**Q: Discuss how “Neighbours” conveys a particular perspective on multiculturism.**

The text Neighbours by Tim Winton works to convey the idea that it takes a while to form relationships across different cultures. Winton does this through the conventions of indirect characterization of behaviour, the character’s thoughts and narrational commentary. The fact that the young man and woman were shocked to hear the sounds of spitting, washing and daybreak and that it “took 6 months to comprehend the fact that the neighbours weren’t murdering each other, merely talking” implies through the characters’ thoughts that there are significant differences between the young couple and the town. This works to convey the idea that cross-cultural relationships take time to form because in the formation of a relationship, significant differences typically take time to overcome. The fact that the boy who urinated on the cat made the man nervous when he looked at the man implies that the behaviour of the residents of the town makes the man feel uncomfortable and unsettled. This works to convey the idea that cross-cultural relationships take time to form because it would take time to adjust to the perceivably unsettling behaviour. The fact that the text is structured chronologically with the seasons implies through narrational commentary that cross-cultural relationships have the potential to take whole seasons to progress. This works to convey the idea that cross-cultural relationships take time to form because it takes 3 months to go from one season to the next, and as several seasons passed, it implies that it can take months to adjust to cultural differences. The fact that the town’s residents “all sat around on blocks and upturned buckets” and that the “woman felt intoxicated in the haze of down and steam and fractured dialogue” implies that the young man and woman, who lived in the expansive suburbs, felt overwhelmed and repulsed by the behaviour of the residents. This works to convey the idea that it takes time for cross-cultural relationships to form because in the formation of relationships, it typically takes time to form the relationship if people are repulsed by each other. The text Neighbours by Tim Winton conveys the idea that it takes time to form relationships across different cultures. Winton does this through the conventions of indirect characterization of behaviour, the character’s thoughts and narrational commentary.

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