

SUN YAT SEN NANYANG MEMORIAL HALL

LET'S LEARN WITH
UNCLE TING: CHINESE OPERA



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Let's Go for a Hunt!

Uncle Ting is watching a Chinese opera performance. Let's find him, as well as the people and items in the checklist below.



Uncle Ting



1 opera performer



1 wooden bench



4 straw hats



3 oil paper umbrellas



1 boy



One of the two remaining free-standing Chinese opera stages on mainland Singapore is situated at Gor Chor Tua Pek Kong Temple along Balestier Road. It was built in 1906 by Tan Boo Liat (1874-1934), a successful businessman and prominent Chinese community leader. Teochew and Hokkien operas are still performed on the stage during important festivals today.



Spot this Chinese opera stage which is found on the bronze mural, located at Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall!

Word Search Time!

Help Uncle Ting to complete the word search below to learn more about Chinese street opera!

Hint: Look for the underlined words.



Chinese street opera in Singapore is commonly known as Wayang, which is a Malay word. It is known as *jiexi* ("street show") in Mandarin and was brought to Singapore by Chinese immigrants during the 19th century.

In the past, *jiexi* performances were typically staged outdoors on (or next to) temple grounds as part of religious celebrations. These performances were usually free and were enjoyed mainly by the Chinese community as a form of entertainment.

T	D	R	L	G	Z	G	S	S
E	P	Z	M	F	N	R	U	Z
M	R	F	T	A	O	O	Q	U
P	Y	X	Y	O	I	X	H	U
L	F	A	D	G	Y	G	L	Y
E	W	T	I	I	C	X	D	K
L	U	L	S	T	R	E	E	T
O	E	Q	B	B	I	R	I	I
R	C	O	W	D	Z	Z	Z	B

What is your favourite pastime? Why do you like it?

Let's Colour!



Chinese street opera usually includes acting, singing and acrobatics by performers who would wear elaborate costumes and make-up. A performer's make-up reflects the personality of the character he plays. For example, red indicates that the character is courageous and loyal.



Red
Courage
and loyalty



Purple
Justice and
cool-headedness



Black
Impartiality
and honesty



Colour your own Chinese opera mask!

Imagine & Create!

The Chinese street opera performances are typically based on traditional Chinese classics. One of my favourite performances is based on *Romance of the Three Kingdom*, which features stories of patriotic heroes.



**Imagine you are a brave warrior who wants to protect your country.
Design your own costume and tell your own story!**



 Cut along the dotted line and paste the image on an ice-cream stick to create a hand puppet for the performance.