



Bad blood over Singapore Taylor Swift tour subsidies

Description

The Asian city-state of Singapore is currently hosting Taylor Swift's Eras tour, an event that has come with a hefty price tag. Initially, it was reported that Singapore paid a whopping S\$24 million (£14m; \$18m) to host the six-show tour exclusively. However, local Culture Minister Edwin Tong has contradicted this figure, claiming it's lower but not providing an exact amount.

The news of the expenditure caused a stir in the region, prompting criticism from neighbouring countries like Thailand and the Philippines. This controversy developed when it emerged that Singapore had paid concert organisers millions of dollars a night, triggering accusations of financial irresponsibility. Despite the backlash, fans across East Asia, where Swift's music is widespread, have had to bear the brunt of the expenditure.

For fans from more affordable countries, attending the concerts has become a significant hit on their wallet due to the high cost of living in Singapore. Concert tickets alone, plus the transportation and accommodation costs have put a heavy burden on these fans. In addition to that, some fans have fallen victim to ticket scams, adding to their financial stress.

Nevertheless, Singapore insists that hosting Swift's tour will economically benefit the country. While the exact figures remain undisclosed, it is estimated that consumer spending may exceed S\$350m. However, considering that this expectation depends on a heavy influx of overseas visitors, the actual economic gain might be less optimistic.

The decision to spend public funds on such a high-profile international event has sparked a debate on priorities. While some see it as an investment in Singapore's long-term tourism strategy, others argue that the money could have been better spent on public services. Despite these criticisms, it seems that Singapore is set on enhancing its image as a leading event hotspot, willing to pay the price to attract high-profile events and personalities. Yet, this strategy has left fans in other parts of East Asia feeling disappointed and financially strained.

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Vocabulary List:

1. **Exclusively** // (adverb): In a way that limits to a particular person group or area.
2. **Contradicted** // (verb): Deny the truth of a statement by asserting the opposite.
3. **Accusations** // (noun): A charge or claim that someone has done something illegal or wrong.
4. **Economically** // (adverb): In a way that relates to economics or the economy.
5. **Influx** // (noun): An arrival or entry of large numbers of people or things.
6. **Debate** // (noun): A formal discussion on a particular topic in a public meeting or legislative assembly.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What are expressions of admiration or respect for someone?
Option: Gratitude
Option: Non-profit
Option: Tributes
Option: Influx
2. Which activity involves discussing different opinions on a topic?
Option: Debate
Option: Premiere
Option: Arrivals
Option: Enthusiasts
3. What refers to works of literature or art that are considered to be of high quality and lasting value?



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- Option: Thrilled
Option: Classics
Option: Series
Option: Eloquence
4. In what way is related to the economy or finances?
Option: Determination
Option: Alternative
Option: Economically
Option: Inheritance
5. Which term is used to indicate something that is claimed to be true but without proof?
Option: Prudent
Option: Consistent
Option: Debunk
Option: Alleged
6. What are unverified pieces of information that are widely circulated?
Option: Speculation
Option: Rumors
Option: Co-star
Option: Affair
7. Which term is used for charges or claims that someone has done something wrong or illegal?
Option: Contradicted
Option: Accusations
Option: Economically
Option: Influx
8. Which word describes a choice or option that is different from the usual or conventional one?
Option: Inheritance
Option: Prudent
Option: Consistent
Option: Alternative
9. Which term describes being busy or occupied with a particular activity?
Option: Engaged
Option: Cherished
Option: Serenity
Option: Exclusively
10. What quality refers to having a firmness of purpose and resoluteness?
Option: Determination



- Option: Alternative
- Option: Inheritance
- Option: Prudent

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Family heirlooms are _____ possessions that hold sentimental value.
12. The movie will have its _____ in Hollywood next week.
13. The popular TV show has been renewed for another _____.
14. The city experienced a sudden _____ of tourists during the summer season.
15. It is always _____ to save some money for unexpected expenses.
16. To achieve success one must be _____ in their efforts.
17. The mystery novel had an _____ storyline that kept the readers hooked.
18. She was _____ to complete the marathon despite the challenging weather conditions.
19. The stock market was influenced by the _____ of a potential merger.
20. The scientist aimed to _____ the myths surrounding climate change.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The car show attracted a large number of car from all over the country.
22. She was to hear that she got accepted into her dream college.
23. The novel was so popular that the author decided to write a of sequels.
24. The speaker impressed the audience with his powerful and persuasive arguments.
25. Receiving the family farm as an was a great responsibility for the young heir.
26. The new evidence completely the previous theory proposed by the scientist.



27. The tabloids were filled with gossip about the alleged between the two co-stars.
28. The organization operates as a entity focusing on charitable activities.
29. The students were actively in the class discussion sharing their ideas and opinions.
30. It is always to read the terms and conditions before signing any contract.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Tributes 2. Debate 3. Classics 4. Economically 5. Alleged 6. Rumors 7. Accusations
8. Alternative 9. Engaged 10. Determination

Gap-Fill: 11. cherished 12. premiere 13. series 14. influx 15. prudent 16. consistent 17. intriguing
18. determined 19. speculation 20. debunk

Matching sentence: 1. enthusiasts 2. thrilled 3. series 4. eloquence 5. inheritance 6. contradicted 7. affair
8. non-profit 9. engaged 10. prudent

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL5

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