



Learning Activity

Year
5

A letter home to China

Write a letter home to China about your experiences as a miner in Tasmania in the late 1800s. Use videos about Tin Mountain and the Guan Di Temple as source material.



What you will need

- Notebook and pen or computer
- Video: Chinese migration to Tin Mountain (<https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/media/3385738/chinese-migration-to-tin-mountain>)
- Video: Chinese temples in the 19th century (<https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/media/3385770/chinese-temples-in-19th-century-tasmania.htm>)



What to do

- Watch both of the videos about the Chinese migration to Tasmania in the late 1800s. (See links above.)
- Make dot points covering the important information. (You might need to watch the videos more than once.)
- Is this video a primary or secondary source?
 - What is the purpose of this source?
 - Does it contain any stereotypes or overgeneralisations of the Chinese people in north eastern Tasmania at this time?
- In the role of a Chinese miner, write a letter home about your experience. Consider:
 - The type of work you do
 - What your daily life is like
 - Whom you work and socialise with
 - What it was like moving to another country? Do you like it? Do you miss home?





Curriculum links

Year 5 HASS

The nature of convicts or colonial presence, including the factors that influenced patterns of development, aspects of the daily life of the inhabitants (including Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples) and how the environment changed (ACHASSK107)

The reasons people migrated to Australia and the experiences and contributions of a particular migrant group within a colony (ACHASSK109)

The role that a significant individual or group played in the shaping a colony (ACHASSK110)

Examine primary sources and secondary sources to determine their origin and purpose (ACHASSI098)

Present ideas, findings, viewpoints and conclusions in a range of texts and modes that incorporate source materials, digital and non-digital representations and discipline-specific terms and conventions (ACHASSI105)

Year 5 English

Plan, draft and publish imaginative, informative and persuasive print and multimodal texts, choosing text structures, language features, images and sound appropriate to purpose and audience (ACELY1704)



Link to QVMAG

The Guan Di Temple is a permanent exhibition at Queen Victoria Art Gallery at Royal Park. Formerly known as the Joss House, it holds the contents of a number of Chinese temples from north eastern Tasmanian mining towns. As these temples closed, their contents were kept, and eventually donated to the people of Launceston.

It is still a working temple, and is a unique window on Chinese religious practice in Tasmania in the 1880s. The significant collection includes decorated plaques, incense burners and other ceremonial items.

