



**ST JOSEPH'S INSTITUTION
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2021
(YEAR 4)**

CANDIDATE
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CLASS

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INDEX
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HUMANITIES

2272/01

Paper 1: Social Studies

2273/01

Additional Materials : Writing Paper

24 August 2021

**1 hour 45 minutes
(08:00 – 09:45)**

This document consists of **7** printed pages including this cover page.

[Turn Over]

SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

Answer **all** questions.

Being Part of a Globalised World

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.

- 1** Study Source A.

Why was the infographic published? Explain your answer. [6]

- 2** Study Sources B and C.

Does Source B agree with Source C? Explain your answer. [6]

- 3** Study Source D.

Are you surprised by Source D? Explain your answer. [6]

- 4** Study Sources E and F.

Does Source F prove that the cartoonist (Source E) is wrong about government support for companies during the COVID-19 recession? Explain your answer. [7]

- 5** 'Singapore businesses need government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession.'

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

Are Singaporean businesses able to survive the COVID-19 economic recession?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

The COVID-19 recession is an ongoing global economic recession that has occurred as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The recession is currently the worst global economic crisis since the Great Depression. Following a global economic slowdown during 2019 that saw stagnation of stock markets and consumer activity, the COVID-19 lockdowns and other precautions taken during the COVID-19 pandemic threw the global economy into crisis.

On 28 April 2020, the Monetary Authority of Singapore said in its latest half-yearly economic review that Singapore will enter into a recession because of the blow from the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in job losses and lower wages. Some industries, such as the retail industry, the food and beverage industry and the tourism industry, have been particularly hard hit by the pandemic. Many companies and business owners have struggled to cope with a drastic loss of income while at the same time, also managing their various costs such as labour costs or rental costs.

Study the following sources to find out how Singaporean companies are able to survive the COVID-19 economic recession.

Source A: *An infographic created by the Ministry of Finance published in a newspaper in Singapore.*



Source B: *An extract of an article published in a newspaper in Singapore.*

An \$800 million support package that includes enhanced wage subsidies under the Jobs Support Scheme (JSS) and rental relief will be rolled out by the government to help businesses and workers cope with the economic impact of Covid-19. Announcing the measures on Friday (May 28), Finance Minister Lawrence Wong said affected gyms, fitness studios and performing arts and arts education centres will get 50 per cent of salary support for local employees under the JSS. Sectors that do not have to suspend operations but are significantly affected by the measures will get 30 per cent of JSS subsidies. This will help retailers, personal care service providers, museums, art galleries, historical sites, cinemas, indoor playgrounds and other family entertainment centres. Other businesses that wish to appeal for the enhanced JSS support can do so.

Source C: *An extract of an article published by GoBusiness, the Singapore government's online platform for businesses to access government electronic services and resources.*

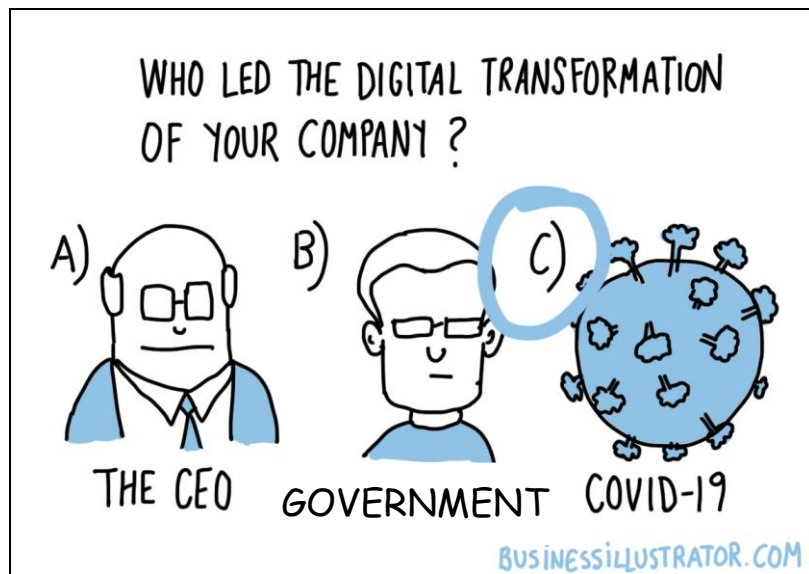
The Ministry of Manpower (MOM) and Workforce Singapore (WSG), in collaboration with the Public Service Division (PSD) and various government agencies, launched the SGUnited Jobs Initiative and SGUnited Traineeships Programme to create jobs. This was part of the Resilience Budget to create more opportunities for jobseekers and workers affected by the COVID-19 situation, as well as match them to available jobs, including new ones created as a result of COVID-19. The initiative also aims to help businesses that are recruiting for the eventual recovery, as well as those with short-term manpower needs due to disruptions in labour supply. Whether you are looking to tackle the ongoing economic challenges, attract and retain local manpower, or improve productivity and innovation, WSG has the following programmes to provide you with support and resources customised for your manpower needs.

Source D: *An extract of an article published online by One Championship, a Singaporean-based company.*

The Covid-19 pandemic may have stopped mixed martial arts promotion company, One Championship, from holding large scale fights but the company has figured out how the show can go on: Digitally.

Besides live-streaming fights so that fans can tune in from wherever they are, we are working on taking the digital experience to the next level by offering data-driven insights for viewers as they stream live shows. For example, statistics could be displayed onscreen in real time to demonstrate the speed of a particular punch or kick. Going forward, we are also exploring the possibility of other cutting-edge concepts such as the use of holographic computing to help athletes visualise fights.

Source E: *A cartoon published online by a business magazine.*



Source F: *An extract from a report published by a Singapore consultancy company that provides the service of helping businesses to grow.*

Consumer behaviours and demand patterns are likely to have changed significantly and will continue to do so post COVID-19. With the work-from-home arrangement and the increased use of online communication platforms, there is no doubt that the world will emerge from this pandemic into a digitalised global economy. In this aspect, going digital is nothing new. The pandemic is only a catalyst for what was already in its progressive stage. This is the time for businesses to carefully consider the kind of innovation they want and need, and invest in the right technology to implement so as to help future-proof their businesses. Support grants have also been expanded to include new online communication platforms and virtual meeting tools to help strengthen SMEs' business continuity practices. Singapore also provides support grants for the adoption of automation and technology to encourage businesses to partake in innovation activities.

Structured-Response Questions

Answer **both** questions.

Living in a Diverse Society

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1



Extract 2

The abundance of economic opportunities will lead to more migrants and immigrants coming to Singapore to work. As a result, this will allow foreigners to share their professional expertise with Singaporeans.

Extract 3

Many migrants and immigrants choose to come to Singapore because of its favourable social-cultural environment, such as a safe environment and Singapore's education system. With more foreigners choosing to settle in the country, they will also contribute to the country's workforce and economy.

- 6 Extract 1 shows the various indicators used to assess the standard of living in a country.

What are the reasons that has caused Singaporeans to be concerned over their standard of living? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons. [7]

- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 reflect on how economic opportunities and Singapore's social-cultural environment can lead to an increased exchange of skills and knowledge in Singapore.

Do you agree that economic opportunities is a more significant reason than Singapore's social-cultural environment in leading to the exchange of skills and knowledge? Explain your answer. [8]

END OF PAPER

Acknowledgements:

Source A: <https://www.todayonline.com/sites/default/files/infographic-jsbudcovid0218.jpg>

Source B: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/800-million-covid-19-support-package-to-help-firms-and-workers-including-enhanced-wage>

Source C: <https://www.gobusiness.gov.sg/supportschemes/manpowersupport/>

Source D: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/nearly-75-per-cent-of-singapore-firms-are-accelerating-digitalisation-due-to-covid-19>

Source E: <https://www.businessillustrator.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/corona-covid-cartoon-digital-transformation.png>

Source F: <https://www.rsm.global/singapore/insights/our-expert-insights/post-covid-19-recovery-reinventing-your-business-model>

Extract 1: <https://i2.wp.com/marketbusinessnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Standard-of-Living-image-4939495.jpg?resize=1124%2C634&ssl=1>

LEVELS OF RESPONSE MARKING SCHEME

SJI Y4OP SS Prelim 2021

Section A Source Based Case Study

1	Study Source A. Why was the infographic published? Explain your answer.	5
L1	Describes the source content without answering the question/Does not provide a reason E.g. The source shows that the government has introduced a stabilisation and support package with their 2020 budget.	[1]
L2	Misinterpretation of Source E.g. The infographic was published in order to warn Singaporean businesses that they must find ways to cope with the recession.	[2]
L3	Sub-Message E.g. The infographic was published in order to highlight to Singaporeans that the Singapore government is making effort to boost the Singapore economy.	[3]
L4	Message E.g. The infographic was published in order to reassure Singaporean businesses that the Singapore government is introducing schemes to help manage the impact of the COVID-19 recession. This is seen in the source where it states that the Singapore is giving out a "\$4B Stabilisation and Support Package to cope with the COVID-19 outbreak". Additionally, the source states that the sectors receiving help include "tourism, aviation, hawkers, commercial tenants and point-to-point transport services". As these sectors have been impacted the hardest economically, the government makes the effort to ensure that they receive the necessary subsidies and economic support [5].	[4-5]
L5	L4+Outcome So that Singaporean business owners will not close their businesses/will be able to sustain their operations and still be able to stay open.	[6]

2	Study Sources B and C. Does Source B agree with Source C? Explain your answer.	7
L1	Difference or similarity, based on provenance/source OR No over-arching idea E.g. The sources disagree as Source B is from a local newspaper but Source C is from an online platform managed by the government.	[1]
L2	False-matching / No Match Sources B and C agree that the Singapore government is putting measures in place to help Singaporeans manage the economic impact of the recession. Source B states that the government is providing financial subsidies while Source C states that Singaporean companies need to adapt to survive.	[2]
L3	Difference OR Similarity in content <i>Award the higher mark for a well-developed answer</i> E.g. Sources B and C agree that the Singapore government is introducing measures to help Singapore businesses manage the economic recession . Source B states that <u>the Singapore government is introducing measures to help Singapore businesses manage the economic recession</u> . This is seen in "An \$800 million support package that includes enhanced wage subsidies under the Jobs Support Scheme (JSS) and rental relief will be rolled out by the government to help businesses and workers cope with the economic impact of Covid-19" which implies that measures in the form of subsidies are being provided to businesses in order to help them manage their manpower or infrastructure costs and as such, allows them to better manage the economic recession. Source C also states that <u>the Singapore government is introducing measures to help Singapore businesses manage the economic recession</u> . This is seen in "launched the SGUnited Jobs Initiative and SGUnited Traineeships Programme to create jobs. This was part of the Resilience Budget to create more opportunities for jobseekers and workers affected by the COVID-19 situation" which implies that the government has launched schemes to help businesses cope with the COVID-19 recession. OR E.g. Sources B and C disagree on how these measures will	[3-4]

	<p>help Singapore businesses. Source B states that <u>the measures will help reduce the cost of operations.</u> This is evident in “Announcing the measures on Friday (May 28), Finance Minister Lawrence Wong said affected gyms, fitness studios and performing arts and arts education centres will get 50 per cent of salary support for local employees under the JSS” which implies that the measures in the form of subsidies are intended to help businesses manage their manpower costs. However, Source C states that the <u>the measures are meant to help provide businesses with a steady manpower supply.</u> This is evident in “The initiative also aims to help businesses that are recruiting for the eventual recovery, as well as those with short-term manpower needs due to disruptions in labour supply” which implies that these measures aim to ensure a reliable supply of manpower for Singapore businesses.</p>	
L4	<p>Both aspects of L3 <i>Award the higher mark for well-developed answers.</i></p>	[5]
L5	<p>Agree in Perspective</p> <p>Both sources agree in perspective as they both have an optimistic/positive perspective and/or are supportive of government efforts.</p>	[6]

3	<p>Study Source D.</p> <p>Are you surprised by Source D? Explain your answer.</p>	6
L1	<p>Address question using provenance</p> <p>E.g. I am not surprised by Source D as it is an online article and most companies communicate through an online</p>	[1]

	platform/medium.	
L2	<p>Valid Interpretation of Source: Basis from Source D Award 2m if unsupported.</p> <p>Source D tells me that Singaporean companies must pursue digitalization in order to survive/grow [2m]. This is seen in "The Covid-19 pandemic may have stopped mixed martial arts promotion One Championship from holding large scale fights but the company has figured out how the show can go on: Digitally". This implies that companies can adapt and cope with the economic impact of the pandemic by adopting digitalization [3m].</p>	[2-3]
L3	<p>Not surprised based on CROSS-REFERENCE of Source D to other sources <i>Award the higher mark for well-developed answers</i></p> <p>Source D tells me that Singaporean companies must pursue digitalization in order to survive/grow. This is seen in "The Covid-19 pandemic may have stopped mixed martial arts promotion One Championship from holding large scale fights but the company has figured out how the show can go on: Digitally". This implies that companies can adapt and cope with the economic impact of the pandemic by adopting digitalization.</p> <p>I am not surprised by Source D as it is supported by Source F which also states that Singaporean companies must pursue digitalization in order to survive/grow. This is seen in "With the work-from-home arrangement and the increased use of online communication platforms, there is no doubt that the world will emerge from this pandemic into a digitalised global economy". This means that Singaporeans companies must be able to adapt to post-pandemic economic realities by digitalizing in order to survive in a post-pandemic, digitalised economy. Since Source D is supported, it is not surprising.</p>	[4-5]
L4	<p>L3 + Not Surprised, based on reliability explained through a critical analysis of provenance</p> <p>Source D is not surprising as it was published by One Championship in order to convince the Singaporean public that they are still able to provide their regular services to the Singaporean consumers. As a company trying to cope with the economic impact of the pandemic, they are expected to find ways to adapt and to continue to conduct their business. As the source serves to inform the public about just how the</p>	[6]

	company is continuing to provide its services online, it is not surprising.	
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4	Study Sources E and F. Does Source F prove that the cartoonist (Source E) is wrong about government support for companies during the COVID-19 recession? Explain your answer.	7
L1	Address question using provenance E.g. Source F proves that the cartoonist in Source E is accurate as it is an official report by a business consultancy firm.	[1]
L2	Valid Interpretation: Basis from Source F E.g. Source F tells me that <u>the government has provided much support to companies to help them through the COVID-19 recession.</u> This is evident in "Support grants have also been expanded to include new online communication platforms and virtual meeting tools to help strengthen SMEs' business continuity practices." which implies that the Singapore government has provided financial support to help companies adapt to the new post-COVID economy.	[2]
L3	Prove/Does not prove based on comparison of source content <i>Award 4m for a developed answer.</i> <i>L3 invalid if student does not RQ prove.</i> Source F can prove that the cartoonist in Source E is wrong as both sources agree that the COVID-19 recession has pushed businesses to digitalise . Source F tells me that <u>the COVID-19 recession has pushed businesses to digitalise.</u> This is evident in "This is the time for businesses to carefully consider the kind of innovation they want and need, and invest in the right technology to implement so as to help future-proof their businesses" which implies that the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant economic recession has pushed companies and businesses to digitalise if they want to survive and grow in a post-pandemic economy. Source E also tells me that <u>the COVID-19 recession has pushed businesses to digitalise.</u> This is seen in the source where the question "Who led the digital transformation of your country?" is answered by Option C, the COVID-19 virus. This implies that COVID-19 is the main reason that has pushed the company to digitalise.	[3-4]

L4	<p>Prove based on reliability explained through CROSS-REFERENCE of Source F to other sources</p> <p><i>Award the higher mark for well-developed answers</i> <i>L4 invalid if student does not RQ reliable and prove.</i></p> <p>Source F tells me that <u>the government has provided much support to companies to help them through the COVID-19 recession.</u> This is evident in "Support grants have also been expanded to include new online communication platforms and virtual meeting tools to help strengthen SMEs' business continuity practices." which implies that the Singapore government has provided financial support to help companies adapt to the new post-COVID economy.</p> <p>Source F is supported by Source B which also tells me that <u>the government has provided much support to companies to help them through the COVID-19 recession.</u> This is evident in "An \$800 million support package that includes enhanced wage subsidies under the Jobs Support Scheme (JSS) and rental relief will be rolled out by the government to help businesses and workers cope with the economic impact of Covid-19." [5m] This implies that as a result of the pandemic and the subsequent recession, the government is pouring in financial support to help companies to deal with it[6m]. Since Source F is supported, it is <u>reliable</u> and as such, <u>can prove</u> that the cartoonist in Source E is wrong.</p>	[5-6]
L5	<p>L4 + Does not prove, based on a critical analysis of provenance</p> <p>Source F is not reliable and hence, cannot prove that the cartoonist in Source E is wrong as it is published by a Singapore consultancy firm that provides the service of helping businesses to grow, <u>in order to convince other Singapore business owners to innovate and digitalise so that these business owners and employers will consider means to grow their businesses.</u> As the consultancy firm is providing the service of helping other businesses to grow, it has a vested interest in offering free advice through the article. In doing so, it is likely to want to also attract more businesses to make use of it's consultancy service. Since there is the vested interest of drumming up more business for their own firm, the source is not reliable and cannot prove that the cartoonist in Source E is wrong.</p>	[7]

5	<p>Study <u>all</u> sources.</p> <p>“Singapore businesses need government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession.”</p> <p>Using the sources in the case study, explain how far you would agree with this statement.</p>	10
L1	<p>Writes about statement, no valid source use</p> <p>E.g. Singapore businesses have been economically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	[1]
L2	<p>Yes OR No, supported by valid source use</p> <p><i>Award 2 marks for the use of 1 source</i> <i>Award 3 marks for the use of 2 sources</i> <i>Award 4 marks for the use of 3 sources</i></p> <p>Sources A, B, C agree. Sources D, F disagree.</p> <p>E.g. Source A <u>agrees</u> that Singapore businesses need government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession as <u>the government has seen the need to provide subsidies and rebates for Singaporean businesses.</u> This is evident in the infographic which shows the government providing a “S\$4B Stabilisation and Support Package to cope with the COVID-19 outbreak”. This implies that the <u>financial support package from the government will be necessary to minimize the economic impact of the pandemic on Singaporean businesses and allow them to continue with operations.</u> As such, Singapore businesses do depend on government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession.</p> <p>E.g. Source B <u>agrees</u> that Singapore businesses need government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession as <u>the government needs to provide the Job Support Scheme subsidies to help companies retain their employees.</u> This is evident in “An \$800 million support package that includes enhanced wage subsidies under the Jobs Support Scheme (JSS) and rental relief will be rolled out by the government to help businesses and workers cope with the economic impact of Covid-19” <u>This means that the scheme will be needed to help companies continue to keep their employees and thus, carry on with their business.</u> As such, Singapore businesses do depend on government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession.</p>	[2-4]

	<p>E.g. Source C <u>agrees</u> that Singapore businesses need government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession as <u>the government has to introduce schemes to provide business with a reliable labour supply</u>. This is evident in “The initiative also aims to help businesses that are recruiting for the eventual recovery, as well as those with short-term manpower needs due to disruptions in labour supply.” This means that the government scheme aims to ensure that businesses are able to find the manpower that they require in order to adapt to the COVID-19 economy. As such, Singapore businesses do depend on government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>E.g. Source D <u>disagrees</u> that Singapore businesses need government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession as it tells me that <u>companies and businesses should innovate and digitalise by themselves in order to remain competitive</u>. This is evident in “Besides live-streaming fights so that fans can tune in from wherever they are, we are working on taking the digital experience to the next level by offering data-driven insights for viewers as they stream live shows.” This implies that <u>companies need to upgrade and make use of digitalization to boost their own businesses and stay competitive</u>. As such, Singaporeans are socially responsible. As such, Singapore businesses do not need to depend on government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession.</p> <p>E.g. Source F <u>disagrees</u> that Singapore businesses need government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession as it tells me that <u>companies must be able to adapt by using technology to enhance and grow their business</u>. This is evident in “the time for businesses to carefully consider the kind of innovation they want and need, and invest in the right technology to implement so as to help future-proof their businesses” This implies that businesses and companies must plan ahead and leverage on technology to help their businesses to grow in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic. As such, Singapore businesses do not need to depend on government support to cope with the COVID-19 recession.</p>	
L3	<p>Yes AND No, supported by valid source use i.e. <u>Both</u> elements of L2, support (S) <u>and</u> challenge (C) statements Award 5 marks for the use of <u>2</u> sources (1S + 1C)</p> <p>Award 6 marks for the use of <u>3</u> sources (2S + 1C OR 1S + 2C)</p> <p>Award 7 marks for the use of <u>4</u> sources</p>	[5-8]

	<p>(2S + 2C) (1S + 3C = 6 marks OR 3S + 1C = 6 marks)</p> <p>Award 8 marks for the use of <u>5</u> sources (3S + 2C OR 2S + 3C) (1S + 4C = 6 marks OR 4S + 1C = 6 marks)</p>	
L4	<p>L3 + reliability/utility/sufficiency/contextual knowledge/conclusion</p> <p><i>**To score an additional 2 marks, candidates can take any one of these three routes:</i></p> <p><i>(a) Through analyzing at least one source in relation to its reliability, utility or sufficiency;</i></p> <p>E.g. Source A is reliable as it is an infographic produced by the Singapore Ministry of Finance which aims to assure Singaporeans that the government is putting in place measures to help Singaporean businesses and companies cope with the COVID-19 economic fallout. This is done so that Singaporeans are able to have a peace of mind and as such, the infographic is published for the greater good and is not likely to have a hidden agenda. Thus, it is a reliable source.</p> <p>OR</p> <p><i>(b) by sharing example(s) from their contextual knowledge</i></p> <p>Source D states that <u>companies and businesses should innovate and digitalise by themselves in order to remain competitive.</u> I agree with Source D as based on my contextual knowledge, many Singapore businesses have had to rely on rapid digitalization to cope with the pandemic. In order to stay in business to minimize economic losses, companies have had to rely on technology and digitalization to allow employees to work from home or to work off-site. Meetings and conference have also been digitalized out of necessity. As such, companies should be able to adapt fast in order to better cope with the COVID-19 recession.</p> <p>OR</p> <p><i>(c) by giving a balanced conclusion / resolution</i></p> <p>E.g. . Source F states that <u>companies must be able to adapt by using technology to enhance and grow their business</u> while Source A states that <u>the government has seen the need to provide subsidies and rebates for Singapore businesses.</u></p>	[9-10]

	<p>While individual companies and businesses are, indeed, responsible for finding means to adapt to the COVID-19 recession, it is still possible for the government to make the process more appealing to businesses. Subsidies and grants provided by the government specifically to help companies to digitalise their processes and systems would certainly encourage even more companies to want to be able to digitalise. As such, the government can promote the kind of change they want to see companies and businesses make by providing some incentive to pursue those changes.</p>	
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Section B Structured Response Question

6. Extract 1 shows the various indicators used to assess the standard of living in a country. [7]
- What are the reasons that has caused Singaporeans to be concerned over their standard of living? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons.

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Level	Answer	Marks
L1	<p>Describes the topic i.e. Singaporeans have differing standards of living</p> <p>E.g. There are different standards of living for different groups of Singaporeans. While those of a higher socio-economic status enjoy a higher standard of living, those of a lower socio-economic status will have a lower standard of living.</p>	1
L2	<p>Identifies/Describes Reasons</p> <p><i>Award 2 marks for identifying one benefit and 3 marks for identifying two benefits.</i></p> <p><i>Award 3 marks for describing one benefit and 4 marks for describing two benefits.</i></p> <p>E.g. One reason that has caused Singaporeans to have concerns over the standard of living is the increased competition for jobs from foreigners. Singapore relies on foreign talent to sustain its economic growth. As such, migrants and immigrants are always welcomed to the country to supplement the labour force. One sector that has seen more foreigners coming to seek jobs in Singapore would be the Info-Technology industry. In the IT industry, there are many jobs that are taken up by skilled workers from countries such as India and China.</p> <p>E.g. One reason that has caused Singaporeans to have concerns over the standard of living is the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant introduction of the circuit breaker. In 2020, the world was struck by the COVID-19 pandemic and Singapore also suffered the spread of the virus. As a result, the government tried to contain the spread by announcing a lockdown for a few months. Many businesses such as retailers and restaurants were forced to close for good due to an inability to continue operations. Other industries such as tourism was also severely affected.</p> <p>E.g. One reason that has caused Singaporeans to have concerns over the standard of living is the rising cost of living in Singapore. The cost of living in Singapore has slowly but surely increased over the years. The cost of housing, public transport, and even education has risen, coupled with a rise in the cost of necessities such as food</p>	2-4

	prices and even water prices.	
L3	<p>L2 + Explains reason <i>Award 5-6 marks for explaining one benefit.</i> <i>Award 6-7 marks for explaining two benefits.</i></p> <p><i>Note: An explanation in why/how the reason IMPACTS the standard of living</i></p> <p>E.g. One reason that has caused Singaporeans to have concerns over the standard of living is the increased competition for jobs from foreigners. Singapore relies on foreign talent to sustain its economic growth. As such, migrants and immigrants are always welcomed to the country to supplement the labour force. One sector that has seen more foreigners coming to seek jobs in Singapore would be the Info-Technology industry. In the IT industry, there are many jobs that are taken up by skilled workers from countries such as India and China. As a result, Singaporeans may find themselves being unable to secure a job opportunity at the income level they desire. Many may end up having to accept a lower salary in order to continue to stay employed. With a lower income, it will affect the standard of living for them as they will have less money to spend on necessities.</p> <p>E.g. One reason that has caused Singaporeans to have concerns over the standard of living is the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant introduction of the circuit breaker. In 2020, the world was struck by the COVID-19 pandemic and Singapore also suffered the spread of the virus. As a result, the government tried to contain the spread by announcing a lockdown for a few months. Many businesses such as retailers and restaurants were forced to close for good due to an inability to continue operations. Other industries such as tourism was also severely affected. As a result, many Singaporeans suffered financially as they either saw a complete loss in income or a substantial drop in the money they earn. As such, they would be less able to maintain their usual standards of living and may have to tighten their belts in order to survive.</p> <p>E.g. One reason that has caused Singaporeans to have concerns over the standard of living is the rising cost of living in Singapore. The cost of living in Singapore has slowly but surely increased over the years. The cost of housing, public transport, and even education has risen, coupled with a rise in the cost of necessities such as food</p>	5-7

	<p>prices and even water prices. As a result, some Singaporeans may find it <u>difficult to maintain a specific standard of living</u> due to <u>affordability issues</u>. If they are <u>unable to earn more income</u>, they would find it difficult <u>to cope with the continuously rising prices and thus, will not be able to sustain their quality of life.</u></p> <p>Other acceptable answers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pandemic has led to a loss of job opportunities/career development <p>E.g.</p> <p>*Markers to note down all the possibilities given by the boys in the markers' report.</p>	
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7. Extracts 2 and 3 reflect on how economic opportunities [8] and Singapore's social-cultural environment can lead to an increased exchange of skills and knowledge in Singapore.

Do you agree that economic opportunities is a more

significant reason than Singapore's social-cultural environment in leading to the exchange of skills and knowledge? Explain your answer.

Level	Answer	Marks
L1	Writes about the topic (i.e globalisation) but without addressing the question	1-2
L2	<p>Describes the factors</p> <p>Award 3 marks for describing one factor. Award 4 marks for describing two factors.</p> <p>E.g One factor that results in greater diversity in Singapore and hence, more exchange of skills and knowledge, is the economic opportunities available in the country. Singapore has developed into a major business hub that attracts many Multi-National Companies (MNCs) to the country. The stable political environment and efficient administration also draws in MNCs to set up their businesses in Singapore. One example of an MNC that has set up operations in Singapore would be Google. Not only have they opened a regional office in Singapore, they have also set up many server facilities in the country. Consequently, these MNCs end up creating many job opportunities in Singapore that may not be available in other countries.</p> <p>(As above plus) E.g. Another factor that results in more people coming to Singapore to exchange skills and knowledge is the social-cultural environment. Many immigrants are able to find a strong sense of community support when they move to Singapore as the country is already home to a great number of ethnic communities. For example, Japanese migrants to Singapore are easily able to link up with fellow Japanese as they gather at Liang Court, near Clarke Quay. Additionally, Singapore also offers a safe environment with a low crime rate and the country also offers a quality education system which can provide the children of migrants with a higher standard of education.</p>	3-4
L3	<p>Explains factors</p> <p>Note: An explanation is showing how the factor will attract more people to Singapore which will then potentially lead to the exchange of skills and knowledge Award 5-6 marks for explaining factor.</p>	5-7

	<p>Award 6-7 marks for explaining two key ideas.</p> <p>E.g. One factor that results in greater diversity in Singapore and hence, more exchange of skills and knowledge, is the economic opportunities available in the country. Singapore has developed into a major business hub that attracts many Multi-National Companies (MNCs) to the country. The stable political environment and efficient administration also draws in MNCs to set up their businesses in Singapore. One example of an MNC that has set up operations in Singapore would be Google. Not only have they opened a regional office in Singapore, they have also set up many server facilities in the country. Consequently, these MNCs end up creating many job opportunities in Singapore that may not be available in other countries. <u>As such, these opportunities will attract professionals from all around the world to want to come to Singapore to work. When they gather in Singapore, there is bound to be a professional exchange of skills and knowledge between these foreigners and Singapore as they will collaborate with each other and work together in close proximity.</u></p> <p>E.g. Another factor that results in more people coming to Singapore to exchange skills and knowledge is the social-cultural environment. Many immigrants are able to find a strong sense of community support when they move to Singapore as the country is already home to a great number of ethnic communities. For example, Japanese migrants to Singapore are easily able to link up with fellow Japanese as they gather at Liang Court, near Clarke Quay. Additionally, Singapore also offers a safe environment with a low crime rate and the country also offers a quality education system which can provide the children of migrants with a higher standard of education. <u>These are important factors that make Singapore a conducive location that attracts many immigrants to want to come to Singapore. When they settle down in the country, they will also end up working side by side with locals and as such, it will lead to an exchange of skills and knowledge between these foreigners and locals.</u></p>	
L4	<p>Both aspects in L3 plus explains the relative importance of each idea.</p> <p>(L3 above plus) I agree that economic opportunities are a more significant reason. Economic opportunities would be the main reason that would initially attract overseas</p>	8

	<p>professionals to even want to come to Singapore. With the presence of economic opportunities, it provides the main push for foreigners to even consider bringing their families over to Singapore. Without economic opportunities present, a good social-cultural environment would not be sufficient in attracting immigrants to the country as they will need to have income to survive in the country. Hence, if economic opportunities were not present, there would be lesser foreigners in Singapore and a lower level of exchange of skills and knowledge.</p>	
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End of suggested marking scheme