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Level 6

Alternate history of Singapore wins comics Oscars

25th July, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

A Singaporean graphic novelist has won three of the comic industry's equivalent of the Oscars. Sonny Liew picked up three Eisner Awards for his comic book, "The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye". The book is a satirical rewrite of Singaporean history. Mr Liew scooped the top prize for Best Writer/Artist, Best US Edition of International Material, and Best Publication Design at the awards ceremony. The annual awards show was held at the San Diego Comic-Con on Friday. Liew told reporters that he was surprised his book had done so well as he never expected he would get an international audience for it. He said: "I always wanted people to read the book and get a sense of how rich our history was."

Mr Liew's book outlines the history of Singapore from its struggle for independence from British colonial rule. As well as focusing on Singapore's founding father and first leader, the late Lee Kuan Yew, Liew also highlights the role played by lesser-known people. He said: "I think the so-called official narrative Singapore story is part of our history, but it's not the whole story and I wanted to tell a more inclusive version of our history. I hope that's what people reading the book will get from it." Liew initially feared his book would be unsuccessful after Singapore's National Arts Council withdrew a grant for the book. However, this brought the book a lot of attention and boosted exposure and sales.

Sources: <http://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/world/2017/07/23/alternate-history-of-singapore-scoops-comic-books-awards/>
<http://www.straitstimes.com/lifestyle/arts/sonny-liew-wins-three-comics-oscars>
<http://www.themalaymailonline.com/features/article/graphic-novelist-sonny-liew-is-first-singaporean-to-win-prestigious-eisner>

WARM-UPS

1. GRAPHIC NOVELS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about graphic novels. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

graphic novel / comic / industry / satirical / top prize / awards / reporters / history / struggle / independence / colonial rule / official / narrative / version / exposure / sales

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. NOVELS: Students A **strongly** believe novels are better than graphic novels; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. READING: What are the pros and cons of these ways of reading? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Pros	Cons
Graphic novels		
Novels		
Autobiographies		
Encyclopedia		
Newspapers		
Blogs		

5. NOVEL: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "novel". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. NOVEL GENRES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best novel genres at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- historical
- romantic
- crime
- action
- fantasy
- science fiction
- espionage
- urban fiction

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The graphic novelist won three awards at an awards ceremony. **T / F**
- b. The awards show is held every two years. **T / F**
- c. The writer largely wrote for a global audience. **T / F**
- d. The writer wants people to get a sense of how wealthy Singapore is. **T / F**
- e. The book is about Singapore up until independence from Britain. **T / F**
- f. The book focuses on lesser-known characters in Singapore's history. **T / F**
- g. Sonny Liew didn't think his book would be successful. **T / F**
- h. The book got a grant taken away from it, which added to its success. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. novelist | a. summarizes |
| 2. picked up | b. yearly |
| 3. satirical | c. awareness |
| 4. annual | d. took away |
| 5. sense | e. writer |
| 6. outlines | f. fight |
| 7. struggle | g. increased |
| 8. narrative | h. won |
| 9. withdrew | i. account |
| 10. boosted | j. ironic |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. the comic industry's equivalent | a. and sales |
| 2. Sonny Liew picked | b. ceremony |
| 3. The book is a satirical rewrite | c. our history was |
| 4. at the awards | d. lot of attention |
| 5. get a sense of how rich | e. up three Eisner Awards |
| 6. Mr Liew's book outlines the | f. independence |
| 7. its struggle for | g. version of our history |
| 8. a more inclusive | h. of the Oscars |
| 9. this brought the book a | i. history of Singapore |
| 10. boosted exposure | j. of Singaporean history |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

A Singaporean graphic novelist has won three of the comic industry's (1) _____ of the Oscars. Sonny Liew picked up three Eisner Awards for his comic book, "The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye". The book is a satirical (2) _____ of Singaporean history. Mr Liew (3) _____ the top prize for Best Writer/Artist, Best US Edition of International Material, and Best Publication Design at the awards ceremony. The (4) _____ awards show was held at the San Diego Comic-Con on Friday. Liew told (5) _____ that he was surprised his book had done so well as he never (6) _____ he would get an international (7) _____ for it. He said: "I always wanted people to read the book and get a (8) _____ of how rich our history was."

annual
rewrite
audience
sense
scooped
reporters
equivalent
expected

Mr Liew's book (9) _____ the history of Singapore from its struggle for independence from British (10) _____ rule. As well as focusing on Singapore's founding father and first leader, the late Lee Kuan Yew, Liew also highlights the role played by (11) _____ -known people. He said: "I think the so-called official (12) _____ Singapore story is part of our history, but it's not the whole story and I wanted to tell a more inclusive (13) _____ of our history. I hope that's what people reading the book will get from it." Liew (14) _____ feared his book would be unsuccessful after Singapore's National Arts Council withdrew a (15) _____ for the book. However, this brought the book a lot of attention and boosted (16) _____ and sales.

lesser
initially
outlines
exposure
narrative
grant
colonial
version

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

- 1) A Singaporean graphic novelist has won three of the comic industry's _____ Oscars
 - a. equivalence of the
 - b. equivalency of the
 - c. equivalencies of the
 - d. equivalent of the
- 2) Sonny Liew picked up three Eisner Awards _____
 - a. for his comical book
 - b. for his comic book
 - c. for his comics book
 - d. for his comically book
- 3) The book is a satirical _____ history
 - a. rewritten of Singaporean
 - b. rewrites of Singaporean
 - c. rewriter of Singaporean
 - d. rewrite of Singaporean
- 4) surprised his book had done so well as he never expected he would get an _____ for it
 - a. international audio ants
 - b. international or die ants
 - c. international audience
 - d. international audiences
- 5) I always wanted people to read the book and get a sense of how _____ was
 - a. richness our history
 - b. rich our history
 - c. richly our history
 - d. riches our history
- 6) Liew's book outlines the history of Singapore from its _____ independence
 - a. struggled for
 - b. struggle from
 - c. struggled fore
 - d. struggle for
- 7) highlights the role played by _____ people
 - a. lesser-known
 - b. less a known
 - c. less and known
 - d. lesser-knowing
- 8) I wanted to tell a more inclusive _____ history
 - a. verses of our
 - b. inversion of our
 - c. aversion of our
 - d. version of our
- 9) I hope that's what people reading the book _____ it
 - a. will let from
 - b. will bet from
 - c. will net from
 - d. will get from
- 10) this brought the book a lot of attention and _____ and sales
 - a. boasted exposure
 - b. boosted exposure
 - c. basted exposure
 - d. bested exposure

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

A Singaporean graphic novelist has won (1) _____ comic industry's equivalent of the Oscars. Sonny Liew picked up three Eisner Awards for his comic book, "The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye". The book is (2) _____ of Singaporean history. Mr Liew scooped the top prize for Best Writer/Artist, Best US Edition of International Material, and Best Publication Design (3) _____ ceremony. The annual awards show (4) _____ the San Diego Comic-Con on Friday. Liew told reporters that he was surprised his book had done so well as he never expected (5) _____ international audience for it. He said: "I always wanted people to read the book and (6) _____ how rich our history was."

Mr Liew's book outlines (7) _____ Singapore from its struggle for independence from British (8) _____. As well as focusing on Singapore's founding father and first leader, the late Lee Kuan Yew, Liew also highlights the role played by (9) _____. He said: "I think the so-called official narrative Singapore story is part of our history, but it's not the whole story and I wanted (10) _____ inclusive version of our history. I hope that's what people reading the book will get from it." Liew initially (11) _____ would be unsuccessful after Singapore's National Arts Council withdrew a grant for the book. However, this brought the book a lot of attention and boosted (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

1. How many awards did Sonny Liew win?
2. What is the name of the awards?
3. In what city was the awards show held?
4. What did Sonny Liew think he would not get?
5. What did Sonny Liew want people to get a sense of?
6. What did the book show Singapore was struggling from?
7. What did the book highlight besides Singapore's founding father?
8. What did Sonny Liew want to tell a more inclusive version of?
9. What did Sonny Liew initially fear regarding his book?
10. What did Singapore's National Arts Council withdraw?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

- 1) How many awards did Sonny Liew win?
 - a) 2
 - b) 3
 - c) 1
 - d) 4
- 2) What is the name of the awards?
 - a) Manga Awards
 - b) Comic Novel Awards
 - c) Comic-Con Awards
 - d) Eisner Awards
- 3) In what city was the awards show held?
 - a) San Diego
 - b) Las Vegas
 - c) Tokyo
 - d) Santander
- 4) What did Sonny Liew think he would not get?
 - a) fame
 - b) money
 - c) an international audience
 - d) a new contract
- 5) What did Sonny Liew want people to get a sense of?
 - a) time
 - b) Singapore's rich history
 - c) Singapore's modern culture
 - d) comics
- 6) What did the book show Singapore was struggling from?
 - a) a lack of investment
 - b) poverty
 - c) British independence
 - d) history
- 7) What did the book highlight besides Singapore's founding father?
 - a) trade
 - b) the Merlion
 - c) Singaporean food
 - d) lesser-known people
- 8) What did Sonny Liew want to tell a more inclusive version of?
 - a) Singapore's history
 - b) Singaporean food
 - c) a graphic novel
 - d) stories
- 9) What did Sonny Liew initially fear regarding his book?
 - a) it would be unsuccessful
 - b) it would be banned
 - c) it would be pirated
 - d) it would not be read
- 10) What did Singapore's National Arts Council withdraw?
 - a) paints
 - b) a grant
 - c) a licence
 - d) attention

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

Role A – Historical

You think historical fiction is the best genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their genres aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): crime, science fiction or fantasy.

Role B – Crime

You think crime is the best genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their genres aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): historical fiction, science fiction or fantasy.

Role C – Science Fiction

You think science fiction is the best genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their genres aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): crime, historical fiction or fantasy.

Role D – Fantasy

You think fantasy is the best genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their genres aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): crime, science fiction or historical fiction.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'graphic' and 'novel'.

graphic	novel
----------------	--------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• picked• rewrite• annual• done• audience• sense	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• outlines• well• late• so• unsuccessful• sales
---	--

GRAPHIC NOVELS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

Write five GOOD questions about graphic novels in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

GRAPHIC NOVELS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'novel'?
3. What do you think of graphic novels?
4. What's the difference between graphic novels and comic books?
5. Do you prefer graphic novels or novels?
6. What do you know about Singapore's history?
7. What do you know about Comic Con?
8. What is your favourite novel?
9. How rich is the history of your country?
10. What is your favourite comic?

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GRAPHIC NOVELS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the country name 'Singapore'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What country's struggle for independence impressed you most?
15. Who was important in the founding of your country?
16. In what way might graphic novels tell stories better?
17. How can graphic novels help you learn English?
18. What is the greatest part of your country's history?
19. What kind of novel would you like to write?
20. What questions would you like to ask Sonny Liew?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

A Singaporean graphic novelist has won three of the comic industry's (1) _____ of the Oscars. Sonny Liew picked (2) _____ three Eisner Awards for his comic book, "The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye". The book is a (3) _____ rewrite of Singaporean history. Mr Liew scooped the top prize for Best Writer/Artist, Best US Edition of International Material, and Best Publication Design at the awards ceremony. The annual awards show was (4) _____ at the San Diego Comic-Con on Friday. Liew told reporters that he was surprised his book had (5) _____ so well as he never expected he would get an international audience for it. He said: "I always wanted people to read the book and get a (6) _____ of how rich our history was."

Mr Liew's book outlines the history of Singapore from its struggle (7) _____ independence from British colonial rule. As well as focusing on Singapore's (8) _____ father and first leader, the late Lee Kuan Yew, Liew also highlights the role played by lesser-(9) _____ people. He said: "I think the so-called official narrative Singapore story is part of our (10) _____, but it's not the whole story and I wanted to tell a more inclusive version of our history. I hope that's what people reading the book will get from it." Liew (11) _____ feared his book would be unsuccessful after Singapore's National Arts Council withdrew a (12) _____ for the book. However, this brought the book a lot of attention and boosted exposure and sales.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1. | (a) equals | (b) equivalent | (c) equally | (d) equally |
| 2. | (a) on | (b) up | (c) at | (d) to |
| 3. | (a) saturate | (b) satiate | (c) sartorial | (d) satirical |
| 4. | (a) gripped | (b) held | (c) handed | (d) grasped |
| 5. | (a) doing | (b) done | (c) did | (d) does |
| 6. | (a) sensory | (b) sensei | (c) sense | (d) sensor |
| 7. | (a) by | (b) at | (c) for | (d) on |
| 8. | (a) finding | (b) funding | (c) founding | (d) fending |
| 9. | (a) knowingly | (b) knew | (c) knowing | (d) known |
| 10. | (a) history | (b) historian | (c) historical | (d) historically |
| 11. | (a) initially | (b) initials | (c) initialize | (d) initial |
| 12. | (a) grand | (b) grunt | (c) grant | (d) grind |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

Paragraph 1

1. the comic industry's gauniteelv of the Oscars
2. a atisliacr rewrite of Singaporean history
3. Mr Liew spdocoe the top prize
4. at the awards oencymre
5. The nuanla awards show
6. get an international ieednauc for it

Paragraph 2

7. Mr Liew's book iesulotn the history of Singapore
8. lggeurst for independence
9. the so-called official raaervnti
10. a more veiunlsci version of our history
11. Liew yinliatil feared his book would be unsuccessful
12. boosted oerupsx and sales

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () on Friday. Liew told reporters that he was surprised his book had done so well as he never
- () rewrite of Singaporean history. Mr Liew scooped the top prize for Best Writer/Artist, Best US Edition of International Material,
- () wanted people to read the book and get a sense of how rich our history was."
- () Mr Liew's book outlines the history of Singapore from its struggle for independence from British colonial
- (**1**) A Singaporean graphic novelist has won three of the comic industry's equivalent of the Oscars. Sonny Liew picked
- () grant for the book. However, this brought the book a lot of attention and boosted exposure and sales.
- () and Best Publication Design at the awards ceremony. The annual awards show was held at the San Diego Comic-Con
- () expected he would get an international audience for it. He said: "I always
- () is part of our history, but it's not the whole story and I wanted to tell a more inclusive
- () up three Eisner Awards for his comic book, "The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye". The book is a satirical
- () his book would be unsuccessful after Singapore's National Arts Council withdrew a
- () highlights the role played by lesser-known people. He said: "I think the so-called official narrative Singapore story
- () rule. As well as focusing on Singapore's founding father and first leader, the late Lee Kuan Yew, Liew also
- () version of our history. I hope that's what people reading the book will get from it." Liew initially feared

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

1. comic of Oscars of industry's the Three the equivalent .
2. Singaporean a history satirical The rewrite book of is .
3. surprised so his well book He had was done .
4. international he audience would He get never an expected .
5. our of get the history how a book was rich sense and Read .
6. struggle Its rule colonial British from independence for .
7. the lesser- people highlights by known also played Liew role .
8. our I tell inclusive history to more of wanted a version .
9. feared initially Liew unsuccessful be would book his .
10. attention this book of , the lot However brought a .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

A Singaporean graphic novelist has won three of the comic industry's *equivalent / equivalency* of the Oscars. Sonny Liew picked *on / up* three Eisner Awards for his comic book, "The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye". The book is a *satanic / satirical* rewrite of Singaporean history. Mr Liew *scoped / scooped* the top prize for Best Writer/Artist, Best US Edition of International Material, and Best Publication Design at the *awards / awarded* ceremony. The annual awards show was *hold / held* at the San Diego Comic-Con on Friday. Liew told reporters that he was *surprising / surprised* his book had done so well as he never *expectant / expected* he would get an international audience *for / of* it. He said: "I always wanted people to read the book and get a *sense / sensible* of how rich our history was."

Mr Liew's book *lines / outlines* the history of Singapore from its struggle for *independence / independent* from British colonial *rule / ruler*. As well as focusing *on / in*. Singapore's founding father and first leader, the late Lee Kuan Yew, Liew also highlights the role played *at / by* lesser-known people. He said: "I think the so-called official narrative Singapore story is *partner / part* of our history, but it's not the whole story and I wanted to tell a more *inclusive / reclusive* version of our history. I hope that's what people *reader / reading* the book will get from it." Liew initially feared his book would be unsuccessful after Singapore's National Arts Council *withdrawn / withdrew* a grant for the book. However, this brought the book a lot *of / for* attention and boosted exposure and sales.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

Singaporean graphic novelist has won the comic industry's coveted title of the Oscars. Sunny Lew packed up through his words for his comic book, "The Art of Charlie Chen Hack Chy". The book is a story of Singaporean history. Mr Lew stepped through the path for Best Writer/Artist, Best Story and Best International Material, and Best Publication Design at the awards ceremony. The novel's words show what the Singaporean Comic Book Friday. Lew told reporters that his work surprised his book had done so well since he never expected his work to be an international success story. He said: "I always wanted to put the book and get some feedback on my history work."

Mr Lew's book tells the story of Singapore from its struggle for independence from British colonial rule. It will be focusing on Singapore's founding father and first leader, the late Lee Kuan Yew, Lew also highlights the role played by lesser-known people. He said: "I think the success of Singaporean history, but it's not the whole story and I wanted to tell more inclusive versions of Singaporean history. I hope that's what people reading the book will get from it." Lew notably found his book would be successful after Singapore's National Arts Council withdrew grant for the book. However, this brought the book into the attention and best-selling status.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

a singaporean graphic novelist has won three of the comic industry's equivalent of the oscars sonny liew picked up three eisner awards for his comic book "the art of charlie chan hock chye" the book is a satirical rewrite of singaporean history mr liew scooped the top prize for best writer/artist best us edition of international material and best publication design at the awards ceremony the annual awards show was held at the san diego comic-con on friday liew told reporters that he was surprised his book had done so well as he never expected he would get an international audience for it he said "i always wanted people to read the book and get a sense of how rich our history was"

mr liew's book outlines the history of singapore from its struggle for independence from british colonial rule as well as focusing on singapore's founding father and first leader the late lee kuan yew liew also highlights the role played by lesser-known people he said "i think the so-called official narrative singapore story is part of our history but it's not the whole story and i wanted to tell a more inclusive version of our history i hope that's what people reading the book will get from it" liew initially feared his book would be unsuccessful after singapore's national arts council withdrew a grant for the book however this brought the book a lot of attention and boosted exposure and sales

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1707/170725-graphic-novel.html>

A Singaporean graphic novelist has won three of the comic industry's equivalent of the Oscars. Sonny Liew picked up three Eisner Awards for his comic book, "The Art of Charlie Chan Hock Chye". The book is a satirical rewrite of Singaporean history. Mr Liew scooped the top prize for Best Writer/Artist, Best US Edition of International Material, and Best Publication Design at the awards ceremony. The annual awards show was held at the San Diego Comic-Con on Friday. Liew told reporters that he was surprised his book had done so well as he never expected he would get an international audience for it. He said: "I always wanted people to read the book and get a sense of how rich our history was." Mr Liew's book outlines the history of Singapore from its struggle for independence from British colonial rule. As well as focusing on Singapore's founding father and first leader, the late Lee Kuan Yew, Liew also highlights the role played by lesser-known people. He said: "I think this so-called official narrative Singapore story is part of our history, but it's not the whole story and I wanted to tell a more inclusive version of our history. I hope that's what people reading the book will get from it." Liew initially feared his book would be unsuccessful after Singapore's National Arts Council withdrew a grant for the book. However, this brought the book a lot of attention and boosted exposure and sales.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. THE ART OF CHARLIE CHAN HOCK CHYE: Make a poster about this book. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. GRAPHIC NOVELS: Write a magazine article about getting children to read more graphic novels at school. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on graphic novels. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on this. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b F c F d F e F f T g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. novelist | a. writer |
| 2. picked up | b. won |
| 3. satirical | c. ironic |
| 4. annual | d. yearly |
| 5. sense | e. awareness |
| 6. outlines | f. summarizes |
| 7. struggle | g. fight |
| 8. narrative | h. account |
| 9. withdrew | i. took away |
| 10. boosted | j. increased |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Three
2. The Eisner Awards
3. San Diego
4. An international audience
5. The richness of Singapore's history
6. British independence
7. Lesser-known people
8. Singapore's history
9. That it would be unsuccessful
10. A grant

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. c 7. d 8. a 9. a 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)