

4E5N Prelim Section A Suggested Answer (St Gabriels)

1 Study Source A.

Why was this infographic published? Explain your answer using details from the source. [6]

Suggested Answer	Success Criteria
Take note: Good answers should link to context of minimal recycling rates mentioned in BI.	
The infographic was published because the government wants to convince (P) Singaporeans (A) that recycling efforts are not desirable (M) so that they might feel guilty (F) and decide to put in effort to lower waste generation in and out of home (A) . This is because despite the minimal improvements in recycling rates, Singapore still generated slight more waste in 2022 than in 2021. (S) This is seen from the poster which shows that there is an increase in waste generated over a period of 3 years for both domestic and non-domestic waste, implying that Singaporeans need to put in more effort.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because • Powerful verb • Audience • Message • Feelings • Action • Situation • Evi + Exp

2 Study Sources B and C.

How far does the speaker in Source B agree with the Minister in Source C? Explain your answer. [7]

Suggested Answer		Success Criteria
Note: - Answers using similar / different → 0 - When disagreeing / refuting, always use opposite meaning words		
The speaker in B would agree (A) with the Minister in C on Singaporeans' irresponsible recycling behaviour (CC) . Source B asserts that "people do not bother to check what can be recycled and what cannot." (Evi) This highlights the issue of people's indifference towards understanding the guidelines for proper recycling and suggests a lack of awareness or motivation to engage in responsible recycling practices, contributing to the problem. (Exp) Similarly (CW) In Source C, the Minister notes that "those who try to recycle do it wrongly by throwing the e-waste into the general recycling bins." (Evi) Source C's statement underscores the problem of individuals who make an effort to recycle but may not be adequately informed about how to recycle responsibly, worsening the challenge of effective recycling in Singapore. (Exp)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATQ • Common Criteria • Comparison word • Evidence x2 1 best line • Explanation x2 	
The speaker in Source B would disagree (A) with the Minister in Source C in terms of the reasons behind ineffective recycling efforts in Singapore. Source B suggests that ineffective recycling takes place because of a lack of concern for the environment but Source C suggests that ineffective recycling takes place because of a lack of knowledge. (CC) Source B argues that, "the issue is that people do not bother to check	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATQ • Common Criteria • Comparison word • Evidence x2 	

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<p>what can be recycled and what cannot." (Evi) Source B implies that individuals have an indifferent attitude towards recycling and will choose the easy way out, thus, recycling efforts are ineffective (Exp). In contrast (CW), Source C says, "most people do want to recycle but are let down by their own laziness." (Evi) Source C suggests that ineffective recycling takes place because of individuals' inertia or reluctance to take the necessary actions, resulting in ineffective recycling. (Exp)</p>		<p>1 best line</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Explanation x2</p>
<p>Using the position and context of creators of the sources. (L5/7)</p> <p>The speaker in B would agree with the Minister in C because they would both aim to increase recycling efforts in Singapore (ATQ + LOR). Source B was an interview with Ms Robin Rheame, who advocates for the environment and educates Singaporeans on reducing waste and to recycle (WHO). In the source, she emphasises that Singaporeans' lack of concern for the environment renders campaigns and recycling bins ineffective in a bid to cause guilt amongst Singaporeans and to rally them to start putting in effort to sort their trash for effective recycling (WHAT + WHY). With a similar aim in mind (CW), the Minister in C who would want to ensure that Singapore's environmental policies are sustainable for our development while meeting peoples' needs (WHO) addresses Singaporeans and emphasises the problem that ineffective recycling causes, hoping to get Singaporeans to learn more about recycling and carry out effective recycling with their electronic waste (WHAT + WHY). Given the context of the sources, where recycling rate has increased minimally over the past few years, it is thus natural that both the speaker and the minister would agree on getting Singaporeans to start developing effective recycling habits to ensure that waste generation is kept to a low. (Expf of WHY they would be similar)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>ATQ</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>PAMFASEE of C</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Explanation of why Minister will not agree with Author of B, taking into consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -What is said - Where is said -Who is he addressing

3 Study Source D.

Is the source reliable as evidence about recycling efforts in Singapore? [6]
 Explain your answer.

Suggested Answer		Success Criteria
<p>Source D is reliable as evidence that recycling efforts in Singapore are ineffective (ATQ) because Source C it (LOR). Both (CW) sources suggest that recycling efforts in Singapore are ineffective (CC). Source D states that, "throwing all the waste down the chute in the comfort of their own homes is much easier than separating the recyclables from general waste and then going through the hassle of heading downstairs to the blue recycling bins." (Evi) This shows that many prefer the easier option of disposing of all waste together rather than making the effort to separate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>ATQ + LOR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Common Criteria</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Comparison word</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Evidence x2 1 best line</p>

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recyclables, leading to poor recycling efforts (Exp) . Similarly (CW) , Source C says "those who attempt to recycle, 34.1 percent do it wrongly, by throwing the e-waste into the general recycling bins". (Evi) This suggests that people's improper recycling behaviours are driven by a lack of awareness or effort, and thus, keep recycling efforts ineffective in Singapore (Exp) .	•	Explanation x2
Source D is not reliable as evidence that recycling efforts in Singapore are ineffective (ATQ) because Source F refutes it (LOR) . Source D suggests that recycling efforts in Singapore are ineffective but Source F suggests that recycling efforts in Singapore have been effective (CC) . Source D states that, "throwing all the waste down the chute in the comfort of their own homes is much easier than separating the recyclables from general waste and then going through the hassle of heading downstairs to the blue recycling bins." (Evi) This shows that many prefer the easier option of disposing of all waste together rather than making the effort to separate recyclables, leading to poor recycling efforts (Exp) . However (CW) , Source F states "To date, more than 10,000 kg of used shoes have been recycled for use in building infrastructure" which suggests that recycling efforts have been put to good use and are effective (Exp) .	•	ATQ + LOR
	•	Common Criteria
	•	Comparison word
	•	Evidence 1 best line
	•	Explanation

4. Study Source E.

Are you surprised by what Source E says? Explain your answer.

[6]

Suggested Answer		Success Criteria
Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Para 1: Xref of E - Para 2: Highest level - 4Ws + 3Vs 		
XREF of E I am not surprised by E which said that recycling efforts are ineffective (ATQ + LOR) , as it is expected as it is supported by Source B (LOR) . In Source E, the photograph and extract depicts racks of shoes that are still in good condition being thrown for recycling, but instead had gone to be sold as second hand items. (EVI) This suggests that recycling efforts were not successful as these items are available for purchase by consumers again, and potentially could become waste. (EXP) Similarly, (CW) in Source B, it states "We are constantly buying stuff, and the knock-on effect is that people throw out stuff that is perfectly good." (EVI) which suggests that many people are not successful in recycling items but choose to purchase items and throw them away quickly without consideration for waste generation. (EXP) Thus, E is not surprising. OR	•	ATQ + LOR
	•	Common Criteria
	•	Comparison word
	•	Evidence x2 1 best line
	•	Explanation x2

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<p>I am surprised by E which suggests that recycling efforts are ineffective (ATQ + LOR) as it is unexpected and refuted by Source F (LOR). In Source E, the photograph and extract depicts racks of shoes that are still in good condition being thrown for recycling, but instead had gone to be sold as second hand items. (EVI) This suggests that recycling efforts were not successful as these items are available for purchase by consumers again, and potentially could become waste. (EXP) However, Source F shows "to date, more than 10,000 kg of used shoes have been recycled for use in building infrastructure" (EVI) which suggests that the shoes were successfully recycled and repurposed well. (EXP)</p>		
<p>Possible highest levels have to include the holistic use of provenance, context and content</p> <p>Highest level: Explained provenance (4Ws + 3Vs)</p> <p>I am not surprised by E which says that recycling efforts are ineffective (ATQ) because it was published by Reuters which is an independent news platform (WHO) at a time where the Singapore government has been intensifying recycling efforts and opportunities to increase the recycling rates in Singapore (WHEN). Being an independent organisation not affiliated to any government ministries or environment related organisations/businesses, it was natural (V) for the news platform to expose the state of donated shoes in Batam, where they were improperly recycled to become goods for sale instead (WHAT) so that the government or organisations in charge of collecting recycled shoes can take responsibility and ensure that future shoes donated will be recycled properly (WHY). It is further expected (V) of Reuters to whistleblow given that it has a high readership and wide reach, and it will seek to draw attention to controversial topics that are relevant to its readers to ensure that their credibility as a news platform is maintained (Exp of why it is expected). As such, it is natural (V) that Reuters will publish to suggest that recycling efforts have been ineffective.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>ATQ + LOR</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Details from provenance/source</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who - What - When - Why
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Explanation of the 4Ws make the source expected</p>

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5. 'The Singapore government is responsible for managing the waste problem in the country.' [10]

Using the sources in the case study, how far do you agree with the statement?

Suggested Answer		Success Criteria
Agree: A, B, F Disagree: A (Companies), B (Individuals), C (Individuals), D (Individuals), E (Companies/Organisations), F (Companies/Organisations)		
I agree (ATQ) as Source A agrees with the statement that the SG govt (W) is responsible. This is seen from the source which depicted that the amount of recyclables collected under the National Recycling Programme in 2022 remained stable as compared to 2021 (B) . The government is responsible because only they have the resources to execute a nationwide recycling programme that collects wastes from all aspects of society for recycling (R) . By doing so, the programme will ensure that suitable infrastructures are put in place for recycling (S1) → people will continue to utilise these infrastructure to recycle (S2) → reducing waste in time (Link)	•	ATQ
	•	Who
	•	Best evidence 1 line
	•	Reason
	•	Sequence of outcomes beyond source (S1 → S2 → S3)
I disagree (ATQ) as Source C disagrees with the statement. C suggest that individuals (W) are responsible for managing the waste problem instead. This is seen from C which states "Of those who attempt to recycle, 34.1 per cent do it wrongly, by throwing the e-waste into the general recycling bins." (B) Individuals are responsible because they have the choice to learn about e-waste recycling instead of contaminating recyclables (R) . When they do so, they will have awareness that e-waste when incinerated releases toxic that cannot be repurposed (S1) → sort e-waste from regular waste for recycling (S2) → Utilise proper e-waste recycling points (S3) → Reducing chances of contamination of recycled items (S4) and support recycling efforts in SG (Link)	•	ATQ
	•	Who
	•	Best evidence 1 line
	•	Reason
	•	Sequence of outcomes beyond source (S1 → S2 → S3)
I agree (A) as Source F agrees with the statement that the government (W) is responsible for managing waste. From F, it states that "We will also be taking further steps to tighten up the process chain based on our learning from this incident." (B) . The government is responsible because only they have the authority to enforce good practices and condone poor recycling partners by terminating contracts when results are undesirable (R) . As such, this will ensure that the government ties up with only responsible partners (S1) → Recycling will be done properly (S2) →	•	ATQ
	•	Who
	•	Best evidence 1 line
	•	Reason

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Encouraging Singaporeans to continue to recycle when they realise the meaning of this initiative (S3) and thus, reduce waste (Link)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequence of outcomes beyond source (S1 → S2 → S3)
I disagree (A) as Source B disagrees and suggests that it is Singaporeans' (W) responsibility to manage the waste problem instead. This is seen from the source "We are constantly buying stuff, and the knock-on effect is that people throw out stuff that is perfectly good." (B) which suggests that they are responsible because they have the choice to stop consuming more products and contributing to waste but to prolong the lifespan of products instead (R) . By doing so, individuals will look for ways to prolong the lifespan of their items (S1) → this will ensure that items are passed around or reused (S2) → waste generation kept low (Link)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ATQ
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best evidence 1 line
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reason
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequence of outcomes beyond source (S1 → S2 → S3)
<p>Possible bonus must be tagged to specific sources</p> <p>Note: every bonus attempt must be linked to a source, and not writing about recycling in general.</p> <p>- Contextual Knowledge</p> <p>C can be used to agree with the claim that individuals are responsible for managing waste problems in Singapore. For example, countries like Japan and the region of Scandinavia are known for their recycling efforts. Japanese people tend to bag their own rubbish outside and only sort them into different recycling bins when they get home. On certain days, they bring their sorted recyclable items down to the nearby recycling centres depending on which material is being collected that day. Similarly, in Scandinavia, they have a culture of sorting their trash at home, before bringing it down to their neighborhood recycling point. These cultures of recycling depend on the individuals' efforts and if Singaporeans could try to emulate these positive habits, then it will surely help to manage the waste problem in Singapore, agreeing with the claim.</p> <p>- RELIABILITY/ SUFFICIENCY/ UTILITY</p> <p>B can be used to disagree with the claim as it is reliable to prove that individuals have generated lots of waste, and thus should be responsible for managing waste problem in Singapore. Even though the author is not Singaporean, she has lived here for 30 years, which is long enough to observe the habits of her local neighbours. Furthermore, given that she is the administrator of several facebook group, she would have come across many Singaporeans' experiences while she attempts to educate them on recycling. As such, she would be a reliable source to point out the hindrance that Singaporeans feel and the improper waste disposal</p>	

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<p>actions done by Singaporeans, and can be reliable in disagreeing with the claim.</p> <p>- Balanced Conclusion/ resolution</p> <p>It isn't just a summary of whether strategies were useful or not but a CONNECTION needs to be made between both sides and if resolution given, again it should be specific about what can be done and by who.</p> <p>I disagree with the claim, as I think that everyone in society has a role to play in managing waste in Singapore. If people could just pay considerable attention to what the government is trying to do mentioned in A and leverage on the recycling programme, or just be more responsible about the waste they are generating daily such as mentioned in Source B and C, be it their shopping, plastic usage or food wastage, it would help to result in a lot less waste accumulated everyday. At the same time, the government needs to continue providing the facilities such as recycling and collection bins mentioned in A so that people will gradually develop the habit of recycling. At the same time, the government needs to ensure that recycling efforts are complete till the end as highlighted in F to encourage Singaporeans to continue recycling instead of feeling that their efforts would go to waste. When everyone is able to see the long-term effects of recycling such as reducing the effects of climate change, then they will be motivated to put in more effort in managing their waste.</p>		
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Section B

- 6 Extract 1 shows the Singapore government's annual healthcare expenditure from 2010 to 2020. [7]

In your opinion, why do you think the Singapore government increased its expenditure on healthcare? Explain your answer with reference to two reasons.

3	<p>Explains ONE OR TWO REASONS</p> <p>Award 5 – 6 marks for 1 REASON explained Award 6 – 7 marks for 2 REASONS explained</p> <p>Note: Accept feasible, logical REASON</p> <p>*Answer should be phrased as a REASON</p> <p>Because Singapore has been experiencing an aging population (D). As people live longer, there is a greater demand for healthcare services,</p>	5 - 7
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	<p>especially for the elderly who often require more medical attention and long-term care. For example, to meet the growing demand, expansions to our healthcare system include additional 3,600 day care places, 2,600 home care places and 3,700 nursing home beds since 2015 to cater to seniors' healthcare needs (Eg with min. 2 details). As such, to be able to provide for these infrastructure, the cost of operations would increase (O1) and additional manpower would also be needed to facilitate the elderly usage (O2), leading to an increased expenditure on healthcare to target the needs of the aging population (Link).</p> <p>The government could have increased healthcare expenditure due to the rising subsidies provided for elderly to cope with increasing costs of healthcare services and medicine (D). To ensure that healthcare remains accessible and affordable for its citizens, the government may allocate more funds to subsidize healthcare services, for example, in the Assurance Package 2023, Singaporeans aged 20 or below, or 55 years and above would receive \$150 top ups into their Medisave to cope with increasing costs (Eg with min. 2 details). By doing so, the government could offset the increase in price (O1) which makes Singaporeans less deterred to seek medical treatment (O2) and thus, the government could have increased expenditure on healthcare to target the rising cost of medication (Link)</p>	
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- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 describe two challenges of a diverse society like Singapore: prejudice and competition for resources. [8]

Do you think prejudice is a bigger challenge than competition for resources in a diverse society like Singapore? Explain your answer.

3	<p>Explains factors Award 5 – 6 marks for explaining one factor Award 6 – 7 marks for explaining second factor</p> <p>Prejudice can arise when there are misunderstandings and conflicting views in a diverse society. Such misunderstandings could be perpetuated by having negative generalized thoughts or stereotypes of different groups of people in society. (D) Stereotypes cause people to become prejudiced against specific groups of people in society. For example, the denial of rental accommodation based on their races and nationalities to some foreigners in Singapore has led to great inconvenience for them in their search for an accommodation in Singapore that would allow them to live and work here (Eg). Allowing stereotypes and prejudice to guide one's actions in a diverse society is especially harmful as it can lead to acts of discrimination towards (O1) foreigners by Singaporeans. This can then lead to the foreigners becoming unhappy as they feel disrespected by Singaporeans (O2). This will in turn cause tensions (O3) and conflicts to arise in a diverse society, which affects society in the long run (O4) and makes it difficult for a society to progress as a country due to it being fragmented and disunited (O5). Consequently, the social stability of Singapore is negatively affected (O6).</p> <p>Competition in employment is also a commonly cited challenge in a diverse society like Singapore. As more foreigners enter Singapore's workforce, there is a constant fear among Singaporeans that they would have to compete for jobs with these foreigners, especially for white-collared jobs. Foreigners are able to work in Singapore on a valid Employment Pass (salaries ≥\$5000 for most sectors, ≥\$5500 for finance sectors) or S Pass (≥\$3150), and would most likely be holding a white-collared PMET (Professionals, Managers, Executives and Technicians) job. As such, some Singaporeans feel that employers would rather hire foreign workers on S Passes as they require a lower salary as compared to a Singaporean with similar qualifications (O1). Singaporeans continue to express their frustration and resentment (O2) over immigration in Singapore and its impact on their jobs. When the competition for employment opportunities is at play, Singaporeans would naturally feel upset as their livelihoods are threatened. This pent-up frustration and resentment leads to rising tensions and conflicts in society (O3) which then results in social instability. (O4)</p>	<p>DEOL</p> <p>Eg needs to specific Name + 2 details</p>
4	<p>L3 – 2 factors explained + Weighs factors</p> <p>Accept any conclusions that are valid.</p> <p>I think that prejudice is a bigger challenge than competition for resources because it is <u>more difficult to change people's mindsets once it has been fixed compared to addressing concerns in employment (ATQ with</u></p>	8

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	<p><u>reasoning</u>). It is even more difficult to change mindsets because negative feelings, once festured, can be passed on down to the next generation who also grow up with these prejudice and stereotypes. It would take decades for people's prejudice to be removed or changed. (Elaborate on reasoning on first factor) On the other hand, competition for job opportunities is <u>easier for the government to manage in a diverse society so long as there are plans to limit the number of foreign labour coming into the country</u>. In fact, government has been revisiting the requirements for foreign worker passes to ensure that employers consider hiring locals first. When job opportunities are reserved for skilled Singaporeans, then locals would not be so hostile towards foreign labour here. (Elaborate on reasoning on second factor) . As such, i think that prejudice is a bigger challenge.</p>	
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