

A visual representation of "modern concrete" by Eddie Tay

Lau Chin Tung WEO Chang Pui Chung Memorial School

WEO Chang Pui

"

I try to escape.

But the concrete does not allow me.

I try to escape.

But life does not allow me.

But no matter how close the concrete is and how highpressure our lives are, there is still space for us to breathe. There is a crack in everything - that is where the light gets in. These cracks may be challenges or difficulties in our lives, but the difficulties encountered at present could be the key to success in the future. Don't let temporary setbacks overwhelm you. Let the sunshine in through the cracks and there may be something to look forward to. In the concrete of our city, I see elevators as a representation of these cracks. Elevators allow us to escape from the grey city and take us up to the bright sky above. In trying to find a colour, the writer is trying to escape the grey world, and my elevator is a physical embodiment of this idea.

Positive value(s) and attitude(s):

Hope and hard work

Positive message(s):

Elevators are like those who work silently in society.

They may not be able to escape from the grey city,
but they still work diligently in their posts to facilitate
everyone's life, lift others up and offer hope to those around them.

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

"modern concrete" was published in *Dreaming Cities* by Eddie Tay, p.55. Copyrights © 2016 by Eddie Tay. Reprinted by permission of the poet.