



A visual representation of "modern concrete" by Eddie Tay

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## modern concrete

**Eddie Tay**

*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*

To convey the loss of human touch and vitality in the city portrayed in the poem, I coloured the background blue to contrast with the main character who is in pink. I want to show the difference of the main character from the others as she tries to bring warmth and vibrancy to the city. The plants surrounding her symbolise her efforts in adding colours to the city.

I added swirl patterns on the top right corner and a snail on the top left corner to illustrate the poet's comparison of the new hermit to a snail of a shell, which implies typical city dwellers living in modern housing. The line, 'the cars gleam silver like fishes', inspired me to add the flying fish, to which I added sparkles so as to highlight the fast pace and flashy lifestyle the poet describes in the poem.

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

Hope

**Positive message(s):**

There is always light in the darkness.