

A Trip to Fort Canning Park



What is the organisation that manages parks in Singapore?

.....



Let us explore the features in Fort Canning Park!



Based on the given map of Fort Canning Park, make a list of the some features that you can see.







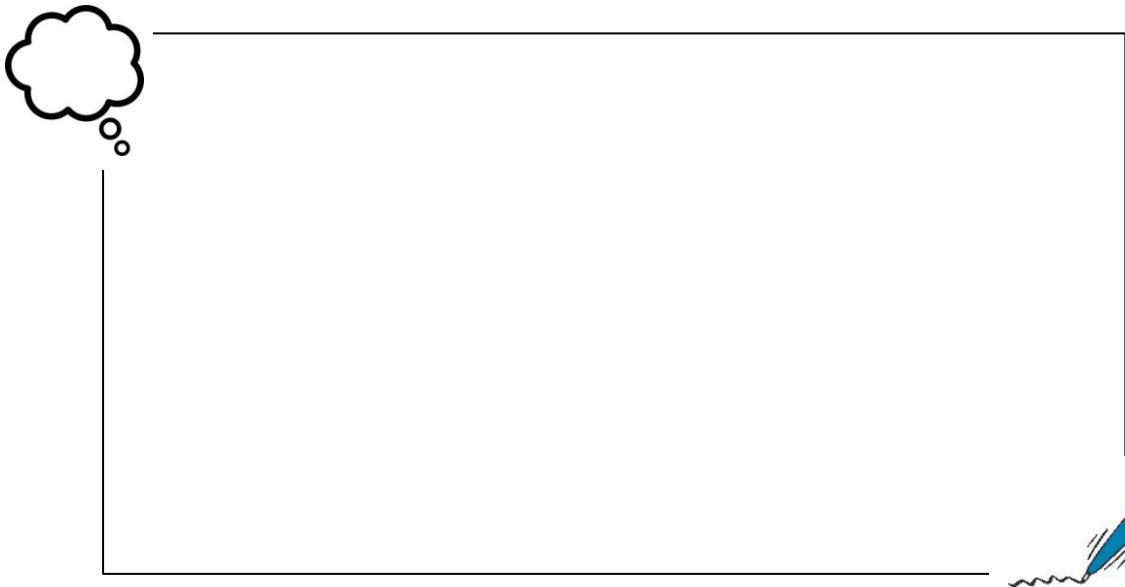
Two of the park features that my group will be visiting are and

Let's research on...

Feature 1	Feature 2



After watching the video on the 'History of Singapore', write down your thoughts and reflections below.



Let's Visit Fort Canning Park

Annex 2

Fort Canning Park

The photograph on the right shows the stairways that lead to Fort Canning Park. This is the entrance from High Street, which is just across the Singapore River.



Why do you think the British decided to build a fort here?

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Why was this place known as Fort Canning?

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Name two other forts built by the British in Singapore?

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Fort Canning used to be known as Singapore or Government Hill. What are the other names it was known by?

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Fort Canning

Did you know? Fort Canning was known by different names through the years. The current name is a reminder of the old British Fort that once stood at the top of the hill built in 1858. It was named after Viscount George Canning, who was then the Governor General of India. The origins of the name Fort Canning and its other names can be traced back to the colonial period. Fort Canning was known as Bukit Larangan when the British first set foot on Singapore.



Legends of Temasek

There are many legends or stories surrounding the island of Temasek, which was the name Singapore was known by before the British arrived. The British learnt about the stories which are recorded in the Malay Annals. These speak of Sang Nila Utama, the Singapore Stone and Badang. The locals were afraid of going up to the hill as it was supposedly the resting place of the legendary kings of Temasek. William Farquhar, the first Resident of Singapore, had to resort to taking men from Melaka with him on the first trip to the hill.



Word Search

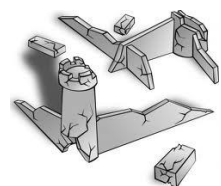
Complete the word search below using the information found above.

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



Ancient Discoveries

Did you know? Archaeological digs in the 20th century have revealed relics that show that an ancient kingdom existed on the Hill. The Second Resident of Singapore, John Crawfurd, found the ruins of a wall measuring 16 feet (about 5m) by nine feet (about 3m) high and running nearly a mile (1.6km) from the hill to the present Stamford Road Canal, which is likely to be the city walls of the ancient Singapore town.



The five kings of Ancient Singapore

The storyboards give a brief overview of Fort Canning place in Singapore's history. Here, you will find out more about the five kings in Singapore in the 14th Century. The kingdom ended with the fall of Sultan Iskandar Syah.

List 3 interesting facts on the five kings of ancient Singapore below.

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Keramat



The keramat of Sultan Iskandar Shah is styled with a 14th Century Malay roof called a Some people have recognised him as....., who was the last king of Singapore during the 14th century. The twenty wooded pillars holding up the roof are carved in a fighting cock motif of Javanese origins. The Malay word 'keramat' means At the side of the shrine, there is a star and crescent moon symbol which tells you that
.....

Artefacts



The discovery of artefacts in Fort Canning shows that were already travelling to Singapore to engage in The artefacts also indicate that the site was used by palace craftsmen who manufactured During the construction of a reservoir in 1926, 14th century style Javanese gold ornaments were found 3 meters below the surface of the ground.



Ancient Garden

Imagine yourself being lost in the midst of an ancient garden with fruit trees.

Just further down from where you are, there is now the Picnic Terrace. It was a possible site of part of the Malay ruler's palace grounds in the 14th century.

These palaces would have comprised of large wooded buildings on stilts decorated elaborately with carvings, a royal bathing place near the spring, a garden, religious shrines and workshops for craftsmen.

Based on the description, complete a rough sketch of how the palace would have looked like.



Parit Singapore

Did you know? This tiny bridge was known as the Parit Singapore and it probably used to overlook a small fresh water stream which has now completely disappeared. According to ancient Malay and Chinese records, Singapore had a moat and a wall. It ran along this stream that was most likely the Parit Singapore, or the Moat of Singapore. This wall was still standing when the British first arrived on the island.



Using any suitable measuring tools, make an estimate of the length of the bridge. The length of the bridge is metres.



Wall Mural

The interesting mural wall is carved out by Balinese artisans. It gives an artistic depiction of 14th century events pertaining to Singapore's history.

List two events that might have taken place in 14th century Singapore as seen from the murals.

.....

.....

14th Century Settlement

Imagine you're back in 14th century Singapore. Go back in time to the 14th century. Picture yourself standing right here in the midst of a thriving settlement extending from this hill to the flat ground of the Padang and towards the north bank of the Singapore River. 14th century Chinese traders described Singapore as a settlement that was "the hill back of Dragon's Tooth Strait..."

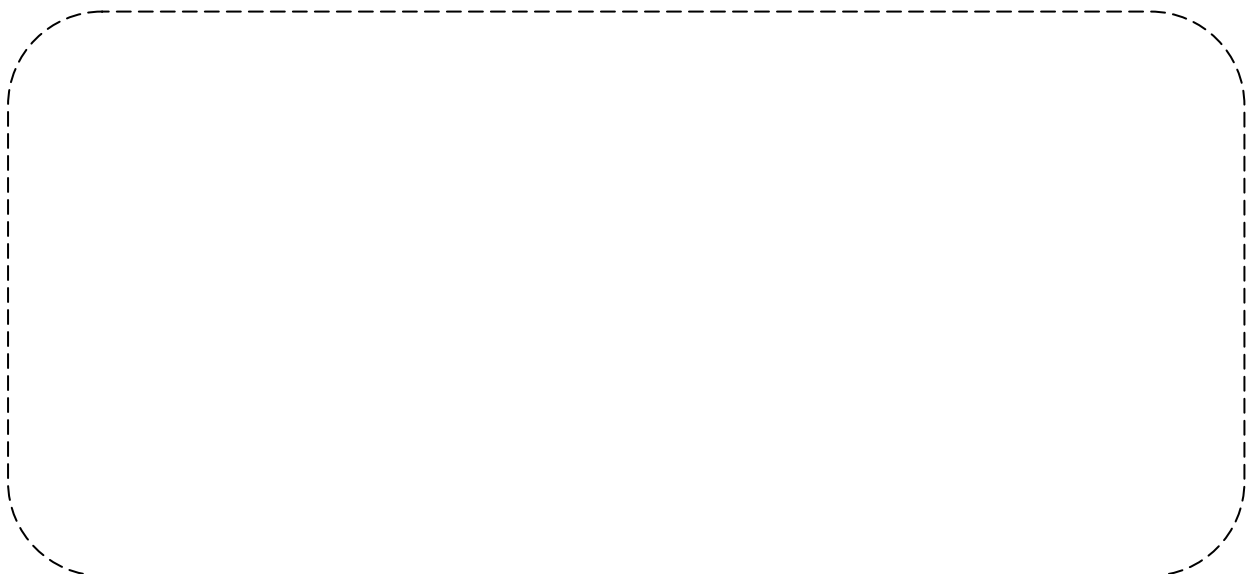
The gate to the Dragon's Tooth Strait was known as to the Chinese traders.



Singapore Stone

The Singapore River can be seen from here. A large boulder known as the Singapore Stone once stood at the mouth of the Singapore River. Legend has it that a 14th century strong man, Badang, threw the stone from Fort Canning Hill to the river mouth, a distance covering 500 metres. The British blew up the boulder in 1843 to make way for Fort Fullerton.

Complete a rough sketch of how the Singapore Stone might have looked like.



Forbidden Spring

At the west side of Fort Canning Hill, there used to be a spring known as the "Forbidden Spring," This spring later provided enough pure drinking water to supply all ships visiting Singapore until 1830.



The two groups of people who could use the spring were the and of the king. It was used as a







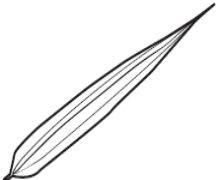

Declining fortunes of Singapore

At the last segment of the trail, you will find out more about the declining of Singapore as an important trading port between the 15th to 17th centuries.

Which trading port replaced Singapore's important position as a trading port during this period?

Plant Hunt

Look for different types of plants and tick the boxes below.

<p>A tree with this shape</p>  <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </div>	<p>A tree with smooth bark</p>  <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </div>	<p>A palm (A woody, unbranched, trunk with feather or fan-shaped leaves growing in a bunch at the top.)</p>  <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </div>	<p>A fern (A flowerless, seedless plant which reproduce by spores.)</p>  <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </div>
<p>A shrub/bush (Hint: It never grows as tall as a tree - less than 3m and has many branches.)</p>  <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </div>	<p>A climber (Hint: It has weak stems and climbs on a fence or structure.)</p>  <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </div>	<p>A plant with linear leaves</p>  <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </div>	<p>A plant with oval leaves</p>  <div style="text-align: right;"> <input type="checkbox"/> </div>

Heritage Trees

There are a total of nine dedicated heritage trees in Fort Canning Park, and each one is majestic and special in its own way. As you walk around the park, look for the heritage Rain Tree, Flame of the Forest, Terap, two Ear-Pod and four Madras Thorn trees in the park.

Rain Tree

Look at the Rain Tree. Describe its main features in the space provided.

In the space below, complete a simple sketch of the Rain Tree.



As you walk around the park, you will come across the Petai Tree.

The seeds of the Petai tree are as they
are believed to have



Terap Tree

Another heritage tree that you can find on the trail is the Terap tree. The young leaves have prominent pointed lobes while the larger leaves of mature trees are and

What are some common uses of the Terap tree?

.....
.....

Ear Pod

The Ear-Pod tree is given its name due to its.....which contains a
..... that is used for The bark and pods of the
tree produced a substance calledwhich can be used to make
.....

Madras Thorn

The Madras Thorn tree has a crown with twigs bearing
.....thorns. Its seeds are in colour which are
covered with a thick white pulp. feed on the pulp and help to
disperse the seeds.

Flame of the Forest

Describe The Flame of the Forest tree by filling in the table below.

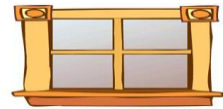
<u>Leaves</u>	<u>Flowers</u>
<u>Trunk</u>	<u>Fruits</u>

Other unique trees that can be found in Fort Canning Park

The broad-leafed Fig is also known as

One interesting co-dependence that the figs share with wasps is that the fruits are.....by wasps. The wasps squeeze their way into the fruit to The fruit in turn provides for the of wasps.

Other unique trees like the "hairy" Malayan Banyan and the "thorny" Kapok or White Silk Cotton Tree can also be found in Fort Canning Park.



Fort Canning Centre

This was originally constructed in 1926 and it served mainly as the during British rule. General Percival's command centre was located at Fort Canning during the critical phase of the Japanese invasion of Singapore in February 1942. The Japanese military authorities used Fort Canning during their occupation of Singapore. In December 1966, Fort Canning was handed over to the

Fort Gate

The photograph below shows the Fort Gateway. Look at the map given to you. On the map, put an 'X' to mark out the position of this Fort Gateway.



The fort served two purposes which are to Singapore from an attack from sea, and to give Singapore's European population a in the event of local disturbances.

There is a secret passageway around the area? Write down the name of this passageway?

Spice Garden



Did you know? This was Singapore's first experimental and botanical garden which was established in 1822 by Sir Stamford Raffles at Fort Canning. Spices were very valuable during the 19th century and the European powers fought over for control of sources and routes to the Spice Islands of Southeast Asia and India. The garden at Fort Canning was planted mainly with nutmeg, clove and other plants of economic value.

List the main uses of the following plants in the spice garden.

<u>Nutmeg</u>	<u>Clove</u>	<u>Candlenut</u>

Raffles House (Raffles Terrace)

Sir Stamford Raffles built the first official Government mansion near this spot in 1822. It was built for Raffles during his third visit to Singapore. John Crawfurd and subsequent Residents later enlarged the house. When Fort Canning was built in 1860, this hill was transferred from civil to military ownership. The front yard of the mansion became the South Battery. It was also the place of residence for a long line of governors.

List two reasons why Raffles set up the house at Fort Canning.

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Letter from Sir Stamford Raffles

In a letter to his friend, William Marsden on 21 January 1823 'We have lately built a small bungalow on Singapore Hill where though the height is inconsiderable, we find great difference in climate. Nothing can be more interesting and beautiful than the view from this spot.... The tombs of the Malay Kings are close at hand, and I have settled that if it is my fate to die here I shall take my place amongst them; this will at any rate be better than leaving my bones at Bencoolen...'

Taken from 'A History of Fort Canning'



Below are some communication facilities built by the British on Fort Canning Hill. What purpose did they serve?

Flagstaff



Time Ball



Lighthouse



The Battle Box



The Battle Box was an underground command centre used by the British. It was constructed in 1936. The Battle Box is located some underground, in one of the bunkers in Fort Canning Park. It was the largest military operations complex in Singapore during World War II until 15 February 1942, when the surrender decision was made by British Officers and Singapore fell to the Japanese.

Sally Port



There are three Sally Ports in Fort Canning. However, only one of the three remains. The Sally Port is adoor leading and of the fort.

First Christian Cemetery

George Drumgold Coleman (who was Raffles' chief advisor in town planning and the first architect in Singapore), was the first one who oversaw the works at the cemetery, built in 1822. At the same time, two arches or gothic gates (designed by Captain Charles Edward Faber, the superintending Engineer of the Straits Settlements) were built.

Identify some of the famous figures buried here.

.....
.....



Take a look at the headstones along the walls. It shows that many of these people died young. Can you suggest a reason for this?

.....
.....

Gothic Gateway



What do you think was the purpose of the Gothic Gateway?

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There is a cross and the letters I.H.S. on the gateway. Why do they symbolise?

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.....

Memorial to James Brooke Napier



This gothic structure near the headstones was built in memory of the infant son of William Napier and Maria Frances Napier, the widow of George Coleman. The memorial, the largest erected in Government Hill cemetery reflects the status

of the boy's father, who became Singapore in 1833.

Cupolas



You can also see two white, bell shaped structured close to the Napier Monument. These were designed by It is not clear what they were made for as cupolas are usually located at the peak of buildings. These two dome-shaped shelters were most probably meant as on the hill.



What is one feature that you like most in Fort Canning Park?
Why?

How do you think the features in Fort Canning have benefited visitors to the park?

What other features would you like to see in the park?

As students, what is one thing you can do to help make the park a better place for park users?

Without NParks, what do you think Singapore will be like?

How do you feel about working in a group? What has your group done well? What can be improved?

Introduction:

You are members the school's History Society. Your team has been asked by the History Society of Singapore to create a page article for the society's bi-yearly newsletter, the Singapore Society History Times, to commemorate 190 years of Fort Canning.

Your Roles are:

1. To understand and appreciate the history and heritage of Fort Canning
2. To learn about the importance of Fort Canning in Singapore's history and heritage
3. To learn how Fort Canning has evolved over the years
4. To promote Fort Canning as a historical and heritage park to all walks of life

Your Task:

At the end of your visit to Singapore, your team is to complete your newsletter article on your findings.

Some useful questions to guide your team:

1. What is the role and purpose of Fort Canning Park in the history and heritage of Singapore?
2. Who is the organisation behind the management of Fort Canning Park today?
3. Why is Fort Canning Park important in Singapore's history?
4. Why should we visit Fort Canning Park?
5. What are some of the important features that can be found in Fort Canning Park?
6. What changes have Fort Canning Park gone through over the years?
7. What are the areas in Fort Canning Park that should be further conserve and preserve?
8. What can be done for the future of Fort Canning as a historical and heritage park?

Process:

Assigning specific roles for each member of the team

Example

1. Group Leader (Lead and co-ordinate)
2. Scribe (Recording information)
3. Photographer (Take photos)

4. Researcher (Searching for information on the history, flora and fauna, what to look out for at the parks etc.)
5. Map reader (if they are carrying out the task without a guide)

Websites:

1. http://www.nparks.gov.sg/cms/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=192&Itemid=173#9
2. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Canning
3. <http://blogofsorts.wordpress.com/category/places/fort-canning-road/>
4. http://mms.elibraryhub.com/SHC/NLBHB/SS/SingaporeStory/Around_FORT%20CANNING_19th_Century.pdf

Project Rubrics

Annex 8

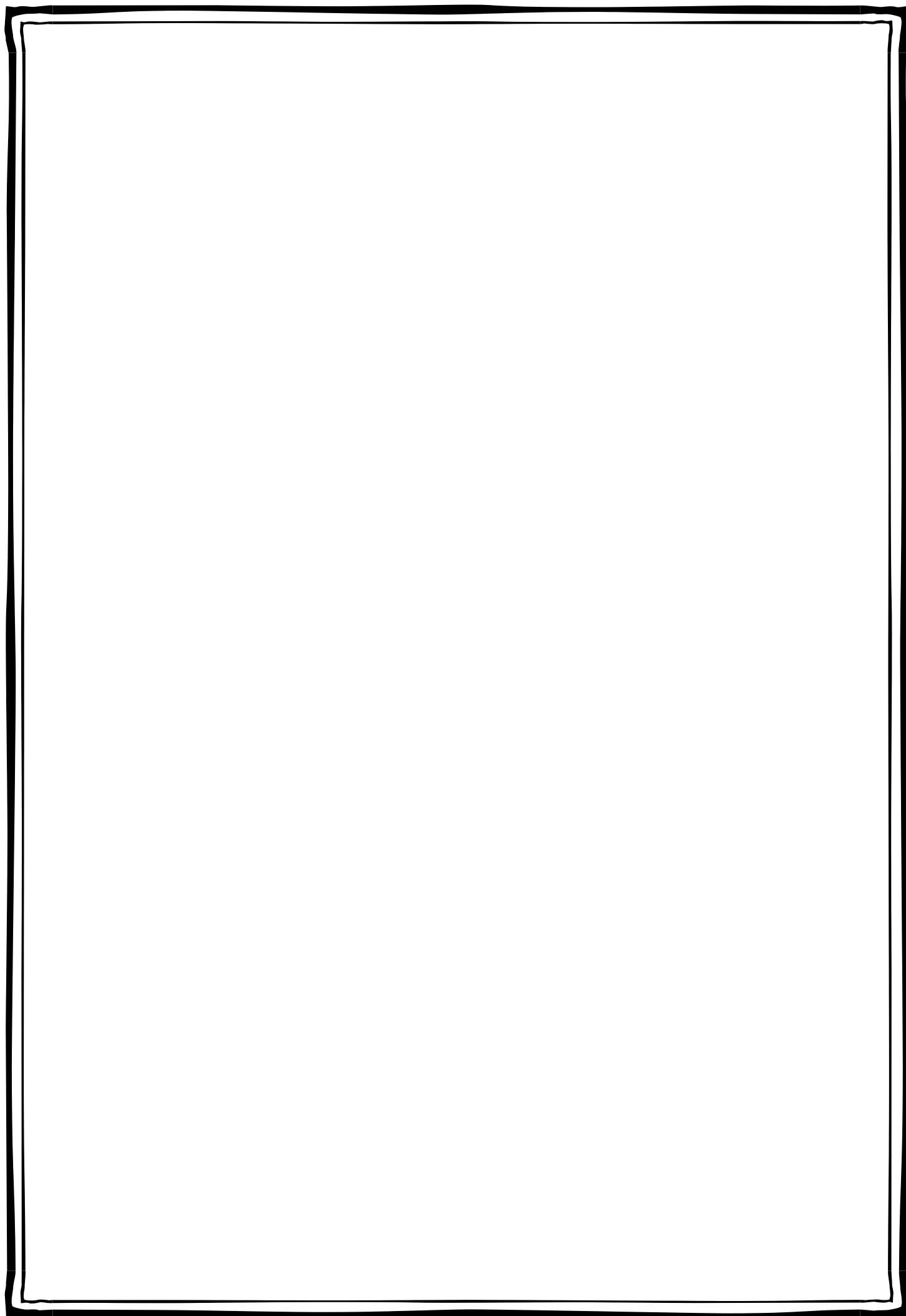
Group Members:

.....

.....

.....

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Organisation	The article is very well organized. One idea or scene follows another in a logical sequence with clear transitions.	The article is pretty well organized. One idea or scene may seem out of place. Clear transitions are used.	The article is a little hard to follow. The transitions are sometimes not clear.	Ideas and scenes seem to be randomly arranged.
Focus on Assigned Topic	The entire article is related to the assigned topic and allows the reader to understand much more about the topic.	Most of the article is related to the assigned topic. The story wanders off at one point, but the reader can still learn something about the topic.	Some of the article is related to the assigned topic, but a reader does not learn much about the topic.	No attempt has been made to relate the article to the assigned topic.
Accuracy of Facts	All facts presented in the article are accurate.	Almost all facts presented in the article are accurate.	Most facts presented in the article are accurate (at least 70%).	There are several factual errors in the article.
Spelling and Punctuation	There are no spelling or punctuation errors in the final draft. Character and place names that the author invented are spelled consistently throughout.	There is one spelling or punctuation error in the final draft.	There are 2-3 spelling and punctuation errors in the final draft.	The final draft has more than 3 spelling and punctuation errors.
Illustrations and photographs	Original illustrations and photographs are detailed, attractive, and creative and relate to the text on the page.	Original illustrations and photographs are somewhat detailed, attractive, and relate to the text on the page.	Original illustrations and photographs relate to the text on the page.	Illustrations and photographs are not present OR they are not original.



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- Photographs of artefacts found in Annex 3 are taken from the National Museum of Singapore
- Word Search in Annex 3 is created from <http://www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch/>
- Photograph of Fort Gate in Annex 5 taken from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:The_Gate_of_Fort_Canning_2,_Fort_Canning_Hill,_Nov_05.JPG
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- Photograph of Sir Stamford Raffles found in Annex 5 is taken from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stamford_Raffles
- Quote found in Annex 5 is taken from A History of Fort Canning
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- Rubrics found in Annex 8 is created from Adapted from rubistar.4teachers.org

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