

MY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

## The it Girl - Samantha page 4

FASHION

# The it Girl

**19-year-old Samantha Harris is on the cusp of becoming the world's first Indigenous super model.**

**F**OR FIVE DAYS EACH YEAR, DESIGNERS, MODELS, FASHION LOVERS AND MEDIA FLOCK TO AUSTRALIAN FASHION WEEK WHERE THE NATION'S TOP DESIGNERS AND STYLISTS SHOWCASE THEIR WORK TO THE WORLD.

While the headlines from Fashion Week usually centre on the most cutting-edge and innovative designs, this year all of the big headlines coming out of Fashion Week weren't about the clothes, but rather a 19-year-old Indigenous model from Tweed Heads by the name of Samantha Harris.

While she may be a new face to many Australians, Sam should be no stranger to *Deadly Vibe* readers. In fact, we first spoke to Sam way back in 2004 when she was in the very early stages of her quest to become

a professional model. Now, it seems the whole world is beginning to sit up and take notice of this inspirational young woman.

Over five days at Australian Fashion Week, Samantha modelled for no fewer than 18 designers – an incredible achievement. While the international fashion media, blogs and websites were clamouring over the story of this Indigenous model, the down-to-earth teenager took it all in her stride.

"The whole week was so full-on and tiring, but also exciting at the same time, knowing that so many designers wanted me to model their clothes – it was the most amazing feeling ever," says Sam.

The demand to model for Fashion Week wasn't the only highlight for Sam either. This month, she became just the second Indigenous woman in history to grace the cover of *Vogue Australia* magazine.

"I was so shocked I couldn't believe it," says Sam. "I kept asking my agent, 'Are you sure they want me to be on the cover?' It was unbelievable it was like a dream come true."

Sam says she still has to pinch herself every time she walks by and sees the magazine in a newsagent's window.

"It's really bizarre seeing my face on the cover," she explains. "The first time I saw it, I was stunned, I couldn't believe it, I just sat there and stared at it in amazement."

"Even now walking past newsagencies and seeing the image makes me feel so proud that it's me, considering I have worked so hard to get there."

For Sam, the *Vogue* cover is vindication for a long and sometimes difficult journey, and her recent achievements are made even more special when you consider how far she has come in just a few years.

It wasn't that long ago that Sam and her mother, Myrna, would drive long distances to attend modelling shows in Brisbane. With little money for petrol, let alone accommodation, the pair would have to rely on lodging with friends. While other girls were buying brand-new designer clothes to model in, Sam and Myrna were limited to scouring local op shops for clothes for Sam to wear.

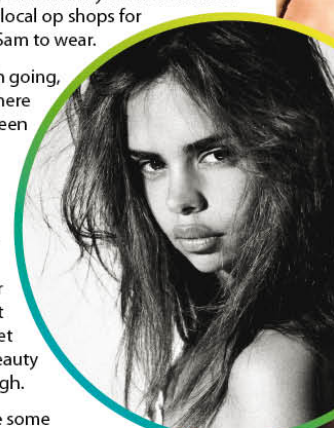
It was tough going, and while there may have been moments when Sam felt like giving up, her mother would reassure her that she just needed to let her inner beauty come through.

"There were some tough moments and challenging times, and I thought at times I don't want to do this anymore, but it was all in the heat of the moment. There are ups and downs in all careers, you just have to be strong and stay determined. What made me keep going was my love for the job. I was determined not to give up and always thought I had to be the best I could possibly be," says Sam.

Sam's determination to achieve her goals has also impressed her agency, Chic Management, which signed her up at age 13 after recognising her unique potential.



**“I was so shocked I couldn't believe it. I kept asking my agent, 'Are you sure they want me to be on the cover?'”**





Samantha Harris started modelling when she was 13. She has worked her way up in the fashion industry, appearing on the cover of the June edition of Vogue Australia. She is only the second Indigenous woman in history to appear on the cover of Vogue. (Elaine George was the first in 1993).

Samantha was the top model at this month's Australian Fashion Week. At just 19, she modelled for 18 designers including Lisa Ho, Camilla, Dion Lee, Rachel Gilbert and Alex Perry.

### Activity 1: Reading

Read *The it girl* – Samantha Harris on page 4

1. When did Samantha Harris start modelling?

- at the age of 19
- in 2010
- at the age of 13
- in 2005

2. Which of these best describe Samantha's reaction to her Vogue cover?

- she expected it
- she was surprised, excited and proud
- she didn't want to do it
- she didn't react because she had done so many Vogue covers already

3. In what ways are Samantha's achievements inspirational to others?

.....  
.....

4. It hasn't always been easy for Samantha to pursue her modelling career.

What evidence can you find to support this idea?

.....  
.....

5. Samantha's character can be described as

- determined to succeed
- easily distracted
- not very confident in herself
- immature

6. Sam says she has to "pinch herself" every time she walks by and sees her face on the cover of Vogue. This means

- she doesn't think she should be on the cover
- she couldn't believe that it was real
- she tried to forget about it
- she keeps pinching herself

## Activity 2: Language conventions - Spelling

The spelling mistakes in these sentences have been underlined.  
Write the correct spelling for each underlined word in the box.

1. Models, desiners and fashion lovers flock to Australian Fashion Week.

2. Samantha enjoys her profeshional modelling career.

3. Samantha has made some incredible acheivements.

4. It was an amazeing feeling.

5. It was unbelieveable.

6. It was difficult to pay for accomodation.

# VIBE SCHOOL

Issue 160  
Years 9-10

Each sentence has one word that is incorrect.  
Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

1. It has sometimes been a difficult jurney.

2. They had to find cheaper cloths for Sam to wear.

3. Sam's mother often reassured her.

4. They went through some chalenging times.

5. Samantha stayed very determaned.

6. The agency recognised her uneeek potential .



### Activity 3: Language conventions

1. Which is correct beginning for this sentence?

\_\_\_\_\_ Samantha is successful now, it hasn't always been easy.

- Since
- Despite
- Although
- In spite of

2. Which word is missing from the second sentence?

It was sometimes tough going. \_\_\_\_\_, Samantha didn't give up.

- While
- Whereas
- However
- Although

3. Which sentence correctly uses a dash (-)?

- Samantha modelled for no fewer than 18 designers – an incredible achievement.
- Samantha modelled for - no fewer than 18 designers an incredible achievement.
- Samantha - modelled - for no fewer than 18 designers an incredible achievement.
- Samantha modelled for no fewer than 18 designers an incredible - achievement.

4. Which pair of words correctly completes the sentence?

While \_\_\_\_\_ been tough at times, \_\_\_\_\_ been worth it.

- its                      its
- it's                      it's
- its                      it's
- it's                      its

5. An apostrophe (') has been left out of this sentence.

Show where the missing apostrophe should go.

Samanthas parents drove long distances to attend modelling shows.

6. Which words are all adverbs?

- distantly, loudly, sweetly
- modelling, running, walking
- therefore, whenever, because
- glamorous, important, successful

## ACTIVITY 4: WRITING A DISCUSSION

A discussion is a type of ARGUMENT text that argues two or more points of view about an issue.

Discussions begin by stating the Issue, and then give different Sides to the debate, concluding with a Resolution, judging which side is more valid.

argument type	social purpose	Stages	phases
discussion	debates two or more points of view	Issue Sides Resolution	evidence statistics quotes examples elaborations conclusions

### **How young is too young for girls to model? Is 13 is too young to be a model?**

What do you think about his idea? Write to convince a reader of your opinions by discussing both sides of the issue.

Think about:

- ★ arguments for and against the issue
- ★ an introduction - a way to introduce your ideas by clearly stating both sides of the issue
- ★ reasons and evidence that explain your ideas for both sides of the argument
- ★ a conclusion - decide whether or not you agree with the issue

Remember to:

- ★ plan your writing
- ★ write in sentences
- ★ pay attention to your spelling and punctuation
- ★ choose your words carefully to convince a reader of your opinions
- ★ use a new paragraph for each new idea
- ★ check and edit your writing so that it is clear for a reader.