



DUNMAN HIGH SCHOOL  
Year Four 2023  
English Language  
End-of-Year Examination Essays Review

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

within boundaries of  
This question requires candidates to discuss freedom of expression & not what makes  
1. The Arts are all about freedom of expression. Do you agree? good arts.

Key Terms

**The Arts:** The arts are a very wide range of human practices of creative expression, storytelling and cultural participation.

Prominent examples of the arts include:

- Visual arts (including architecture, ceramics, drawing, filmmaking, painting, photography, and sculpting)
- Literary arts (including fiction, drama, poetry, and prose)
- Performing arts (including dance, music, and theatre)

**Freedom of Expression:** The freedom and right to hold your own opinions to express yourself and to access information and the opinions and expressions of others freely w/o any interference. This includes the right to express your views aloud (for example through public protest and demonstrations) or through:

- published articles, books or leaflets
- television or radio broadcasting
- works of art
- the internet and social media

This includes political speech, views on religion, opinions and expressions that are favourably received or regarded as inoffensive, but also those that may offend, shock or disturb others.

Strong Scripts → Able to capture the main points about 'freedom of expression'

Christian Clifford, I Want Your Blood, 2013  
may evoke feelings of disgust as it involves use of menstrual blood.

### Approach

This is an argumentative essay which requires the student to take a stand. There is an absolute key phrase "all about", and though students may possibly agree with the statement, there is a need for balance. Thus it is advisable to disagree and approach the question with an objective mindset and measured tone, exploring the benefits and drawbacks of giving the Arts absolute freedom of expression.

There is also a need for a variety of examples across different art forms (as stated above in the definition) for students to do well for content.

### AGREE

1. Unrestricted Creativity: The arts provide a platform where individuals can freely express their thoughts, emotions, and ideas without the constraints of rules or regulations. Artists can experiment with various mediums and styles to convey their unique perspectives.
2. Social Commentary: Art often serves as a powerful tool for social and political commentary. Artists can use their work to critique or challenge prevailing ideologies and injustices. For example, the painting "Guernica" by Pablo Picasso is a stark representation of the horrors of war and is a powerful form of expression against violence.
3. Diverse Voices: The arts celebrate diversity by allowing artists from different backgrounds to share their stories and experiences. This inclusivity fosters a broader understanding of the human condition and promotes empathy. For instance, literature like Maya Angelou's "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" gives voice to the African American experience.
4. Emotional Catharsis: Art provides a means for individuals to release and process their emotions. Many artists create their best work during times of personal turmoil or intense emotions, such as Frida Kahlo's self-portraits that delve into her physical and emotional pain.
5. Freedom from Censorship: In democratic societies, the arts are often protected by freedom of speech laws, ensuring that artists can express themselves without fear of censorship or government intervention. This allows for the exploration of controversial topics and perspectives.



## DISAGREE

1. Offensive and Harmful Content: Absolute freedom of expression in the arts can lead to the creation and dissemination of offensive, harmful, or socially unacceptable content. Artistic works that promote hate speech, violence, or discrimination can harm individuals and society as a whole. Some artists may exploit their freedom of expression for shock value or personal gain, without genuine artistic intent. This can lead to the production of art solely for controversy or financial profit, undermining the integrity of the art form. For instance, artists like Andres Serrano and Chris Ofili have faced controversy for using materials like feces or urine in their artworks, which some view as disrespectful to traditional artistic values and sensibilities.
2. Lack of Accountability: Without any constraints, artists may not be held accountable for the consequences of their work. This can result in a disregard for ethical considerations, such as the potential harm caused by explicit or graphic content. Absolute freedom of expression can also result in a lack of regulation and quality control in the arts. Without guidelines or standards, subpar or irresponsible art may saturate the market, diminishing the overall quality and impact of artistic expression. Artworks that critique or challenge religious beliefs can be seen as disrespectful and even dangerous. Examples include provocative art like "Piss Christ" by Andres Serrano, which features a crucifix submerged in urine, or the Danish cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad, which ignited a global controversy.
3. Undermining Social Order and Cohesion: Art has the power to influence public opinion and shape societal values. Absolute freedom of expression can contribute to the polarization of society, as artists may use their work to promote extreme and divisive viewpoints, further dividing communities. Certain contemporary literature explores themes and topics that may be considered taboo or offensive. Salman Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses" is one such example, as it addresses sensitive religious issues in a way that was highly controversial in some cultural contexts. The Good Vibes music festival in Kuala Lumpur was cancelled after The 1975 frontman Matt Healy launched a profanity-laden speech and kissed bassist Ross MacDonald during their 21 July 2023 performance, in defiance of the country's anti-LGBT laws.

4. Erosion of Cultural Values : Absolute freedom of expression can sometimes erode cultural and traditional values, leading to a loss of important cultural heritage. It may disregard the preservation of cultural identity in favor of individual expression. The theater has often been a platform for pushing boundaries. Productions that include explicit content, nudity, or provocative themes can be seen as undermining conservative cultural values. For example, the play "The Vagina Monologues" by Eve Ensler has been criticized in some cultural contexts for its explicit content.

\* Google for some examples on your own.



- ① clear & accurate understanding of what AI is capable of today
- ② wide ranging examples of what AI can do

2. With the rise of artificial intelligence, there is no place for **human creativity**. Do you agree?

### Key Terms

**Artificial intelligence:** AI is the ability of a computer or a robot controlled by a computer to do tasks that are usually done by humans because they require human intelligence and discernment.

**Human creativity:** Creativity is the act of turning new and imaginative ideas into reality. Creativity is characterised by the ability to perceive the world in new ways, to find hidden patterns, to make connections between seemingly unrelated phenomena, and to generate solutions.

### Approach

This is an argumentative essay which requires the student to take a stand. There is an absolute key phrase "no place for". It is advisable to disagree with balance in the form of a counter-argument and rebuttal.

Students need a strong grasp of the definitions of AI and human creativity in varied aspects of human endeavours (e.g. scientific research, business, arts) to do well for content.

### AGREE

Data-Driven decision making: AI can analyze vast amounts of data and generate insights that may not be immediately apparent to humans. While this aids decision-making, it may limit the scope of human intuition and creative thinking in certain contexts.

AI-Generated Art and Music: AI algorithms have been developed to create art and compose music, challenging the notion of human exclusivity in these domains. For instance, AI-generated paintings like those created by the AIVA algorithm have gained recognition in the art world.

Predictive Content Creation: AI can analyze user preferences and generate content tailored to individual tastes, such as personalized news recommendations or product suggestions. This can reduce the need for human creativity in content creation and marketing.

Efficiency in Design and Engineering: AI-driven design tools can assist engineers and architects in optimizing designs for efficiency and functionality, potentially reducing the need for creative input in some aspects of design.

## DISAGREE

AI as a creative tool: AI can be a valuable tool to enhance human creativity. For example, artists and designers can use AI-generated suggestions to inspire new ideas or create art, ultimately augmenting their creative capabilities.

AI complements human creativity: While AI can perform specific tasks efficiently, it lacks the depth of human creativity, emotional intelligence, and the ability to make abstract connections. Human creativity often involves intuition, empathy, and emotional expression, which AI struggles to replicate.

AI as a collaborator: In fields like music composition and writing, AI can serve as a collaborative partner, generating initial ideas or assisting in the creative process. Many musicians use AI-generated music as a starting point for their compositions.

Creative Industries Thrive: The creative industries, including film, literature, and the arts, continue to flourish, demonstrating that there is a significant place for human creativity alongside AI. For example, blockbuster movies, bestselling novels, and acclaimed artworks are still predominantly products of human imagination.

Innovation and Novelty: Human creativity drives innovation and the creation of entirely new fields and disciplines that AI cannot replicate. Breakthroughs in science, technology, and the arts often stem from uniquely human creative thinking.

AI Bias and Limitations: AI systems can perpetuate biases present in their training data and lack ethical and moral judgment. Human creativity is needed to address these biases and make ethical decisions.

Additional Reading: <https://futuristspeaker.com/artificial-intelligence/the-difference-between-human-creativity-and-generative-ai-creativity/>



personal vice : language > 11

### 3. The migration of people is beneficial. Discuss. current day

#### Key Terms

**Migration:** In the global context, movement of a person either across an international border (international migration), or within a state (internal migration) for more than one year irrespective of the causes, voluntary or involuntary, and the means, regular or irregular, used to migrate.

Simple definition: The movement of a person or people from one country, locality, place of residence, etc., to settle in another.

**Beneficial:** Producing good results or helpful effects

#### Approach

This is an argumentative essay which requires the student to take a stand. While there is no absolute term, and students can agree or disagree, it is advisable to be objective and show balance in the response.

#### AGREE

1. Economic Benefits: Migration can boost a country's economy by providing a larger workforce and filling labor gaps. For instance, the United States has benefited from the influx of skilled workers in fields like technology and medicine, contributing to economic growth. Singapore has actively attracted skilled migrants in various sectors, including finance, technology, and healthcare. These skilled migrants have played a crucial role in bolstering the country's economic growth and innovation. For instance, the financial sector in Singapore has thrived due to the influx of talented professionals from around the world. Many international banks and financial institutions have established a strong presence in Singapore, partly because of the availability of a highly skilled workforce. This has contributed to Singapore's emergence as a global financial hub. In 2021 and 2022, Mr Li Xiting, the Anhui-born founder of medical equipment firm Shenzhen Mindray Bio-Medical Electronics, was named the richest man in Singapore, with an estimated net worth of US\$17.6 billion. Mr Li chose to migrate to Singapore in 2012 and subsequently became a citizen. Other Chinese tycoons living here include fast-fashion retailer Shein's founder Chris Xu and hotpot chain Haidilao's founders Zhang Yong and Shu Ping.

probably difficult to use US examples, better to use overseas examples.

2. Cultural Diversity: Migration enriches a country's cultural diversity. Different cultures bring new traditions, foods, and perspectives, enhancing the overall cultural landscape. For example, the fusion of cuisines in cosmopolitan cities like New York City or London showcases the positive aspects of migration. Chinatown in Manhattan, Little Italy in the Bronx, and Jackson Heights in Queens are all examples of immigrant enclaves that have preserved and celebrated their cultural heritage. These neighborhoods serve as hubs for cultural festivals, restaurants, and businesses that showcase the traditions of their respective immigrant groups.
3. Skills Transfer: Migrants often bring valuable skills and knowledge to their host countries. This can lead to knowledge transfer and innovation. Silicon Valley, for instance, has thrived due to a significant number of skilled migrants contributing to the technology industry. Consider a scenario where a highly skilled software engineer from India decides to migrate to Silicon Valley to work for a leading technology company. This engineer brings with them not only technical expertise but also a diverse perspective influenced by their previous experiences and cultural background.
4. Remittances: Migrants send remittances back to their home countries, which can have a substantial positive impact on the economies of their countries of origin. For example, remittances from Filipino migrant workers significantly contribute to the Philippines' economy. In countries like Bangladesh and Indonesia, remittances have played a crucial role in poverty reduction by providing a financial safety net for low-income families. In Vietnam, migrant remittances have been invested in small-scale agriculture, retail shops, and other businesses, contributing to the development of rural and urban areas.
5. Caring for Aging populations: In countries with aging populations, immigration can help maintain a balanced workforce and support pension systems. Japan has been exploring immigration as a means to address its aging population and labor shortages. The healthcare and elderly care sectors in Singapore have benefited from skilled foreign healthcare professionals and caregivers. This support is essential to meet the increasing healthcare needs of the aging population.



## DISAGREE

1. Strain on Resources: Mass migration can strain a host country's resources, such as healthcare, education, and housing. This strain can lead to overburdened social services and increased competition for scarce resources, potentially harming local citizens. In some European countries during the refugee crisis, the influx of migrants placed immense pressure on healthcare facilities and resources, leading to challenges in providing timely medical care to all. In certain cities in the United States, such as San Francisco, the influx of tech workers has led to soaring housing costs, creating affordability issues for both newcomers and long-time residents.
2. Cultural Clashes: Sometimes, cultural differences can lead to conflicts and tensions in host countries. For example, cultural clashes and social integration issues have arisen in European countries with significant migrant populations, and tensions have arisen due to differences in religious practices and attire among Muslim migrants. India has experienced cultural and social tensions due to the influx of Rohingya refugees from Myanmar. Differences in language, religion, and culture have led to some friction between the Rohingya population and the local communities in states like Assam and Jammu.
3. Job Competition: An influx of migrants can create job competition, particularly in low-skilled or entry-level positions, potentially leading to wage stagnation or job loss for local workers. This has been a concern in industries like agriculture or construction. Discussions about job competition from migrants, including skilled and temporary workers, have emerged in Australia, with some citizens expressing concerns about the impact on employment prospects for Australians. While Singapore relies on foreign labor in various sectors, there have been debates about whether this has resulted in job competition for local Singaporeans. The government has adjusted its policies to address these concerns.

4. Security Concerns: In some cases, migration can pose security risks, as it may provide opportunities for illegal activities or terrorism. Governments must invest in security measures to address these concerns. Several European countries, particularly those located along migration routes, have expressed security concerns related to the refugee and migrant crisis. There have been concerns about potential infiltration by extremist groups and human trafficking. As a transit country for many migrants and refugees, Turkey has raised concerns about its border security and the potential for illegal activities, including smuggling and trafficking.

5. Brain Drain: Migration of highly skilled individuals from developing countries to developed ones can result in a "brain drain," where the source country loses valuable human capital. This can hinder the source country's development. For instance, medical professionals leaving developing nations for higher-paying positions in the West can lead to healthcare shortages in their home countries. In China, many Chinese students choose to pursue higher education abroad, particularly in Western countries like the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. They seek access to top-quality universities and research opportunities. Highly skilled professionals, including scientists, engineers, and researchers, are often attracted to job opportunities in advanced economies with competitive salaries and research facilities. Some migrants leave China in pursuit of a better quality of life and improved work-life balance, particularly if they perceive work pressures and competition as excessively high in China. In some cases, individuals may leave China due to concerns about political and social freedoms, including freedom of expression and access to uncensored information.



Championing inclusivity  
Strengthening the Social Fabric

#### 4. What can young people do to promote stronger Singapore identity?

##### Key Terms

**Young People:** General global definition of young people will be those between 15 to 24 years of age

**Singapore Identity:** It will be simpler to start from the definition of national identity, which is "a sense of a nation as a cohesive whole, as represented by distinctive traditions, culture and language."

##### Approach

This is a discursive essay. Students need to explore the various aspects of national identity in the context of Singapore, and explain what young people can do in particular to promote a stronger sense of identity. The keyword "stronger" would require students to explore what has already been done, evaluate the measures and propose novel solutions to enhance the sense of identity to score well for content.

##### Suggested Points:

1. Explore Cultural Heritage: Explore Singapore's cultural heritage by visiting museums, heritage sites, and cultural centers. Learning about the history and traditions of different ethnic communities in Singapore can foster a deeper appreciation for the nation's diversity. Young people can organise learning journeys when in school or even consciously try to get friends to go for such outings on weekends instead of going to malls and arcades. Attend local arts performances, music festivals, and exhibitions to support the vibrant arts and culture scene in Singapore. Young artists can also showcase their talents and contribute to and build Singapore's cultural landscape.  
Eg: All Things Hainanese is a stall manned by a pair of third-generation hawkers who have made it their lives' work to celebrate all things Hainanese.
2. Volunteer and Serve the Community: Engage in volunteer work and community service to contribute to the betterment of Singapore. Participating in local community projects helps build a sense of belonging and connection to one's neighborhood and the nation as a whole. Young people learn to own the social and community issues they see on the ground, rather than being oblivious, and waiting for the government to solve the problems.

3. Environmental Conservation: Get involved in environmental initiatives to promote sustainability and protect Singapore's natural beauty. Caring for the environment is an essential part of being a responsible citizen. Engaging in environmental initiatives, such as tree planting, beach clean-ups, or sustainability projects, demonstrates a commitment to preserving Singapore's natural environment. Protecting green spaces and wildlife contributes to the nation's identity as a garden city.
4. Learn more about Singapore's history & Achievements: Educate yourself about Singapore's achievements in various fields, such as technology, education, and healthcare. Understanding the nation's progress can instill a sense of pride in its accomplishments.
5. Be Informed and Participate: Stay informed about current affairs and civic issues, and actively participate in the democratic process by voting and engaging in civil discourse. Participate in discussions and debates about Singapore's future and challenges. Encourage open and respectful dialogue on topics that impact the nation, such as politics, social issues, and policies.

**Additional Readings:**

[https://www.ipsos.com/sites/default/files/cp/about\\_us/documents/2020-09/ipsos\\_public\\_affairs\\_sg\\_issue\\_04\\_sept\\_2020.pdf](https://www.ipsos.com/sites/default/files/cp/about_us/documents/2020-09/ipsos_public_affairs_sg_issue_04_sept_2020.pdf)

<https://www.blackbox.com.sg/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/TODAY-25-June-2015-Defining-the-Singapore-Identity1.pdf>

<https://mothership.sg/2018/08/singapore-identity/>