

PASTIMES

# TELEVISION, FILM & COMPUTERS

Increased global exchanges are changing the pastimes enjoyed by teenagers across the region. These days, young people spend their free time enjoying a mix of traditional local activities and foreign or 'imported' hobbies. Due to this ongoing exchange and sharing of interests, certain pastimes are common to young people in many countries.

Throughout our region, teenagers' pastimes are increasingly based on modern technologies, such as television, film and computers.

Many of the same movies and television programmes are enjoyed across the region.



#### ...and you?

"My favourite television programmes are on the Disney Channel, Star Movie, and the sport channel in Hanoi cable VCTV3. I like movies with animals, such as 'Jurassic Park', 'Anaconda', 'Sea Monsters' and 'Desolated Land'."

Anh, 15, M, Vietnam

"I prefer romantic dramas, like
'The Notebook' and 'Twilight' at
the movies. On TV I watch 'Rove'
[Australian comedy talk-show],
'Gossip Girl' [American teen drama],
and 'Project Runway' [a reality TV show
with competing fashion designers]."

Madeline, 16, F, New Zealand

"I like watching Indiana Jones-type movies, i.e. action/adventure, as well as thrillers and horror. My favourite television programmes are 'Smallville' [a TV show featuring Superman], 'CSI' [a fictional crime programme], 'One-Tree Hill' [American teen drama] and comedies."

Andrew, 18, M, Malaysia

"I like scary movies such as the ones with zombies. I watch foreign or Hollywood movies."

Angela, 15, F, Philippines

"I watch TV programmes on YouTube.
It's faster, and they have the newer seasons online. I like watching 'America's Next Top Model' [a reality TV show], '90210' and 'Gossip Girl'."

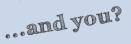
Ranjini, 17, F, Singapore

The internet gives young people access to websites, music, blogs and photographs, exposing them to the interests and concerns of others all over the world.

Many teenagers in the region spend their free time in online social networking sites such as Facebook and YouTube, where they can connect with their friends and upload photographs, videos or songs that they have created. Others like to write and comment about contemporary culture on blogs.

- Internet cafés and gaming centres are popular with teenagers in the region.
- Teenagers take part in online multiplayer gaming, often playing against teens in other countries.

Playstation, X-Box and Wii games, which can all be enjoyed by multiple players, are enjoyed by teens around the world.



"I hang out at the mall and sometimes the cyber café to play online games."

Andrew, 18, M, Malaysia

"I am very into online games such as 'Yo-Ville' and Nintendo DS."

Angela, 16, F, Philippines

"I love video games, especially the ones from Sony PlayStation (PS). My favourite PS game is 'Need for Speed'. It is about a car race."

Banuaji, 13, M, Indonesia

"Playstation games are one of my hobbies."

Taimus, 17, M, New Zealand

"When I'm alone I read, sleep and surf the internet - Facebook and YouTube mostly.

Ranjini, 17, F, Singapore

WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME?

HOW HAS THE INTERNET HELPED PEOPLE
TO MAKE CONNECTIONS WITH EACH OTHER?



### READING

- Reading is a hobby enjoyed by teens everywhere.
- Novels are often translated into many languages, making the stories accessible to teens across the region.
- Worldwide crazes for some books and series, many then adapted into films, have made authors such as JK Rowling and Stephenie Meyer very popular with teens across Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand.
- Asian comics have become increasingly popular internationally.
   A number of Southeast Asian countries have very strong local comic cultures, notably the Philippines and Indonesia. Filipino comics appear in both Tagalog and English.
- Comics often show urban life and cover all genres: romance, mystical, fantasy, religious instruction, action, drama and comedy. For example, some Indonesian cartoons depict religious epics, which are a source of spiritual, cultural and artistic inspiration, while martial art silat comics are also very popular.
- Teenagers collect comics and their related products, chatting online and gathering together to swap editions or miniature figures of their favourite characters.



#### ...and you?

"My favourite books are
'Twilight' by Stephenie Meyer
and 'If you are not a dream'
by Marc Levy."

Trang, 16, F, Vietnam

"I like to read Japanese comics."

Banuaji, 13, M, Indonesia

"I like books by Jane Austen, the 'Harry Potter' series and 'Twilight'."

Nuraini, 17, F, Malaysia

"I like Manga comics and 'Twilight'."

Naema, 15, F, Philippines

WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO READ, AND WHY?



#### MUSIC

- In their free time many teenagers listen to a great variety of music, from traditional folk songs and local bands to international pop stars with teenage fans throughout Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand.
- Many teenagers enjoy singing

   in choirs, bands or karaoke or playing musical instruments
   during their free time or as part
   of a school group.
- Throughout the region the popularity of music can be seen on the streets through:
  - pop singers in advertisements and billboards.
  - buskers on public transport and in other public spaces.
  - clothing related to a particular music style or advertising specific bands.





...and you?

"I listen to The Fray, David Cook...
mostly soft rock/pop music."

Ranjini, 17, F, Singapore

"I am part of a Dikir Barat group - a Malay choral singing group, usually singing folk songs."

Syukri, 15, M, Singapore

"I listen to music in my free time. I used to play the guitar."

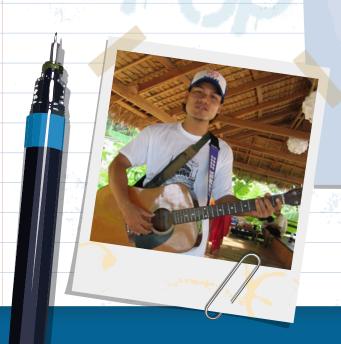
Madeline, 16, F, New Zealand

"I like to play the Thai flute."

Garn, 16, M, Thailand

WHAT DIFFERENT KINDS
OF MUSIC DO YOUNG
PEOPLE YOU KNOW
LISTEN TO OR PLAY?

WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR MUSIC FROM?





### **SPORTS**

Teenagers across Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand share a love of sport, and many play at least one sport in their spare time.

#### **FOOTBALL**

Teenagers throughout the region play football, and proudly wear the shirts of European football teams as a sign of belonging to a global sporting culture. The prevalence of worldwide media, such as the internet and satellite TV, means that you are just as likely to find fans of Barcelona, Manchester United or AC Milan in the Philippines and Australia as you are in Spain, England and Italy.

Futsal is a kind of football played in Southeast Asia. The high density of cities such as Bangkok, Jakarta and Manila makes it difficult for teenagers to play football on regulation-sized fields, so futsal is played on smaller indoor courts. Indoor football is also gaining popularity in Australia and New Zealand.



"I love to play soccer with my friends. I also like to watch football games on TV, especially England's Premier League matches. My favourite Indonesian team is Persija Jakarta, while my favourite Premier League team is Chelsea. I am now a green belt in tackwondo and have participated in several tournaments."

Banuaji, M, 13, Indonesia

#### **MARTIAL ARTS**

- Martial arts are a popular and traditional sport in the region.
   They include: pencak silat (Indonesia and Malaysia), muay thai (Thailand) and pekiti tirsai kali and mano mano (the Philippines).
- Although these styles of martial arts originate from specific countries, they are taught throughout Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand. In fact, martial arts such as muay thai and kombatan arnis (a Filipino martial art particularly known for its double stick techniques) are becoming popular in gyms and sports centres all over the world.
- Pencak silat, using swords and sticks, is a source of pride for many young Indonesians, much like karate in Japan and taekwondo in Korea.
- Martial arts are valued for developing mental strength, concentration and self-defence. They are often associated with spiritual teachings: pencak silat, for example, is often combined with traditional Islamic instruction.



"I enjoy going to the beach, especially if we can go surfing, kayaking or body-boarding. I also enjoy skiing. My whole family is quite sporty."

Madeline, 16, F, New Zealand

"I enjoy playing basketball, football, badminton, futsal and swimming with my school mates."

Andrew, 18, M, **Malaysia** 

"I play basketball, and was chosen to be part of the school's varsity team. I also like to play badminton during my spare time."

Naema, 15, F, Philippines





#### BADMINTON

- Badminton is played throughout the region, and is particularly popular in Indonesia and Malaysia where it is played casually by people of all skill levels, often without a net, in the back-streets of cities such as Yogyakarta and Bogor.
  - It may be played at night when there is less heat, the streets are quieter and the air less polluted.
  - Dedicated players can practise on the same indoor courts where futsal is played.

#### ...and you?

"I like badminton and sepak takraw (kicking a rattan ball)."

Trang, 16, F, Vietnam

"I play AFL [Aussie Rules football]. I have played for nine years and it takes up a lot of time in winter. I also bike when I have time. My family goes for bushwalks sometimes for a few days. I like surfing in summer - it is one of my favourite things to do."

Joshua, 17, M, Australia

# WHAT SPORTS ARE POPULAR WHERE YOU LIVE?

WHAT EFFECT HAS
THE INTERNET
AND TELEVISION
HAD ON SPORTS?

WHAT SPORTING ACTIVITIES

DO YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR

REGION PARTICIPATE IN?

### **BILLIARDS**

- Billiards, a game
   of European
   origin, has
   been adopted
   as a local game in many
   Southeast Asian nations,
   Australia and New Zealand.
  - Billiard tables are often found in cafés or bars throughout our region.
  - International billiards competitions attract world-class players from around the globe including, for example, Filipino players Efren 'Bata' Reyes and Francisco 'Django' Bustamante.





### DANCE & MOVEMENT

Young people across Southeast Asia, Australia and New Zealand enjoy dancing for exercise, socially with friends, or as part of a local custom or ceremony. They may study traditional, modern and ethnic dance during or after school.

Aerobics - combining dance moves and stretches into a high-energy routine has become popular at many gyms and as part of physical education at schools. Some routines incorporate traditional exercise practices, such as yoga and tai chi, while others mimic outdoor or daily activity, such as step (like climbing stairs) and slide (like skiing, rollerblading or skating).



## ...and you?

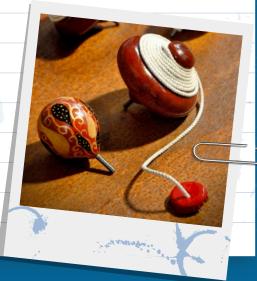
"I do a lot of dancing, such as belly dancing, and I go to classes three times a week. I also go the gym once or twice a week."

Sian, 19, F, Australia

••••• "Since I was six years old, I have learned numerous Indonesian traditional dances from different parts of my country. This month I will be travelling with the dance group from my high school to perform at cultural festivals in Turkey, Belgium, France, and the Netherlands." Riska, 17, F, Indonesia

### TRADITIONAL GAMES

- Traditional games such as congkak (board game), kite flying, kelereng (marbles) and gasing (spinning tops) are played throughout the region.
  - Traditional games are still played in all countries on national celebration days although they are increasingly identified with rural areas.



### HANGING OUT

One of the most popular pastimes for teenagers everywhere is "hanging out" with friends and family. This may be at home, friends' houses or school, in malls, cafés or parks.

Sometimes referred to as "mall culture", teenagers go to large shopping centres to "see who's there", look at what the shops have to offer, go to the cinema or simply meet friends.

### .and you?

"Vivocity shopping mall is a fun, big mall, with plenty of places to lepak (Malay slang: chill out)."

Syukri, 15, M, Singapore

"I spend Sundays just
hanging out."
Molly, 15, F, New Zealand

"I hang out at the mall
or at my friends' homes.
With my family, I watch TV,
eat out at restaurants or
go shopping and on outings."
Nuraini, 17, F, Malaysia

#### With family...

"We watch TV, eat, go out and go to see my grandparents."

Naema, 15, F, Philippines

"We often visit our extended family's homes. I enjoy playing with my cousins. I have so many of them."

Banuaji, 13, M, Indonesia

"Often we go out to dinner or go down to the New South Wales coast or to the movies. When we are on holiday, we laze in the sun, read and go swimming."

Sian, 19, F, Australia



WHICH OF THESE

ACTIVITIES DO YOU

DO WITH YOUR

FAMILY AND FRIENDS?