



中正中学 义顺

CHUNG CHENG HIGH SCHOOL (YISHUN)



2021 Preliminary Examination
Secondary Four Express / Five Normal Academic

CANDIDATE
NAME

CLASS

INDEX
NUMBER

HUMANITIES

2272/01 & 2273/01

SOCIAL STUDIES

Additional Materials: NIL

24 August 2021
1 hour 45 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

ANSWER ALL PARTS OF SECTIONS A AND B.

Do not spend more than 65 minutes on Section A.

ALL answers must be written on the writing papers provided.

Hand in the question paper and answer scripts separately.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks for each question and sub-question is provided in the bracket [].

For Examiner's Use	
Section A	
Section B	
Total	

Setter: Ms Nazeema Parveen

Section A
Source-based Case Study (35 marks)
Question 1 is compulsory for all candidates.

Study the sources carefully and then answer all the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources you were told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

- 1) Study Source A. [5m]
What does this cartoon tell you about world leaders' attitude to climate change? Explain your answer.

- 2) Study Sources B and C. [7m]
How far are these sources similar? Explain your answer.

- 3) Study Source D. [6m]
How far is this source useful in what it says about youths? Explain your answer.

- 4) Study Sources E and F. [7m]
Having read Source E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer.

- 5) "Future generations will live on a better Earth." [10m]
Using sources from this case study, explain how far you would agree with this statement.

Is enough being done to manage the effects of climate change?

BEING PART OF A GLOBALISED WORLD

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Climate change is one of the negative effects of globalisation faced by the international community. Countries experience higher temperatures and rising sea levels which often lead to problems such as flooding and loss of habitats in many parts of the world. One reason for this is industrialisation which has resulted in the emission of large quantities of harmful gases into the atmosphere. Individuals have also contributed to climate change by not adopting environmentally-friendly practices.

This has prompted many international organisations such as the United Nations (UN), non-governmental organisations and individuals to appeal for firm actions to be taken to stop climate change. As part of this effort, world leaders signed the Paris Climate Agreement in 2015, pledging to put in place measures that will reduce climate change. However, many have argued that little concrete actions have been taken to manage climate change and world leaders have been accused of making half-hearted attempts to honor the Paris Climate Agreement. World leaders, on the other hand, insist that appropriate actions have been taken and are confident that over time, the effects of climate can be managed.

Study the following sources to find out if enough is being done to manage the effects of climate change.

Source A: A 2013 cartoon on climate change published in an American newspaper.



Source B: Extract from the article “Why is the Paris Agreement important?” published on the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)’s website in March 2017, amidst rumours of USA planning to withdraw from the Paris Agreement. NRDC is a USA-based non-profit international environmental advocacy group.

Research makes clear that the cost of climate inaction far outweighs the cost of reducing carbon pollution. If the United States withdraws from the Paris Agreement, it will cost the US economy as much as \$6 trillion in the coming decades. The clean energy sector employs more than 3 million Americans and with further investments in this sector, it has the potential to employ many more. Having understood this benefit, countries like China and India have agreed to concrete and ambitious commitments aimed at slowing down the progress of climate change. Both countries, which are already poised to lead the world in renewable energy, have made significant progress towards their goals set in the Paris Agreement.

Source C: An extract from the statement released by then US President Donald Trump on his decision to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement, 1 June 2017.

Even if the Paris Agreement is to be implemented in full, with total compliance from all nations, it is estimated that it would only produce a two-tenth of one degree Celsius reduction in global temperatures by the year 2100. In fact, 14 days of carbon emissions from China’s MNCs alone would wipe out gains from America. Why force the Americans to comply when the Chinese won’t cooperate? And this is after we have had to spend billions and billions of dollars, lose jobs, close factories, and suffer much higher energy costs for our businesses and homes. The reality is that withdrawing from the Paris Climate Agreement is in America’s economic interest and won’t matter much to the climate. The United States, under my leadership will continue to be the cleanest and most environmentally-friendly country on earth.

Source D: Sixteen-year-old climate activist, Greta Thunberg’s speech at the United Nations Climate Action Summit in New York, 23 September 2019. This summit was attended by leaders from different countries.

My message is that we'll be watching you. You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words. And yet I'm one of the lucky ones. People are suffering. People are dying. Entire ecosystems are collapsing. We are at the beginning of a mass extinction, and all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of eternal economic growth. How dare you!

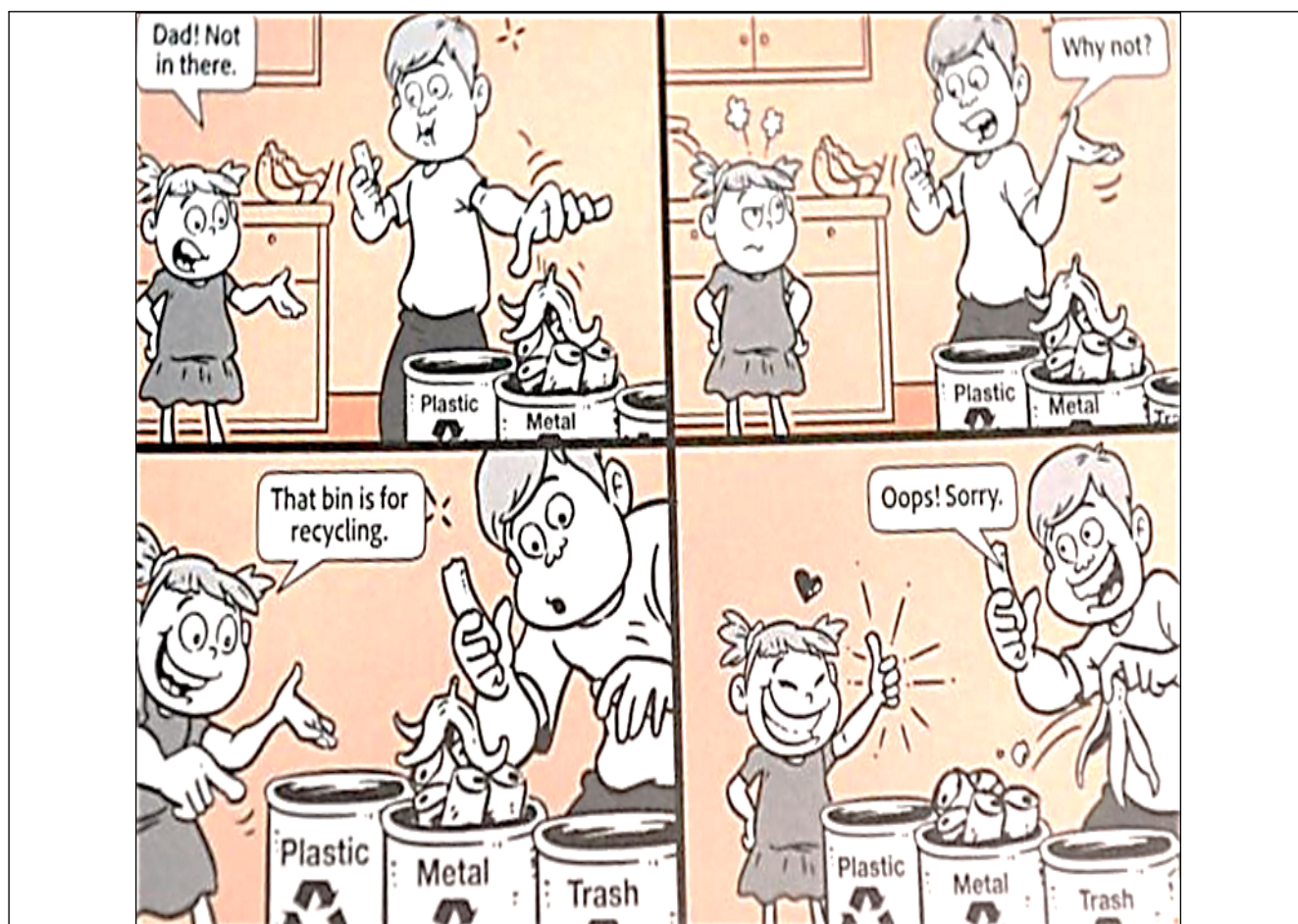
You are failing us. But the young people are starting to understand your betrayal. The eyes of all future generations are upon you. And if you choose to fail us, I say: We will never forgive you.

Source E: Adapted from an interview with a member of the Nature Society of Singapore, published in the Today newspaper on 25 August 2019.

While more Singaporeans are aware of climate change, they are still prioritizing their own needs and convenience over environmental conservation. It is unlikely that Singaporeans would go out of their way to ensure that their actions do not have any impact on the environment. Younger people consume to meet their needs, buying or throwing things away mindlessly when they are in a rush without considering the consequences of their actions on the environment.

Ultimately, public awareness is not enough to slow down climate change. At the end of the day, we need a combination of political, commercial and industrial will as well as public awareness to make a change. Most importantly, industries need to change their practices to be more environmentally friendly as their actions will be more impactful than the layman.

Source F: Taken from a comic book published by the People's Association to highlight good habits to adopt in Singapore. The comic book, titled "Desirable Social Norms," was published in 2018.



Section B (15 marks)
Structured Response Question
Question 2 is **compulsory** for all candidates.

Start this section on a fresh sheet of paper.

BEING PART OF A GLOBALISED WORLD

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

Elitism refers to having a mindset that one is better than others because of better education background or socio-economic status. In recent years, the rise of elitist attitudes and practices has been criticised for destroying meritocracy in Singapore.

Extract 2

In a country as diverse as Singapore, differing backgrounds can cause prejudice and misconceptions that may result in a lasting damage to society.

Extract 3

As part of Singapore's efforts to present an inspirational face to the rest of the world, the Economic Development Board (EDB) has an on-going campaign to present Singapore as a place for immigrants to make their dreams come true. However, Singaporeans do not share the same opinion as the EDB as they see foreigners competing with them for available resources.

Extract 1 reflects on the effect of elitism on Singapore.

- 6) In your opinion, what message can be sent to society for people to be less elitist? Explain your answer using **two** messages. **[7]**

Extracts 2 and 3 reflect on the impact of diversity in society.

- 7) Do you think prejudice and misconceptions cause greater disharmony to society than competition for resources? Explain your answer. **[8]**

THE END

Acknowledgement

- Source A <https://www.flickr.com/photos/heatingoil/4207285060>
Source B <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/paris-climate-agreement-everything-you-need-know>
Source C <https://www.npr.org/2017/06/01/531090243/trumps-speech-on-paris-climate-agreement-withdrawal-annotated>
Source D <https://www.npr.org/2019/09/23/763452863/transcript-greta-thunbergs-speech-at-the-u-n-climate-action-summit>
Source E <https://www.todayonline.com/singapore/more-singaporeans-are-conscious-climate-change-awareness-enough-slow-unfolding-crisis>

Source F <https://www.tnp.sg/news/singapore/laughing-your-way-better-social-graces>