Watch this cover come to life!

This cover is adapted from the Grand Prize-winning entry for the GIF Challenge 2019, held at LASALLE College of the Arts, with prizes sponsored by Pilot Pen. This artwork by Rabiatul is inspired by the children’s book, “Murphy See How You Shine” by Chen Wei Teng. To see the cover in its animated GIF format, check the QR code above!
LARGE AND IN CHARGE

US$47.9 billion
+13.4%
US$217 million
39.6bn

Top 3 Local Game Studios

MODE OF GAMING | GROWTH IN 2019

| CONSOLE | +13.4% US$47.9 BILLION |
| MOBILE | +10.2% US$68.5 BILLION |
| PC/DESKTOP | +4% US$35.7 BILLION |

Players by Gender

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Global Gaming Market Outlook

TOP 5 ESPORTS EARNINGS TO DATE

| DARYL KIN | $1.5 MILLION DOTA 2 |
| JENG YU WONG | $1.0 MILLION CSGO |
| HO KWON KAN | $852,540 OVER 2 |
| WONG XING LEI | $722,300 LEAGUE OF LEGENDS |
| TON NAI WONG | $595,000 ULTRA STREET FIGHTER IV |

SINGAPORE GAMING LOWDOWN

1. US$217 million
2. US$84.3 million
3. US$83.5 million

US$6.9 million
Johan Sundstein
Demark

US$6.5 million
Jesse Vanikka
Finland

US$6 million
Anathan Pham
New Zealand

TOP 5 ESPORTS EARNINGS TO DATE

Sources: Newzoo | Singapore’s Cybersports & Online Gaming Association (SCOGA) | eSports Earnings

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Furballs on Film

DOGS IN MOVIES

BY NINA CAN

It's not unusual to see dogs in movies these days—with their puppy eyes and friendly demeanor. It's no surprise that movies with dogs tug at the heartstrings. Canine actors have appeared on the big screen as early as 1906 when they cast a Cane Corso to play the role of Nip in The Wizard of Oz. Ever since then, there's been a steady stream of dog-based movies in comedies, animation, action flicks, and, most notably, tear-jerking dramas.

The Drama Dogs

There have been plenty of dog movies featuring dogs as themselves—they walk, talk, bark, and make you smile. Many such movies simply document their heroics and tribulations with their human families. In the popular movie Marley & Me (2008), which is the highest-grossing dog movie to date, we see how Marley the puppy becomes an integral part of a family's life. The movie basically documents his on-screen life with his family, following their ups and downs until the last days of his life.

Hart's War (2002): In a Korean film about two abandoned young wolves, The older brother tells the story of a girl who adopts a puppy to keep her company. As the puppy grows older, transitioning from college student to working adult, she realizes that keeping a dog required more time than she could afford, and when the dog dies, she goes through the list of promises she made to her dog as a child.

Many filmmakers have sought to watch films with sad endings, but that doesn't mean more of them are being made.

Three dog-based movies came out in 2006 alone: Horse, which captures the stories of the three dogs' adventures through the life of the film. Two of them—A Dog's Journey and A Dog's Way Home—were adapted from A. Brus' bestseller Cameron's book. The former is an adaptation about a dog who gets reincarnated to find a person he saved to protect in his previous life. A Dog's Journey sees Bella the dog die and find her way home after being separated from her family.

Dogs in Other Genres

Of course, all dog movies are not that dramatic. There have been plenty of light-hearted comedies, like Air Bud (1997) in which a dog repeatedly becomes the hero of a basketball team, and Beethoven (1992) which is a comedy about a family who owns a pug named St. Bernard.

There are also doggie stars in the action genre: movies like Fermi and Fiero's characters, and dogs work well together when solving crimes and making big mistakes.

The Basis for Dogs

Dogs are a man's best friend, so let's see how to have our favorite canine companions make us laugh in movie stand-from adorable Cushing's inversely grown-up to their friendly, friendly faces to the more serious. Amusingly, the dog Malamute, dogs have shaved to have surprising noses, faces as well as the ability to see us. Well, we have the ability to see our heartstrings and make us laugh in these films.

In fact, movies with dogs do very well even if they're not the main stars. Just take John Wick (2014), who goes on a murderous rampage because his beloved dog was killed. The sequels even feature an adorable pit bull as his replacement companion.

Even in movies like Stillwater (2019) and The Love Dog (2012), the canine actors prove they can be the best sidekicks to provide the laughs.

Real Dog Stories

These furry four-legged friends have also starred in movies inspired by true stories, proving that in real life, a dog is a man's best friend.

We all know about Hachi, the famous faithful dog who has his own statue near Shibuya Station in Tokyo. The movie Hachi: A Dog's Tale (2009), based on the story of Japanese film Hachi: A Dog's Tale, tells the true story of a college professor who has an unparalleled bond with his Akita, Hachi, that he took home. Every day, Hachi would wait at the train station for his owner's return, but one day the professor dies at work and never made it back. However, Hachi faithfully waited at the station every day for the next 9 years until his death.

Another real-life dog with his own statue is Red Dog, a red dog from a small mining town in Pilbara, Australia. Red Dog (2011) tells the story of a small dog withhrummer as a well-liked member of the community who becomes a local legend. Red Dog (2011) is based on a true story about a wild-grown dog who manages to teach his way into the heart of a lonely and depressed middle-aged man. The movie is a great success.

Little Q (2007) is loosely based on Quill, and focuses on the guide dog's relationship with a moody chef.

Max (2015) is an action film with a twist on actual events. Max is a trained service dog whose owner is a veterinarian, and like many returning vets, Max suffers from PTSD. However, Max's family adopts Max, who soon bonds with Max's troubled veteran partner. Together, they set out to unravel the mystery of Max's death which involves some action.

Eight Below (2006) follows the true accounts of a Japanese Antarctic expedition in 1932, where a doctor's dog was left behind outside a research station when the humans suddenly evacuated. In the Japanese expedition, 2 of the 9 dogs died when the team returned a year later: in the movie, 6 of 9 dogs survived and were rescued after nearly 6 months.

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KPOP TUBERS
THE TREND OF KPOP IDOL CHANNELS

YouTube is a burgeoning market for up-and-coming content creators and the Kpop industry is jumping on the bandwagon as well. There has been a recent rise of both current and former Kpop idols creating personal YouTube channels, sharing content from lifestyle videos and OOTDs to singing covers, and even makeup tutorials. These videos aim to show a more personal, “real” side to the idols and let their fans get an inside look into their daily lives.

However, there is a more unique genre of these Kpop idol channels: exposé videos. These are usually run by former idols and are centred around revealing the inner secrets of the industry and answering a lot of the fans’ burning questions about the idol lifestyle. Here are some popular channels run by former idols.

GRAZY GRACE
Grace was a former idol trained to debut in a girl group which many people have tried to be a part of. Now she’s a solo artist and has appeared on the third season of the female rap competition show Unpretty Rapstar. The majority of her videos talk about her experiences as a former trainee and understanding the industry from the inside. How to escape the idol lifestyle.

RODE & NICE
KPOP IDOLS

SOOBEANIE...
Christine, a former girl group member, has a more niche channel where she talks about the inner workings of the idol life and her own personal stories from her time as an idol.

MIYAN BANG
MIYAN BANG is the former member of the group H ‘ N’B, which fell apart after their company dissolved due to financial problems. His channel is still fairly new, but his introduction video is just released live August 12. All his videos discuss different topics from his own experiences. He seems to be the direction he’s going for his channel.

SOUTH KOREA

THAILAND
James Bond Films
The Beach
Thailand offers some of the best natural scenery in Asia. With pristine beaches and clear waters, it is no surprise that the James Bond franchise shot several scenes in the country. Khao Phing Kan, more commonly known as James Bond’s island, is a limestone island known as “Phi Phi” in Thailand. The Man with the Golden Gun, the ninth James Bond film, used the island as a location for the movie. After the film’s release in 1974, the spike in visitor numbers to the remote island resulted in littering issues and the erosion of limestone rocks around the island. In order to curb the over-tourism, a ban was put in place to prevent boats from sailing too close to the island, thus, one can only admire James Bond’s island from a distance now.

SINGAPORE
Crazy Rich Asians
The 2018 film based on Kevin Kwan’s bestselling novel was essentially a long commercial for Singapore, complete with 360-degree panoramas of the Singapore skyline sprinkled in. The movie was filmed in iconic locations in Singapore such as Gardens by the Bay, Raffles Hotel and Chinatown. They even filmed at Newton Food Centre, because everybody loves hawker food, you know.

In 2018, tourism numbers exceeded expectations by the tourism board, and some attributed it to the buzz around the movie. Some entrepreneurial Singaporeans have since created tour packages based on the movie. There is an Eric Kwan service ferrying private groups around the film locations for photo opportunities.

Perhaps finding your next travel destination after watching a show not a bad idea. After all, you might just jump into the actors and actresses filming a set.
**FEARS FOR TEARS**

What is it about being scared that we like so much?

By Yuki Koh

Granted, it’s not all of us, but being scared is a form of entertainment that many people enjoy these days. With Halloween around the corner, events like Halloween Horror Nights are coming back full swing again, accompanied by yet another round of spooky costumes and experiences for us. From simple horror events and movies to haunted houses and escape games, most of us pay good money to give ourselves a good scare, but why? As in everything else, there are a number of reasons why one might enjoy being scared.

One of the most common reasons is that scary experiences are often exciting. Scared individuals often feel a rush of adrenaline, which can be quite enjoyable. People who enjoy being scared often describe these experiences as being thrilling and exhilarating.

Another common reason for enjoying scary experiences is that they provide a sense of mastery. People who enjoy being scared often feel a sense of accomplishment and pride in being able to handle the fear and overcome the threat.

However, not all individuals enjoy being scared. Some people may experience fear or anxiety in response to scary experiences, which can be unpleasant and uncomfortable.

**DIFFERENT FEARS FOR DIFFERENT REASONS**

Although we like being scared, not everyone enjoys it in the same way. Some people enjoy the rush of adrenaline that comes with being scared, while others enjoy the psychological challenge of overcoming fear.

For some, being scared is an enjoyable way to escape the mundane and ordinary aspects of life. Scary experiences can provide a sense of novelty and excitement, and can be a welcome break from the routine.

For others, being scared can be a way to cope with stress and anxiety. Scary experiences can help to distract the mind from other, more difficult thoughts and emotions.

Regardless of the reason, being scared can be a rewarding and enjoyable experience for many people. Whether you prefer to be scared solo or with friends, there are plenty of options available to suit your preferences and interests.

**NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD**

While external forces can be blamed for societal ills, the biggest fear lies in the darkness of humanity itself.

In the TV series The Walking Dead (2010–present), zombies are the least of the survivors’ problems. In this post-apocalyptic heliopolis, the protagonists are constantly attacked by other survivors, groups of armed bands, psychopathic cult leaders, bikers, gangs, and thieves, illustrating the dangers of racism and white supremacy.

In The Cured (2016), zombies are cured and returned to society, but they have discrimination and social issues that lead to racial intolerance, affecting how society behaves in an era of anti-immigration.

Korean blockbuster Train to Busan (2016) is a satirical indictment of Korea’s society, highlighting the attempt to build the country’s economy at the expense of the public. In contrast, the American film World War Z (2013) reflects the fear of being alone in a world abandoned by humanity.

**THE DEAD DON’T DIE**

Zombies on Screen

Whether you like it or not, the zombie genre has permanently made its mark in the entertainment world. Today, we watch zombie films, play zombie shooter games or go to zombie haunted houses. How did the zombie genre come about, and why are these walking dead so popular? Turns out, zombie films are rarely just about the undead with slow movement, bad teeth, and a weird shuffle.

**EVERYDAY SORROW**

Not all zombie movies highlight big, societal issues; some are more personal.

Zombie comedies like Zombieland (2009) remind us of who we should love, while Shaun of the Dead (2004) is a solution to our attention deficit disorder. In an attempt to achieve our ambition of achieving something, Harris Bodys (2013) is a romance with an underlying religious tone about overcoming sin with love.

Because zombies are great storytelling tools, their films have been in the last few decades, showing filmmakers a way to express social, political, and economic issues like race, gender, class, and globalism - and more than anything, human nature. They shed light on our lives as a critique of the post-apocalyptic world and the dystopian future that awaits us.
BLACKPINK

More recently, away from its pop group stereotypes and escorted 'girl group' persona, their songs have powerful lyrics as well as hard-hitting dance moves, similar to what you would expect from Western rockers nowadays. They have even started breaking new ground when they appeared at the famous pop-dance Coachella music festival this year. The group continues to win international favor, in addition to the adoration of their die-hard group members and fans from around the world.

BY LINDA WONG

THE RISE TO FAME: HOW TOP KPOP GROUPS BECAME POPULAR

Having been around since the 90s as their niche genre, K-pop is becoming more mainstream, reaching cult status within the past decade. In 2017, BTS won the 'Top Social Artist' award at the Billboard Music Awards, paving the way for recognition of the genre, specifically from the West.

New, BTS isn't the only ones traveling to Hollywood to make appearances at big Western award shows. More and more groups like MONSTA X and Stray Kids are making it big, but how did the most popular K-pop groups reach this level of recognition and fame? Each group has used different means and methods strategically to become popular.

TWICE

TWICE is arguably the most popular girl group in K-pop's current generation. The group is under JYP Entertainment, a company that is known for its debut groups (like K-pop). TWICE made their debut after appearing in the reality show 'Soomin' which discovered the lineup of the group. Since their debut, all of their songs have been big hits on many music shows. BTS 'Boyfriend' and 'TT' were the first two songs to cross 200 million views on YouTube. Furthermore, each member is famous on their own, and their band is leading towards a girl-focused genre that shows off the girls' feminine and powerful voices on both male and female audieces.

WANNA ONE AND X1

The boy groups Wanna One and X1 emerged from the popular 'Produce 101' reality show. 'Produce 101' is a unique series that is a mix between talent shows and formatted competitions. The audience votes for the last 11 members to form a new boy group. The public votes for their favorite contestants and the top 11 will debut.

The group that debuted always achieves Instant success because of their strong foundations. On the shows, the contestants are subjected to various才艺 competitions that they have to display their talent in singing, dancing, acting, or even reality skills. This has features original songs and is on the best of the best to debut.
**CONCERT WITHIN A GAME**

What do you get when you put a popular EDM artist into a video game’s biggest MMDING game? An insanely massive audience.

In February this year, EDM DJ Mat Zo performed with his signature mask and robot suit to a virtual concert within Fortnite… it was staged entirely within the third-person shooter game. His miniaturized version of himself, complete with an audio feed of his music and a number of dancers recruited by the video game, had the most viewers of any video game event. The event was so popular that so many fans wanted to be part of the virtual concert that they were unable to connect.

In-game concerts are an interesting mix of real-life and virtual, as everyone is hidden behind an avatar, including the performers. In a real-life concert, you’re always the same, but in an in-game concert, you can switch avatars at any time.

**LEAGUE OF LEGENDS AND KPOP STARS**

Last November, a girl group Kai after 5 months after the release, was virtually staged with virtual members. This K-pop phenomenon has also reached the MOBA genre, with League of Legends simply adding more avatars to its game roster.

Instead of in-game concerts, the band created the new virtual concert and took the top spot in the 2018 League of Legends World Championship finals. The band also had real-life K-pop stars perform on stage with a virtual performance projected in the background. Their first and only song, PopStars, garnered 8.8 billion views in just 24 hours on YouTube. Breaking the record for the most-viewed K-pop group debut MV on the day of release.

While KDA’s members were digitally created, their presence was felt in a virtual live performance by their avatars. They are actually voiced by real-life pop stars.

**STEP BY STEP: VIRTUAL BOY BAND**

Even as a fan of Japanese boy bands, chances are you’ve never had the chance to experience a 3D projection of a real boy band. But you can now! In the future, using your own smartphone, you can create a virtual boy band experience.

Both bands consist of five members. The band is known for its ability to create the perfect mix of virtual and real-world. Their concerts are a perfect mix of music, dance, and technology.

Although the show is technically 3D projection on stage, fantasy live concept.

The team behind these boy bands are professionals who produce the music and perform live. They use the latest technology, including augmented reality, to create the perfect mix of virtual and real.

**WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF ENTERTAINMENT?**

As we know, technology – in particular, augmented reality, motion capture, and voice-activated technology – plays a huge role in the future of entertainment. In the future, we can expect to see more virtual concerts, but the possibility of virtual concerts is still limited.

**MUSIC CROWDSOURCING: VOCALLOIDS**

Characterized by its long, glossy hair, and holographic Arabian influence, Vocaloid is a virtual pop star that has been loved by fans all over the world.

Today, the world’s most popular vocaloid, Hoshino Miku, performed at the annual Summer Concert in Japan. This was the first time that Vocaloid had performed in Japan, and it was a huge success.

Hoshino Miku is a Vocaloid, a software voice which can be voiced by anyone who wants to be a singer. Vocaloids are popular among fans of pop music, and they are often used in music videos. However, Vocaloids are not limited to music videos; they are also used in games, movies, and other forms of entertainment.

While Vocaloids are popular in Japan, they are not as popular in other parts of the world. Many fans of Vocaloids in Japan are also fans of Japanese pop music, but in other parts of the world, Vocaloids are not as well-known.

**YOUTUBERS WITHOUT A FACE**

What makes Vocaloids interesting is that the characters are created by regular people. The creators take the Vocaloid voice and create a character, which is then voiced by the Vocaloid. This way, fans can create their own Vocaloids and share them with others.

In the future, we can expect to see more virtual concerts, but the possibilities are limited. However, as technology continues to improve, we can expect to see more virtual concerts, and the future of entertainment is exciting.
THE LIST
TOP ANIME MOVIES TO WATCH

Your Name

Your name.

Weathering with You is the latest Japanese animation to hit the big in the cinematic year, but it's hardly the only anime worth watching. Here's a list of other anime that should be on your watchlist, whether you're looking for adventure, romance, or Japanese culture.

In This Corner of the World

Set in an incredible story, the story follows 25-year-old Rumi who lives with her parents, slowly growing to love them. She uses the household's sadness, preparing bread, during times of warming and coolness. She uses the sadness to love herself.

A Silent Voice

A 16-year-old student is told that she has a rare, life-threatening illness.

Mairi

A 16-year-old girl has a. She is told that she has a rare, life-threatening illness.

Summer Wars (2009)

Makoto Shinkai's most ambitious film. A high school student must save the world from a mysterious phenomenon.

The Vivent of Awareness

The story is engrossing, full of emotion, and the animation is beautiful.

Paprika

Paprika is a psychological thriller about a doctor using a strange device that allows patients to view their own inner world.

The Girl Who Leaps Through Time

High school student Haru buys a device that allows her to visit the future.
The Imitation Game

How Beun site is a testament to Singapore’s failing art culture

By Ho Wei Jian

On December 2017, a little known K-pop group by the name of Beun site debuted with a group of 13 girls. They quickly garnered fans in the following weeks, when they walked into the music divisions of the internet. Two responses, or maybe a disillusionment, a delusion of their social media accounts and a wave of onomatopoeia videos on TikTok saw them becoming endorsees to become the new BTS with both mainstream and scum.

This phenomenon, much to the delight of the K-pop music culture, has been a fascinating ride to watch as an outsider. It is not only a tale of the usual K-pop artist who took things too far; an insane music appeal, as well as a representation of a country's failing art culture.

While I have no prior knowledge to K-pop before the introduction of these lovely girls, nor have I developed a particular interest in the K-pop genre, I would be willing to put Beun site on a pedestal or failing Singapore art culture. Beun site does not represent a sense of babyish admiration from a group of adolescents. It represents a country’s failed endeavor to possess a pop culture of its own.

In search of originality

Much of the warranted criticism aimed at Beun site, they’re lack of originality. Add to these five encounters in which the audience of K-pop group, it is as surprising that there are truly many among people who are fans of this K-pop genre.

While they do have the right to call themselves a K-pop group, it is up to them. There are several wrinkles I wouldn’t dare dive into, but what I will say is that Beun site in an allusion for ‘ショップロクウ’ and ‘ショップロクウ-pop’.

So Beun site was under the desire to establish an overseas brand that they didn’t choose to create something original or local. Beun site wanted to brand themselves as a K-pop brand, rather than be a K-pop band heard, even though they were based in Singapore. It leads me to believe that, either

They didn’t want to be a part of the Singapore music scene, or they preferred to be a part of the K-pop scene.

Drowned in noise

Because of the huge following that these international acts have on the rest of the world, they have somewhat some following. Situations on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and their influence on video platforms whether on television or otherwise - local acts often get washed away from all the noise.

Foreign acts have large amounts of money to spend on never-ending marketing and making outrageous songs to keep up with the trends, much that they stay current, while our local groups stay static.

This phenomenon is not unique to K-pop. If you look at any film industry in other parts of the world, the highest-grossing movie in Singapore was Marvel Studios’ ‘Avengers: Infinity War’ which grossed $4.6 million. The highest-grossing local film was ‘Wonderful!’, grossing $1.6 million, which grossed just $1.7 million. There is a widening gap with more people preferring overseas artists compared to our local arts scene.

The mass media is responsible for transforming the way we entertain ourselves. And as the influence of these media platforms, so will the monopoly that these foreign acts have on us, and so will it shape preferences for them.

In fact, I would be willing to bet you ask any 10-year-old on the street to name any music that they enjoy, and the majority would say ‘The Beatles’.”

I do not blame Beun site. However, I do attribute this problem - this slumber to the acts. Beun site prefers overseas trends over local ones to the influence of music and social media.

There is a striking example of our preferences for the foreign trends, and they have been magnified. It’s a bit of a mockery that this group has suffered, I paint a grim picture of our country’s deteriorating arts and culture scene.

The food diet

As Singaporeans, food naturally forms a great part of our lives. Not only do we eat food, we talk about food, and we spend hours and hours hunting down the next big eat.

Unsurprisingly, this is not just a local phenomenon, it’s an international trend that’s sweeping every continent in the world. Social media has played a huge part in this, because sharing what we have devoured has become as simple as a quick click on our favourite food app, Instagram.

FOOD INFLUENCERS (the visual eater)

In recent years, there has been an rise in food influencer and online platforms like Instagram, Foodieconnoisseur, and DorkyChef have reached a collective love of influence and fame. These people are often invited to the exclusive dining events and the newest restaurants that want to be featured on the influencer’s platform. These platforms, especially on Instagram, are one of the main motivator of which have impressive follower numbers. DorkyChef (20k followers).

Millennials and Gen Z who spend hours on these platforms tend to look up to these people to find the next new item to try, browsing the trending feed of the Singaporeans to try the next Bubble Tea or Cheese Tart or whatever foods their fans’ food.

FOOD TOURISM (the curious explorer)

People are no longer satisfied with locally-available food - they want exotic, gourmet from every corner of the world. Food tourism has become one of the biggest hyped up as ‘foodie’ travel as people get to experience the world’s best culinary-destined videos.

A popular site is Food Hunter, which currently has 3.2 million subscribers, the Canadian, expressionist hosts for the very best travel food destinations. China the recently expanded into new countries, and澳门 introduced a different view of the Chinese food culture. Another popular channel is Foodie, which collects a list of top foodies in the kitchen. This video allows other people to experience real local culture and clear misconceptions about stereotypes.

FOOD PRODUCTION (the knowledge hunter)

More than finding new and cool foods, people are now finding interest in understanding the way the food was produced and the different ecosystem work. With such demand, there are television and YouTube channels devoted to help consumers understand the process behind these manufacturing processes. From how chicken is produced or how hoisin sauce is made to how many available some foods are. In Singapore, we have our very own Food Source (B18) by the Biodiversity Portal.

MUKBANG VIDEOS (the sadistic viewer)

This is a food-based video genre where we watch people gorge on hearty amounts of food for entertainment. As it first popularized by Epic Meal Time from the US, it is now popularly called mukbang - a mashup of Korean words meaning to eat a lot and being very loud (“broadcast”). Where everyday people stream their meals online, naming each bite of 500g or more of food like pancakes to 1.5kgs of cookies or 6.5kgs of ice cream. Millionaires and the rich will eat up to 3.5lbs of food online.

Be warned though, do not attempt unless you have been properly prepared. For。www.3holic.com or TheSaladOil.com one of the highlights of the genre is that it is... a lot. It is not recommended to watch if you have a sensitive stomach or if you have a 1,600 calories per sitting.

COOKING VIDEOS (food creators)

Some YouTubers have literally taken things into their own hands. Instead of relying on ready-made food, the videos of cooking have permeated the millennial generation. Gordon Ramer and Masterchef probably played a huge part in the explosion.

There are plenty of dedicated channels to teach millennials how to make meals that they can use to impress their significant other or to impress their friends and family. One of the most common is Baking Channel, which features how-tos and tips like the perfect croissants or making cookies. Some YouTubers even feature themselves eating their own food in the shower.

Tasty
OUT AND ABOUT

EDUCATECH 2019
When: 4 - 6 Nov 2019
Where: Suntec Singapore Convention Centre
Tickets: Free
At Educatech Asia, we pride ourselves on bringing together thousands of educators from across Asia to evaluate and plan for the future of learning. In 2019, we’re elevating the bar higher and better than ever before. Spanning across 3 exciting days, the event will feature 10 themes of key sector-spanning topics in K-12 Education, Vocational Education, Vocational Training (VET), Early Childhood Education, Special Educational Needs (SEN), EdTech Asia and Asia EdTech for 2020, Advocacy & Marketing, STEAM, Smart Schools and Smart Campus.
Plus, there will be lots of fantastic workshops, EdTech Briefcases and more. Supported by IMDA, the event will also feature an exhibition showcasing the latest edtech, virtual reality and augmented reality innovations and technologies. Join us at Asia’s largest education conference and exhibition.

ROMP 2019
When: 2 Nov 2019 @ 10am - 10pm
Where: Our Tampines Hub
Tickets: Free
Stand to win prizes worth up to $500 per team! ROMP 19, the largest youth sports festival run by a non-profit organization, is back and better than ever before. Organised by the W.A.D.I Club, the sports arm of HomeTeamNS Ltd, it aims to build youth’s confidence through sporting and volunteering.

SINGAPORE COMIC CON 2019
When: 7 - 8 Dec 2019
Where: Marina Bay Sands, Halls A, B, C
Tickets: $5.00 - $12.00
Singapore Comic Con (SCC) is back! If you’re an art lover or any cult culture fan, this year’s event will be a must-visit weekend! There will be collectible toy, limited edition merchandise, an artist’s market, and lots of visiting illustrators and comic creators you can meet and greet. There will also be a cosplay championship, as well as a panel to dish on the latest trends.

SITEX 2019
When: 29 Nov - 2 Dec 2019
Where: Singapore Expo Hall 8 & 9
Tickets: Free
SITEX is back this year, bringing you the latest cutting-edge technology available in the market. The exhibition is Singapore’s national showcase and lifestyle IT exhibition, which aims to connect technology and lifestyle in one single element, and to push boundaries in innovation and digital transformation.

PRODUCTIONS

NEVILLE S. SEBASTIAN

Kenny Sebastian

Youth-focused comedian Kenny Sebastian back in Singapore for another spectacular show. The Most Interesting Man In The Comedy Industry is a unique blend of humor and music to entertain audiences as he shares his cheeky outlook on life has changed ever since he turned 36. He has a stand-up comedy show that is suitable for all, and he also does about animals, birds, and the world he lives in around him is getting on his nerves.

GIGS

Lewis Capaldi

International British soul Lewis Capaldi will be live in Singapore for the very first time. Capaldi has the kind of voice that makes little accomplishment to create an unforgettable impact. Featuring the all-time "Someone You Loved", the album, his third studio album, "Champagne Supernova", is expected to be released in the coming months.

SITEX 2019

Singapore Science Theatre (SST) will be presenting its annual full contemporary season of the year, "Passages by SST". The show will feature the full-length play "Passages by SST", written and directed by SST's own Mr. W. Anderson, and "Shahid's Runway" by SST's own Mr. R. Anderson. The show will also feature a world premiere of an exciting Australian play, "Leda's Love", written and directed by SST's own Mr. J. Anderson. The show will also feature a world premiere of an exciting Australian play, "Leda's Love", written and directed by SST's own Mr. J. Anderson.
FROM SCREEN TO STAGE:  
BY YIN LOON

YOUTUBERS GOING ON TOUR

When it comes to famous entertainers, it’s said that the easiest way to make money is by going on tour. The truth can also be said if you’re an online celebrity. These days, we’re seeing more and more YouTubers going on tour – whether they’re singers, comedians, or gamers, they’ve succeeded in making the jump from screen to stage.

THE FACE TUBE

You’ve heard of popular YouTubers getting signed onto major records, like Carly Rae Jepsen, Charlie Puth, The Internet, and more. Justin Bieber, their virtual YouTube channel, attracted the attention of record labels, who made him celebrities in tour.

As all known, record companies and video sites like YouTube and even make a deal to do something if they have been follower numbers or views, since artists get paid per stream.

But going big isn’t an easy task. According to a 2018 research from Germany, 96.5% of all YouTubers won’t make enough revenue to surpass the poverty line in the US.

FROM ONLINE TO IRL

When working in the same way as YouTubers or TikTok, it’s easy for anyone to get their name out there, but the best way to bring in income is to bring themselves out to the public to show their face.

For the past decade, social media stars have taken the stage at events like YouTube FanFest and Viddcon. These conventions have featured a mix of influencers and social media stars who have created a buzz of their own.

In 2017, the $92 million, mostly from his lucrative world tour, according to Forbes, he took an average of $11.1 million per stop.

Last year, Singaporeans were not immune to the hype. TikTok stars, Michele Zavala and Puteh, along with Too Hot To Handle star, Nicketa, and Singaporean YouTube stars, shocked many when they took a step towards mainstream stardom.

TUBERS ON TOUR

East Kalimantan’s ad roman sah warung close to what musicians make on the road, and they’re getting on the game. Their YouTube for artists programme shows entertainers exactly where their fans are based and what their fans are watching. As the group’s popularity continues to grow, they can even better plan their next tour. Spotify is also doing the same thing to expand their platform with analytics like these.

This just proves that no matter how popular one can be online, the best way to entertain the masses is to get out and be the real world.

WHY THE ROMANCE NOVEL IS SO UNFAIRLY HATED

BY EVAN SEE

The romance novel is one of the few genres that has existed since antiquity, and it hasn’t changed all that much too. Romance novels have the largest mass-market appeal to readers by making over US$14 billion on average per year. Coming second in this category, ranking just over half that amount with US$728 million.

Often written from the perspective of the woman due to a 90% female readership, it’s easy to see the appeal of these stories in their fans – a protagonist who always gets the perfect man, an emotionally satisfying ending and no shortage of passionate, feel-good romance. Maybe you hate them, or maybe you’re an avid fan. But what is it about the romance novel that creates such polarizing opinions on them?

BOOK SNOBBERY

The more, we regard literature, the more we’ll tolerate the novel in secret. Given more criticism that romance novels are sex, that they’re formulaic, repetitious, or even the ‘real reads’

If plotted philosophers are often read romance novels for not knowing ‘good writing’, I suppose that the same intuitive popularity of the bestselling Fifty Shades or Twilight series, both of which are oftensampled.

This book snobbery is fairly common among discussing ‘bad’ fiction. Many books have frequencies of certain themes, with romance being a great example of it. The genre is often linked to stereotypes of shallow writing, predictable storylines and even more ‘mary sue’

When romance novels for booked middle-aged women.

While there are certainly not targets to misogyny, these books often because of the lack of adaptation, often well-dressed in a marriage, or the meeting ‘love stories’.

Some romance novels do well with women, and they are often written by women. These are the stories of love, and of parts, and of the happily ever after.

Some are similar to decide entire genres as uncool, and it’s often that the last word. Writers like Jane Austen quoted, ‘I say the only certainty is, everything is right’. Even this is unfair to decide entire genres as uncool, and it’s often that the last word. Writers like Jane Austen quoted, ‘I say the only certainty is, everything is right’.

Love isn’t everything to everyone. The genre has been criticized for its lack of diversity and inclusivity, but it’s also often praised for its ability to provide stories that are relatable and emotionally resonant. It’s a genre that has been explored by writers for decades, and it’s a genre that continues to be popular today.

The truth is that everyone has a romantic novel just for the same reasons — they’re happy and heartwarming. Maybe it’s not the same love story that resonates with everyone, but it’s a story that can make us feel loved and cherished.

It’s also hard to deny the popularity that these stories can gain from reading, or even watching or listening to them in any way.

THE WOMAN FACTOR

Many girls wouldn’t be caught dead with a copy of a romance novel, but we wonder if this is the case. It’s certainly a genre that’s often seen as less intellectual or serious compared to other genres of fiction. So, what do you think about the romance novel? Do you love them or hate them, or are you neutral? Comment below and let us know your thoughts in the comments section below.

The reason many girls wouldn’t be caught dead with a copy of a romance novel is that they think of it as a lower form of literature. However, this is a misconception. Romance novels are not just about love stories. They are about the journey of self-discovery, the importance of communication, and the power of forgiveness. They give us a glimpse into the minds of the characters and the emotions they experience. They are stories that remind us of the importance of love and relationships.

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These days, we are familiar with UFC, muay thai, and Street Fighter – in simple terms, it's where people actually fight with each other for entertainment. Today, whether it's real life or digital, they're multi-billion dollar industries that have woven themselves into our popular culture – just take a look at how many MMA gyms and wannabe fighters out there. Here's a look at the history and growth of our obsession with 'sports entertainment'.

### The Rise of Fight Sports

**By Nina Gan**

The brutal nature of fight sports is quite obvious, but it's the innovation and creativity that has kept this form of entertainment thriving.

#### Fighting Tournaments

The Brazilian fighting sideshow called *Vale Tudo* (aka 'No Holds Barred') is the precursor of the modern-day mixed martial arts tournament. From 1960, Vale Tudo remained mostly as an underground subculture, with most fights taking place in martial arts dojos. Its popularity was fueled by the legendary Gracie family (creators of Brazilian jiu-jitsu) – one of its members helped set up Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) in 1993.

Professional wrestling (aka *Pro Wrestling*) also became popular from the 60s, especially in North/South America and Japan. A combination of flamboyant personalities and wrestling (sometimes involving props), it's now a billion-dollar entertainment industry. The biggest promoters include WWE (USA) which gave us personalities like Hulk Hogan, and the grittier New Japan Pro Wrestling (Japan).

Mexico's version of pro wrestling – *Lucha Libre* – is one of the country's biggest spectator activities today. Characterised by colourful masks, its origins date back to 1863 when a Mexican wrestler developed this free-style fighting form. It wasn't until the early 1900s that its popularity started to explode as entertainment after holding no-holds barred tournaments.

A key component of MMA is Muay Thai – the "art of eight limbs" known for its combined use of fists, elbows, knees, and shins. It's been around since the 18th century, but made popular as entertainment from the 20th century.

#### Digital Fighting Arena

Fighting games took centre stage over much of the 90s in the early years of home PCs and gaming arcades. Capcom's *Street Fighter* (1987) was the first to release its version of a fighting game, and it's followed by a series of events that have established early versions of the game's fighting genre. Mortal Kombat (1992) was the first fighting game to introduce 'fatality' – a killing move that was later covered by many other fighting games. The popularity of MMA has also seen the rise of other promoters worldwide, including the Singapore-based ONE Championship.

**The Future of MMA**

When apple released the iPad, they essentially created a new platform for MMA. The UFC, Bellator, and Bellator UK all started streaming their events on the iPad. It wasn't until 2015 that UFC began streaming its events on YouTube, but by 2016, the UFC was streaming more than 400 events a year. The rise of streaming has led to a decline in traditional TV ratings, but it has also opened up new avenues for MMA to reach a wider audience.

**HOMEPAGE IS BEST**

When digital cameras became the norm on smartphones, no one understood their use better than the sports industry. The web has allowed the distribution of homemade adult videos, and it’s no surprise that men were the first to adopt this new technology.

The adult industry has grabbed technology and applied it to consumers’ needs, wants, and desires since forever, but until society looks past its steamy content and to its true significance, the actual impact of erotica will remain largely unheard.
This Halloween, it’s time for card gamers – this one doubles up as trivia for horror movies. How much do you know about these (in)famous characters, and will you survive the game till the end?

How to play:
1. Cut out the cards. There is an empty card waiting for you to fill in your favourite ghoul/monster. In fact, make as many cards as possible, otherwise it’ll be a very short, boring game.
2. Find at least one other player to play with you.
3. There are many ways you can play this – the easiest is to call out one of the 6 points on the card (i.e. Strength) and challenge the other player with their card. The character with more points in that category wins the opponent’s card.

**Blank card for you to fill in**

### Stress Relief

**Freddie Krueger**
- Carnage Level: Mass Murderer
- Survivability: Run for your life
- Creep Factor: He looks a bit odd
- Easy to Kill?: Not by you
- Gore Factor: He’s bloodthirsty
- Strength: He’s superhuman

**Jason Vorhees**
- Carnage Level: Mass Murderer
- Survivability: Run for your life
- Creep Factor: He’s behind a mask
- Easy to Kill?: If you have protection
- Gore Factor: He’s pretty bloody
- Strength: He’s strong enough

**Chucky**
- Carnage Level: Mass Murderer
- Survivability: Better run fast
- Creep Factor: Look at those eyes
- Easy to Kill?: He resurrects
- Gore Factor: He’s super violent
- Strength: He’s a toy

**Dracula**
- Carnage Level: Mass Murderer
- Survivability: No escape
- Creep Factor: He looks a bit off
- Easy to Kill?: He was dead once
- Gore Factor: Only by accident
- Strength: Strong as an oaf

**Frankenstein**
- Carnage Level: Mass Murderer
- Survivability: Run for your life
- Creep Factor: He looks a bit odd
- Easy to Kill?: He was dead once
- Gore Factor: Only by accident
- Strength: Strong as an oaf

**Mummy**
- Carnage Level: Children only
- Survivability: You can run away
- Creep Factor: Scary for kids
- Easy to Kill?: It was already dead
- Gore Factor: No violence
- Strength: It’s pretty fragile

**Pennywise**
- Carnage Level: Children only
- Survivability: Only by spell
- Creep Factor: He’s got creepy eyes
- Easy to Kill?: He isn’t even alive
- Gore Factor: He loves it
- Strength: You can’t imagine

**How to play:**
1. Cut out the cards. There is an empty card waiting for you to fill in your favourite ghoul/monster. In fact, make as many cards as possible, otherwise it’ll be a very short, boring game.
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