

*i try for colour  
but the city's concrete does not allow me*

*concrete is modern as airports  
bridges pavements and the river still  
a river and functional*

*the cars gleam silver like fishes*

*i try for colour  
but the city's concrete does not allow me*

*the new hermit  
a snail of a shell is modern and not seen  
like wi fi*

*he lives within a mountain  
of pigeon flats  
holes in an economy of a few million snails  
by the bank of pale water*

*the cars gleam silver like fishes*

*i try for colour  
but the city's concrete does not allow me*

*so here's the housing project in chunks  
with mended words*

*the cars gleam silver like fishes*

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A visual representation of "modern concrete" by Eddie Tay

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**In 'modern concrete', the poet expresses his desperate attempts to add warmth and liveliness to emotionless modern cities. His imaginative ideas are illustrated in my painting.**

**The painting consists mostly of dull colours, reflecting the colour of concrete. The poet's desperation to add colours to life is represented by the use of vibrant colours to paint the imaginative items. The fast pace of city life is shown through flashy cars that gleam like silver fish.**

**The poem describes city dwellers as being isolated from society and attached to the Internet like a snail in its shell. In my artwork, this is expressed by hermit shells stuck on people's heads and electronic gadgets in their hands. The roads, bridges and transportation depicted in the painting show that modern cities value practicality above all else.**

**Finally, the setting sun in the middle represents hope – the hope that the poet carries even though he has repeatedly failed to add colours to the city. He stays hopeful, even though he knows that the modern concrete will try to refrain him from adding colours to cities.**

**Overall, I hope viewers will be aware of the message sent by the poet – adding warmth and liveliness to modern cities, despite the dullness of concrete and the fast pace of city life. The hope represented by the setting sun emphasises the importance of persevering in achieving this goal.**



**Positive value(s) and attitude(s):**

Care about others and hope for future

**Positive message(s):**

Despite the overwhelming fast pace of life, our city life is full of warmth. Just like what the Lion Rock Spirit suggests, we will always succeed if we stay hopeful.