

# Organizing a Field Trip for Liberal Studies Students



*22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2014*

*Helena Ng*

# Why organizing a field trip in Liberal Studies?

## Matching “ABC” in LS

- A – awareness: arousing attention of what is happening in the community
- B – broadening: collect first hand data unavailable from secondary source
- C – critical thinking: focus of controversial issue

# What can be done in a field trip?

- Observation
- Data collection
  - Quantitative : counting traffic volume, noise level
  - Qualitative : people's opinion

# How can a field trip be arranged?

- teacher & students collecting background information
- pre-trip: suitable weekday and time
- provide relevant materials to students in advance: background information
- Briefing in school
- Grouping

# Getting to know our Community through a field trip



May 30, 2014



# Briefing in school

1. Why go for a field trip
2. Expected learning outcomes
3. Route and checkpoints
4. Essential information related to the site
5. Focus of observation
6. Division of labour

# 1. Why go for a field trip?

Daily route during our school life



# A different scene at the other side of Waterloo Road



## 2. Expected learning outcomes

My observation about fruit market: (in response to the question assigned to me)

Overall benefits & problems / risks brought to the fruit market and surrounding area

Economic activities? Display of fruit? Economic benefits

Architecture of the buildings? Building materials? Calligraphy?

Impact to the environment, .e.g. hygiene

Impact to the environment, e.g. traffic, noise

(teacher's reference: special architectural design, long history, stylistic calligraphy, cluster of wholesale and retailing of fruits)

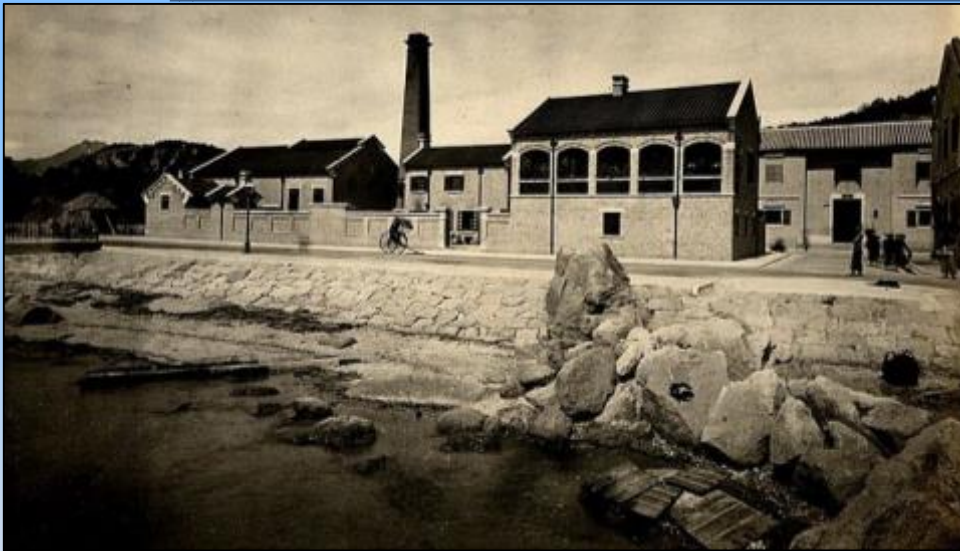
### 3. Route and checkpoints



## 4. Essential information related to the site

Old Water Pumping Station on Shanghai Street  
(上海街抽水站) → Red Brick Building (紅磚屋)

The time tunnel



Where was / is the red brick building?  
Is the red brick house used appropriately today?  
Should this be kept today?

# Refuse Collection Point (油麻地垃圾站) and Yau Ma Tei Shelter (露宿者之家)



Controversy on planning  
for social facilities



Stakeholder's view point:

LegCo member oppose  
against the location of the  
Yau Ma Tei shelter:

“有議員批評政府將垃圾收集站和露宿者同置於「樓上樓下」，反映了政府「賤視窮人」；亦有議員表示不能接受將露宿者與垃圾「擺埋一堆」，應分開重置，令他們有尊嚴地生活。”

Your viewpoint?

Observe the living environment

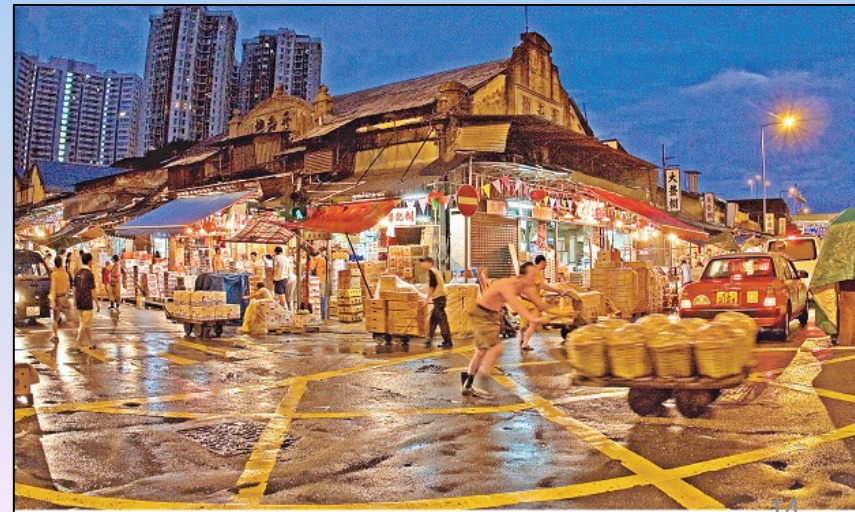
Appropriate land use?

Should the Home for the  
Homeless be there?



## 5. Focus of observation

Fruit Market 油麻地果欄  
Controversy on preservation



# Concepts about resettlement & redevelopment



- Lower density development, public space with greenery
- Exhibition and performance



## Should the fruit market be preserved? Why / Why not?

What might be worth preserving?

Culturally? Architecturally? Functionally? Economic return?

Is the operation of fruit market compatible with the surrounding environment?

Rational land use planning? Meeting traffic needs of the area?

What are the considerations?

Any suggestions you would make to the government on making Yau Ma Tei a better place?



## 6. Division of labour

| Student       | What to observe?   |
|---------------|--|
| 1<br>(leader) | Overall benefits & problems / risks brought to the fruit market and surrounding area |
| 2             | Economic activities? Wholesale or retail?<br>Implications?                           |
| 3             | Architecture of the buildings? Building materials?<br>Calligraphy?                   |
| 4             | Environmental Impacts e.g. hygiene   |
| 5             | Environmental Impacts e.g. traffic, noise  |

## Observation with problems on your mind



# Students' learning outcomes

My observation about fruit market: (in response to the question assigned to me)

Overall benefits & problems / risks brought to the fruit market and surrounding area

Economic activities? Display of fruit? Economic benefits

Architecture of the buildings? Building materials? Calligraphy?

Impact to the environment, e.g. hygiene

⇒ Impact to the environment, e.g. traffic, noise

## My observation

Concerning the traffic and noise issues, to my point of view both issues' level are mild and not too serious. That was from what I observed that day on the trip. The traffic was not as dense as what you would expect on Nathan's Road, nor was it as sparse as a country road in Sai Kung. Generally the traffic was ~~what I said~~ mild and the relatively low traffic brought a relatively low noise production. Perhaps that was due to the fact that we were at the time of the market's busiest moments, which is after midnight. Then there would be a lot of trucks entering and exiting the site, and the vans and lorries would be parked next to streets to unload goods, thus worsening the problem. The fans would cause a lot of noise also. I would imagine such a scene at night, but at daytime, other than the slight traffic congestion at morning rush time, both traffic and noise are not really troubling problems.

## Reasonable inference

# My observation

My observation about fruit market: (in response to the question assigned to me)

Overall benefits & problems / risks brought to the fruit market and surrounding area

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Impact to the environment, e.g. hygiene

Impact to the environment, e.g. traffic, noise

Problems:

- rusting, insecure roof

- Using and blocking traffic roads

- messy, dirty environment

- unrepaired, unattended stalls and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, with broken windows

- dangling electric wires - unauthorized extended building works

• These makes the area uncomfortable, dangerous, vulnerable to extreme weather and fire

Benefits:

- A lot of stalls

- Located at the centre of Hong Kong

- Operated by the lower class - One of the largest scaled markets

• The fruit market provides job opportunities and economic benefits for the lower class

• The fruit market is easily accessible, with a variety of worldwide fruit choices without market monopoly.

Problems

Benefits

## Problems observed: Categorization

### Hygiene

Hygiene: Quite dirty in the inside, dirty water and litter on the ground, hygiene in the squatters are very questionable

### Traffic

Traffic: Heavy traffic congestion during the late night and dawn because trucks unload the goods at the middle of the road and workers carry the goods across the road, propose some dangerous situations

### Noise

Noise: The noise produced at night may disturb the residents nearby

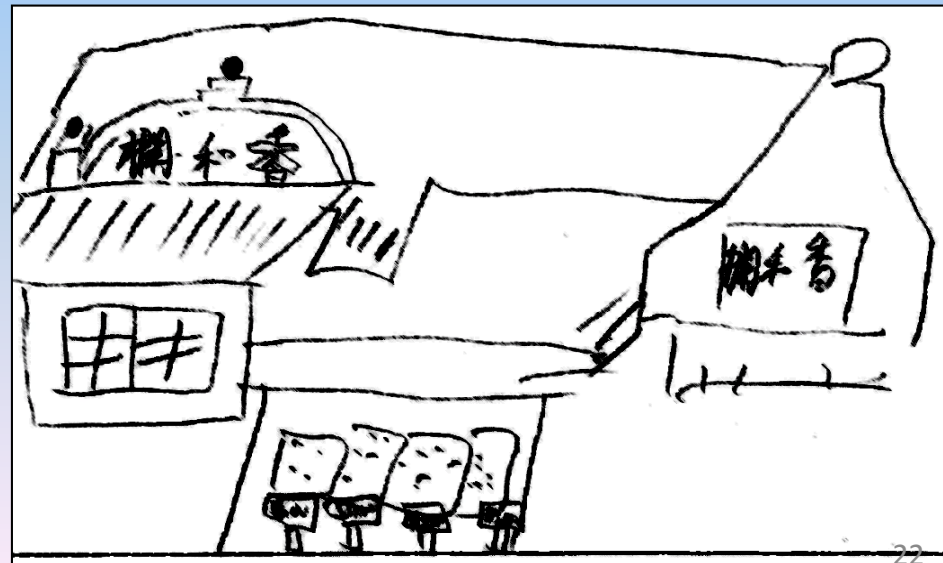
### Other problems

### Building structure

The buildings in the area are all very old and are made of stones and iron boards. There are also many illegal structures in the fruit market. Glass windows are broken, glass scattered and some wires hanging in mid-air. The iron roofs are rusted. These pose potential danger to the people doing activities there as these buildings may easily collapse and a fire is likely to break out.  
more.



**Draw a sketch**



## Reflection:

Living in YTM for ten years, this area of Yan Ma Tai has been a second home. After all, I reckoned I would know this place very well. Nevertheless, there are something I have learned in this trip which never had I know before and interests me.

- The upper part of the Refuse Collection Point is a shelter for the homeless.
- Red Brick Building, an old building which I took notice of, actually had such a rich history

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# Learning Outcomes - brief written report

Should the fruit market be preserved?

4W 21-25

YES!

The fruit market in Yau Ma Tei has been operating for more than a century, and now there are different voices and opinions on the future of the market. To us, the fruit market should be preserved, because it brings great economic benefits to the lower class and that it has a high historical and cultural value.

Firstly, the fruit market should be preserved as it brings great economic benefits to the lower class. The Yau Ma Tei fruit market is one of the few wholesale markets in Hong Kong that is not monopolized by some companies. There are about 200 stalls in the fruit market now, and the market is selling 50,000 boxes of fruit each day, which brings a large sum of income. The operation of the market provides a lot of job opportunities, and workers there are mostly people of the lower class, that is the lower class enjoys the economic benefits brought by the fruit market fairly. Some may say that the market only operates for a few hours at midnight and is unused during daytime, which is a waste of land use that is not actually bringing economic benefits. However, workers need to rest, and the market is being cleaned up after the morning session. Afterwards it becomes a fruit retail market, selling the remaining fruit in a relatively cheap price, which brings additional economic benefits. Therefore the fruit market should be preserved.

Should the fruit market be preserved? Why/ why not?

**NO!**

Yau Ma Tei Fruit Market is a historically valuable site and is classified as a Grade III Historic Building since 1990. It has witnessed all the changes in Hong Kong and how all those changes bring impacts to our economy. Yet, to a large extent, the fruit market should not be preserved because of cultural, economic and environmental aspects. It does not have significant cultural values, significant economic role in Hong Kong and also causes danger to citizens.

Firstly, the fruits market should not be preserved because the cultural values are not significantly high. Although the Fruit Market was built in old Architectural style, buuildings with metal plates, concretes and bricks are found not only in fruit market, but also in other places in Hong Kong, such as the Pok Fu Lam Village and Cha Kwo Ling Village, which are the remaining squatter villages in Hong Kong and also the Cheung Sha Wan Vegetables Wholesaling Market, which is also built a long time ago for food trading. Also, the calligraphy found in the fruit market can also be found in many graveyards in Hong Kong. This is only a tradition of Chinese to use ancestor's words to print their titles which they think important. The variety of calligraphy in the market is not wide enough. There is only *kaishu*, but in graveyards, others fonts are found easily, like *lishu* and *hengshu*. Moreover, the market only gathers mainlanders and Hong Kong locals. Yet, the Sai Yeung Choi Street market gathers different ethnics like Pakistani

# Why organizing a field trip in Liberal Studies?

Matching “ABC” in LS



# First hand data vs second hand data

## Newspaper



# Fruit Market in Reality



The buildings in the area are all very old and are made of stones and iron boards. There are also many illegal structures in the fruit market. Glass windows are broken, glass scattered and some wires hanging in mid-air. The iron roofs are rusted. These pose potential danger to the people doing activities there as those buildings may easily collapse and a fire is likely to break out.  
more.

# Marked difference between first hand and second hand information





## Environmental Impacts:

- Poor hygiene
- Obstruction of pavement



# How is the idea generated?

## Professional Development - Joining the field trip to Yau Ma Tei

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| 教案              | ..... |
| 案：油麻地 - 本土社區    | ..... |
| 1.1 考察路線        | ..... |
| 1.2 歷史概覽 - 油麻地  | ..... |
| 1.2.1 甚麼是本土化？   | ..... |
| 1.2.2 甚麼是本土建築？  | ..... |
| 1.3 考察地點        | ..... |
| 1 天后廟 + 榕樹頭     | ..... |
| 2 廟街            | ..... |
| 3 文華新村，文盛街      | ..... |
| 4 油麻地警署         | ..... |
| 5 上海街313-315號唐樓 | ..... |
| 6 油麻地果欄         | ..... |
| 7 油麻地戲院         | ..... |



## 「冀惠杏壇」—通識教育科資源增潤系列（7）

### 實地考察與通識教育科的議題探究：以油麻地區考察為例

課程發展處 通識教育組

2014年3月

通識教育科研習的是現今社會大眾關注的議題，而根據《通識教育科課程及評估指引》，建議教師為學生創造在真實情境中學習的機會，幫助他們達到某些單從課堂學習難以達到的學習宗旨（《指引》第78頁）。實地考察是其中一種在通識教育科常用的學與教策略，教師可以引導學生以社區考察的方式，展開真實情境的學習。下文以油麻地區兩項爭議事件為例<sup>1</sup>，介紹如何利用實地考察來探究與課程相關的議題。

#### 甲. 社區設施規畫的爭議：油麻地露宿者之家與上海街垃圾收集站

通識教育科要求學生從多角度研習不同議題，從而建構個人知識（《指引》第2頁）。社區設施規畫涉及不同持份者的利益爭議，尤以某些對附近環境影響較大的社區設施，例如垃圾站的設置位置，所引起的爭議就更加大了。重置油麻地露宿者之家與上海街垃圾收集站，正是其中一個爭議例子。學生可以利用實地考察

# What are the considerations for choosing a study area?

- Near our school : Cost-effective
- Observation + own knowledge
- Suitable weekdays and time
- Identify a controversial issue

