

## I've Been Affected Too

*An activity of "Once upon a time, people could get together like this"*

Because human beings are social by nature, many of us enjoy special events and gatherings. Two stories in the June issue of *What's Up* remind us of this because of our recent experience with the Circuit Breaker. Major events and celebrations all over the world were affected by COVID-19. Some had to be cancelled or postponed, while others moved their activities online. Spend some time reflecting on how you were personally affected by the changes in events because of COVID-19.

1. Read these two stories in the *What's Up* June 2020:
  - **"COVID-19 reminds us that humans are a social species"** (page 1)
  - **"Once upon a time, people could get together like this"** (page 7)
2. Think about an event which you had been looking forward to, but that was affected by COVID-19.
3. Write a short reflection about this. Include your feelings and your thoughts about the situation. Respond to these questions to help you to develop your essay.
  - a) What event was changed because of COVID-19?
    - Was it a school concert that you had been looking forward to?
    - Was it a religious or cultural event, like Easter or Hari Raya?
    - Was it a gathering to celebrate a family member's birthday?
    - Was it an event not listed here?
  - b) When was that event scheduled for?
  - c) Where was this event supposed to have taken place?
  - d) Was it cancelled, postponed, or held on time but in a different way?
  - e) Who was affected by the change in plans?
    - Was it just you? Or were there other people affected too?
  - f) Why does this event mean so much to you?
  - g) What were your thoughts and feelings when the event plan was changed?
4. Compose your essay using your responses to the above questions. You may use the back of this sheet or a fresh piece of paper.
5. If you would like to share your reflections with other *What's Up* readers, email your essay to [letters@whatsup.sg](mailto:letters@whatsup.sg). Remember to include your full name, class, and school.