

The Importance of History in the Construction of Identity It is clear that history cannot be overlooked for creating identity. Smith, in order to solve this struggle in her novel, touches upon the problem of root and culture in the migrant families' life who settle in a multiracial London. Carefully, she focuses on the significance of history in her novel, WT, where she starts with engraving the so-called statue Washington museum "What is past is a prologue" (WT: iv). Despite those two histories being intertwined, in WT, their racial history is essentially mirrored by the first generation immigrants while the personal history and historical records are reflected by the immigrants of the second generation who struggle to construct their personal identity and history. Smith, in WT, portrays a clash between individuals in their society as far as the first and second generation migrants in multi-ethnic Britain. Besides, those migrants attempt to connect with the societies in which they do not share their standard values and regional beliefs because they feel they are estranged and different.