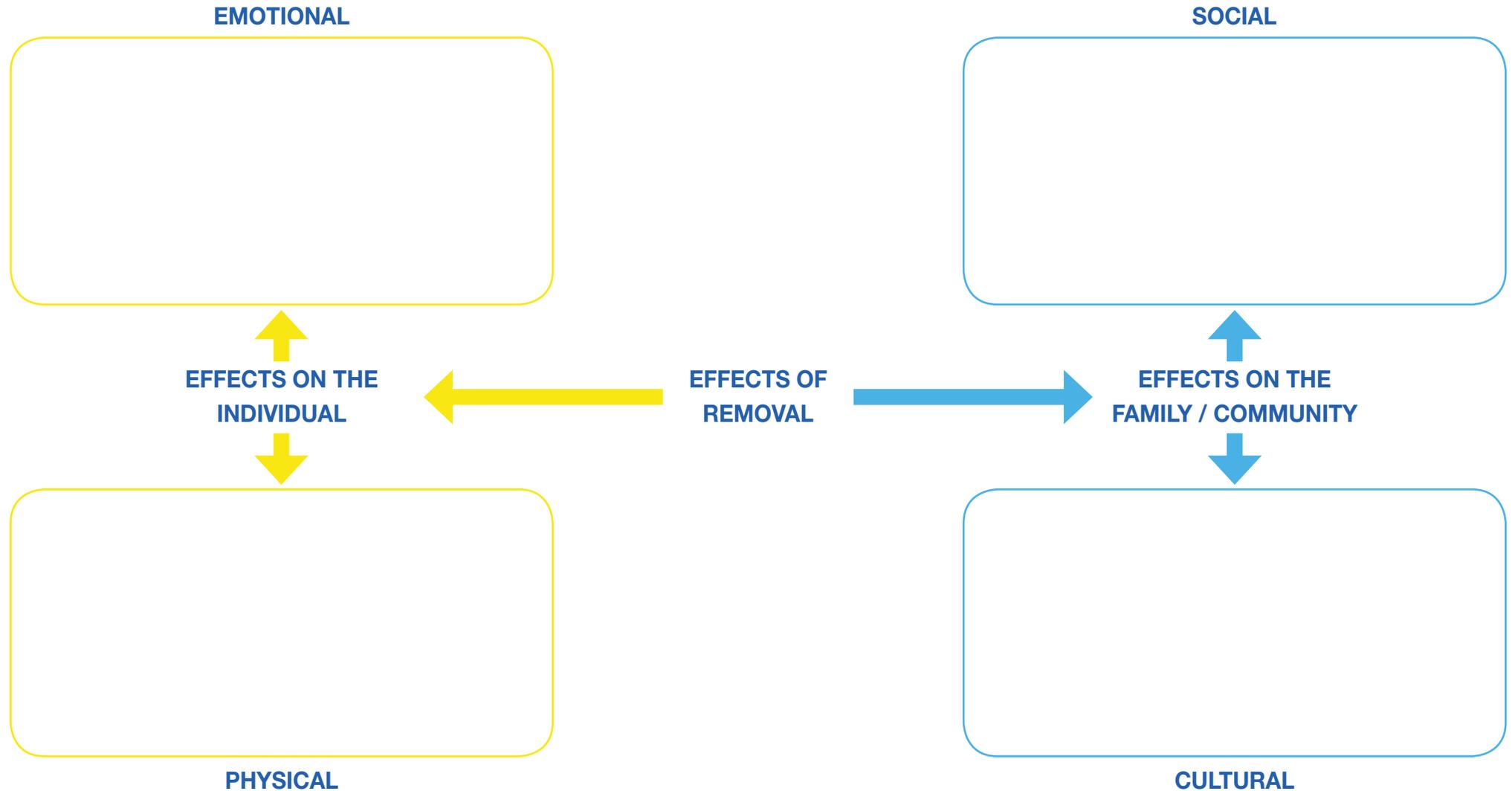


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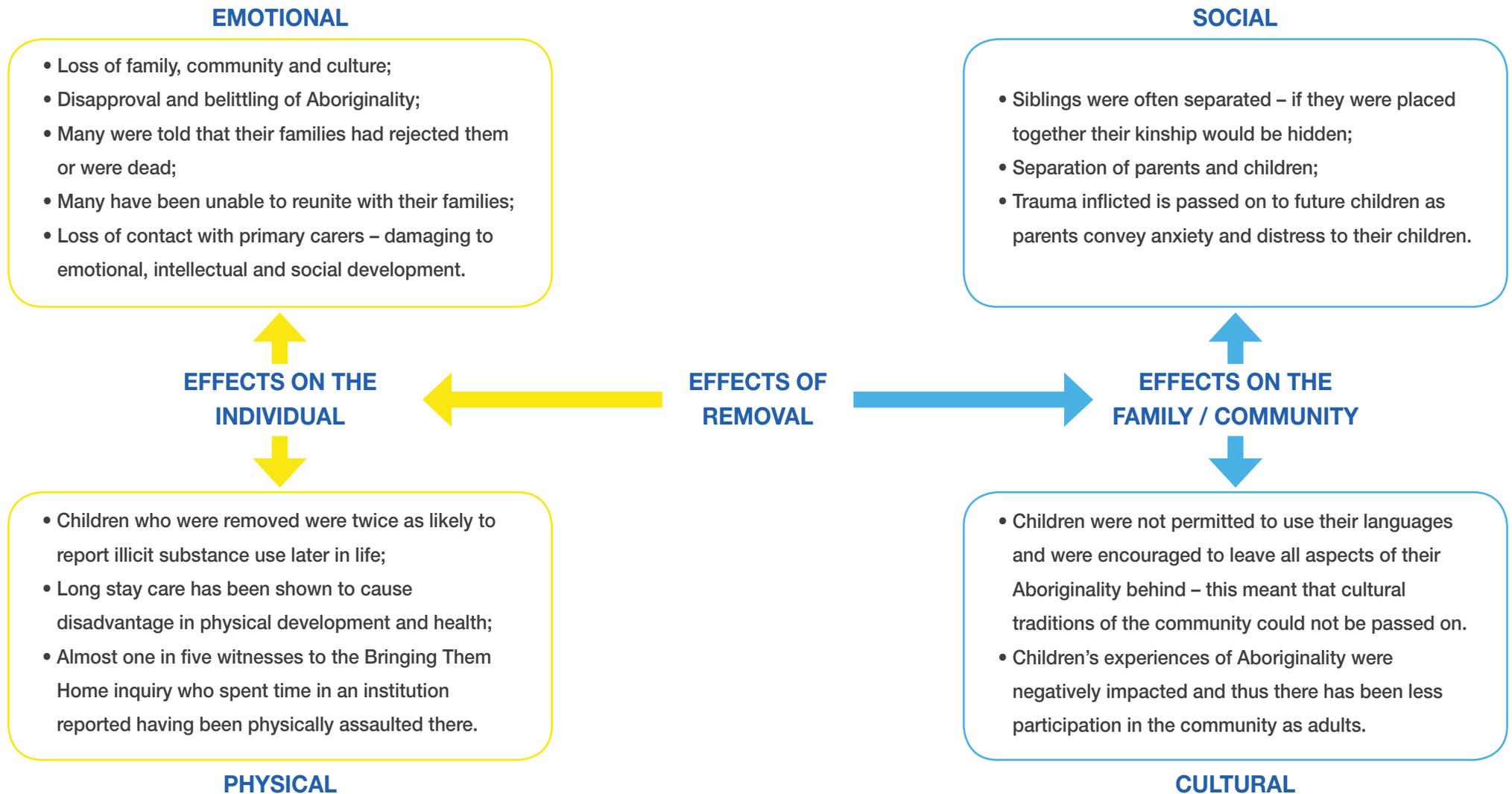
Year 10 - Stolen Generations

Read the 'Stolen Generations' (page 16) section of the fact book and then fill out the diagram below, identifying the emotional, physical, social and cultural effects.



Teacher Guide – Year 10 – Stolen Generations

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APOLOGY

Read the apology speech delivered by Kevin Rudd in 2008

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/kevin-rudds-sorry-speech-20080214-gds0xh.html>

1. What was the significance of the apology for Indigenous Australians?

When the Bringing Them Home report was published in 1997, it suggested that the first step in healing and reconciliation was the acknowledgment of truth and the delivery of an apology. An official apology by the Australian Government was significant for building a respectful new relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

The word 'sorry' holds special meaning in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. In many Aboriginal communities, sorry is used to describe the rituals surrounding death (Sorry Business). Sorry, in these contexts, expresses empathy, sympathy and an acknowledgment of loss rather than responsibility.

2. What impact might the apology have had on Indigenous Australians and in particular on members of the Stolen Generations?

Student responses will vary.

3. What does Tom Calma say about the importance of the apology? Use quotes from his speech.

Some quotes that students might choose from the speech include:

“Through one direct act, Parliament has acknowledged the existence and the impacts of the past policies and practices of forcibly removing Indigenous children from their families.

And by doing so, has paid respect to the Stolen Generations. For their suffering and their loss. For their resilience. And ultimately, for their dignity.”

“It is about belonging.”

“By acknowledging and paying respect, Parliament has now laid the foundations for healing to take place and for a reconciled Australia in which everyone belongs.”

“Today’s actions enable every single one of us to move forward together – with joint aspirations and a national story that contains a shared past and future.”

4. Discuss the statement ‘It is far more difficult to try and unite people than to divide them.’

Student responses will vary.