

Experience as Expression Summative Assessment

Grade 10

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Visiting the metro near my home

During my school days, I usually take the metro twice a day. Since our class starts at 8:00 AM, it ends at 4:15 P.M, and usually, I have CAS activities after school. There will always be a huge amount of people spend their time with me on the metro every day. (rush hours: 7:00 – 9:00 AM & 17:00 – 20:00 PM)

However, although space is crowded and noisy, still I think the metro is a good place for observation and reflection. Because there are variety groups of people who have different characteristics and personalities.



However, during the COVID-19 pandemic period, few people take the metro during the rush hours, and the space looks expanded. The metro is totally different from what it looked like in ordinary days.

People

Unlike ordinary days, everything becomes slower now including people in the metro. I found out three people standing in the middle of different passages for a long time (more than 3 min); and a man sat on the container of fire extinguisher for at least 10 minutes. They were both wearing surgical masks and looking at their phones.



It might be because of the fewer people and the open space in the metro during this special time period, people become easily to expose their privacy. They become bolder and do whatever they want. (For e.g. Increase the volume of videos they were watching; put their phone on speaker while they were talking to somebody ...)

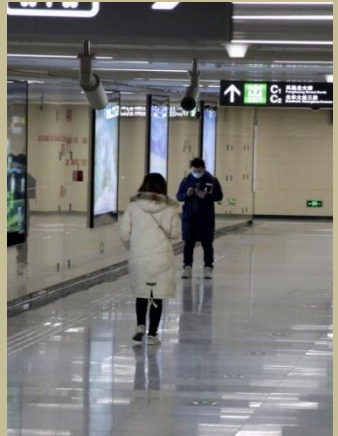


Monitor

Generally, monitors are used to provide evidence for security detections and warning some criminals. I saw lots of monitors in the metro. About every 10 meters there will be 1 or 2 of them. When there are fewer people, these monitors become more obvious.



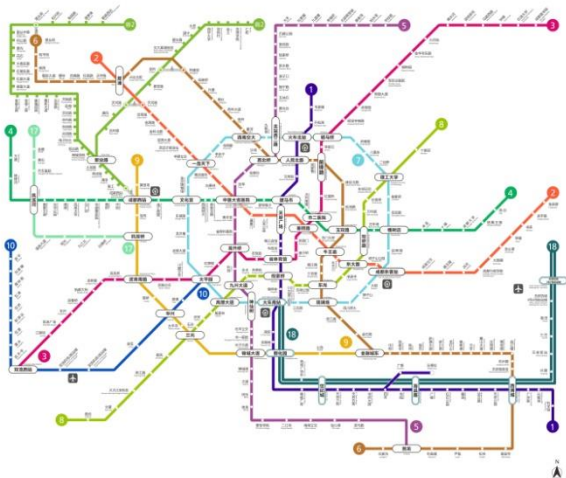
Here is a picture showing a man standing in the middle of the passage and a woman walking slowly, they were looking at their phones. However, there are two monitors directly facing them. It looks like they were being watched and all their private information on their phones was exposed to the public. It lets me wonder how much freedom or privacy people is really having in the public space?



Warning Signs



Here are pictures of some of the warning signs in the metro. Usually, they are red and yellow. These signs show things which are forbidden and you should be careful about it in the metro.

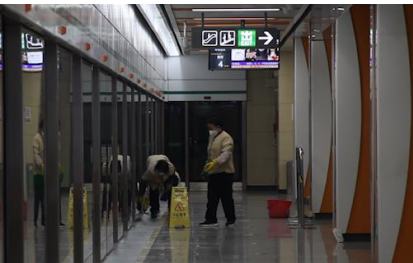


There will be 19 metro lines run through Chengdu in the future, each metro line is represent by a distinct color, and every metro can carry up to 1880 people.

The metro is convenient for us. The logo of Chengdu's metro is the combination of metro, train, mountains, silk, and tunnel.

(i)Picture from “chengdurail.com”

Metro workers



It's extremely risky for metro and city hygiene workers under this time period because they will meet thousands of people a day and might be infected. But they are still dedicated to their jobs, doing the best they can to keep our society in order. (For ex. The sharing bikes were arranged neatly in a row by hygiene workers; the sterilized environment and quarantine area set up by metro's workers)



Objectives Through Different Art Perspectives

▪ **Expressive, Social** (ii) Picture from 'Phillipe.com'

I have the uncomfortable feeling when I was observing those people exposed their privacy under the monitor. I am afraid that someday my privacy will be exposed under these public spaces too. I can create an artwork about how much privacy individuals are having in the public space and under this technology developed world. Influenced by *'The Crowds #2 (Emma)'* of Alex Prager.



▪ **Imitational, Social** (iii) Picture from 'QAGOMA' (Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art)

Create a portrait of a woman I met in the metro who wears a mask, a goggle, and a pair of plastic gloves. On the one hand, it shows people are having high awareness about the danger of coronavirus, and they know how to protect themselves and others. On the other hand, the background will be faded and full of dots (different sizes and colors), those dots represent virus left or spread by people. It shows there is no freedom and the isolation between people and the environment during the epidemic. Influenced by *'The Obliteration Room'* of Yayoi Kusama.



Objectives Through Different Art Perspectives

- **Institutional** — Create an artwork that shows the convenient and easier life that Chengdu's government brings to us through building the metro and also expresses my respect to all the people that make an effort on keeping our society in order. (especially metro workers)
- **Formalist, Imitational** — Create an artwork that compares visual differences of the metro before and after the outbreak of coronavirus. (For e.g. the depth of space in a metro)
- **Humorous, Social** — I think those people who were playing their phones and standing in the middle of the passage are not polite. Also, it's dangerous. Since the passage in the metro serves everybody, and it is easy to get injuries if you are not paying enough attention to the surrounded environment. I will create a humorous artwork that shows a man who is felling down by an obstacle because he was watching his phone. Thus to attracts more people to stop looking at their phones and pay more attention to people and things really existing around them.
- **Formalist** — Create an artwork that shows a fast-moving metro. By adding more lines and decorated shadows on its edge, and blurred background in order to show its speed.
- **Social** — Because of the epidemic, many manufacturers start to produced fake masks in order to gain more benefits. However, lots of people are still willing to buy them. I can create an artwork that shows the irony situation happening in the metro because of those corrupt businessmen.
- **Cultural** — Create an artwork focus on people's awareness of how dangerous the virus is between different ages in the metro.

Revised and Expanded Objectives

My final decision for my Grade 10 Semester 2 artwork will be the portrait of that woman who wear both goggle, mask, and a pair of plastic gloves on the metro. She will be surrounded by dots in different colors or sizes, and those dots represent both trace of people and trace of the virus. While the color for original background environment (metro) will be faded since it's not important for my subject matter.

For this artwork, I will use the high angle view that influenced by *'The Crowd #2'* of Alex Prager. I will use a perspective from a monitor in order to show the insecurity, dangerous environment around that woman, and the weakness and powerlessness of humans when they expose to the coronavirus (even if the woman wears a full set of personal protection equipment). The use of high contrast of color in Prager's work will also use in this artwork. Despite the background, the woman and those dots will be painted in high contrast of color thereby to illustrating their importance and severity.

Furthermore, this artwork will be influenced by the anxiety feeling from the crowds which appeared in Prager's work.

Objective Statement —

Create an artwork that shows a portrait of a woman in the metro who wears a goggle, a mask, and a pair of gloves. She is surrounded by dots in different colors and shapes that represent trace of people and trace of coronavirus.