

The Little Red Dot

Singapore is sometimes called the “little red dot.” This nickname refers to how our small country is marked out on many world maps.

Explore artworks at DBS Singapore Gallery 2 that offer a glimpse into what life was like in Singapore decades ago.

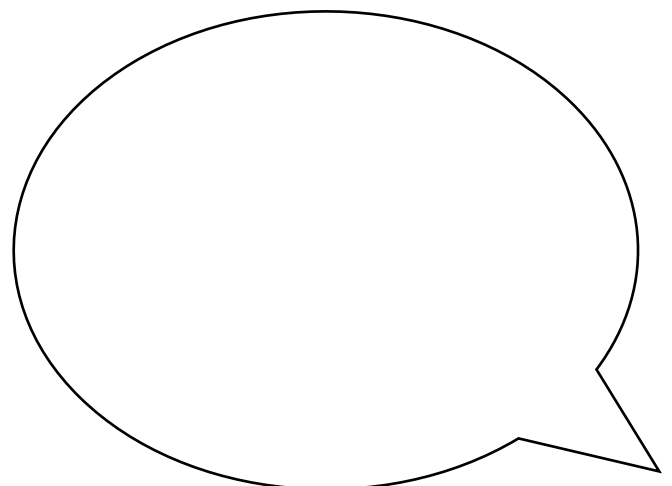
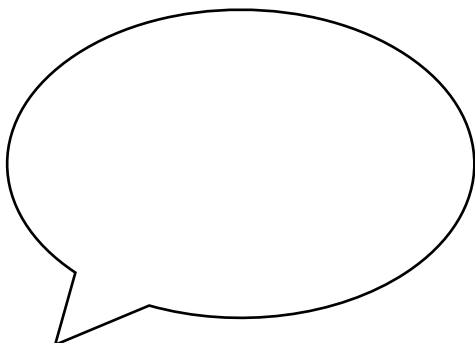
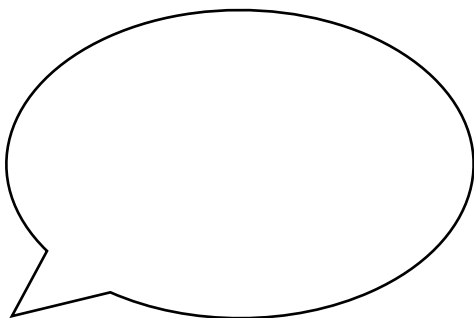
Conversation by Ho Kok Hoe

Look at the three young men in this painting. They are in uniform and having a conversation, possibly during a break in their military training. What do you think they might be saying to each other? Write it down in the speech bubbles below.



Ho Kok Hoe. *Conversation*. 1977. Mixed media, 120 x 211 cm.
Collection of National Gallery Singapore.

National Service was made compulsory in 1967 to help build Singapore's military forces. Ask your family about their experiences and have them share their stories!



Mama Stall (Sophia Road) by Ang Ah Tee

This painting shows a mama shop, or traditional convenience store, displaying an assortment of snacks and knick-knacks. Have you ever bought anything from a mama shop? Draw a few things that you might buy at a mama shop in the space below.



“Mama” comes from the Tamil word “*mamak*,” which means uncle. These stalls were usually run by Indian immigrants.

Ang Ah Tee. *Mama Stall (Sophia Road)*. 1986. Oil on canvas, 60 x 75 cm. Collection of National Gallery Singapore.