

**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 questions, in addition to those sources which you are told to use. In answering the questions you should use your knowledge of the issue to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

**(a) Study Source A.**

What is the cartoonist's message? Explain your answer using details from the source. [5]

**(b) Study Source B.**

Why did Senator Brandis respond in this manner? Explain your answer. [6]

**(c) Study Source C and Source D.**

To what extent would the Singaporean professor agree with the Moroccan woman? Explain your answer. [7]

**(d) Study Source E.**

Are you surprised by Source E? Explain your answer using details from the source. [7]

**(e) "It is right for women to wear the burqa."**

Using sources in this case study, explain how far you would agree with this statement. [10]

## How has the world responded towards the wearing of the burqa and the niqab?

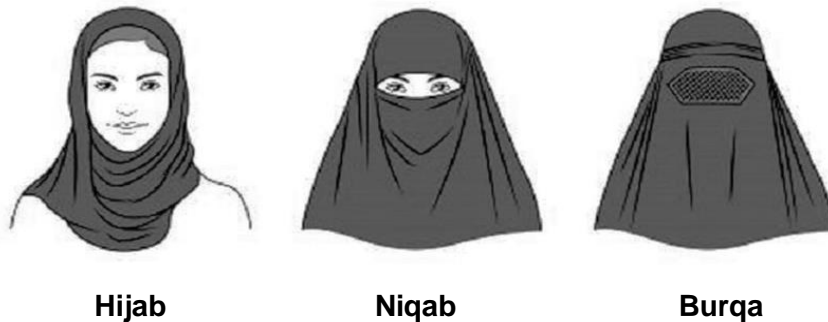
### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

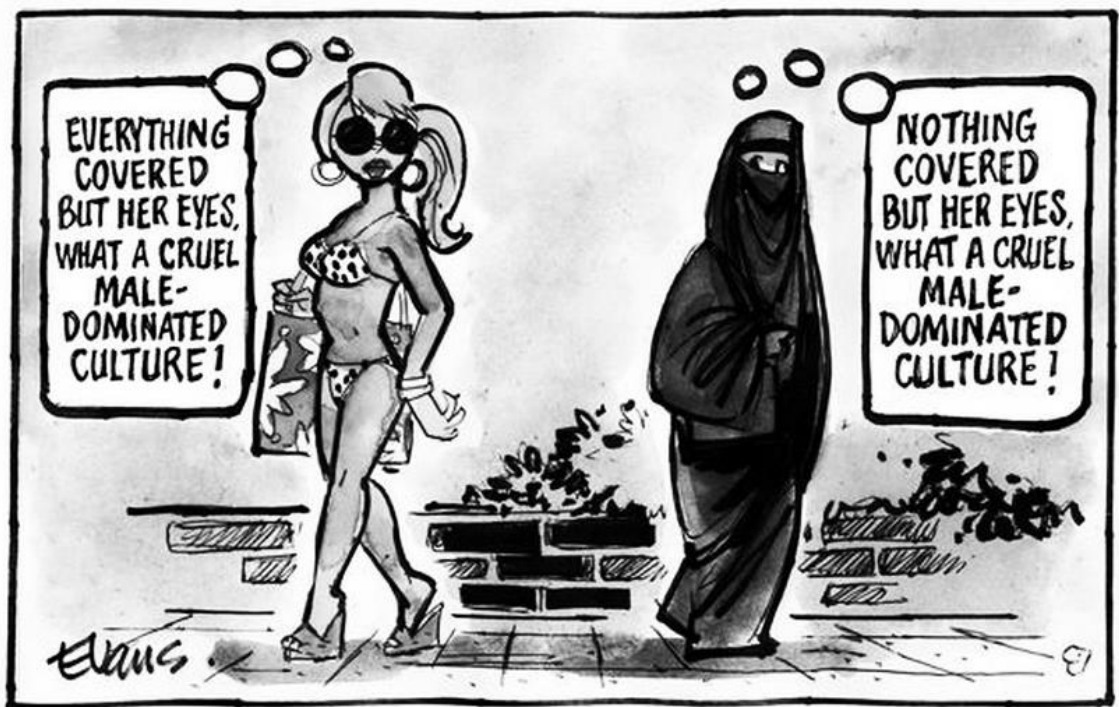
The burqa and the niqab are outer garments worn by women in some Islamic traditions to cover themselves in public, which covers the body and the face. While the burqa covers the entire body from the top of the head to the ground with only a mesh screen allowing the wearer to see in front of her, the niqab is essentially a face veil that only leaves the eyes uncovered.

In recent times there has been a surge in the number of wearers of either the burqa or the niqab across the world, although the numbers still remain substantially small. Though it is not a religious garment, those who choose to don this full length garb do so as part of their personal expression of worship and religious freedom. While some women choose to wear it out of their own will, others do so because they live in societies where the men pressure them to. On the other hand, there are still some societies that have called for and authorised for a complete ban on the burqa and/or the niqab, as the concealing garment leads the wider public to wonder who and what is underneath it. Other than posing as a potential security threat, some societies argue that the wearing of the burqa and/or the niqab is against national values of secularism.

Read the following the sources to find out how the world has responded towards the burqa and the niqab.



**Source A:** A cartoon posted in April 2011 with the caption "Cruel Culture".



**Source B:** Extract of a response from Senator George Brandis, Leader of the Government in the Australian Parliament-Senate, to Senator Pauline Hanson, a Member of Parliament on 17 August 2017.

Now, Senator Hanson, I am not going to pretend to ignore the stunt that you have tried to pull today by arriving in parliament dressed in a burqa when we all know that you are not a follower of the Islamic faith. I would caution you and counsel you Senator Hanson, with respect, to be very, very careful of the offence you may do to the religious sensibilities of other Australians. We have about half a million Australians in this country of the Islamic faith and the vast majority of them are law-abiding, good Australians. And to ridicule that community, to drive it into a corner, to mock its religious garments is an appalling thing to do. It is absolutely vital for our intelligence and law enforcement work that the Muslim community works cooperatively with us. You ought to be ashamed of yourself for this uncalled for behaviour.

**Source C:** *Extract of an opinion piece titled “Arabisation and the threat to Singapore culture” by a Muslim Singaporean professor, published in Today newspaper on 14 August 2018.*

A segment of the Malay/Muslim community is relegating\* its own culture and heritage while opting for Arabic culture and lifestyle. Malays are evidently more comfortable wearing Arabic-style garments compared to their traditional *baju Melayu* (Malay cultural clothes). More Malay women are putting on the *niqab*, the head dress that covers the face, revealing only the eyes. Such outfits, alien to Malays 50 years ago, are now a more common sight. Following Arabic trends and fashion is not a concern unless it is equated with a person's level of faith. For example, one should be concerned if someone says you cannot lead prayers in a mosque if you do not put on an Arabic-style garment. That will only lead to exclusivism within the community.

\*relegating: assigning an inferior rank or position to

**Source D:** *Extract of an opinion submitted by a Moroccan woman in reaction to the government's ban on the sale of burqas in the country, published in a popular Moroccan teenage fashion magazine on 8 May 2017. Morocco is a country that recognises Islam as the state religion.*

Since the burqa ban in Morocco, many women have protested against it. They say they're defending their personal freedom and that no one has the right to order them what to wear. They defend the choice to wear the burqa as obeying a religious command. To this point, I feel the need to clarify the difference between the burqa and the hijab. The hijab is a part of our culture and religion as an expression of what we have in our Islamic law. This means the clothing and the headscarf — the hijab — should be loose, and should not show the shape of the body. It should cover all of a woman's body except her face and hands. The burqa, however, is a foreign intrusion to our culture; it covers all of a woman's body. You can understand why it creates a lot of suspicion and a point of concern then.

**Source E:** Photo of British women at a demonstration organised by "Stand up to Racism" outside the French Embassy in London, United Kingdom on 26 August, 2016 against the French government's burqa ban on its beaches, published in international newspapers.



\* A fraternity is defined as a group of people sharing a common profession or interest. This is the third and last value adopted in the national motto of France.

\*\* A sorority is formally defined as a society for female students in a university or college, but can be used informally to describe the women standing in solidarity with each other.

**Source F:** An extract of a speech given by a Sri Lankan politician at a media briefing in response to the Easter bombing that took place three days ago.

We initiated this move of talking about banning the burqa after an interrogation of suspects and poring through other evidence that pointed to the involvement of a large number of women in the suicide bombings on Easter Sunday.

We simply cannot allow faceless persons to walk the streets, drive cars and make use of public spaces; the dangers are too great. We hope that the Muslim community and the Muslim Religious Association will agree with our decision as the wearing of burqa has not been made necessary by the Islamic religion. Besides, the majority of Muslim women do not wear them in Sri Lanka. The burqa was never a part of the traditional attire of Muslim women here. But from this bloody episode, we see that one's attire can be used for different personal and deadly agendas.

**Copyright Acknowledgements:**

Source A: [www.evanscartoons.com](http://www.evanscartoons.com)

Source B: <https://www.businessinsider.com.au/the-full-speech-from-george-brandis-to-pauline-hanson-on-banning-the-burqa-that-has-everyone-talking-2017-8>

Source C: <https://www.todayonline.com/commentary/arabisation-and-threat-singapore-culture>

Source D: <https://www.teenvogue.com/gallery/muslim-women-react-to-morocco-burqa-ban>

Source E: <https://www.middleeasteye.net/opinion/frances-attack-muslim-women-must-stop>

Source F: <http://www.dailynews.lk/2019/04/24/local/183684/ban-%E2%80%98niqab-burqa%E2%80%99-prof-ashu>

## SECTION B (Structured-Response Question)

Question 2 is **compulsory** for all candidates

### 2 Being Part of a Globalised World

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

#### Extract 1

Since opening its doors just six months ago, Denzy Gelato has garnered loyal support from a handful of returning customers. The cosy café in Bishan serves one-of-a-kind flavours that can't be found anywhere else in Singapore. For example, the flavour, Persian Prince, uses stone-ground almonds, prepared 10 hours prior, and the saffron herb to create the nutty and exotic gelato. Many homegrown ice cream parlours have popped up across the city more frequently than ever and each business seeks to stand out from the crowd to attract more customers.

#### Extract 2

Developments in transportation result in more efficient and effective transportation systems. Air, land and sea transportation have indeed seen significant changes over the years.

#### Extract 3

Multinational Corporations (MNCs) play a significant role in Singapore's economic development. In 2016, MNCs committed S\$11.8 billion in investments and S\$7 billion in annual business expenditure. These investments are expected to create 16,100 skilled jobs. MNCs also help to anchor and grow key new sectors.

- (a) Extract 1 shows how small and medium enterprises (SMEs) like Denzy Gelato are prospering and doing well.

In your opinion, what can SMEs do to continue to stay competitive? Explain your answer using **two** strategies.

[7]

- (b) Extracts 2 and 3 describe two driving forces of globalisation.

How far do you agree that developments in transportation is more significant than the growth of multinational corporations in driving globalisation? Explain your answer.

[8]