



Education Pack: Teachers' Notes

Cy Grant: Activist

This pack introduces teachers and young people to the amazingly rich life of Cy Grant and his ground-breaking work campaigning for human rights and racial equality. Barrister, war veteran, actor, singer-songwriter, broadcaster and multi-ethnic arts co-ordinator Cy dedicated his life to the pursuit of excellence and to using his celebrity and artistic and spiritual insight for the good of others.

Born Cyril Ewart Lionel Grant in Guyana of African descent, Cy joined the RAF in 1943, was shot down over the Netherlands and taken as a prisoner of war. After the war, he trained as a barrister in London but unable to make a career in law he turned to acting. Throughout the 50s and 60s, Cy Grant starred in a number of films and stage plays and sang topical folk and calypso songs, becoming the first Black man to appear regularly on British television.

Using his sharp wit and political insight, he campaigned for increased opportunities for Black actors and performers as part of a broader campaign against racism. He published collections of poetry and organised multi-ethnic arts festivals to further these causes.

Cy Grant's life offers opportunities to explore the impact of colonisation and racism, Black experience in WWII and the ways in which citizenship campaigning can be developed through the arts.

This pack therefore offers a cross-curricular approach to citizenship, history, English and the arts in accessible and creative ways for pupils from KS2 to KS4. Rather than offering a tightly structured scheme of work, this pack offers ideas and resources to pursue a number of themes. If taken as a whole, pupil's work could culminate in an arts festival that represents the panoply of Cy Grant's life and work. Inspired by political puppetry, poetry and performance, history, citizenship and arts activities can also stand-alone.

The development of this pack has been supported by the Cy Grant Trust and London Metropolitan Archives and a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Cy Grant Archive is now housed within LMA's Migration, Settlement and Activities of New Communities Collection:

<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/london-metropolitan-archives/the-collections/Pages/migration-settlement-and-activities-of-new-communities.aspx>

The activities, framed as enquiries, are outlined in the following notes and background information with some suggestions for differentiation.

There are no worksheets but resource materials in the form of historical sources (labelled R01 to R13) and supporting texts (labelled TXa to TXI) to encourage ideas for open-ended exploration and discussion.

There are six enquiries and a final celebration:

Enquiry 1: Who was Cy Grant?

Timeline activity

- To develop an overview of Cy Grant's life and work and raise further investigative questions.

Enquiry 2: Where did the Grants come from?

Photograph interpretation

- To observe, analyse and interrogate a historic photograph and explore the Grants' Guyanese background.

Enquiry 3: What did Cy Grant do in World War II?

Historical source investigation

- To develop a background for understanding Cy Grant's contribution to WWII.
- To use investigative skills to piece together Cy Grant's story.
- To consider the nature of historical sources and what they can tell us.

Enquiry 4: Cy Grant – actor, campaigner – how and why Cy Grant turned to political campaigning and the methods he used

Historical source activity

- To appreciate the range of Cy Grant's activity after the WWII.
- To explore the experiences of Black people in Britain in 1950s.
- To explore the links between arts and politics.

Enquiry 5: Poetry and politics – how and why Cy Grant used poetry and music to contribute to current political debate

Literature analysis and creative campaigning

- To analyse Cy Grant's lyrics and poems.
- To investigate other political verse.
- To consider the spiritual dimension of Cy Grant's life and political activity.

- To develop campaigning skills using creative processes.

Enquiry 6: Theatre and politics – how theatre and politics are linked in Cy Grant's life and work

Literature analysis and creative campaigning

- To appreciate Cy Grant's contribution to popular entertainment, theatre and an appreciation of the work of Black actors.
- To explore theatre as a persuasive force.
- To write and perform a political puppet show.

Final celebration: Concord – celebrating diversity

Producing a celebration of Cy Grant's life and work, showcasing pupils' work

- To explore how Cy Grant spread the word through community arts projects.
- To investigate Cy Grant's projects and festivals.
- To use these as a model for developing and organising festivals to celebrate work inspired by Cy Grant and consider his political legacy.

The Appendices to this pack contain additional information and some stand-alone activities.

London Metropolitan Archives

40 Northampton Road, Clerkenwell, London EC1R OHB
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma

What treasures will you find in LMA's collections?

LMA looks after unique documents, including handwritten and printed material, photographs, maps and plans. Our collections date back nearly a thousand years and tell the stories of Londoners from all walks of life.

Visit us for a day, a week, a term, or for a special project. All our workshops and activities can be tailored to fit the needs of school and college groups, youth groups and home-educated children. We offer the unique opportunity to work with primary source material in a dedicated education space. From bespoke, single sessions to in-depth exploration of themes over longer periods, students will be inspired by working with original local history resources and learn through first-hand experience of maps, photographs and films, behind the scenes guided tours and hands-on practical activities.

Join us for an educational workshop and discover the work of pioneering campaigners and educators in the Black community. Learn about the experience of communities who have migrated to London in the 50s and 60s. Take inspiration from historical campaigns, explore strategies adopted by different groups and plan your own campaign.

LMA's expert staff teach and inspire students through a varied and imaginative programme. All school workshops have history and citizenship embedded within them and provide numerous links to other subjects. Art, storytelling, drama, music, guided walks and craft activities are used to deliver exciting sessions linked to the National and London Curriculums.

Download our Educational Programme at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lmaschools. All educational sessions are offered free of charge. They are very popular and need to be booked in advance. If any of the set dates are not suitable for you, please contact us to arrange a possible alternative.

If you are a school and haven't visited us in the last three years, you can apply to the City of London School Visits Fund for a grant up to £300 to help with costs for visiting LMA. For more information please visit the City of London School Visits Fund website at www.cityschoolvisitsfund.org.uk.

How can we help you? Please contact us to discuss your ideas and book a visit at 020 7332 3851 and at ask.lma@cityoflondon.gov.uk.

Acknowledgements

The Cy Grant Trust would like to thank the following for their support:

The Heritage Lottery Fund

London Metropolitan Archives

Terry Jervis

Margaret Busby

Gus John

The British Film Institute

Bernie Grant Library, Tottenham

The Lord Mayor of Haringey

Gavin Baldwin, Middlesex University

Steve Moulds of DSM Partnership

The quotations from poems that head each Enquiry are taken from:

Grant, C. (2008) *Rivers of Time: Collected Poems of Cy Grant*. Naked Light.

The image of the Lancaster bomber is reproduced under Creative Commons courtesy of the Imperial War Museum ref:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Royal_Air_Force_Bomber_Command,_1942-1945._CH6092.jpg

Enquiry 1: Who was Cy Grant?

**'all the world's a stage
a Theatre of Illusion
mimics life's confusion
we strut our little egos for a while,
we make our exits, and return to find
ourselves just as before
as curtain falls on mind's domain'**

Identity III

(Grant 2008: 41)

Learning objectives

To develop an overview of Cy Grant's life and work and raise further investigative questions.

This is an overview introductory activity and should enable pupils to raise inquiry questions of their own that can be reviewed and modified as they work through future activities.

Resources

R01: Cy Grant timeline

TXa: Timeline events – cut-up

All Photo resources

Activity 1

Using TXa: Timeline events, distribute envelopes of cut-up timeline events. You may wish to be selective as to which events they use.

Working in pairs or small groups, ask pupils to assemble these in chronological order.

Ask pupils if the events can be grouped into aspects/phases (e.g. childhood, war, acting, writing, campaigning etc).

In their groups, pupils could list questions they would like to ask this person about their life.

Join pairs and groups together and ask them to share their phases and questions.

Activity 2

Distribute the photo resources.

Ask pupils to match the photos to dates or periods of time on the timeline.

Ask pupils if there are any further questions they would like to ask relating to the events in the photos.

Activity 3

Ask each group to write their key questions on Post-it notes (at least 1 for each aspect/stage).

Collect these and arrange them on a timeline display or question wall.

Plenary discussion questions

What do we know about Cy Grant? Ask for evidence from the sources.

What kind of man do you think Cy Grant was?

What do you think was important to him? Why?

Keep the question wall for use in the Final Celebration.

Enquiry 2: Where did the Grants come from?

**'born in Guyana, four score years ago
a creole mix
great grandson of a slave.
entangled in Scots kilts and Asian Saris
slave master, indentured labourer
ancestral pawns on the
chess-board of colonial liaisons'**

an interior journey

(Grant 2008: 79)

Learning objectives

To observe, analyse and interrogate an historical photograph.

To explore the Grants' Guyanese background.

Resources

R02: The Grant family photograph

TXb: The Grant family biographies

Activity 1

Place R02: The Grant family photograph in the centre of a large piece of paper.

Close to the photo, ask pupils to write descriptive phrases of things they can see.

In a different coloured marker, around the phrases, ask pupils to write a list of ideas and thoughts about the family in the photo.

In a third coloured marker, ask pupils to write questions about the family, where they are located and any other questions – remember, the answers may not be available!

Distribute TXb: The Grant family biographies.

After reading the biographies, ask if any of the pupils' questions have been answered.

Add this information to the paper using speech bubbles.

Activity 2

Cy Grant grew up in Guyana.

Get pupils to find Guyana on a map.

Ask pupils to find out some facts about Guyana.

Construct a fact file – include: location, population, climate, cities, agriculture, industry, etc.

Ask pupils what they think Guyana was like in 1930s.

Ask pupils when they think the photo was taken? (Remember Guyana was a British Colony).

Enquiry 3:

What did Cy Grant do in World War II?

**'Fought for motha country
a strange aberration
but in time of war anyone can be fodder
not least an officer
navigator of a Lancaster
blasting the Nazi scourge'**

an interior journey

(Grant 2008: 79)

Learning objectives

To develop a background for understanding Cy Grant's contribution to WWII.

To use investigative skills to piece together Cy Grant's story.

To consider the nature of historical sources and what they can tell us.

Resources

R03: Cy Grant's silk map

R04: Cy Grant in uniform

R05: Lancaster bomber

R06: Flight log

R07: Extract from Cy Grant's diary

TXc: Extracts from Dutch account of Cy Grant's arrest

TXd: Extract from Caterpillar Club

TXe: Diary transcript

Activity

This is a structured enquiry that encourages pupils to interrogate historical sources, to build-up a picture of an historical event and then, depending on age and interest, to explore the historical background further.

Inform pupils that they are going to be detectives, investigating a true story about Cy Grant. If they have completed *Enquiry 1* they will know that he was a WWII airman.

Step 1

Working in pairs or small groups, ask pupils to carefully examine R03: Cy Grant's silk map.

Ask pupils what they think it is? What does it show? Where?

Ask pupils to look-up the places named on Google maps.

Explain that it is made of silk.

Why would a map be printed on silk? Who would find that particularly useful?

During WWII 3.5 million silk, cloth and paper maps were produced as escape maps. They were issued to assist aircrews shot down over enemy occupied territory in Europe. This map was in Cy Grant's pocket when his plane was shot down over Holland.

Some silk maps were smuggled into prisoner of war camps, in specially adapted games of *Monopoly*, with escape routes printed on them.

Ask pupils to explore other uses for maps in WWII using London Metropolitan Archives online access COLLAGE (<https://collage.cityoflondon.gov.uk>).

Step 2

Show pupils R04: Cy Grant in uniform and R05: Lancaster bomber.

Considering the three sources together, ask pupils what they think the silk map was for and who used it?

In 1941, at the age of 21, Cy Grant came to Britain to join the WWII war effort, joining the RAF. It was only in 1941 that 'men of colour' from the colonies were permitted to join the RAF. Cy was one of the first four Guyanese men to be selected to serve as aircrew. He originally wanted

to be a pilot, however, he became highly skilled in navigation during his training and was therefore chosen to be a navigator.

Step 3

Show pupils R06: Flight log.

Reading carefully, discuss what pupils think happened to Cy Grant.

Ask pupils what other information about his flying experience does the log reveal.

Ask pupils to look-up some of the locations cited on Google maps.

Ask pupils what they think happened on 25 June.

Ask pupils how they might find out.

Cy Grant's first two bombing missions were successful but, on his third mission on 25 June 1943, his Lancaster bomber was shot down over Holland.

Step 4

Show pupils TXc: Extracts from Dutch account of Cy Grant's arrest – quotations from a Dutch account of Cy Grant being shot down and arrested. Ask pupils what they think Dutch people thought of allied airmen and the occupying Nazis.

Step 5

Ask pupils to listen to the first part of the following interview:

<https://youtu.be/SDT-HJCpSKQ>

(Windrush Foundation (2013) Cy Grant interview. *YouTube*, 28 January)

Note: there are two versions of the same story.

Step 6

Cy Grant later wrote a poem describing his experiences. Show pupils TXd: Extract from Caterpillar Club.

Step 7

Show pupils R07: Extract from Cy Grant's diary.

Read the extract from Cy Grant's diary transcript in TXe: Diary transcript.

Ask pupils what they think happened to Cy Grant after his arrest.

Ask pupils to discover what it was like to be a prisoner of war.

Ask pupils to listen to rest of this fascinating interview with Cy Grant, talking about his early days in the RAF, his experiences as a prisoner of war and liberation by the Russians.

<https://youtu.be/SDT-HJcPSKQ>

(Windrush Foundation (2013) Cy Grant interview. *YouTube*, 28 January)

Enquiry 4: Cy Grant – Actor, Campaigner

How and why Cy Grant turned to political campaigning and the methods he used

'later, called to the bar
member of Middle Temple
later still to counter
this other bar of colour;
bar-rister without a brief
no entry to these courts
situation beyond belief

All the world's a stage
we too can do the lindy-hop,
the soft shoe..
enact the drama of the dispossessed
in an acceptable manner-
that existential dilemma
black man cast only in black roles'

an interior journey

(Grant 2008: 79–80)

Learning objectives

To appreciate the range of Cy Grant's activity after WWII.

To explore the experiences of Black people in Britain in 1950s.

To explore the links between the arts and politics.

To develop campaigning skills using creative processes.

Resources

R08: Montage of playbills

R09: News clipping on racial prejudice

R10: Anti-racism campaign images

R11: Letter from Cy Grant to Lawrence Olivier

TXf: Extracts from Cy Grant's letter to Lawrence Olivier

Following WWII, Cy Grant trained as a barrister in London. After qualifying, he couldn't get a job and developed his talents as an actor which he had originally hit upon as a way of improving his diction in the courtroom.

In 1951, Cy Grant successfully auditioned for Lawrence Olivier's Festival of Britain Company, touring with a production of *Antony and Cleopatra* by Bernard Shaw, he had a part as a Nubian messenger. The main roles were taken by Olivier, Vivian Leigh and Peter Cushing – major British actors at the time.

Activity 1

Ask pupils to find out who Lawrence Olivier was.

Ask pupils to find out what the Festival of Britain was and why it had a touring company.

Activity 2

Ask pupils to find out what other plays, TV shows and films Cy Grant appeared in.

Show pupils the playbills in R08: Montage of playbills.

Ask pupils if they recognise any of the titles of any of the plays.

Ask pupils to find out more about the plays – for example, are they still regularly performed today.

Ask pupils to find out about the roles that Cy Grant played by searching the internet.

Through his own experience of living and acting in Britain, Cy Grant became increasingly aware of the need to use his talents to bring about an improvement in the lives of Black people.

Activity 3

Show pupils R09: News clipping on racial prejudice.

There were many campaigns against racial prejudice.

Show pupils R10: Anti-racism campaign images.

Ask pupils which sectors of the community they think are discriminated against today, because of their race, ethnicity or religion.

Ask pupils what do they do to protest against this discrimination.

Activity 4

Using the examples in R10 as models, ask pupils to design a campaign leaflet raising awareness of discrimination.

Activity 5

Cy Grant realised that without a specific organisation to champion the talent of Black actors they wouldn't get the recognition they deserved.

Cy set-up the Drum Arts Centre and asked Lawrence Olivier for support but was refused because Olivier saw a Black actors' group as separatist.

Show pupils R11: Letter from Cy Grant to Lawrence Olivier. This is a copy of the letter Cy Grant wrote to Olivier responding to his rejection.

It is an excellent insight into Cy Grant's thinking and the clarity of his argument.

Show pupils TXf: Extracts from Cy Grants Letter to Lawrence Olivier.

Plenary discussion questions

- Do you agree with Cy Grant? **Should** Black theatre groups and events like Black History Month be necessary? **Are** they necessary? What good or harm can they do?
- Are there still problems of racial prejudice in acting? Find out about the Oscars ceremony controversy in 2016.
- How 'national' is the National Theatre? Have a look at the website, cast lists and biographies. Who wrote the plays that are performed?

Drum Arts Centre lead to a number of successful productions including *Bread* by Mustapha Matura which played at the Young Vic as part of the National Theatre's summer season in 1976. They also presented Wole Soyinka's *The Swamp Dwellers*.

Enquiry 5: Poetry and politics

How and why Cy Grant used poetry and music to contribute to current political debate

**'Later sung songs of protest
In Concert
(Queen Elizabeth Hall)
calypso, in cabaret
(The Savoy, Quaglinos
Esmeralda's Barn)
And the news
Tonight and every night
In BBC TV'**

an interior journey

(Grant 2008: 80–81)

Learning objectives

To analyse Cy Grant's lyrics and poems.

To consider the spiritual dimension of Cy Grant's life and political activity.

To develop campaigning skills using creative processes.

Resources

R12: Draft of Cy Grant's *Song*

TXg: Extracts of Constantine Calypso lyrics

TXh: Questions about *Song*

TXi: Extract from *Widgery de Jure*

TXj: Instructions for writing a political song

Cy Grant was a celebrated singer-songwriter specialising in topical calypso. He played on the cabaret club circuit in London, where he was

discovered by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). In 1957, he was invited by the BBC's planning team to perform topical calypsos on the *Tonight* show which made him a household name.

He was the first Black celebrity to appear regularly on TV.

Activity 1

Show pupils the following clip of Cy Grant performing a topical calypso on *Tonight*.

[Tonight \(1957\)](#)

(TBS (2012) *Tonight (1957)*. YouTube, 5 June)

Activity 2

Ask pupils to listen to the first Cricket Calypso on the Cy Grant website:

<http://cygrant.com/music>

It is about Learie Constantine, a famous cricketer who became High Commissioner. Ask pupils to concentrate on the lyrics about racial prejudice.

A transcript of the lyrics is given in TXg: Extracts of Constantine Calypso lyrics.

Pupils can find out more about Constantine at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Learie_Constantine

For more background on cricket calypsos, see Appendix 1.

This is just one way in which Cy Grant used calypso to make political points. Cy Grant also sang work songs – pupils could listen to the song about working on a chain gang on cygrant.com.

Activity 3

Look back at the poem from *Enquiry 3* – TXd: Extract from Caterpillar Club.

Ask pupils to identify the word that Cy Grant uses to explain the excitement and fear of parachuting out of his plane.

Ask pupils how the way he breaks up the lines contributes to this.

Ask pupils to write a poem that conveys fear and excitement – for example, in a nightmare or on a fairground ride.

Activity 4

Show pupils R12: Draft of Cy Grant's *Song*.

It includes his notes for performance with other musicians.

Show pupils TXh: Questions about *Song* and get them to answer the questions on the sheet.

Ask pupils to write freely about themselves – they don't have to share their work with anyone else if they don't want to.

Activity 5

Show pupils TXi: Extract from *Widgery de Jure*. It is inspired by a provocative anti-immigration speech given by politician Enoch Powell in April, 1968.

Show pupils TXj: Instructions for writing a political song.

Working in groups, ask pupils to write their own song considering the following:

- They should decide on an issue that they feel strongly about – an issue in their community that they think needs changing.
- Alternatively, they could look at the day's news and write a song about a main story that interests them.
- The lyrics should be catchy and have a repeated chorus that carries the political message of the song.
- Using an existing tune, adding some basic percussion accompaniment and perform the song as a calypso.

Enquiry 6: Theatre and politics

How theatre and politics are linked in Cy Grant's life and work

'In Sea Wife, for Twentieth Century Fox played number Four, the outsider; classic of racial bigotry'

an interior journey

(Grant 2008: 80)

Learning objectives

To appreciate Cy Grant's contribution to popular entertainment, theatre and an appreciation of the work of Black actors.

To explore theatre as a persuasive force.

To write and perform a political/moral puppet show.

Resources

R08: Montage of playbills

TXk: Cy Grant on *Captain Scarlet*

Video clips from YouTube and cygrant.com

Appendix 2: Making puppets

As discovered in *Enquiry 4*, Cy Grant had a flourishing career as an actor on stage, in films and on television including three TV series of his own.

Ask pupils to take a look at the cygrant.com website for a reminder of the amount and breadth of Cy Grant's work.

Activity 1

Ask pupils to search the internet for the trailer for *Sea Wife* (1957) (on imbd.com).

In a group discussion, ask pupils why they think Cy Grant's character has no name. Ask them to consider the way he is presented compared to the white men.

Activity 2

Cy Grant also appeared as the voice of Lieutenant Green in *Captain Scarlet*, a puppet drama by Gerry Anderson who also made *Thunderbirds*.

Ask pupils to view one of these episodes:

Lieutenant Green gets hypnotized by the Mysterons

<https://youtu.be/EttDrh53qIA>

(ITV Children's Classics (2015), *YouTube*, 10 July)

Lieutenant Green finds something menacing on the moon

<https://youtu.be/U3sQNyzIVSo>

(ITV Children's Classics (2015), *YouTube*, 10 July)

Ask pupils what they notice about Lieutenant Green.

Ask pupils to read TXk: Cy Grant on *Captain Scarlet* to find out what Cy Grant thought about this role.

After reading the text, ask pupils, what they know about apartheid in South Africa and the situation in Rhodesia.

Note the link Cy Grant makes between religion, morality, politics and the story.

Ask pupils to make the same connections by making a puppet show.

Activity 3

Show pupils Appendix 2 – this demonstrates how to make a puppet.

Alternatively, pupils could use glove puppets or shadow puppetry.

Pupils could perform the puppet shows as part of their Final Celebration.

- **Campaigning plays**
Ask pupils to identify an issue that needs addressing in their school or community.
Pupils could use a protest poem or song written in earlier activities for inspiration.
Ask pupils to write a story or script that highlights the issue.
- **Morality plays**
Ask pupils to think of a moral lesson that we all need reminding of – for example, how bullying is wrong.
Ask pupils to create a play about this moral dilemma, where good triumphs over evil.
- **Political plays**
Ask pupils to identify a current political issue that interests them.
Ask pupils to identify the key issues that need exploring?
Ask pupils to write a story or script using puppets to make these issues clear.
- **Stories from around the world**
Ask pupils to research a story, maybe from a culture different from their own, where good triumphs over evil and to turn this story into a puppet show.

Activity 4

Show pupils R08: Montage of playbills – explain that these are productions that featured Cy Grant.

Ask pupils to design a playbill to advertise their puppet show.

Activity 5

For KS4 pupils

Return to my Native Land: Aime Cesaire

This was, arguably, Cy Grants greatest theatrical triumph. His performance of parts of Aime Cesaire's surrealist poem that explore negritude and colonialism started as a platform performance at the National Theatre and then toured nationally to great critical acclaim.

Negritude is Black Consciousness (see Cy Grant's response to Lawrence Olivier in *Enquiry 4*, TXf: Extracts from Cy Grants Letter to Lawrence Olivier).

'historical, revolutionary, humanitarian and ecological...

'Negritude was a revolt against colonial values – glorifying the African past and praising the traditional communal values of harmony based

on intuition, caring and emotion – the 'dark senses' in other words, that seem more real than Western values based purely on reason and logic. It was a 'state of total belonging', beyond division and separation from Mother Earth.' (www.cygrant.com)

On cygrant.com there is a discussion about the poem.

Ask pupils to read sections of the poem aloud.

Encourage them to concentrate on the sound, music and drama of the verse.

Ask pupils how they would make a puppet version of the poem, using different characters saying different phrases?

Given the ideas of wholeness in the poem:

'a desperate longing to reconnect with the 'invulnerable sap', that state of total belonging with the Cosmos'

Ask pupils to consider if animals, plants and the stars can speak.

Many cultures believe that we are all part of one world with no part being superior.

Ask pupils to explore Native American and Ancient Egyptian cultures for examples of this idea.

Ask pupils to write a poem or play that celebrates this balance and warns against the negative aspects within ideas of human supremacy.

Final celebration: Concord – celebrating diversity

Producing a celebration of Cy Grant's life and work, showcasing pupils' work

How Cy Grant spread the word through community arts projects

**'And so to concord Festivals
multicultural arts
celebrating unity in diversity'**

an interior journey

(Grant 2008: 81)

Learning objectives

To explore how Cy Grant spread the word through community arts projects.

To investigate Cy Grant's projects and festivals.

To use these as a model for developing and organising festivals to celebrate work inspired by Cy Grant and consider his political legacy.

Resources

R13: Composite of Concord programmes

TXI: Cy Grant on Concord

For each *Enquiry 1–6*, there has been a displayable or performable outcome. Using Cy Grant's Concord projects in the 1980s as inspiration, you could ask pupils to create their own festival celebrating their work.

Show pupils TXI: Cy Grant on Concord – Cy Grant explains the meaning of Concord.

Activity 1

Show pupils R13: Composite of Concord programmes.

Ask pupils where the festivals took place.

Ask pupils to design a poster, advertising their own festival, using some of the ideas from the posters from the 1980s, reflecting the ideas they want to celebrate today.

Activity 2

Set-up an organising committee for the festival and appoint pupils to various roles.

Roles include: chair, treasurer/fundraiser (if you need to raise funds), programme manager, designer, performers.

The committee will need to decide where the festival will take place. They will need to allocate performing and exhibition spaces and where the audience will sit. They will need to organise publicity and (if required) any ticket sales.

Where pupils have completed *Enquiry 1-6*, they will have produced material that can be used in the festival.

Pupils could include some appreciation of Cy Grant's work as part of this celebration.

Pupils will need to decide which images they want to use to give an overview of Cy Grant's work.

Pupils will need to decide if they want to use quotations from Cy Grant talking about his work and ideas or extracts from his poems.

Plenary discussion

Following the festival, in a group discussion, ask pupils to think carefully about what they have learned about the world from studying Cy Grant's life.

Get pupils to discuss that they have learned about: living a good life; bringing about change; using the arts as a persuasive force.

Appendix 1: Cricket calypso

In 1957 CY Grant was invited to perform topical calypsos on the BBC's *Tonight* show, which made him a household name. Cy Grant became the first Black man to appear regularly on British television. Cy toured relentlessly and released several recordings, and continued to tour throughout the country and internationally, from the 1950s until the 1990s.

The most famous cricket calypso would probably be *Cricket, lovely cricket* composed by Lord Kitchener, sung by Lord Beginner.

The West Indies cricket team had been playing Test Matches since 1928 and had shown a lot of improvement after losing all the matches in their first series. By 1950 they had won a few Tests and even a home series against England in 1948. But they had never won a Test in England.

The trend looked set to continue when the first Test was won by England by a big margin:

<http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/engine/match/62709.html>

Cricketers Ramadhin and Valentine made their debuts, the latter taking 8 wickets in the first innings and 3 in the second. Ramadhin had a less impressive 2 wickets in each innings.

Then came the second Test at Lord's, considered the home of cricket. Listen to the calypso to find out what happened:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=06P0RdZyjT4>

See the scorecard:

<http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/engine/match/62710.html>

See the scorecards for the whole series here:

http://static.espncricinfo.com/db/ARCHIVE/1950S/1950/WI_IN_ENG/

This famous picture was taken just after the Test:

http://caribbean-beat.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/style-1_0.jpg

Lord Kitchener is on the left with the guitar. It is said that he composed the song within 30 minutes and led the troupe of West Indian fans dancing through London celebrating the victory. A more detailed account can be seen here: <http://caribbean-beat.com/issue-100/triumph-calypso-cricket#axzz3Q7iVHLC9>

For further information about the history of calypso, please see:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calypso_music

Appendix 2: Making puppets

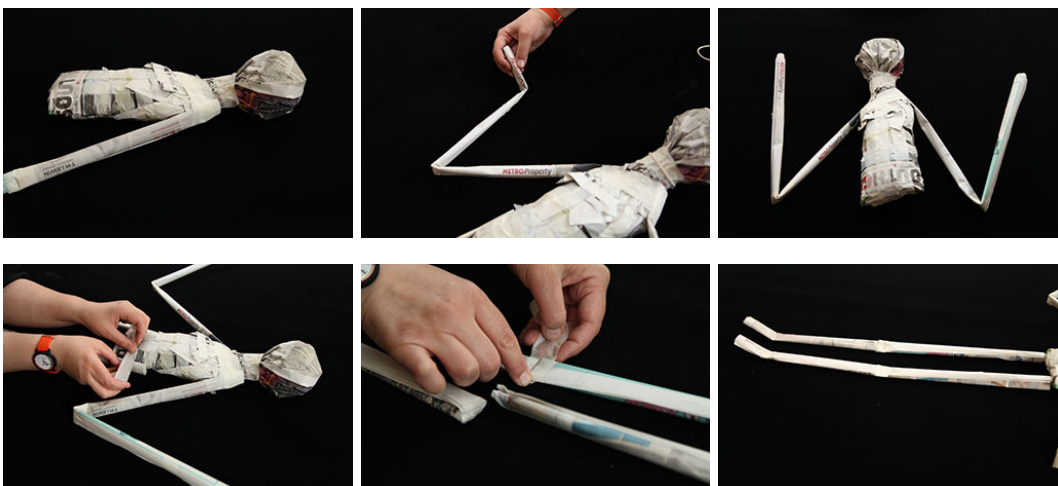
Make the legs and arms:



Making the head and torso:



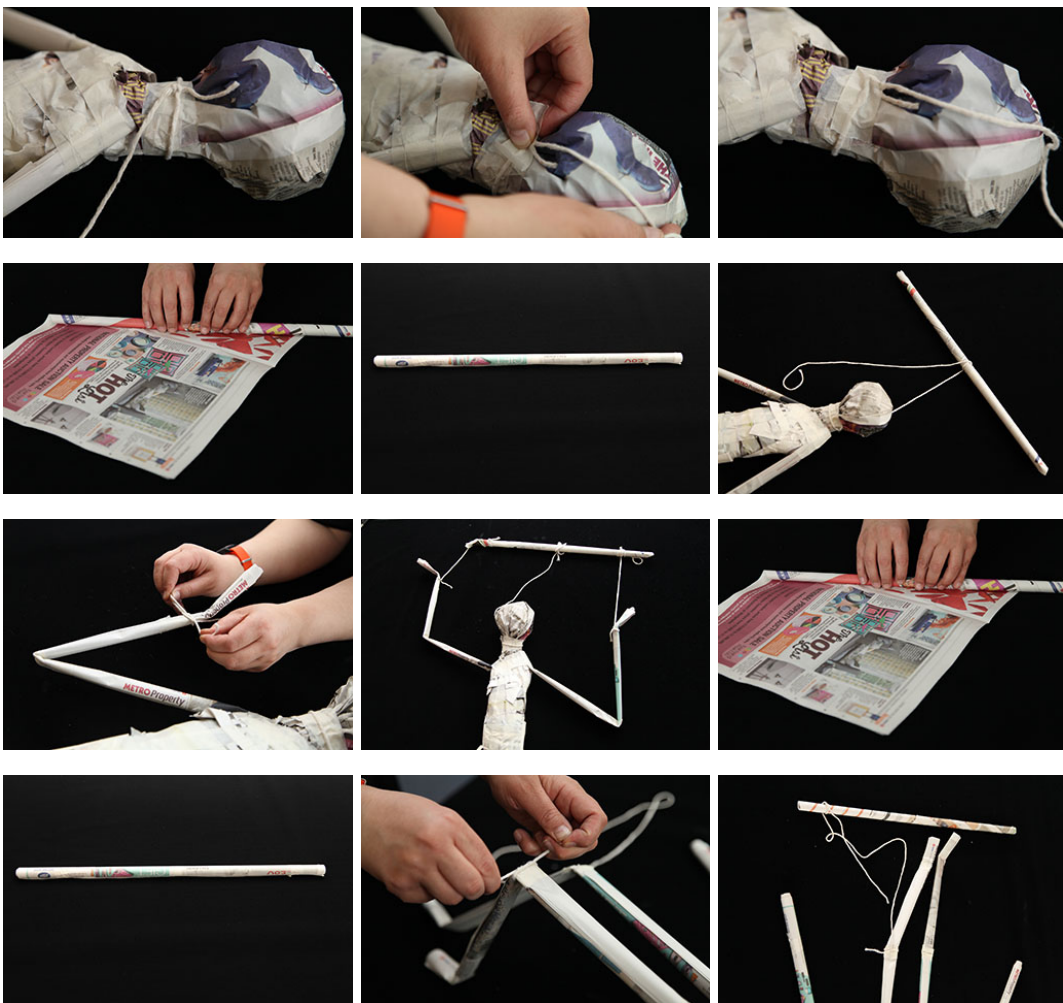
Attaching the arms and legs:



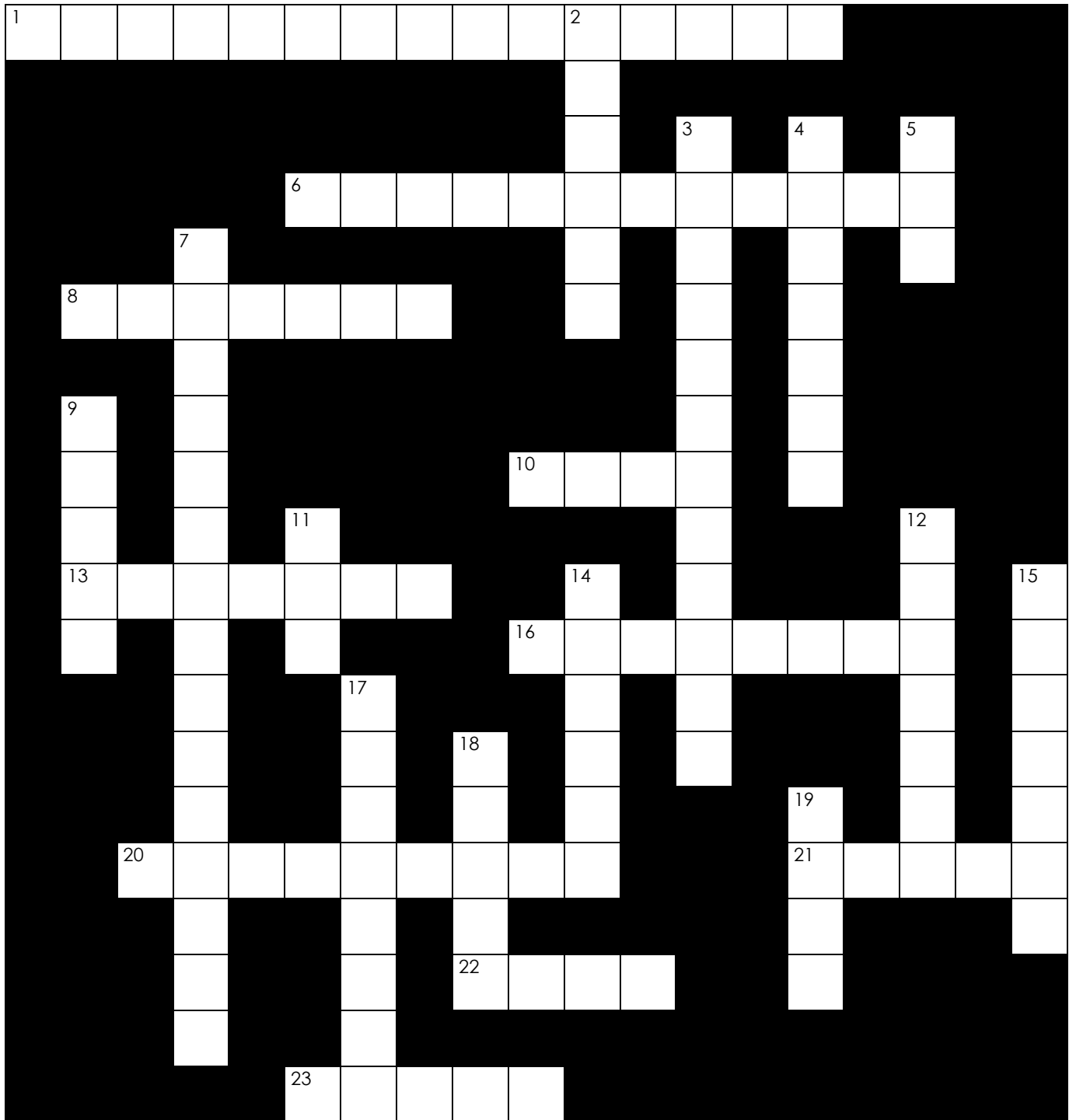
Finished puppet:



Attaching the strings:



Appendix 3: Crossword



Across

- 1 Cyril Ewart Lionel Grant was born in the village of in 1919 (15)
- 6 Guyana is a country in (5,7)
- 8 Cy Grant's plane was shot down (over) this country in 1943 (7)
- 10 Cy Grant was a published (4)
- 13 He was a Director of Multicultural Festivals from 1982–87 (7)
- 16 In 1948 The Empire arrived in the UK carrying 492 passengers (and 1 stowaway!) from West Jamaica (8)
- 20 Cy Grant first wanted to be a (9)
- 21 A protest in West London in 1958 became known as The Notting Hill (5)
- 22 German newspapers labelled Cy Grant, A Man of Indeterminate (4)
- 23 Cy Grant's book, *Ring of* was published in 2000 (5)

Down

- 2 The country Cy Grant was born in (5)
- 3 In 1930 Cy Grant and his family moved to (3,9)
- 4 During his third bombing Cy Grant's plane was shot down and he was captured by German soldiers (7)
- 5 In 1941 Cy Grant joined the (3)
- 7 Cy Grant was a Lieutenant and in WWII (6, 9)
- 9 He was the first man to regularly appear on British television (5)
- 11 From 1943–45 he was a in Stalag Waff III prison camp in Germany (3)
- 12 In 1965 he performed in at the Leicester Repertory Theatre (7)
- 14 He was well known for being a calypso (6)
- 15 In 1958, he starred in a film called *Italian* (7)
- 17 Later in life, Cy Grant campaigned for improved race relations, more diversity in the arts, and a fairer Justice system. He had become an (8)
- 18 He was an in many films and theatre productions (5)
- 19 In 1974 he co-founded Arts Centre (4)

Appendix 4: Wordsearch

C W P M P S B M A H K D L P U G T D Y G
O A Y U Y O D A O M R W W Z H X R E N O
L X H Z X Z E L R K T T N A T O M I M L
O B C I L Z L T E R O T C A C T T G E L
N A V I G A T O R Q I L Y N J G O Q K E
I B H K N K D Y B Y W S O N A W V S M H
A O B D N R B M P V I C T W A Y O I B T
L O S P Y L A C O O L T R E C M E N B O
H K S R G U Y A N A W E N K R C R G C D
S T Q R L O J G Q U V V U Q A F K E O Z
L I P X T F J G T R I V P R S S M R G S
K Q X D I W N M E B Y M V H N F L J S N
B D T R R B C T L H K U T M H C W W W K
A M K I Y Z E Z Z N A R Z R I Y M T Q N
K M T K N B G N M S H D Q L B S Z U A W
T E Z G C D D N X X I U O R B V B P C I
R B H F A A F L H H E K T W R A F M L F
D Z K I F A L U W R R X G I I I E J H P
I O Y B S Z Z B J A T V O E C P D H T X
Q U M G D V Y N P W T S O Q T Z C G S Y

Find the words listed below in the grid above:

ACTOR
BARRISTER
BBC
BETERVERWAGTING
BLACK
CALYPSO
COLONIAL
CONCORD
DRUM
GERMANY

GUYANA
HOLLAND
NAVIGATOR
OTHELLO
POETRY
POW
RACE
RAF
SINGER
WRITER

Answer grid:

C	W	P	M	P	S	B	M	A	H	K	D	L	P	U	G	T	D	Y	G
O	A	Y	U	Y	O	D	A	O	M	R	W	W	Z	H	X	R	E	N	O
L	X	H	Z	X	Z	E	L	R	K	T	T	N	A	T	O	M	I	M	L
O	B	C	I	L	Z	L	T	E	R	O	T	C	A	C	T	T	G	E	L
N	A	V	I	G	A	T	O	R	Q	I	L	Y	N	J	G	O	Q	K	E
I	B	H	K	N	K	D	Y	B	Y	W	S	O	N	A	W	V	S	M	H
A	O	B	D	N	R	B	M	P	V	I	C	T	W	A	Y	O	I	B	T
L	O	S	P	Y	L	A	C	O	O	L	T	R	E	C	M	E	N	B	O
H	K	S	R	G	U	Y	A	N	A	W	E	N	K	R	C	R	G	C	D
S	T	Q	R	L	O	J	G	Q	U	V	V	U	Q	A	F	K	E	O	Z
L	I	P	X	T	F	J	G	T	R	I	V	P	R	S	S	M	R	G	S
K	Q	X	D	I	W	N	M	E	B	Y	M	V	H	N	F	L	J	S	N
B	D	T	R	R	B	C	T	L	H	K	U	T	M	H	C	W	W	W	K
A	M	K	I	Y	Z	E	Z	Z	N	A	R	Z	R	I	Y	M	T	Q	N
K	M	T	K	N	B	G	N	M	S	H	D	Q	L	B	S	Z	U	A	W
T	E	Z	G	C	D	D	N	X	X	I	U	O	R	B	V	B	P	C	I
R	B	H	F	A	A	F	L	H	H	E	K	T	W	R	A	F	M	L	F
D	Z	K	I	F	A	L	U	W	R	R	X	G	I	I	I	E	J	H	P
I	O	Y	B	S	Z	Z	B	J	A	T	V	O	E	C	P	D	H	T	X
Q	U	M	G	D	V	Y	N	P	W	T	S	O	Q	T	Z	C	G	S	Y

Bibliography

Writings:

Ring of Steel: Pan Sound and Symbol – discusses the history, science and musicology of the steelpan. Macmillan Caribbean, 1999. ISBN 978-0333661284.

A Member of the Royal Air Force of Indeterminate Race – published by Woodfield Publishing in 2006, takes its title from the translation of a caption that appeared underneath Cy Grant's photograph in a German newspaper after his detention as a POW (Prisoner of War).

Rivers of Time: Collected Poems of Cy Grant – Naked Light, 2008. ISBN 978-0955217821.

Blackness & the Dreaming Soul – A Sense of Belonging: Multiculturalism and the Western Paradigm. Shoving Leopard, 2007. ISBN 978-1-905565-08-5.

Our Time Is Now: Six Essays on the Need for Re-Awakening – a collection of essays. Cane Arrow Press, 2010. ISBN 978-0956290120.

Stage, film and television credits:

Member of Laurence Olivier's Festival of Britain Company, London and New York City (1951–52)

Safari (1955) – Chief Massai

Man From The Sun (TV, 1956)

Sea Wife (1957) – “Number 4”

Home of the Brave (TV, 1957)

Tonight (TV, 1957–60)

Calypso (1958)

The Encyclopædist (TV, 1961)

Freedom Road: Songs of Negro Protest (TV, 1964)

Othello (Phoenix Theatre, Leicester, 1965) – Othello

Cindy Ella (Garrick Theatre, London, 1966)

Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons (TV, 1967–68) – Lieutenant Green

Doppelganger (1969) – Doctor Gordon

The Persuaders! (TV, one episode, 1971)

Shaft in Africa (1973) – Emir Ramila

Softly, Softly: Taskforce (TV, one episode, 1974)

The Iceman Cometh (Royal Shakespeare Company, 1976)

At the Earth's Core (1976) – Ra

Return to My Native Land (Royal National Theatre and Royal Court Theatre; national tour; 1977–79)

Blake's 7 (TV, 1980)

Night and Day (Derby Theatre, 1981)

Metal Mickey (TV, 1981–82) – Mr Young

Maskarade by Sylvia Wynter (Talawa Theatre Company at Cochrane Theatre, London, 1994)

Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons:

Lieutenant Green Finds Something Menacing On The Moon
While Captains Scarlet and Blue, and Lieutenant Green are out surveying the surface of the moon, they notice a strange glow coming from the distance. Upon closer inspection, they realise that it is a Mysteron.

<https://tinyurl.com/zloplbv>

Lieutenant Green Gets Hypnotised By The Mysterons
Captain Scarlet, captain Blue and Lieutenant Green look around inside the Mysteron complex on the moon, and when Green goes missing, Blue and Scarlet find him transfixed by a strange screen.

<https://tinyurl.com/zxasny7>

Captain Scarlet Figures Out How The Mysterons Killed An Entire Base
With time running out before the Frost Line commander attacks Mars, Captain Scarlet and Lieutenant Green must figure out how the Mysterons struck the base.

<https://tinyurl.com/jtr44jh>

Captain Scarlet Escapes Being Blown To Pieces
Captain Blue, Captain Scarlet and Lieutenant Green are examining the power source when a rocket lands outside. They crack the code from the lucky charm and try to get out before the bomb goes off.

<https://tinyurl.com/hfz3awo>

Film clips:

Black RAF World War 2 Hero

Guyanese Cy Grant was an RAF navigator in WW2. He was shot down and held as a prisoner of war for 2 years. Short clip of Cy Grant talking about his experience throughout his life especially during World War 2.

<https://tinyurl.com/joxn24f>

Tonight TV programme – October 1959

Tonight was a BBC television current affairs programme presented by Cliff Michelmore. Also taking part was Cy Grant introducing the show with a little bit of singing.

<https://tinyurl.com/hpww7ly>

Tonight (1957)

Cy Grant entertaining the show with his singing and calypso after being introduced by Cliff Michelmore.

<https://tinyurl.com/jqaocq2>

Captain Scarlet and the Mysterons TV intro (1967–68)

An agent leads an international intelligence agency's fight against an extra-terrestrial terror campaign. This is the intro to the Captain Scarlet show with Cy Grant as Lieutenant Green.

<https://tinyurl.com/zhxcpxf>

Sea Wife 1957 Trailer

After their vessel is sunk by a Japanese submarine off the coast of Singapore during World War II, a beautiful nun (Joan Collins), a Black purser (Cy Grant), a military officer (Richard Burton) and a racist businessman (Basil Sydney) escape in a small lifeboat. This is the trailer of the movie.

<https://tinyurl.com/hpkpkft>

Blake's 7 – 3x01 – Aftermath

This episode features Cy Grant as Hal Mellanby on this TV series.

<https://tinyurl.com/znjxdht>

Feelin' Good (original) – Cy Grant feat. Bill LeSage 1965

A clip featuring music by Cy Grant singing.

<https://tinyurl.com/h4qp5vb>

