crime but when he realises it's more than a free ticket out, he takes in Māori culture which helps him feel at peace and belonging to something -Māori life.

**5. Describe the situation in the scene you present including key relationships and problems, and how these relate to a key theme of the play as a whole.**

My situation is a young man in jail struggling to belong to any specific social group. My relationship between myself and my Whānau was distant as my parents have contradicted opinions of Māori culture as a whole. Therefore the theme of not belonging is strong throughout as I struggle to feel open to others way of life. He is in jail because he beat up a man who was being abusive about Māoris, this was the final straw for Tero who has been pushed to the edge by a life of not belonging to anywhere, then using Māori to get out of it. He finally understands that being on a Marae means a lot and he finally has inner peace in knowledge that he is accepted on the Marae.