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Lecturer: Mr. Nicholas Ng Khoon Wu		Tutorial Time:
Reader/Text Title: (A) The Metropolis and Mental Life	Synopsis No: 1	
	Author: Georg Simmel	
<p>In The Metropolis and Mental Life, author Georg Simmel stated that the plurality of stimuli in modern city life has fundamentally changed human. Metropolitan individual tends to react in a rational way rather than to react based on their emotions, this causes mental attitude where the differences between things go unnoticed. With the inability to recognize things as being unique, everything is reduced to the quantitative value based on the money economy. To my point of view, in cities, relations are streamlined and instrumentalized whereby money becomes the measuring stick among people and the presumed motivation for people, because anything else would be less universally applicable. It's hard to deny that in cities individuals choose their relationships and social groups for rational reasons. Money is often used as a tool to symbolize power and status, whereby people tend to approach the one who possesses lots of it to seek for own goals, benefits and fame.</p> <p>On the other hand, Georg Simmel did mention that individual in small towns have more organic social network that develop naturally based on the group of the family. The limited size of groups within small towns causes the relationships to be more intimate and meaningful among individuals, where people tends to follow the norms of the group with the purpose of not being distinctive. Take for example, people in small towns get their resources from the producer, in which relationships and bonds were made between them. Being from a small town, I can relate that a city's psyche is very different as compare to a town's psyche as the city life was just too fast paced. However, I agreed with Simmel that the blasé attitude is a defense mechanism for metropolitans as the more conservative personalities are adaptable to the same rhythm of events.</p>		
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