**The Loaded Dog**

**Type:** Conventional short story with a plot

**Module A connections:** This is a story which establishes a few Australian Identity concepts: *mateship, bush legends, The larrikin (jokey, cheeky ‘bloke’)*

**Quick summary**

This story starts with three men- Dave,Jim, Andy and their dog,Tommy. They are fishing, having a little break from mining gold but are having no luck with either. The fish are laying low so the men decide to put an explosive in the water to bring the fish to the surface. The explosive needs to be waterproof and Andy spends a whole day doing this. The other men are down the mine shaft but come up for dinner. As they are about to eat, they notice that Tommy the dog has grabbed the explosive. It had a really long wick because it was going to be submerged and Tommy drags the wick through the campfire. Then there is a comic (almost like a cartoon) chase where the men are trying to run from the dog wjo thinks it ios a fun game. Dave dives on Tommy and gets the explosive off him and throws it away. The dog thinks it’s a stick and brings it back, continuing to chase them.

Dave runs into the local pub on the main road and shouts warnings to everyone. They shut the dog out by closing the front door…but Tommy goes in the back (he is loving this game). Everyone makes a run for it while Tommy goes under the kitchen. There he meets a nasty dog. It is known for biting other dogs. It bit Tommy who then dropped the cartridge and runs away.

The nasty dog sniffs it and gets blown up. This becomes a bush legend.

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| Idea about culture/identity | Example (quote) | Language feature/ technique/comment | Effect/Impact (your analysis) | AffirmIgnoreChallengeRevealDisrupt |
| Mateship |  |  |  |  |
| Australia has its own characters *(which contribute to the way we see ourselves as a nation)*In this story look for the “Larrikin” (include Tommy) |  |  |  |  |
| Australian humour (slapstick and black humour) |  |  |  |  |
| Relaxed attitude to work & leisure |  |  |  |  |