BUKIT MERAH SECONDARY SCHOOL

'O' LEVEL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2019

SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS/ 5 NORMAL (ACADEMIC)

HUMANITIES (SOCIAL STUDIES)

Marking Guide

Section A: Source-Based Case Study

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	**Study Source A.** **What is the message of the source? Explain your answer, using details of the cartoon.** **L1 Describes provenance/topic without making any inference [1]** *e.g. Source A is a cartoon showing a everyday life scenario during National service.* **L2 Valid inference of sub-message of source [2-3]** Award higher mark for supported inference *e.g. The message of the source is that it wants to convince Singaporeans that National Service is safe as Singaporeans can operate the machines without being in it. [2] This is evident from the source that shows two Singapore soldiers standing outside the military vehicle while attempting to fire it's weapon. This means that by not being in the vehicle, soldiers can minimise any potential injuries that may fall on them. [3]* **L3 Valid inference of main message of source [4-5]** Award higher mark for supported inference *e.g. The message of the source is that it wants to convince Singaporeans that National Service is unsafe as Singaporeans are now taking training lightly / overconfident / does not training seriously, which may result in injuries. [4] This is evident from the source that shows one Singapore soldier telling the other soldier that he was the very good at the angry bird game. This means that Singapore soldiers are now treating training like a game. [5]* *Note: Students do not need to provide the reasons for why NS is unsafe*	**5**

Question	Answer	Marks
1(b)	**Study Sources B and C.** **How are these two sources similar? Explain your answer.** **L1** **Answers based on the provenance of the source** **[1]** *e.g. Both sources B and C are similar in that they are both sources from online websites.* **L2** **False matching** **[2]** **L3** **Answer based on similarity in source content** **[3-5]** Award 3 marks for unsupported answers. Award 4 marks for supported answers. Award 5 marks for two similarities, supported. *e.g. Sources B and C are similar in terms of having inexperienced commanders conducting training during National Service. [3] This can be seen in Source B that "In my experience, the Safety Officer role is usually tasked to a junior officer of Second Lieutenant (2LT) or Lieutenant (LTA) rank who just 'copies and pastes' the Safety documentation when completing the necessary documents." Similarly, this can also be seen in Source C that "Without proper supervision and discipline, things will get out of hand." This means that training in National Service was oversaw for leaders who lacked experience, which may have caused unsafe practices to occur. [4]* *Other suggested answers: Senior officers should be responsible for training / more control over what happens on the ground* **L5** **Answer based on similarity in purpose of source** **[6]** *e.g. Both sources are similar in their purpose. Both sources want to convince Singaporeans that National Service training is unsafe due to the lack of senior officers taking up responsibilities, so that Singaporeans would pressure the government to make changes / introduce stricter laws for those who do not abide by the rules. [6]* *Note: Students have to answer with regards to the government making changes to the law/rules that governs the military*	**6**

Question	Answer	Marks
1(c)	**Study Source D.** **How reliable is Source D about who should take responsibility for training safety? Explain your answer.**	**7**
	L1 **Reliable / Not reliable, based on provenance** **[1]**	
	e.g. Source D is reliable as it is by a Singaporean sharing his personal thoughts.	
	L2 **Reliable / Not reliable, based on typicality** **[2]**	
	e.g. It is not reliable as it only represents the view of one Singaporean. It is not representative of everyone in Singapore.	
	L3 **Reliable / Not reliable, based on source content** **[3-4]**	
	Award higher mark for supported answers	
	e.g. Source D is reliable as it states that it is up to individual Singaporeans to take responsibility for his own safety during training. [3] This is seen in source D that "You will blame the driver for his own actions yes? Honestly, we can put in all our efforts to prevent things from happening but end of the day, it's still an individual's responsibility." This means that it boils down to each Singaporean keeping a lookout for himself. [4]	
	L4 **L3 + Reliable / Not reliable, based on cross-reference** **[5]**	
	e.g. Source D states that it is up to individual Singaporeans to take responsibility for his own safety during training. This is supported by source A. Source A states that it is up to each individual to be cautious during training. This is seen in source A that shows a Singaporean soldier treating training like a game. This means that each soldier on the ground have to be responsible for their own safety and to take training seriously. Thus, since source A supports source D, source D is reliable.	
	e.g. Source D states that it is up to individual Singaporeans to take responsibility for his own safety during training. This is challenged by source B. Source B states that training safety should be the responsible of more experience leaders. This is seen in source B that "The senior officers need to take accountability." This means that more experienced leaders should be overseeing the safety of soldiers as they train. This, since source B challenges source D, source D is unreliable.	
	L5 **Both aspects of L4** **[6]**	

Question	Answer	Marks
	L6 **L3 + Not reliable, based on purpose** **[7]** *e.g. The Singaporean wants to convince other Singaporeans that responsibility of training safety should lie on the shoulders of each individual, so that Singaporeans will look to themselves to be responsible rather than to the government. Source D is unreliable as it is one-sided. It is only one man's opinion with regards to who should take responsibility for their safety and since it is his own opinion, it would not be a true representation of the general population, hence the source is bias and therefore unreliable.*	

L6   **L3 + Not reliable, based on purpose**

Question	Answer	Marks
1(d)	**Study Sources E and F.** **Both Sources E and F differs in their opinions of achieving zero fatalities during National Service. Does this mean one of them is wrong? Explain your answer.** **L1** **Determine which source is wrong based on provenance** **[1]** *e.g. Source F is right as it is a speech by Pritam Singh who is an NS man and would therefore know what goes on during National Service training.* **L2** **Explain which source is wrong based on content comparison** **[2-3]** Award higher mark for supported answers *e.g. Source E differs from source F in terms of the ability to achieve zero fatalities during National Service training. [2] Source E states that it is possible to achieve zero fatalities by introducing and enforcing stricter training regulations. This can be seen from the source that "But from 2013 to 2016, we had none. How did this turnaround occur? This was probably due to multiple factors, but I think the new safety measure we put into place after the devasting incidents of 2012 had an effect." This means that so long as there are new and improve safety regulations introduced to counter any unsafe practices, it is possible to achieve zero fatalities. However, source F disagrees as it states that it is impossible to achieve zero fatalities during National Service training as there are inherent and inevitable risks during war and naturally it would be transferred to trainings. This can be seen from the source that "No organisation, let alone one that is in the business of war and defending Singapore's sovereignty, can realistically promise zero fatalities or training incidents even as the public must insist on the strictest training safety parameters for the SAF." This means that it is impossible to keep training for war risk-free as there is never a risk-free war. Therefore, since source E and F differ in their opinions, one of them is wrong. [3]*	7

Question	Answer	Marks
	L3 **Explain which source is wrong based on cross-reference of one source** **[4]** *e.g. Source E states that it is possible to achieve zero fatalities during training. This is supported by source B which also states that it is possible to achieve zero fatalities during training. This can be seen from the source that "If this issue is address, perhaps then, we would be able to minimise or even eradicate any injuries or deaths during training." This means that if the senior officers were to step up and take charge of training safety, they would be able to prevent any potentially dangerous trainings and to prevent any deaths from occurring. Since source E is supported by source B, source E is reliable and hence it is not wrong.* *e.g. Source F states that it is impossible to achieve zero fatalities during National Service training as there are inherent and inevitable risks during war and naturally it would be transferred to trainings. This is challenged by source B which states that it is possible to achieve zero fatalities during training. Therefore, since source F is challenged by source B, source F is unreliable and hence it is wrong.* **L4** **Explain which source is wrong based on cross reference of both sources** **[5]** **L5** **Explain both sources are not wrong based on purpose** **[6-7]** Award 6 marks for explaining purpose of 1 source to determine if source is wrong. Award 7 marks for explaining purposes of both sources. *e.g. Both sources are not wrong as both sources are different perspectives towards the ability to achieve zero fatalities. Source E is by Dr Ng Eng Hen and he is arguing from the perspective of the government who has the abilities to introduce and enforce safety regulations which he believes can correct any unsafe practices, hence, he is confident that it is achievable for zero fatalities. On the other hand, Mr Pritam Singh is coming from the perspective of an NSman, a person on the ground who has gone through the different trainings. His opinions of training not being able to be risk-free is also valid as he would have witness certain training routines and exercises carried out and therefore would access that if these trainings are made risk-free, then it is certainly not realistic as compared to war time scenarios. Hence, Mr Singh is also not wrong in claiming that zero fatalities is unattainable as National Service trainings need to be as realistic to war time situations as possible. Therefore, both sources are not wrong.*	

Question	Answer	Marks
1(e)	**'The Singapore government is responsible for National Service training safety.'** **Using sources in this case study, explain how far you would agree with this statement.**	**10**

L1   Writes about statement, no valid source use   [1-2]

e.g. Singaporean males will have to go through tough and risky National Service trainings. [1]

L2   Yes / No, supported by valid source use   [3-6]

e.g. Yes
Source B – Government to ensure that more experienced leaders oversee trainings
Source C – Government needs to ensure that there is tighter regulation over junior officers
Source E – Government to introduce more stringent rules and regulations to ensure training safety is upheld
Source F – Government to extend the retirement age of senior commanders to allow them to share their deep experiences during trainings

OR

e.g. No
Source A – Every individual soldier must learn to take training seriously
Source D – It is an individual responsibility as every individual is full control over their own actions

L3   Yes + No, supported by valid source use   [7-10]

i.e. Both elements of L2.

*Note: Please follow the following table for the allocation of marks in L2 and L3

Number of Sources		Marks
Yes	**No**	
1	0	2
0	1	
2	0	3-4
0	2	
3	0	4
0	3	
1	1	5
2	1	6
1	2	
2	2	7-8
3	2	8
2	3	

Question	Answer	Marks
	Award maximum 5-6 marks if sources are unbalanced. e.g. 3 Yes + 1 No or 4 Yes + 1 No ** To score additional 2 marks, candidates can take any one of these 3 routes: ● Through reliability, utility or sufficiency *e.g. Source A wants to convince Singaporeans that National Service training is unsafe and so that Singaporeans will pressure the government to make changes to training expectations to ensure that Singaporeans sons are kept safe from dangers. Source A is reliable as its agenda benefits society as a whole.* ● Through contextual knowledge *e.g. From my contextual knowledge, it is definitely true that it is impossible to achieve zero fatalities during National Service trainings. This is also see in Source F. National Service training is intended to simulate war situations and to ensure that Singapore soldiers are best prepared to face war in times of need. Therefore, to keep training very safe and to guarantee zero fatalities means that training will no longer be realistic.* ● Through giving a balance conclusion/resolution *e.g. Ultimately safety of National Service training should be held responsible by both the government and the individual himself. The government would certainly implement safe training standards to protect the soldiers from any unnecessary injury. However, implementation of training standards can only work if the individual keeps vigilant and is constantly looking for any potential dangers. Hence, it should be both the government's and individual's responsibility.*	

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	**Extract 1 shows that elderly in Singapore have difficulties coping with cashless payments.** **In your opinion, what can be done to help these elderly in using cashless payments in their daily transactions? Explain your answer using two strategies.** **L1 Describes the topic but without addressing the question [1]** *e.g. More and more companies in Singapore are adopting the practice of using cashless payments. [1]* **L2 Identifies / Describes strategies [2-4]** Award 2 marks for identifying a strategy and 3 marks for identifying two strategies. Award 3 marks for describing one strategy and 4 marks for describing two strategies. *e.g. The government can help Singaporean elderlies to accept and be confident to use cashless payments by educating them. One form of education would be to conduct classes in the community centres on the steps to using cashless payments when paying for items. These classes will target mainly elderlies and teach them the steps to using cashless payments. These classes can also bring the elderlies to supermarkets and to practice paying with their handphones. [3]* **L3 L2 + Explains strategy [5-7]** Award 5-6 marks for clear explanation of one strategy. Award 6-7 marks for clear explanation of two strategies. *Other acceptable answers: Skillsfuture courses, family members sharing and explanation, elderly friendly apps* e.*g. L2 + By doing so, elderlies would be more confident of using cashless payments as they have been guided and would know how to use it in their daily transactions. [6]*	**7**

Question	Answer	Marks
2(b)	**Extract 2 and 3 reflect hybridisation and homogenisation of entertainment.** **Do you think hybridisation has a greater impact on entertainment than homogenisation?** **L1** **Writes about the topic (i.e. entertainment) but without addressing the question.** **[1-2]** *e.g. Entertainment in the world is constantly changing with the times. [1]* **L2** **Describe hybridisation and homogenisation** **[3-4]** Award 3 marks for describing one factor. Award 4 marks for describing both factors. *Hybridisation occur when foreign and local cultures are blended, resulting in unique combinations containing elements from both cultures. One example is seen in Salsa, which is a Latin-American music genre that originated in New York. It has a mix of foreign Afro-Caribbean musical influence and North American jazz and rock. [3]* *Homogenisation is the process by which local entertainment is changed by foreign cultures to become more and more similar with aspects of foreign entertainment. It can lead to some of these foreign influences becoming dominant. One example is seen in the influx of Korean influences in the mid-2000s. Korean influences came with K-pop and television dramas. K-pop groups are gaining fan bases from Asia to Europe and America. In addition, Korean films and dramas have also become par of the programming of many free-to-air and satellite television stations. [3]* **L3** **L2 + Explain the positive economic impacts** **[5-7]** Award 5-6 marks for explaining one factor. Award 6-7 marks for explaining both factors. *Hybridisation – These mixtures produces new musical products and can lead to changes to the nature of local music that people can enjoy which adds to existing genres of music. [5]* *Homogenisation – Homogenisation of entertainment in a country results in an influx of foreign influence which would gain a foothold in society. This leads to the country losing support for its local entertainment industry. [6]*	8

Question	Answer	Marks
	L4 **Both aspects in L3 + Relative importance of the impacts** **[8]** *e.g. Homogenisation has a greater impact on entertainment than hybridisation. Hybridisation is an integration of both foreign influences and local influences on entertainment, which does not totally eradicate the presence of local influence. However, homogenisation in fact replaces local influences altogether with foreign influences, giving no room for local entertainment. This shows that homogenisation has a greater impact on entertainment than hybridisation. [8]*	