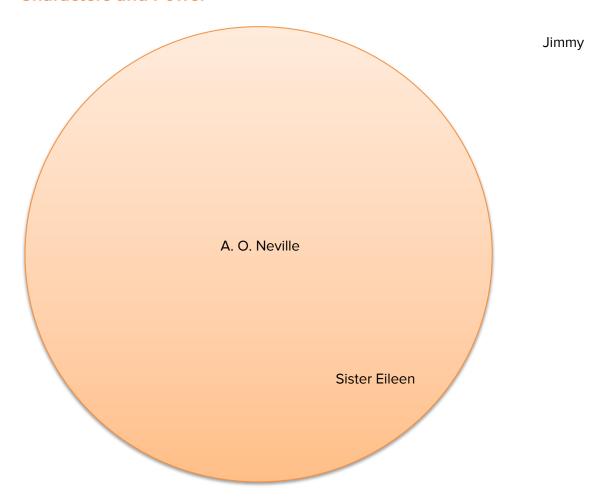
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Task for No Sugar

Characters and Power



Draw a large circle on the board to symbolise the Western Australian society of 1929. The more a character embodies the dominant ideas of this society, the closer they will be to the centre of this society/the circle and the more power they will have within that society. The more a character challenges the dominant ideas of society, or is unable to fulfil the expectations of society, the further toward the edge of society/circle (the edge representing society's margins) they are. Some characters exist entirely outside the margins of society. As a class, discuss and decide where each character from the play would be placed in relation to the circle. Some characters may move throughout the narrative also.

Once this activity is complete, consider whether the text supports the dominant ideas and ideologies of this society. An easy way to do this is to draw another circle and consider who are the figures in the play that we have the most respect or sympathy for. If the diagrams are similar, the text promotes the views of the dominant society depicted. If the diagrams are different, it is clear that the text is challenging the dominant ideas of society and this should be interrogated with students.