

91517 (3.6) Extract from student supporting evidence**Role: Boyboy from *Waiora* by Hone Kouka**

Boyboy is always trying to please his dad by doing everything that he tells him to.

Sometimes he is in his own world. This is shown in the scene where Hone tells Boyboy to keep wetting down the sacks and the watercress as well. Hone says this in a stern voice and repeats his instructions so it will stick in Boyboy's head.

I miss my brother Mahurangi, we have a close relationship. I look up to him and he is always there for me. I miss him. I show this when I say "Where are you? You said..you'd be always there for me..You're not here, Mahurangi! Hoki mai e te tuakana, hoki mai ki au! Hoki mai!" I say this furiously shouting towards the audience, while my body is all tense. I

try to look after my sister Amīria when she is drunk by holding her up and speaking in a polite and soft voice. I try to help her sober up as I know if she goes home in a drunken state that she would get into a lot of trouble. My schooling is not the best. I try to impress dad by waking up early to help deliver wood. When I get to school I'm so tired that I end up falling asleep. A teacher catches me and takes me to get caned. I tell my Dad this angrily as I think it is HIS fault for my punishment. I was trying so hard to please him that I fell asleep at school. When I am telling my story I want the audience to connect with me, to feel my pain and sorrow. I want them to see how much I try to please my father and how much I want to make him proud of me. I do this by using a sad tone. At the end when I saw "I wasn't weak, Dad. I stood up to them." I say this sternly to reassure my dad that I was not weak. I want him to think that I am strong and capable of things.

I change from being a boy to a man. When I obey my father and do whatever he says I am obedient and still a little boy. I start growing into a man when I join with the conversation that Hone and Steve are having. When I say "I wouldn't mind going that way either! Ae he kete kina. Tino reka!", I laugh my head off, showing that I want to fit in with the big boys.

No one laughs because I speak te reo Māori by accident. My connection to te reo is very strong. I speak it fluently and forget all the time that we are supposed to speak English. I struggle with having to remember this. At the end of the play I become a man. This is shown when Hone strikes me and I get straight back up and attack back, showing that I can stand my ground, I can walk on my own two feet. I challenge my father. I am not scared of him. I wait for Dad to strike at me with chest out and a strong posture. I show that I'm angry by breathing heavily and standing tall and steady.

I know how Boyboy is feeling. I can relate to how he tries to please his Dad and tries to do anything to make his Dad happy. I have had to work on the fluent speaking of te reo as it was hard for me to speak some of the Māori words in the production.