

Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

Question 1 is **compulsory** for all candidates

1 Living in a diverse society

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer all the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the question, in addition to the sources which you are told to use. In answering the questions you should use the knowledge of the issue to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

(a) Study Source A.

Why did the government official make this speech? Explain your answer. [5]

(b) Study Sources B and C.

How similar are these sources? Explain your answer. [7]

(c) Study Source D.

Are you surprised by this source? Explain your answer. [6]

(d) Study Sources E and F.

Which of these two sources is more useful as evidence about new immigrants in Singapore? Explain your answer. [7]

(e) "Diversity has positive impacts."

Using sources in this case study, how far would you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

Is integration successful?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

Singapore is an attractive country for immigrants. With an average of 50,000 new immigrants per year, it is important to integrate them into Singapore society. The government has implemented a few integration policies to help the new immigrants adapt to the norms, culture and values in Singapore. These integration initiatives include naturalisation programmes such as community sharing sessions on how they can participate actively in the community, the forging of common experiences and provision of community support for newcomers. However, since 2011, some Singaporeans feel that the new immigrants have not integrated sufficiently and have expressed their discomfort with the inflow of foreigners.

Study the following sources to find out if integration is successful in Singapore.

Source A: *An excerpt of a speech by a government official, at the National Citizenship Ceremony 2018. The National Citizenship Ceremony is a platform where new citizens receive their pink national registration identification cards and citizenship certificates.*

Singapore has always been a diverse society, with immigrants forming an integral part of our history and our identity. The peace and harmony that we enjoy today did not come about by chance and we cannot take it for granted. In the face of persistent intolerance and discontent in the world, it does not take much for negative sentiments to spread, and for differences to turn into deep divides in society. We, in Singapore, must not go down that path. We must resist it with vigour and with our commitment to this shared vision for our country. The National Integration Council works together with partners in the community, workplaces, schools and the media to promote integration between locals, immigrants and foreigners. All of you make equally important contributions in your own ways, some within your workplaces, and some even beyond and I thank you all for your contributions.

Source B: *An excerpt from a Straits Times article, published in 2017, highlighting the contributions of new immigrants.*

Mdm Angie Ng, 41, left her position as a quality manager in Melaka to move to Singapore when her husband accepted a job offer here in 2011, and has been actively involved in the community. Besides looking after her two sons, the housewife volunteers at Teck Ghee Community Club, organising events and explaining policies such as MediShield Life and the Silver Support Scheme to seniors.

"Being a volunteer helped me to integrate better and get to know others better. Now that we're citizens here, we should contribute to the place where we reside," she said.

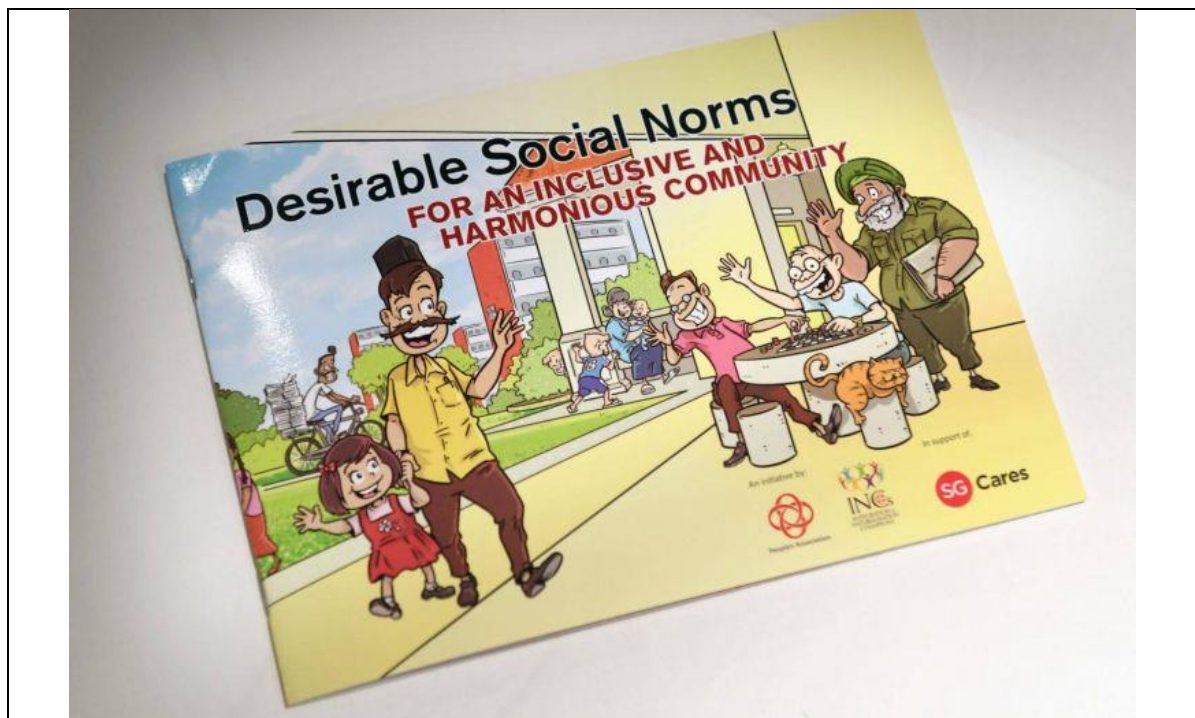
[Turn over

Source C: *An extract from a popular current affairs Singaporean blog, published in 2013.*

What is most interesting is the change in behaviour I noted in the response of my neighbours when three new immigrant families moved into my block at around the same period. Stereotypical anti-immigrant comments were made. However, it was inevitable that these new immigrants soon came across the groups of neighbours that were having their chit chat sessions daily. A smile, a few words and before I knew it, the same people who made snide remarks were saying 'hey these new folks are ok really'. Now, two of these new immigrants have joined the group and families have met, chit chatted and have turned from cohabitators to friends.

The initiative for successful integration lies squarely on the shoulders of each and every citizen. And this is only possible if a spirit of community and neighbourliness is present in our neighbourhoods.

Source D: *A picture of a comic book on "Desirable Social Norms", launched by the People's Association Integration Council in September 2017. These social norms have been identified through discussions with over 120 Grassroots Leaders, Integration and Naturalisation Champions and Immigrant Associations.*



Source E: *From an interview with a German immigrant, published in a popular online business magazine in 2012. This interview explores the issue on integration between the locals and immigrants residing in Singapore.*

It is not that Singapore makes it impossible for new immigrants to mix with local Singaporeans – many of them don't want to integrate, They are more comfortable mixing with fellow Westerners where they can speak their language and eat the food they are familiar with.

In my HDB block, locals look at me funny when they see me in the lift. There is curiosity and there are questions, some of them quite probing, about size of flat and rental cost. But there are no invitations for birthdays, and when I went around during Chinese New Year shortly after I moved in, handing out oranges, it was seen as a curiosity.

Mixing doesn't happen automatically – it takes effort. Effort to make the first step and get to know 'the other'. Although it's more comfortable to stay within our comfort zone, it will enrich both sides to learn more and widen their horizons.

Source F: *Excerpts of a song titled "Curry, curry night" by a popular Singaporean podcaster. The curry incident created a furore in 2011, when local newspapers reported that a Chinese immigrant family had complained against a local Indian family for cooking curry.*

Curry, curry night
Close the windows, shut the door
Neighbour got complain before
Their foreign noses cannot stand the smell

It's our favourite dish
Sometimes chicken, sometimes fish
What happened to our right to live
Our right to cook the things we like to eat

They did not understand
Why we have to eat curry
They suggested we try Hong Kong mee¹
Maybe cook it with some ghee²
Now we can only cook when they're out
Perhaps we're China now

1. Mee – noodles

2. Ghee - clarified butter made from the milk of a buffalo or cow, used in South Asian cooking

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SECTION B (Structured-Response Question)

Question 2 is **compulsory** for all candidates.

2 Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

Personal mobility device (PMDs) include e-scooters, hoverboards and electric unicycles. With these becoming popular in recent years, accidents involving them are more common. Despite moves in recent years to regulate motorised devices on public paths, including speed limits and compulsory registration of electric scooters, calls are mounting to beef up action against errant riders.

Extract 2

Citizens can contribute to the good of society by addressing the needs of fellow citizens who are disadvantaged, and supporting meaningful causes. They can do so as individuals or in groups.

Extract 3

Singaporeans' feedback and suggestions can shape policy formulation and plans for Singapore. Citizens can communicate their views on national issues through various communication platforms- online or face-to-face.

- (a) Extract 1 highlights the popularity of Personal Mobility Devices (PMDs) and recent calls for tougher action against reckless users of PMDs.

In your opinion, what can be done to curb reckless use of PMDs to ensure safety of pedestrians? Explain your answer using **two** recommendations. [7]

- (b) Extracts 2 and 3 reflect the two roles citizens can play in partnering the government to ensure the good of society.

Do you think contributing to the needs of the disadvantaged is more significant than shaping policy formulation in working for the good of society? Explain your answer. [8]

END OF PAPER

Copyright Acknowledgements:

Source A: https://www.nationalintegrationcouncil.org.sg/docs/default-source/pdf/ncc-2018-speech.pdf?sfvrsn=ec5b03e2_2
 Source B: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/spore-must-manage-inflow-of-new-immigrants-carefully-pm>
 Source C: <https://www.davejunia.com/2013/04/integrating-immigrants-into-the-singapore-society/>
 Source D: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/new-peoples-association-comic-guide-to-promote-social-norms>
 Source E: <https://sbr.com.sg/hr-education/exclusive/whats-making-it-hard-singapore-expats-integrate-local-community>
 Source F: <http://www.mrbrownsnow.com/2011/08/16/the-mrbrown-show-curry-night/>
 Extract 1: <https://www.todayonline.com/big-read/big-read-calls-ban-pmds-mount-accidents-persist-it-best-option>