





## BIOGRAPHICAL RECOUNT

Troy Cassar-Daly is one of Australian country music's most successful and awarded artists ever. This year he won six Golden Guitar awards at the Tamworth Country Music Festival Awards. He has won an amazing 20 Golden Guitars so far in his career.

At a very young age, Troy Cassar-Daly moved from Surry Hills in Sydney to Grafton, New South Wales with his mother. At the age of eleven he went to the Tamworth Country Music Festival for the first time and returned the next year to busk on the streets. At 16 he and his band, Little Eagle, were touring the North Coast of New South Wales and he made the top 10 in Tamworth's Star Maker talent search.

He won the 1996 Search For a Star Competition and then toured with Brian Young for seven months when he began to develop his songwriting skills. After returning home he replaced James Blundell as leader of country music band The Blue Heeler Band.

In 2006, Troy was named Best Male Vocalist at the Tamworth Country Music Awards and his career has been a series of successes since then.

## ACTIVITY 1: UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU READ

Read Gold Rush on pages 10-11

Shade one bubble.

1. Troy Cassar-Daly recently won
  - six Golden Guitar awards.
  - the Star Maker Talent Search.
  - an ARIA Award.
  - a busking award.



2. How does Troy feel about winning so many awards at this year's Tamworth Music Awards?

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3. Troy first started performing

- at the ARIA Awards.
- as a busker in Tamworth when he was twelve.
- at the age of 20.
- with Keith Urban.

4. Troy is described as down-to-earth.

"Down-to-earth" means

- he used to be a farmer.
- he lives in the country.
- he is humble.

5. According to the text, what was Troy's purpose for making his new album I love this place?

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6. Troy was 11 years old when "he" "caught the country music bug."

"Caught the country music bug" is an example of

- a metaphor.
- alliteration.
- a simile.
- an adjective.

## ACTIVITY 2: SPELLING

Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.

Write the correct spelling of the word in the box below it.

1. Troy Cassar-Daly accepted six Golden Guitar Awards this year.

2. It was all a bit embarasing for Troy to win so many awards.

3. It was one of the most memorable ocassions of his career.



## ACTIVITY 3: LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS

Which of the following correctly completes the sentence?

Shade one bubble.

1. Troy \*\*\*\*\* six awards to his collection last month.

- added
- adding
- adds
- will add

2. Troy \*\*\*\*\* eleven when he first went to the Tamworth Country Music Festival.

- is
- was
- were
- has

3. Troy \*\*\*\*\* to make a record that was positive.

- setting out
- sets out
- set out
- setted out

4. Troy's career \*\*\*\*\* looked back since winning an award in 2006.

- hasnt
- hasn't
- has'nt



## ACTIVITY 4: SCAFFOLDING A BIOGRAPHICAL RECOUNT

A Biographical Recount retells the stages in a person's life.

This genre of text always starts with an Orientation to explain why the person is remembered, then gives a Record of Stages in the person's life.

Gold Rush is structured the same way:

**Orientation** In one of the most memorable occasions of his career, Troy Cassar-Daly, the Australian country music icon, added six Golden Guitar awards to his substantial collection at this year's Tamworth Country Music Awards, bringing his career total to an amazing 20 in all.

**Record of Stages** Troy was 11 years old when he caught the country music bug

STAGE 1 - first visit during his first visit to Tamworth with his mum.

**Record of Stages** He returned a year later to join the buskers and by the age of 16

STAGE 2 – career start he was well on his way to stardom, making top 10 in the Star Maker talent search. At 24 he received his first Golden Guitar nomination.

**Record of Stages** Two years later, Troy was named Best Male vocalist at the 2006

STAGE 3 – success Tamworth Country Music Awards. He has since received numerous ARIA and Golden Guitar awards.

### The content words have been highlighted below:

In one of the most memorable occasions of his career, Troy Cassar-Daly, the Australian country music icon, added six Golden Guitar awards to his substantial collection at this year's Tamworth Country Music Awards, bringing his career total to an amazing 20 in all.

Troy was 11 years old when he caught the country music bug during his first visit to Tamworth with his mum.

He returned a year later to join the buskers and by the age of 16 he was well on his way to stardom, making top 10 in the Star Maker talent search. At 24 he received his first Golden Guitar nomination.

Two years later, Troy was named Best Male vocalist at the 2006 Tamworth Country Music Awards. He has since received numerous ARIA and Golden Guitar awards.



These wordings become notes for rewriting the text in your own words.

Each new sentence starts with a bullet point:

- most memorable occasions – Troy Cassar-Daly– Australian country music icon – six Golden Guitar awards – Tamworth Country Music Awards – career total – 20
- 11 years old – caught the country music bug – first visit – Tamworth – mum
- Returned a year later – buskers – 16 – top 10 – Star Maker talent search
- 24 - first Golden Guitar nomination
- two years later – Best Male vocalist – 2006 Tamworth Country Music Awards
- ARIA – Golden Guitar awards

**TASK:** Rewrite a Biographical Recount about Troy Cassar-Daly in your own words, using the notes above as a guide. Make sure you follow the structure of the genre.

For example, the first sentence could be rewritten as

Troy-Cassar Daly, a legend of Australian country music, has just won an incredible six Golden Guitar awards at this year's Tamworth Country Music Awards. He has now won 20 Golden Guitars in his career.