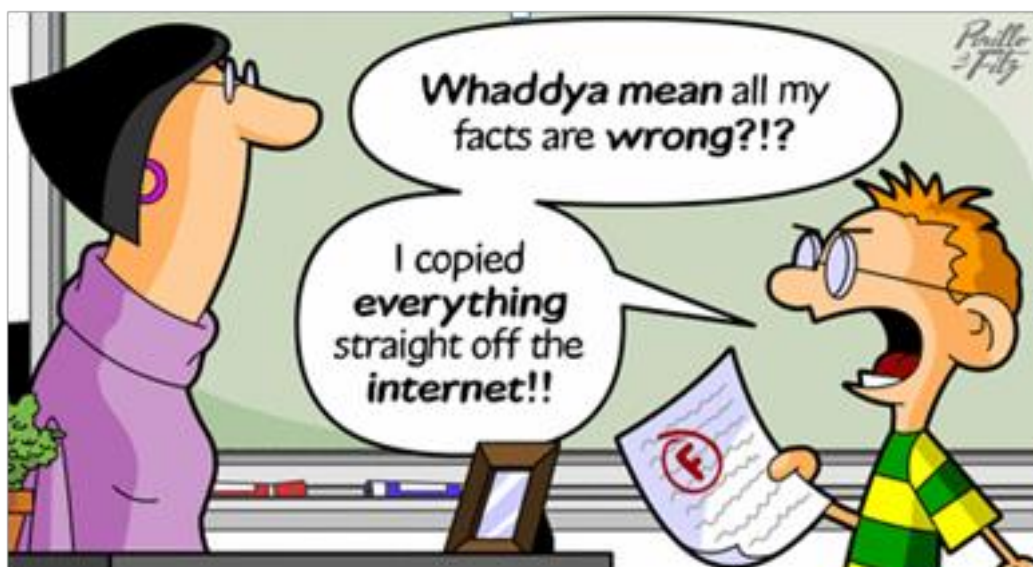


SOCIAL STUDIES

SEC 4E/5N REVISION BOOKLET

2024

Fairfield Methodist School
(Secondary)



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Next to exit: Globalisation?

While Brexit may seem irrational, the forces behind it reflect deep social and economic challenges from cross-border integration. Asia should pay close attention.

Chen Kang

For The Straits Times

The surprising result of last week's British referendum, when a majority opted for Brexit – to leave the European Union (EU) – has sent shockwaves through financial markets around the world. As anti-integration movements pick up momentum in other EU member countries, the British referendum result, irrational though it may seem to many, will only serve to intensify these separation attempts.

On the other side of the Atlantic, the United States presidential election is also raising eyebrows across the world. Some potential presidential nominees, including Mr Donald Trump from the right and Senator Bernie Sanders from the left, who have used anti-globalisation platforms to run their campaigns, have garnered extensive support among the electorate. Whoever becomes the next president will not be able to ignore this sentiment among American voters and will have to

make policy adjustments with regard to globalisation issues.

The current round of globalisation went into full swing during the heyday of the "Washington consensus" in the early 1990s after the collapse of the Soviet Union. People generally believed globalisation was good and more of it was better.

Such optimism had been the driving force for deep economic integration, not only in the goods and services market but also in capital and labour. Both cross-border capital flows and economic migration have been pushed to unprecedented levels.

Interestingly, while trade liberalisation was managed vigilantly, and safeguard measures were incorporated in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) agreements to mitigate possible negative effects, proponents of globalisation did not regard it necessary to introduce similar safeguards for business outsourcing and capital outflows.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH GLOBALISATION?

Economists have been firm supporters of globalisation based on efficient market arguments. However, broader social and economic issues of globalisation – that involve deep integration of capital and labour as elements of production – have not been carefully studied and well understood.

Initially, the focus was on the benefits of globalisation: cheaper toys and shoes, more investment opportunities, production locations with lower labour and rental costs, and more job opportunities for skilled labour who were able to benefit from economic migration.

But gradually, adverse effects began to surface. These can be grouped into three areas – labour market conditions, capital mobility and income inequality.

An influx of immigrants makes the labour market more competitive and, at the same time, suppresses wages for domestic job seekers, especially in the unskilled and semi-skilled market segments.

It also presents enormous challenges regarding the social integration of immigrants.

In addition, business outsourcing led to the hollowing out of certain industries, producing a large number of unemployed who found it almost impossible to find a similar job. Both the unemployed and immigrants exert a huge burden on the social security system.

The second impact is associated with footloose capital. On the one hand, capital mobility upsets the balance of power between labour and management as firms can use relocation as a threat to gain the upper hand in collective bargaining.

On the other hand, capital mobility also gives multinational corporations more leeway. They

can choose to evade tax in tax havens, or force governments to reduce corporate income tax rates and personal income tax rates using relocation as a threat. As a result, governments all over the world have been coerced into an unhealthy tax competition which drives down tax rates and reduces tax revenue.

Lastly, globalisation has significant implications on income inequality. In his new book *Global Inequality* (2016), economist Branko Milanovic shows that globalisation has reduced income inequality among nations but increased it within nations.

However, people are mostly concerned with national, not global, inequalities. Globalisation generates a super-rich segment and squeezes the lower-middle classes in developed countries.

In addition, governments – facing continued reduction in tax revenue and increased social security spending – find it impossible to support the existing welfare system. Many countries have sought to reduce pensions and other welfare benefits, and postpone statutory retirement ages. All this has aggravated income inequality. Highly uneven distribution of income has also suppressed consumption, and dampened aggregate demand and economic growth in developed countries.

Globalisation creates new winners and losers across national boundaries, but cripples welfare

Globalisation creates new winners and losers across national boundaries, but cripples welfare systems that have been built for individual countries.

systems that have been built for individual countries. Because there is no "world government" to mitigate the pressure from globalisation and redistribute income among countries for equality reasons, capitalism begins to exhibit some of the bad features associated with its primitive form, and globalisation is no longer viewed as favourably as before.

Economist Joseph Stiglitz points out in his book *Globalisation And Its Discontents* (2002) that globalisation requires global governance, but there is no global government. This idea is further developed by economist Dani Rodrik, who argues in *The Globalisation Paradox* (2011) that deep economic integration requires countries to give up some democracy and national sovereignty.

BREXIT THE BEGINNING?

Apparently, the outcome of the referendum shows that British voters do not want to give up democracy and national sovereignty, and they do not believe the EU as a "supernational" organisation could help reduce the pain of globalisation. Instead, they chose to give up integration with the EU.

As more people in developed countries come to realise the adverse effects of globalisation, governments will also become less willing to propel it. While reversing economic integration is still considered impossible or highly unlikely, Brexit does give a strong reason to believe that the possibility of de-globalisation cannot be totally ruled out.

Already, "anti-dumping" has been frequently used as a non-tariff barrier ever since the global financial crisis in 2008; anti-immigration as mainstream public opinion has become more widespread; restrictions on capital mobility are also being introduced. The US government has started enforcing the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development has stepped up its efforts to fight tax evasion and tax avoidance globally, and policies have been introduced in the US and other developed countries to attract manufacturing companies to shift production facilities back to their home countries.

De-globalisation, should it happen, is definitely bad news for Singapore, China, India and other emerging economies in Asia that have benefited greatly from the process. Their export markets would shrink if the reversal has a significant impact on international trade.

Another area is foreign direct investments (FDIs). While restrictions from hosting countries were the main obstacles to FDIs previously, restrictions from investing countries could become significant in the future, though how this would evolve is still uncertain.

Brexit should not be viewed as a populist victory. Instead, the rationale behind seemingly irrational sentiments that are brewing in developed and developing countries should be studied carefully.

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Questions to ponder

You learnt that globalisation impact people on a different scale. Read the article and answer the following questions.

What are the positive economic impacts of globalisation for the different groups of people?

What are the negative economic impacts of globalisation for the different groups of people?

What is "De-gobalisation" and in your opinion, how will it impact Singapore? Explain your answers using with two impacts.

Topics included how Singapore can create more diverse education pathways and bridging the generation gap between seniors and youth. One participant suggested that schools can invite parents in more unconventional occupations to give talks to young people and children who can be exposed to a wider range of roles.

DPM Wong, who is also Minister for Finance, thanked the participants for their suggestions and assured them that their feedback will be taken seriously as part of the Forward Singapore exercise.

He said: “You have played a role in giving us very useful inputs in thinking about what changes we may want to make, how we can do things differently in order to shape a better Singapore.”

He added: “Moving to a better place is not just the responsibility of the Government, nor is it possible for the Government to do it all. It’s also for us to think about what changes employers can make, what (changes) community organisations may make and how Singaporeans might change our mindsets, attitudes and expectations.”

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Forward Singapore is a year-long public engagement exercise launched on June 28 by the fourth-generation leadership to renew the social compact as the new team charts the next stage of the country’s development.

Spanning a year, the exercise will conclude with the publication of a report in mid-2023 that will set out policy recommendations and highlight how different segments of society can contribute towards these shared goals.

The dialogue on Thursday was organised by government feedback unit Reach. Most of the participants were between 36 and 55 and were professionals, managers, executives and technicians.

During the dialogue, participants proposed their own topics and voted for the ones they wanted to discuss. They were able to walk around and join in discussions freely.

Reach said in a statement: “These sessions aim to give participants the autonomy to take the lead in envisioning how citizens can partner with the Government – not only to raise ideas but also to identify and work on possible solutions together. This is in line with the aim of the Forward Singapore exercise... to strengthen the spirit of collective ownership and partnership between the Government and citizens.”

Mr Tham Jun Han, 29, liked having the participants decide on what they wanted to talk about.

The co-founder of community building organisation Friendzone said: “I enjoyed having conversations with people from different generations and from different walks of life.”

Question to ponder

In your opinion, how can Singapore promote increased harmony and inclusion in society?
Explain your answers using two threats.

SBQ Skill Practice 1	
Usefulness Question	Adapted from 2018 Catholic High MYE

Study Source A.

How useful is the source as evidence that the influence of Hollywood is welcome in the rest of the world? Explain your answer. [7]

Is the influence of Hollywood a threat to local film industries?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Hollywood has traditionally maintained a strong influence on global audiences. American films dominate the box offices of more than 150 countries today.

Furthermore, there has been conscious effort by Hollywood film makers to cater to the tastes of overseas audiences. Hollywood producers have set their sights on capturing a bigger share of overseas markets, such as the huge Chinese market.

It is unsurprising then, that in various parts of the world, film producers feel threatened by the dominance of Hollywood in the entertainment industry. They believe that as local audiences are drawn more towards American entertainment productions, local productions get left behind.

At the same time, some film producers have embraced the influence of Hollywood, and even see it as an opportunity to broaden their horizons. Already, plenty of film makers are looking to Hollywood as chance to learn and develop their expertise.

Study the following sources to evaluate whether the influence of Hollywood is a threat to local film industries.

Source A: *An excerpt from an article published in the American state-funded news website.*

Nigerian actress Olajumoke Bello Aruwajoye had an "out-of-body" experience when she arrived in Hollywood. "It's surreal, it's amazing, it's exciting for me because I never thought I would be here," she said.

Aruwajoye is one of a small handful of entertainment professionals from Africa who got a chance to come to Los Angeles for three weeks to visit movie studios and learn from those who are working in the Hollywood film industry.

It was made possible by a partnership with the African Technology Foundation, Relativity Education and the U.S. State Department.

Six groups of creative professionals from Africa have taken part in this program. They apply for the program and are picked through a competitive selection process. Many of the program's participants receive scholarships and discounts to travel to Los Angeles and attend Relativity Education's workshops. The tailored workshops touch on the various aspects of film production and give hands-on experience to the participants.

Source B: *An excerpt from article published in the Chinese state news website, Xinhua News.*

Aside from their formidable theme-park presence and incomparable brand merchandizing machine, Disney also expends significant resources and personnel mentoring Chinese animators with the studio's powerful and unbeatable know-how.

They host the Disney U.S.-China Animation Exchange Program each year to bring powerhouse Disney executives and world-class creatives of Walt Disney and Pixar Animation Studios together with China's leading animators and animation executives to exchange top-shelf ideas and proprietary techniques.

"We invest a lot of time, money and efforts into our relationships, in order to create better stories for global audiences and get our best artistic efforts on the screen. We look forward to the opportunity to exchange ideas with our friends in China," a Disney executive told Xinhua in an interview.

Source C: *A cartoon on American media imperialism, featuring various American cultural icons.*



SBQ Skill Practice 2	
Surprise Question	Adapted from 2020 Xinmin Sec Prelims

Study Source A.

Are you surprised by this source? Explain your answer. [6]

Is the global gender wage gap a problem that can be resolved?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

A gender wage gap refers to the difference in the amount of money a woman makes, versus the amount of money a man makes. Recent statistics show that, on average, a woman earns only \$0.79 for every dollar a man makes in 2019. The statistics also show that even after taking into account factors such as job title, years of experience, industry, and geographical location, until the only difference between workers is their gender, women make \$0.98 for every dollar an equivalent man makes.

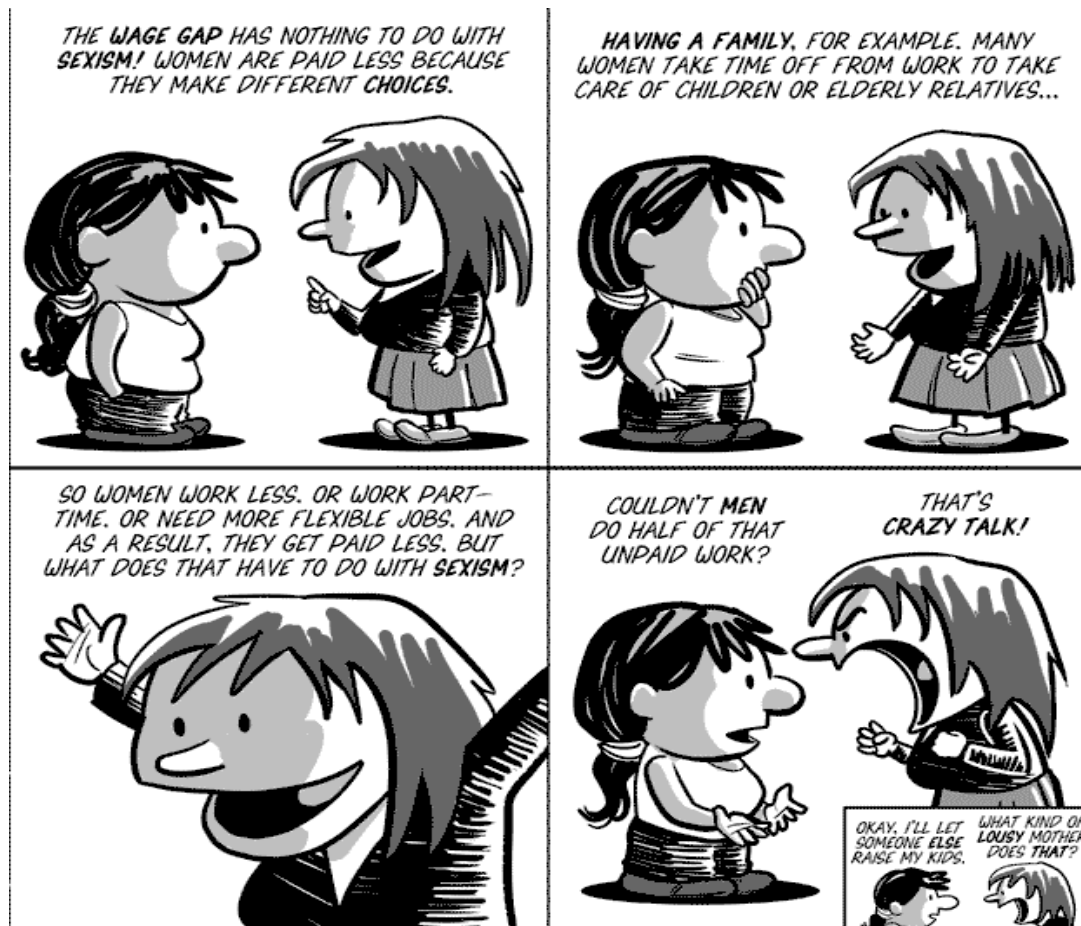
Although the gender wage gap has been shrinking each year, the pace has dropped dramatically in recent years. This has prompted more politicians, activists, and various members of society to ask for possible reasons for the global gender wage gap, and whether it is possible to eliminate the gap completely. Reasons that have been suggested range from a clear discrimination against women, to how men are taking on higher-risk jobs and hence are paid more for the risk factors.

Is the global gender wage gap a problem that can be resolved? Read the following sources to find out.

Source A: *Adapted from an article published in a Singapore newspaper in 2019.*

A study has found that Singapore women earn about 13% less than men, and some of that wage gap may be due to persistent gender bias. According to Dr Heyzer, 'There is a disproportionate burden of unpaid care work borne by women towards child-rearing, housework or caring for the elderly. This makes it more likely for women to exit the workforce or have irregular patterns of work. The need to close the remaining gender gaps, ensure higher participation and more full-time employment for women becomes more pressing in the face of a rapidly ageing population.'

Source B: A cartoon by an American cartoonist.



Source C: Adapted from an article published on a blog.

Politicians and activists have complained about a “gender pay gap” and have cited statistics supposedly showing that the economy is unfair to women. However, studies have shown that this difference is not due to any unfairness, but simply due to different choices that men and women make.

One reason for the gender pay gap is the division of labour at home. Women are more likely to take time off their jobs to raise children or do housework, meaning that on average they will be at their jobs for fewer hours per week and spend more years out of the workforce. It’s no surprise, then, that on average their earnings will be lower because of the lifestyle choices they make.

SBQ Skill Practice 3	
Comparison of Usefulness	Adapted from 2017 Kent Ridge Sec Prelims

Study Sources A and B.

Is Source B more useful than Source A? Explain your answer. [7]

Why did Scotland want independence?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

The United Kingdom (UK) or Britain, is a country made up of four nations – England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland. Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland have varying powers of self-government while decisions with regard to larger concerns like finance, defence and foreign relations are decided by the UK Parliament based in London, England. The nations have to contribute taxes, paid to the UK Parliament for the running of UK.

In 2011, the Scottish National Party (SNP), whose central aim is independence for Scotland, won the Scottish Parliament election. They pushed for a referendum¹ on whether Scotland should be an independent country. Alex Salmond, who was then the head of the SNP, became the First Minister and head of the Scottish government. He led the campaign for an independent Scotland.

In period leading up to the referendum that was held on 18 September 2014, campaigns for and against the independence of Scotland were held. One area of discussion was regarding the ideas of identity and self-determination – to what extent did they identify with being a Scottish or a UK citizen and if Scotland can be considered a separate country with the right for self-determination². Others were more concerned about Scotland's ability to survive economically as an independent country.

Study the following sources to understand why people supported the idea of independence for Scotland.

Referendum¹: A direct vote by the people regarding a national issue, unrelated to elections for a government.

Self-determination²: The process by which a country determines its own sovereignty and governance.

Map of United Kingdom



Source A: A cartoon published in an American newspaper, 15 September 2014.



Source B: *A reply to the question “Why do some Scottish people want independence”, from Quora, an online platform to ask questions and seek answers, 2017.*

Because we Scots deserve the right to decide for ourselves, what happens to us! It REALLY IS as simple as that!

Because we should have the right to completely govern Scotland, to benefit and help everyone in this beautiful country. Having another government decide what is good for us when they do not have a clue what it is like living up here [in Scotland] is Wrong! It is just WRONG!

Because Scotland has always been its own nation, despite being ruled by Westminster⁴. We have our own law system, our own education system and many of our own ways of doing things. And those things need to be recognised.

We also have people with amazing brains and talents and it is about time they were allowed to shine as Scots, and not as someone from Britain.

Westminster⁴: Refers to the UK Parliament.

Source C: *An excerpt from a Scottish business website, 2014.*

An independent Scotland will save money that can be spent on building a better economy. Nuclear weapons, the House of Commons and London’s civil service will no longer be funded with Scottish tax. The total saving on nuclear weapons and defence will be £500 million in the first year. Over a five-year Parliament, independence would save Scotland at least £3 billion in Parliamentary and nuclear weapons costs alone and that is just some of the savings that are easily identified.

Independence is an opportunity to improve Scotland’s performance in key economic areas such as productivity and innovation. A rise in productivity of just 1% would create 21,000 new jobs, raise economic output by over £2 billion and increase tax take by £700 million. Productivity can be increased through development of a skills economy, capital and infrastructure investment, competition and innovation.

SBQ Skill Practice 4	
Comparison of Reliability	Adapted from 2019 Kuo Chuan Presbyterian Secondary School Prelims

Study Sources E and F.

Does Source E prove that Source F is telling the truth? Explain your answer.
[7]

How prepared is Singapore in combating the threat of terrorism?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Terrorism is a complex security challenge because the threats can come from within and beyond a country's borders. It involves the use of violence to instill fear, generate publicity, and sometimes destabilize governments. It was not until the September 11, 2001 attacks in the United States of America when terrorism started to be at the forefront of many nations' awareness.

As such, many countries around the world today are finding ways to counter terrorism internally as well as transnationally. Likewise, Singapore has adopted preventive, protective and responsive measures to battle against this growing threat that the world is facing today.

Study the following sources to assess how prepared Singapore is in combating the threat of terrorism.

Source E: *An extract of Prime Minister Lee's speech, in his address to 300 community leaders before a closed-door dialogue at ITE College Central, 24 July, 2017.*

Singapore must not let conflicts elsewhere affect the trust and harmony between different races and religions here. The country has to try its best to insulate itself from conflicts and quarrels in other countries such as Iraq and Syria, he said, adding that those battles are not fights for Singaporeans. We have to expect the recent spate of ISIS inspired attacks in the world, what is happening in the Middle East, in our region to have caused some doubts and qualms among Singaporeans. Muslims feel they are under the spotlight, while non-Muslims may worry about whether they can still trust Muslims, he noted. Fortunately, racial and religious harmony in Singapore is strong as religious leaders of all faiths have worked hard to promote inter-faith dialogue and interactions, he said.

Source F: *An extract of an article "Speak with one moderate voice against extremism" by Minister of Muslim Affairs, Dr. Yaacob Ibrahim, January 27, 2016.*

When the Jemaah Islamiah terror network was uncovered 15 years ago, the Malay/Muslim community rose strongly to counter the threat. As terrorism poses a renewed threat today, the community must likewise be vigilant to keep Singapore safe and secure. We must press on to reach out to every segment of the community, and speak with one rational, moderate voice against extremist doctrines. Extra vigilance is also needed, whether against radical ideologies, errant preachers, or of any suspicious activities around us. We must stand as one united people and not let the radical actions of a few spread fear and suspicion among the different communities in Singapore.

SBQ Skill Practice 5	
Comparison of Usefulness and Comparison of Surprise	Adapted from 2018 Geylang Methodist School Prelims

Study Sources C and D.

- (a) After reading Source C, are you surprised by Source D? Explain your answer.
[7]

Study Sources E and F.

- (b) Are both sources as useful in telling you about Singaporeans' preparedness for globalisation? Explain your answer.
[7]

Is Singapore prepared for a changing globalised world?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Singapore is a strong proponent of globalisation. Arguably no other place on earth has so engineered itself to prosper from globalisation and succeeded at it. Its forefathers realised, at the point of its independence, that besides good governance, it needed to ride the tides of globalisation to grow and prosper. Today the government continues to encourage MNCs to come to Singapore and advocate global free trade.

In June 2016, Britain voted to leave the largest trading bloc in the world. In November 2017, Donald Trump became the President of the United States and vowed to withdraw the US from major trade deals. Elections in Europe also appear to favour parties advocating more protectionist policies rather than open economies and free trade. In the midst of these changes, Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong announced the setting up of the Committee on the Future Economy (CFE). The CFE came to the conclusion that globalisation is still the way ahead for Singapore and identified seven strategies for Singaporeans to stay ahead in a challenging global climate. The Future Economy Council (FEC) is subsequently formed to oversee the implementation of the recommendations put forth by the CFE and to drive the growth and transformation of Singapore's economy for the future.

Study the following sources to assess whether globalisation is the best way ahead for Singapore

Source C: *From a speech “The Fundamentals of Singapore’s Foreign Policy: Then and Now” by then Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew in April 2009.*

As the world changes, small countries have to swiftly adjust their policies and positions in a pragmatic and clinical manner. We have to live with the world as it is, not as we wish it should be. Singapore has since 1965 plugged into the international economic grid. We welcome Multi-National Companies (MNCs) to invest and manufacture in Singapore. As an open economy, we took full advantage of globalisation. We, the East Asian countries, have distinguished ourselves from other Third World countries by the single-minded emphasis on development. Japan was the earliest to plug itself into the global system with Hong Kong, Korea, Singapore and Taiwan following suit from the 1960s. Globalisation cannot be reversed because technologies that made globalisation inevitable cannot be uninvented. Singapore has to embrace this reality and remain open to talent, capital, technology and immigrants to make up for our low birth rate.

Source D: *From a news article published by CNBC on its website in Feb 2017. CNBC is a business news channel in the United States.*

After more than a year of consulting over 9,000 stakeholders, the Committee on the Future Economy (CFE), initiated by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, unveiled its recommendations on how Singapore’s economy can be reshaped and remain relevant to the world. For Singapore, globalisation is still the future, despite ‘dark shift’ to protectionism*. “We saw nativist politics** and protectionist economics growing in strength and influence in Europe and the US. The anti-globalisation trend will undermine international trade, hurting all economies, but particularly small open ones like Singapore, with two-thirds of our gross domestic product (GDP) generated by external demand. We can build a value-creating economy that is open and connected to the world, offering a multitude of opportunities, with sustainable wage growth and meaningful careers”, said Minister Heng Swee Keat who chairs the CFE. The CFE said that one strategy was to continue to work to reduce trade barriers and tariffs.

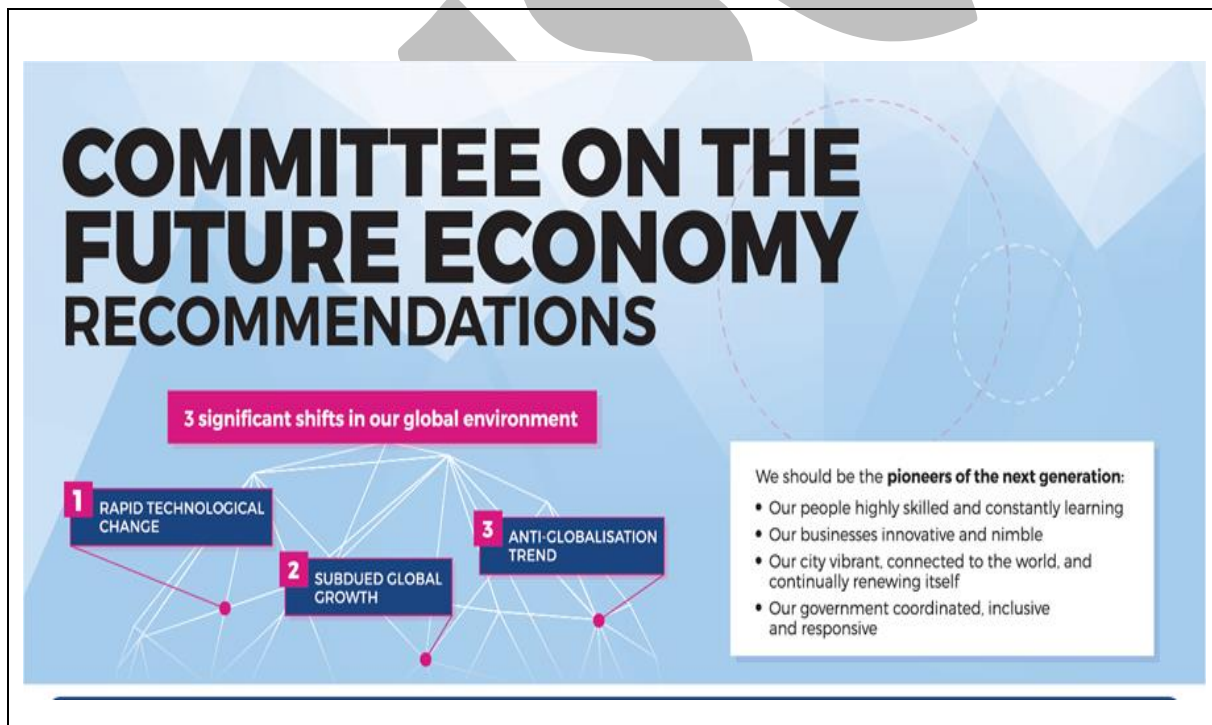
* Protectionism refers to the practice of shielding a country's domestic industries from foreign competition by taxing imports.

** Nativist politics focusses on promoting the interests of native inhabitants against those of immigrants.

Source E: *From a commentary by a local writer “Grooming S’poreans to be global citizens who can thrive anywhere” published in TODAY on 4 June 2018.*

Can an outward-looking strategy still work in a world where major economies are turning protectionist? Singapore has responded to the anti-globalisation sentiment by championing internationalization even more strongly. There is a great deal of uncertainty among Singaporeans about the future of the world economy and what this means for the business environment and job market in Singapore. Insular attitudes cannot work. While Singaporeans are already globally-minded, with many people being both well-travelled and well informed, we need to foster an adventurous spirit, a collectively-held willingness to embrace the world and seek out new opportunities. Agility and adaptiveness are required if Singapore is to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

Source F: *An infographic from the Committee on the Future Economy (CFE) which was adapted and published on a Singaporean blogger’s website. The CFE’s 7 strategies were not displayed in full on the blog.*



Issue 1: Exploring Citizenship and Governance

2022 Prelims from Anglican High School (SBCS)

Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

Answer **all** Questions

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

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

1. Study Source A.

What is the attitude of the cartoonist about the efforts taken to address food insecurity? Explain your answer. [5]

2. Study Sources B and C.

Do you think Source B would agree with the international non-profit organisation in Source C? Explain your answer. [7]

3. Study Source D.

How useful is this source as evidence about opinions on food security in Singapore? Explain your answer. [6]

4. Study Sources E and F.

How far does Source F show that E is wrong? Explain your answer. [7]

5. "The Government should be responsible for tackling food insecurity".

Using sources in this case study, how far would you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

What are the impacts of food insecurity?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

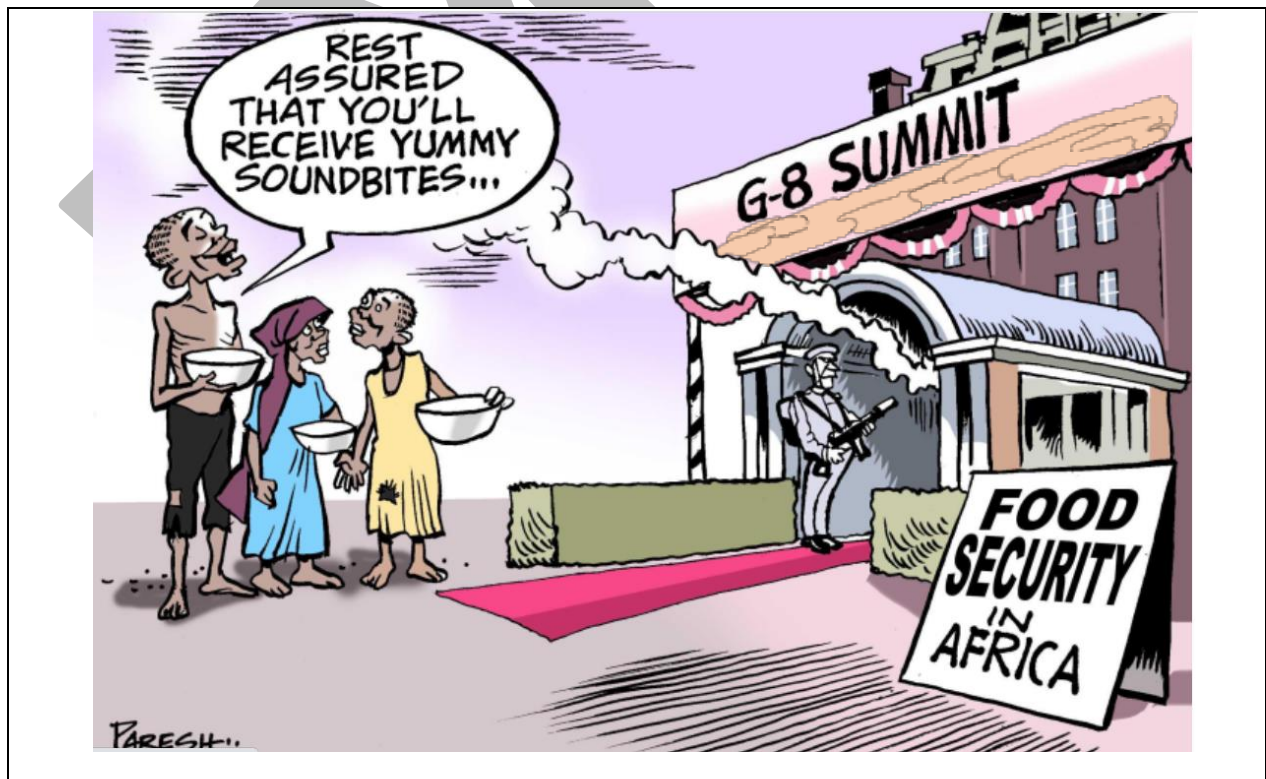
Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

Food insecurity has been a topic for discussion around the world as early as 2008. World leaders have discussed this issue at length and have initiated many solutions to address this global challenge. At the 2012 G8 summit¹, world leaders have agreed to commit \$22 billion to address this issue. Despite extensive discussions, only half of the funding has been delivered and this issue of food security has yet to be resolved. The COVID-19 pandemic and the recent war in Ukraine have exacerbated this challenge. Record high food prices have triggered a global food crisis that will drive millions more into extreme poverty, magnify hunger and malnutrition due to poor access to food and instability in prices. The United Nations has called on the international community to address food insecurity as the consequences are wide-ranging and long-lasting.

Study the following sources to find out what are the impacts of food insecurity.

¹The G8 summit is an annual meeting attended by the leaders of the eight countries, namely, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. These leaders meet to discuss global issues such as food insecurity.

Source A: A cartoon about the discussion on food security at the 2012 G8 summit.



Source B: *An excerpt from an article published on the website of World Bank Group. The World Bank Group is one of United Nation's specialised agencies organisation that provides financial loans and advice to developing countries to help in their fight against poverty.*

Food insecurity is a growing challenge. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, UN agencies estimated that over 55 million of its population of 456.7 million was undernourished. The pandemic and Russian-Ukraine conflict made the situation worse. The war in Syria has had devastating consequences as over 12 million Syrians are food insecure, an increase of 4.5 million in 2020 alone.

We remain very concerned. Our food system is failing to support people's health. People suffer from the double burden of malnutrition, both stunting and obesity. We cannot—and should not—fail to see the current crisis brought on by the pandemic as a golden opportunity to build better systems to deliver healthy food to the people of the Middle East and North Africa region.

Source C: *From an article published by an international non-profit organisation that distributes food and aid to food-insecure countries.*

It is important to recognise how climate change is impacting low-income communities. The intensity and frequency of natural disasters have increased and will continue to do so. Climate change will disrupt food production, increase prices of food, decrease local availability and contribute to food insecurity.

The agricultural industry accounts for 70% of the world's water usage and makes up 24% of global greenhouse gas emissions. With half the human population living in urban settings, transporting food far distances from farm to plate contributes 14% to emissions.

What can you do to help improve food security around the world? You can join the sustainable movement to end hunger by buying from local farmers. You get sustainably grown food that travels a short distance. If our behavior does not change, hunger will increase and conflict will arise over access to depleting resources.

Source D: A comment by a local food security expert at the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), published in 2017.

Supermarkets are full of food. It is easy for Singaporeans to get a false sense of food security. Singapore has a sound policy of building resilience in its food supplies. However, if there is a big pandemic tomorrow and food cannot get transported, how is Singapore going to react? Singapore securitised water. But with food, I would argue that we have not securitised food at all.

Source E: *From Minister for Sustainability and the Environment, Ms Grace Fu's response to parliamentary questions on food security, published on 4 July 2022.*

Disruptions can impact us. Singapore imports more than 90% of our food. We cannot fully prevent such disruptions. However, we have adopted a multi-pronged approach to address the impacts.

The government works with the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) to build resilience in our supply networks. We currently import our food from over 170 countries. We work with industry partners to maintain stockpiles of essential food items. We are building the capability and capacity of our agri-food industry to produce up to 30% of our nutritional needs locally and sustainably by 2030. If needed, we will extend assistance and relieve the burden on businesses and households, as we have done so in the past.

The critical success factor of our food security is the ability of Singaporeans – businesses, consumers, policy makers to remain resilient in the face of supply disruptions.

Source F: *A comment on a popular socio-political site by a Singaporean. This comment was made in response to the chicken export ban by Malaysia. This ban restricts the export of chickens to Singapore until the domestic supply and price surge stabilises in Malaysia.*

This is bad. If global warming worsens, countries will produce less and might end up banning exports to Singapore. As a country that relies heavily on food imports, food security is an issue. Just a chicken export ban and some shops are already affected. I can't imagine the impact if more food items are being banned. What happens next if we have a population of 10 million?

Sugar exports are being reduced in India. I wonder what is next.

2023 Prelims from Clementi Town Secondary School (SBCS)

1 Study Source A.

What can you infer about the attitude of the elderly towards digital transactions? Explain your answer.

[5]

2 Study Source B.

Why do you think Source B was published? Explain your answer.

[6]

3 Study Sources C and D.

Having read Source D, are you surprised by Source C? Explain your answer.

[7]

4 Study Source E.

How useful is Source E as evidence of seniors' ability to adapt to digitalised banking? Explain your answer.

[7]

5 "The seniors in Singapore are left behind in a digitalised environment."

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

[10]

Are seniors given adequate help in coping with a digitalised Singapore?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Singapore is a digitally transformed society with many transactions conducted online. There is a mobile application for almost everything, from booking transport, ordering food to tracking fitness levels. However, this digitised environment which is praised for its convenience and efficiency may be at the expense of the seniors in the country. They may often have to rely on others who are more tech-savvy to help them meet some of their daily needs now found in an unfamiliar digitised world. Within the group of seniors, the low income and less educated are the ones with even less access to digital tools. Many Singaporeans feel that the solution is for the seniors to be given training to be able to catch up with others who are tech-savvy. However, there are others who are of the opinion that the responsibility is on institutions such as banks to make their digital tools more digitally friendly for seniors.

Study the following sources to assess whether seniors are given adequate help in coping with a digitalised Singapore.

Source A: *Adapted from an interview with seniors on mobile transactions which appeared in TODAY, an online news in Singapore, November 8, 2017.*

Seniors said they steered well clear of mobile banking and online shopping. Many said they would rather spend time queueing at bank branches to carry out a simple banking transaction, than to learn to use mobile or Internet banking.

Madam Tang Siew Tin, 67, insists on flagging down a taxi on the streets the old fashioned way, saying “(The apps) affect people’s rice bowls, take away their business from them. Others like 69-year-old retiree John Ong said that since he has plenty of time on his hands, it was unnecessary to use ride-hailing apps to save time. “I don’t think it’s very inconvenient,” he said. Madam Grace Lee, 60, who works part-time in a construction firm, still prefers shopping in person. “Maybe if you buy online, it may not be what you like, and you have to go back and exchange it... It’s too troublesome,” she said.

Source B: *An advertisement from TPG Telecom for its mobile plan for seniors in Singapore, July 2021. A promotional price of \$5 is given during the first month of its launch. The plan and promotion are for all Singaporeans and Permanent Residents aged 60 years and above.*

The advertisement is for SG Digital's 'Seniors Plans'. It features a photograph of an elderly couple sitting together, with the woman pointing at a smartphone held by the man. To the right of the photo, the plan details are listed. The headline shows a price reduction from \$10 to \$5 for 30 days. Below this, the plan includes 20GB of data for 30 days, free incoming calls, free caller ID, and talktime minutes and SMS. Other benefits listed are no contract, no registration fee, and free port-in. The data details specify 20GB at 4G speed, followed by unlimited data at capped speed, plus 1GB of roaming data to selected countries, 300 local call minutes, and 30 local SMS.

SG:DIGITAL	Seniors Plans
20GB \$5 for 30 days	Free Caller ID
Free Incoming Calls	Talktime Minutes & SMS
No contract	No registration fee
Free port-in	

\$10 ~~\$10~~ \$5
For 30 days

20GB DATA

20GB data at 4G speed.
Thereafter, unlimited data at capped speed

+1GB Roaming Data
to selected countries

300 Local Call Minutes

30 Local SMS

Adapted from a report in a local news about the elderly and technology.

Source C: *Adapted from a report in a local news about the elderly and technology.*

Retiree Madam Chan Ai, 71, said that after watching recipe videos on YouTube on her recently-bought iPhone, she has expanded her culinary skills by experimenting with making food such as banana bread and carrot cake. She also trawls through the Internet for health-related tips, such as which pressure points of the body to massage. "Everything is so easy to search," said Madam Chan, whose go-to tech guy is her ten-year-old grandson.

Retiree Ellie Teo, 62, is another senior who makes use of the Internet to hone a skill. After learning how to play the ukulele in 2015, she has downloaded chords and tuner apps so that she practises during her free time. She noted how difficult it is to keep up with the latest technology trends after leaving the workplace. For one, she can no longer run to her old company's information technology department for help. "But it's about taking an interest to learn new things," she said.

Source D: *Adapted from a researcher's report on 'The Silver Generation in the Age of Digital Disruptions' in Singapore.*

As Singapore surges ahead digitally, less tech-savvy senior citizens struggle to keep up. In 2006, less than half of those aged 50 and above were computer users with 32% of these seniors using the Internet.

The reluctance to embrace a digital lifestyle boils down to two factors. First, these seniors lacked the digital literacy. Second, they were daunted by what they thought was difficult to learn and feared making mistakes.

To become a digitally-ready nation, Singapore unveiled the Silver Infocomm Initiative (SII) in 2007 with a variety of programmes. The SII has helped more than 350,000 seniors embrace IT to connect better with the community and enhance their quality of life in the digital age. In 2019, 95% and 58% of seniors aged 50–59 years and 60 years and above respectively used Internet-enabled devices daily. A growing pool of more than 230 tech-savvy seniors volunteer to continue to inspire their peers to embrace a digital lifestyle.

Source E: *A Singaporean's view of seniors and technology which appeared on the Forum page of the Straits Times, December 7, 2021. The Forum page is here readers are invited to share their views and opinions on Issues in Singapore. The opinions usually receive responses from other readers in Singapore.*

I am concerned that the push to move basic banking services online, or the use of mobile applications for simple transactions, will isolate seniors. Many lack the familiarity and trust in computer systems to fully embrace digital banking. There is a real risk that digital transformation will dismay, rather than empower, this group.

I have been frustrated with the many user interfaces and overly elaborate security procedures that have made simple banking tasks difficult. What took hours to decipher on the computer was often resolved within minutes by speaking to a human officer.

Moreover, the recent spate of service disruptions and online scams do not inspire confidence. I hope that our local banks do not sacrifice their in-person services for the sake of "efficiency". For services

that must be moved online, banks should be more mindful of different customers. What might seem clear and convenient to youthful developers and testers are not to older customers.

2021 Prelims from Bukit Panjang Government High School (SBCS)

Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

Questions 1 to 5 are **compulsory** for all candidates.

EXPLORING CITIZENSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

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 you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 Study Source A.

What is the cartoonist's message? Explain your answer. [5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

Do you think the author of Source B would agree with the author of Source C about improvements to meritocracy? Explain your answer. [7]

3 Study Sources D and E.

Does Source D prove that the concerns raised in Source E are wrong? Explain your answer. [7]

4 Study Source F.

Are you surprised at Source F? Explain your answer. [6]

5 "Meritocracy is beneficial for the society."

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

Is meritocracy still relevant for society today?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

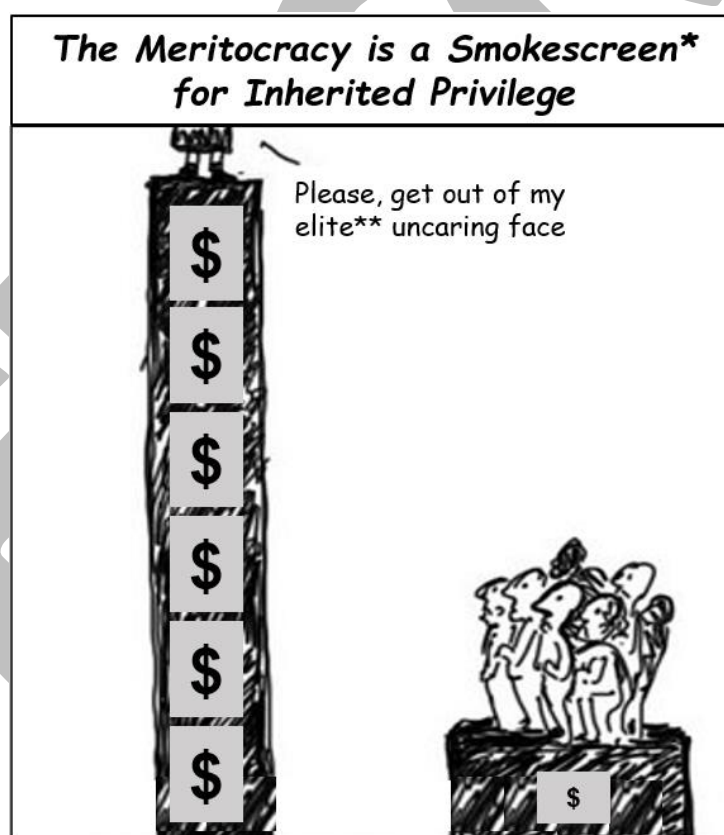
Read this carefully. It may help you to answer the questions.

In Singapore and many other countries in the world, meritocracy is one of the main principles of governance. The system of meritocracy aims to ensure that the best, regardless of cultural and socio-economic background, are encouraged to develop to their fullest potential. One way this is done is by providing the population with access to education and using standardised testing to measure capability and achievement.

In recent years, the topic of inequality between the rich and the poor in the world has been receiving increased attention. Some critics have blamed meritocracy for producing this inequality. They also pointed out other flaws in the idea of meritocracy, leading to social ills.

Is meritocracy still relevant for society today? Read the sources to find out more.

Source A: A cartoon published in a Singapore newspaper, 2018.



*smokescreen – something intended to disguise, conceal, or deceive

** elite – persons of the highest class

Source B: *An essay by a local student from the National University of Singapore, 2018.*

The meritocracy system in Singapore has created a large middle class by allowing upward social mobility amongst most Singaporeans. This system passes on the idea that success is a result of overcoming odds through hard work and skill. Those who succeed are proclaimed as legitimately deserving, while those at the bottom have failed to be deserving. This is too simplistic to capture the complexity of our lives and ignores the many reasons why people may fail to succeed in Singapore's system.

One change needed in policy is to allow more students to apply for secondary schools through the Direct School Admission scheme on the basis of their other talents, not just how well they do in exams. This will recognise more types of success.

Source C: *A comment by Singaporean on an online forum discussing Singapore's education system, 2016.*

There are some parents already sending their children for advanced tuition two grades higher. Meritocracy has created such a high pressure environment in Singapore, where even children are pressured to have the best grades. We're just too afraid of being judged negatively. Some ideas so far to 'fix meritocracy' are weak. One idea is to have 'less emphasis on grades'. But what talents will be recognised then? Violin, ballet? Things that the poor can't afford either? Instead, how about the government giving more recognition to lower income earners and less prestigious sectors of the economy?

Source D: *An article published by an online newspaper that provides news on universities around the world, 2019.*

The 1 year matriculation* programme was introduced in Malaysia to create more opportunities for the bumiputras** majority to enter higher education. This ensured that the universities are not dominated by the other races who are economically better and can give their children more support to perform academically. Besides the matriculation programme to enter university, all Malaysians can take a certification programme which requires 2 years. However, the matriculation programme is a less demanding route.

A senior member of the University of Malaya stated that while the 90% quota of places for the bumiputras in the universities “must be protected, it will alienate the minorities and negatively impact Malaysia’s public university academic standards.”

Others were concerned that the quality of the graduates will be compromised. As a result, mediocre rather than talented people will dominate the public and private sectors.

**matriculation programme – a programme that allows students to be enrolled/admitted into university*

***bumiputra – a Malaysian of indigenous Malay origin; “son of the soil”*

Source E: *A quote from an interview with a Malaysian, 2019.*

The recent decision by the Malaysian government to retain the ethnic quota of 90 per cent of seats reserved for bumiputras and the remaining for non-bumiputras for the university entry programme is a stage 4 cancer that needs immediate chemotherapy. Everyone thinks it goes against the government’s pledge of creating a merit-based society. We should be letting students of all ethnic groups stand at the same starting line. This unfair policy makes students feel as if their hard work is not appreciated, and this will cause disharmony among races. If one day there is really equal opportunity among Malaysians, I wish we would remain as competitive as we were and propagate the spirit to all Malaysians.

Source F: *An excerpt from a speech by Singapore Minister Mr Masagos Zulkifli, 2018.*

Meritocracy is not perfect and does not always work properly, especially when it becomes one that only focuses on outcome or ruthless competition; or one where those who have more at the starting line monopolises* success over generations. Over time, this will polarise society into the “haves” and “have-nots”.

However, this is why our Public Service** model succeeds. Our most capable are awarded with prestigious scholarships to pursue education at the best universities all over the world. They then commit to a public service career, rather than more lucrative fields, because the public service offers them greater meaning. And society has been the better for it.

**monopolises – to have full and overwhelming control of*

***Public service: Service provided by the government for all members of the community*

2020 Prelims from CHIJ St. Theresa's Convent (SBCS)

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 topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 Study Source A.

Why was the cartoon published? Explain your answer.

[5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How similar are Sources B and C? Explain your answer.

[6]

3 Study Source D.

How reliable is Source D in telling us about the water challenges in developing countries? Explain your answer.

[7]

4 Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer.

[7]

5 'The government is largely responsible for the water crisis.'

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

[10
]

What has contributed to the water crisis around the world?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

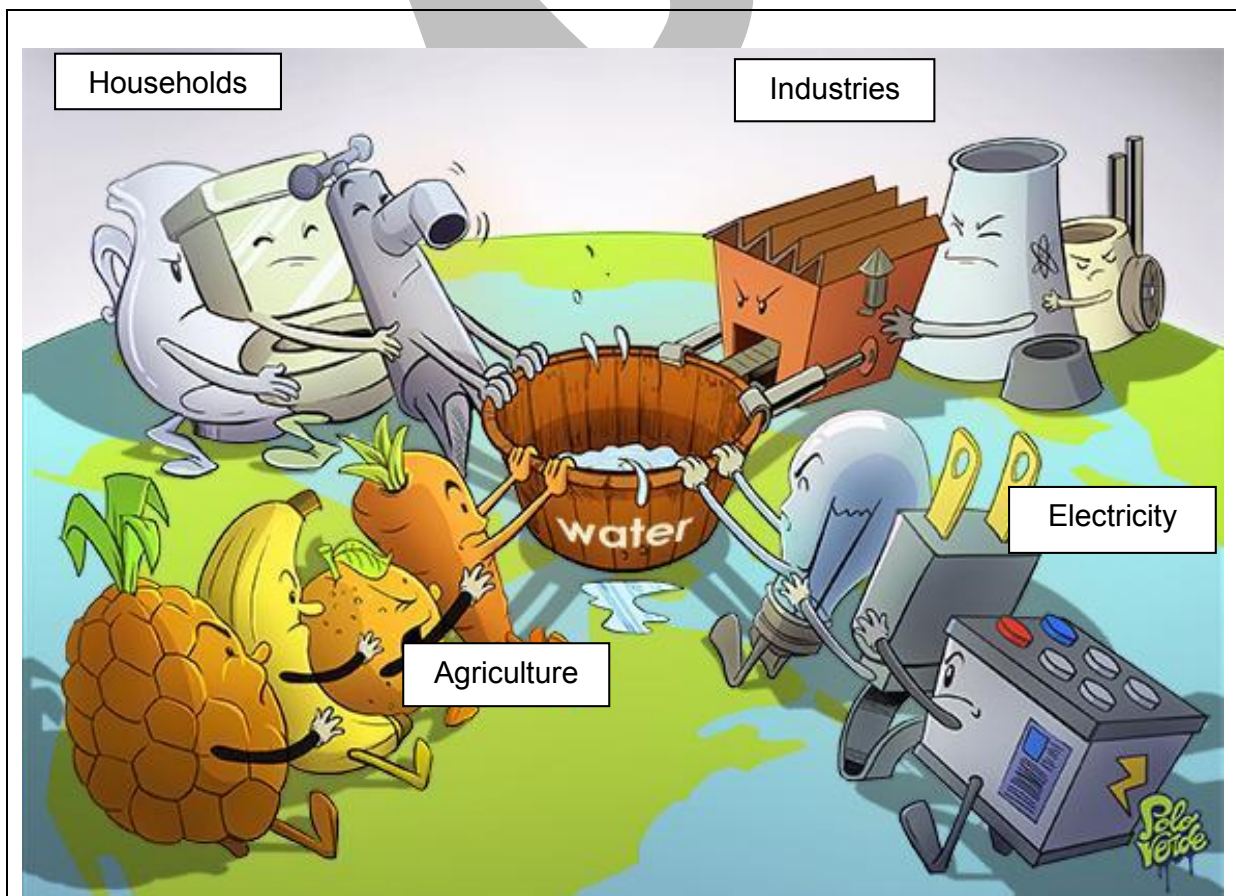
Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

Water scarcity happens when water resources fail to meet the demand for them. The increase in world population, rapid urbanisation and improved agricultural practices has made water an essential resource.

Presently there are countries which face difficulties in meeting water demand. Climate change has caused more droughts and rivers to dry up. Pollution has contaminated water sources and made them unsafe for drinking. In some countries, higher consumption of water has led to a greater waste of water resources. Some governments have been criticised for not prioritising access to clean water for their citizens and not enforcing water laws to protect their sources of water.

Study the following sources to understand what has contributed to the water crisis around the world.

Source A: *A cartoon by the Water and Sanitation Program, 2016. The program highlights water challenges faced by countries around the world.*



Source B: *Adapted from an article on an Australian news site about the water shortage in America, 2020.*

A harmful algae bloom overwhelmed the Toledo Water Intake Crib* which provides drinking water to nearly 500,000 people in and around the city of Toledo.

Tests revealed that the algae was producing microcystin, a sometimes deadly liver toxin. Due to this, the city issued a “Do Not Drink” order that [set off a three-day crisis](#).

The impact of human activities have severely harmed this precious and vital resource. In 1970, after a century of urbanisation and industrialisation around the American Great Lakes, water quality was severely affected. Factories were allowed to dump waste into waterways rather than treating it. Inadequate sewer systems often sent raw sewage into rivers and lakes, fouling the water and causing algae blooms.

**Toledo Water Intake Crib is a structure that collects and supplies drinkable water to people in America.*

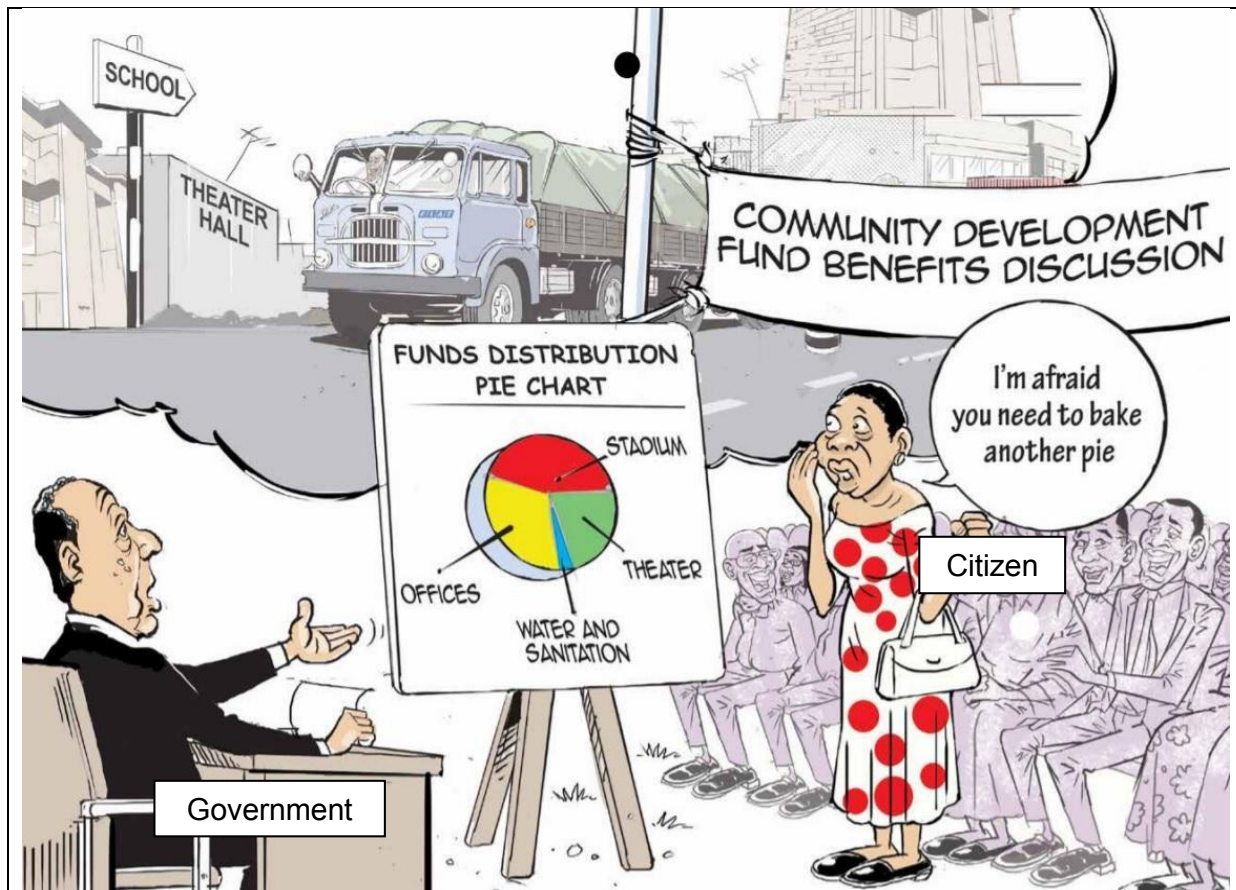
Source C: *Adapted from an article on an American news site, 2014.*

Five years ago, the Environmental Protection Agency and state water authorities issued a joint report on pollution of the nation’s waterways titled “[An Urgent Call to Action](#)”. Unfortunately, very little action has resulted from the joint report.

A poisonous algae, whose toxin is called microcystin, was contaminating the Toledo Water Intake Crib. The toxin causes diarrhea, vomiting, liver-function problems and readily kills animals that drink the contaminated water.

The biggest reason why it is still happening is that the American government has few legal options to impose limits. The Toledo Commissioner of Public Utilities said “When we bring this subject up for conversation with the regulators, everyone sort of walks out of the room. The whole drinking water community has been raising these issues but we haven’t seen a viable response.”.

Source D: A cartoon on Water Challenges published by the World Bank Group, 2017. The World Bank Group advocates for governments to devote more resources to protecting water supplies.



Source E: Adapted from a speech by the South African Government to South Africans about water scarcity and drought problems faced by the country, 13 November 2015.

South Africa is a water-scarce country and ranks as one of the 30 driest countries in the world with an average rainfall of about 40% less than the annual world average rainfall.

Drought is a natural phenomenon which cannot be prevented. This excessive heat wave has grossly worsened the dry conditions that we are currently experiencing. It is putting a strain on the already stretched water resources across all provinces. Several provinces have already announced water restrictions in order to curb the increased demand and over-usage of water by households and industries.

The government is fully aware of the responsibility we bear to ease the economic and social impact of the drought on the country and its people. We will continue to work with the various stakeholders on this matter.

Source F: *An adapted extract from the website of The Water Project, a Non-Profit Organisation with the aim of providing reliable water projects to provinces of Africa that lack access to clean water and proper sanitation, 2020.*

There are many reasons for the growing water crisis in South Africa. Climate change has affected water supplies. Rain that supplies the country's water has come infrequently.

The Vaal River, the largest river in South Africa and a popular tourist destination, is becoming increasingly contaminated with human waste due to the lack of sanitation supplies. [Water-borne disease](#) is also steadily increasing.

There has also been a backlog in water services by the government. The national and local governments of South Africa need to do a better job. Supplies have to be given to those most in need. There is a need to educate the rural population about clean water and to give them access to sanitation supplies.

2022 Prelims from Maris Stella High School (SBCS)

SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

Section A is **compulsory** for all candidates.

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

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 you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 Study Source A.

Do you think the cartoonist is a supporter of cannabis legalisation in Canada? Explain your answer. [5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How different are these sources? Explain your answer. [6]

3 Study Source D.

How useful is this source as evidence about arguments against legalising cannabis? Explain your answer. [7]

4 Study Sources E and F.

Having read E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer. [7]

5 'Legalising cannabis does more harm than good.'

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

What are the various views on legalising cannabis?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

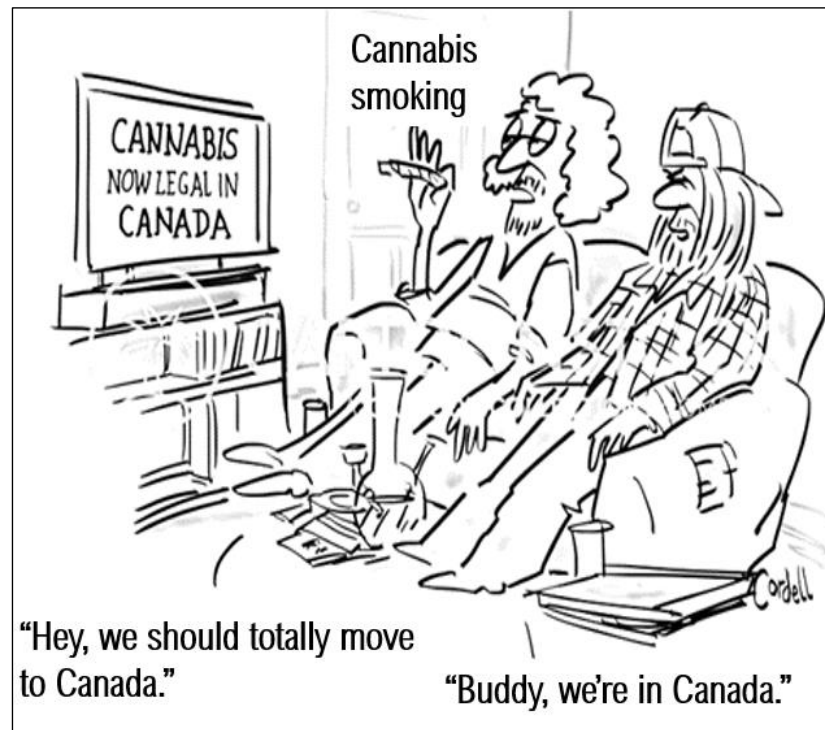
Cannabis is a drug which affects how the brain works and causes changes in mood, awareness, thoughts, feelings, or behaviour. Clinical studies have proven that cannabis can be addictive and harmful to people's health. For example, consumption of cannabis has harmful effects on attention, concentration, memory and learning.

In Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia, possession of cannabis can lead to a jail term and cannabis traffickers can be subjected to the death penalty. These countries are convinced that more resources will have to be devoted to deal with the negative consequences (addiction, crime rates, strain on employment, disruption to family) that cannabis abuse brings about. Adopting a zero-tolerance approach against drugs, all Singaporeans or Permanent Residents of Singapore found to have consumed controlled drugs outside of Singapore will face the same penalties as the offence is committed in Singapore.

In recent years, some countries have legalised raw, unprocessed cannabis and passed them off as medical cannabis. This has allowed cannabis to be supplied as a form of medication. People with cancer who use medical cannabis claim that it benefits them in several ways: by quelling nausea, suppressing vomiting, increasing appetite, relieving pain, and soothing anxiety. With the legalisation of cannabis in some countries and marketing tactics by cannabis companies, youths today tend to have a more liberal view on cannabis. However, to date, there have not been sufficient validated clinical trials to show that medical cannabis can treat any medical conditions.

Study the following sources to find out the various views on legalising cannabis.

Source A: *A cartoonist's view on the legalisation of cannabis in Canada, 11 June 2018. Canada legalised recreational use of cannabis in 2018.*



Source B: *From an article published online, July 2016.*

Prescription drug prices are up. But relief could come from a surprising source. A study found that states that legalised medical cannabis — which is sometimes recommended for symptoms like chronic pain, anxiety or depression — saw declines in the number of healthcare prescriptions for drugs used to treat those conditions. This has led to a dip in healthcare spending by some states in America. Medical cannabis saved America's healthcare system about US\$165 million in 2013, the study concluded.

However, to some, the idea that medical cannabis triggers cost savings is hollow. "Even if the healthcare system may be saving money, medical cannabis doesn't come for free. I have some trouble with the idea that this is a source of savings. At the same time, there are whole other side effects and safety issues of medical cannabis we need to be aware of," a medical professor at Yale School of Medicine said.

Source C: *From an article on a Thai news website, 13 May 2022.*

Thailand Public Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul said that he intended to encourage the cultivation of medicinal cannabis at home by distributing one million free cannabis seedlings to homes. This can encourage enthusiasts to use Thai homegrown cannabis to relieve certain health conditions and promote good health at the household level. Anyone intending to grow cannabis plants at home for health and medicinal purposes can do so by registering with the government.

Thai officials hope that a major new cannabis industry will blossom, not only generating hundreds of millions of dollars directly each year, but also attracting foreign tourists, who have only recently begun returning in large numbers after being largely absent during the COVID-19 pandemic. "This will enable people and the government to generate more than THB\$10 billion (around US\$320 million) per year in revenue from cannabis," Anutin wrote in his Facebook post.

Source D: *Statement by the representative of the Republic of Chile at the United Nation, 2 December 2020. The nationwide school-based surveys were conducted between 2011 and 2017 with 200,094 participants.*

In my country, 30.9% of the school population aged between 13 and 18 declared, in 2017, to have used cannabis at least once during the previous year. That percentage rises to 50.4% in high schools. In the case of students, there is a direct link between using cannabis and poorer school performance. The recreational use of cannabis by children and adolescents directly affects their memory, thoughts, concentration, movements, and coordination abilities. Insufficient scientific evidence about the medical benefit of cannabis has a direct impact on reducing the perceived risks of adolescents when using this drug. Since 2011, the risk perception of using cannabis in Chile among the youngsters has dropped from 48% to 21.9%.

Source E: *Comments from Singapore Law and Home Affairs Minister on the decision to reclassify cannabis to a less dangerous drug category by the United Nations’ drug agency, 5 December 2020.*

The recent decision by the United Nations to reclassify cannabis concerns us. I put this down to the power of money. Companies see a huge amount of profit, and a very undesirable idea that cannabis is not harmful, is being pushed. But the evidence that it is harmful is quite substantive. I said it to the United Nations - if there is evidence that cannabis is not harmful, we will change. But so far, no one has been able to show me otherwise. It should be doctors and medical associations who should be telling us that they need this for medical purposes and if so, a framework can be worked out, to be given to patients who need it, with suitable safeguards. It should not be profit-driven companies which decide, which cannabis products you buy over the counter, and say that it is for medical purposes.

Source F: *From the sales website of a medical cannabis dispensing company in Florida, America. The company posted quarterly revenue of USD\$318.3 million in May 2022. Florida legalised use of medical cannabis in 2016.*

Start Low, Go Slow

Explore cannabis culture at your own pace. There's no rush, "Start Low, Go Slow" to safely enjoy and maximize your experience.



1. Set yourself up for success
Take the time to reflect on the reasons you want to use cannabis. Gather all your supplies and set the right mood in your space.

2. The right method for you
Determine how you want to consume cannabis. The key for a first-time consumer is to take the correct dose to reach your desired effects.

3. Relax your body and mind
Entertain your mind to feed your mood and let your body figure out how to play music with this new instrument.

2021 Prelims from North Vista Secondary School (SRQ)

SECTION B (Structured-Response Question)

Answer **all** questions.

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1



On 18 February 2020, Finance Minister Heng Swee Keat revealed a budget aimed at managing short-term challenges and long-term economic development. There were measures aimed at lessening the impact of Covid-19, climate change, an ageing population and rising cost of living. This included a \$6.4 billion support package to help companies, households and frontline agencies tide over the rapidly evolving Covid-19 outbreak.

Extract 2

Born in Singapore on September 16, 1923, Lee Kuan Yew became the longest-serving Prime Minister in world history. Lee rose through the ranks of his country's political system before becoming the first Prime Minister of Singapore on June 5, 1959.

Extract 3

The ongoing pandemic has impacted Singaporeans in many ways. With businesses affected, and morale low, the government needs to know what to expect and how to react in order to swiftly manage the effects of COVID-19.

6. Extract 1 shows that it is challenging for the government to decide what is good for society.

In your opinion, why is it challenging for the government to make decisions for the good of society? Explain your answer with reference to two reasons. [7]

2021 Prelims from Nan Chiau High School (SRQ)

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

Due to the limited resources, the government has to decide between two or more things that cannot be obtained at the same time. For example, the scarcity of land in Singapore means the government will have seriously consider the optimum usage of land to develop Singapore. This will result in the government having to make trade-off.

Extract 2

An important role of the government is to ensure that the laws are applied correctly and independently through the justice system. One such example is the Family Justice Courts which protect individuals from family violence. The court can grant a person Personal Protection Order (PPO) if it concludes an individual faces harm. With the PPO, the individual will be protected by the justice system, by preventing or restricting people from entering the applicant's house or part of the house.

Extract 3

The government also safeguard the interests of citizens through various means. The Central Provident Fund (CPF), for example, ensures that the people save up sufficient money for their housing and healthcare needs and also serves as a source of income in their retirement years.

- 6** **Extract 1** describes the need to for the government to decide on how best to use limited resources and manage trade-off.

In your opinion, how can the government manage trade-off in planning for Singapore's development? Explain your answer with reference to **two** ways. [7]

- 7** **Extract 2 and 3** highlight the role of the government in working for the good of society.

Do you think ensuring justice is more important than safeguarding citizen's interest in working for the good of society? Explain your answer. [8]

List of Sample Structured Response Question 6

Issue 1: Exploring Citizenship and Governance

[7 marks]

1)	In your opinion, what can be done to strengthen the Singaporean identity? Explain your answer using two strategies.
2)	Suggest what you, as an individual, can do to meet the various needs of the elderly. Explain your answer using two ways.
3)	What can the government do to foster a sense of belonging among Singaporeans? Explain your answers using two strategies.
4)	Extract 1 states that there is a growing number of young drug abusers in Singapore. In your opinion, what can be done to keep young people away from drugs? Explain your answer using two strategies.
5)	How can youths in Singapore be encouraged to carry out more voluntary work? Explain your answer using two strategies.
6)	What do you think can be done to protect the rights of domestic helpers in Singapore? Explain your answer using two measures.
7)	Extract 1 states the need to focus on education of soft skills in Singapore. In your opinion, what can the government do to help equip secondary school students with soft skills required for future employment? Explain your answer using two strategies.
8)	Extract 1 reveals that the costs of healthcare for the elderly would continue to be more expensive in the future. In your opinion, what steps can Singaporeans take to ensure that they are able to afford healthcare costs when they are old? Explain your answer with two ways.

List of Sample Structured Response Question 7

Issue 1: Exploring Citizenship and Governance

[8 marks]

Sub-topic: What does citizenship mean to me?

1)	Do you think legal status is a more important attribute that shapes citizenship as compared to participation in public affairs?
2)	Do you think having a sense of identity or having shared values is a more important aspect of citizenship? Explain your answer.

Sub-topic: How do we decide what is good for society?

3)	Do you think differing needs and interests is a greater challenge than the unequal sharing of costs? Explain your answer.
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Sub-topic: What are the functions and roles of government in working for the good of society?

6)	Do you think maintaining law and order is more important than protecting a country's national interest in ensuring the security of Singapore? Explain your answer.
7)	Is ensuring economic and social well-being of citizens more important than its role in promoting and protecting a country's national interests? Explain your answer.

Sub-topic: How can we work together for the good of society?

12)	In working together for the good of society, do you think that the government addressing the needs of society play a more important role than citizens influencing decision-making in public affairs? Explain your answer.
13)	How far do you agree that the government's role strengthening citizens' sense of belonging is more significant than addressing the needs of society in working together for the good of society? Explain your answer.

Issue 2: Living in a Diverse Society

2021 Prelims from Geylang Methodist School (Secondary) (SBCS)

1 Study Source A

Why was the source published? Explain your answer. [5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

Do you think the blogger in Source B would agree with the cartoonist in Source C? Explain your answer. [6]

3 Study Sources D and E.

Having read Source D, does Source E show that Singaporeans like Kampung living? [7]

4 Study Source F.

How useful is this source as evidence about the revival of the Kampung spirit in Singapore? Explain your answer. [7]

5 “The weakening of the community spirit is inevitable with the progress and development in a country.”

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

Have Singapore's public housing developments killed the Kampung spirit?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

An important part of Singapore's treasured heritage is the Kampung (village) spirit, which refers to a sense of community and solidarity. Life in a Kampung was mostly harmonious and it was not uncommon for people to readily offer their neighbours food, help and support. As the nation progressed and these villages made way for housing estates, the Kampung spirit could still be seen to some extent. However, the Kampung spirit and vibrancy of Housing Board towns built during the 1960s and 1970s, such as Ang Mo Kio and Clementi, are found lacking in the newer ones like Sengkang and Punggol built in the 1990s and 2000s. The Singapore government is trying to keep the Kampung spirit alive, but this task is not an easy one. Most recently, the HDB tries to create vertical Kampung-like Kampung Admiralty in Woodlands, with more greenery, multi-generational arrangements, and amenities and other provisions all in the same place.

Study the following sources to assess whether the Kampung spirit is really on the wane in Singapore and whether it is possible to revive it?

Source A: *Taken from a blog post by a junior college student. She loves everything old school and looking back at memories of her childhood. Void deck, to her, is the space that we all remember but too faintly.*

The idea of void decks - as a communal space for residents to interact as well as hold events, functions and funeral rites - was introduced in the 1970s. It created a space for interactions between ethnicities. There used to be liveliness and vibrancy when we walked into any void deck, regardless of the time. We filled the "void" of the deck, with laughter and life. Alas, as we step into the present age, the Kampung spirit that was once representative of the Singaporean spirit has gradually disappeared, with neighbours not speaking to each other. Instead, we see just polite nodding or a small wave of the hands.

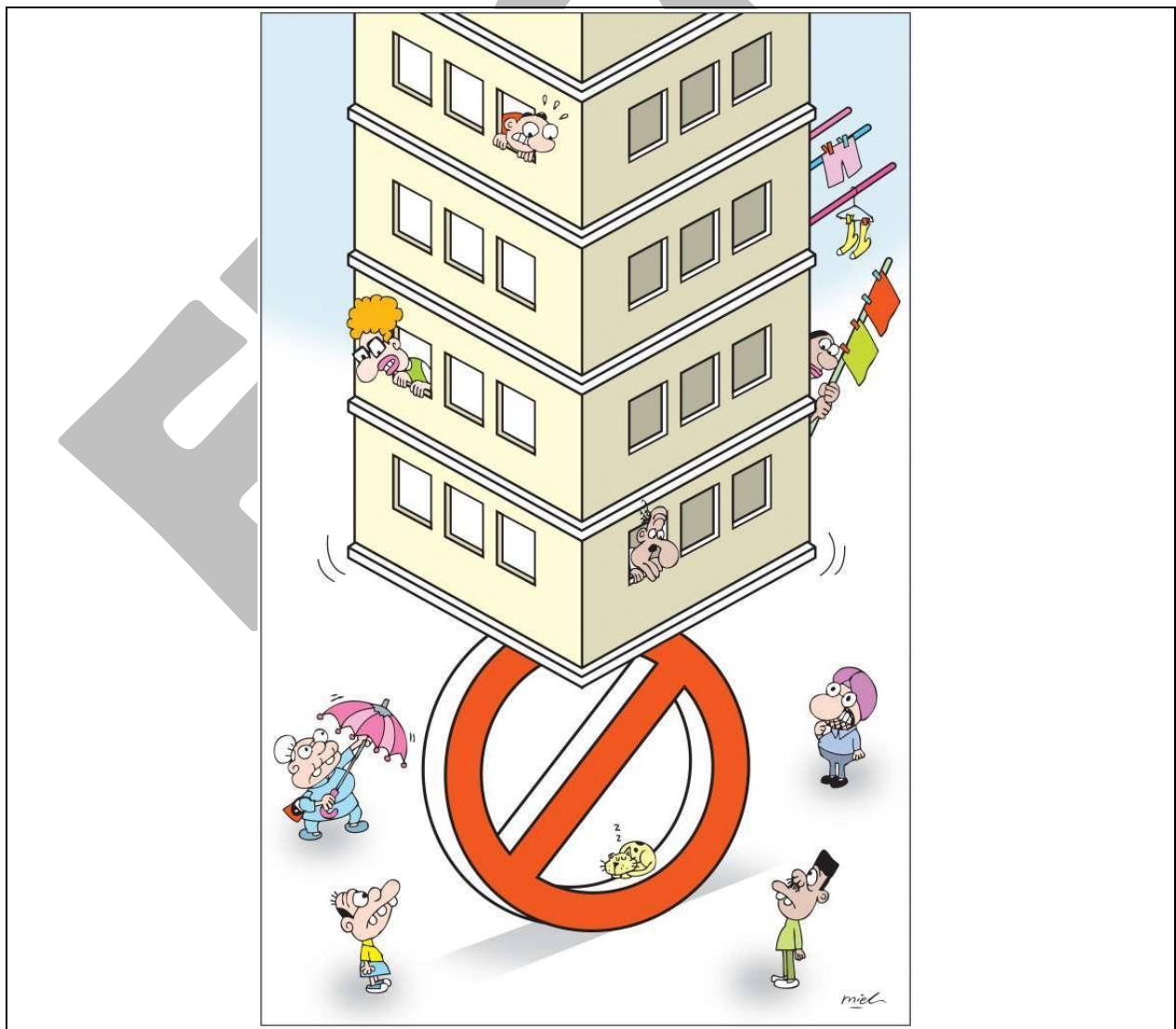
Source B: Taken from a blog “5 factors that are killing the HDB’s Kampung spirit”, published in 2019.

Is there anything more Singaporean than going to *lepak** in void decks? Back in the day, you could see barefoot kids playing soccer, badminton and chess in the afternoons. At the other side, ah mas and ah gongs would be playing ping pong; those are just memories we play back in our heads, today.

Three years ago, metal barriers and spikes were installed on walls, ceilings, and floors. This was to discourage ball games, as well as prevent people (mostly, the homeless) from sleeping in HDB void decks. Void decks are also growing smaller as newer estates focus on optimising land use. Space is also taken away for childcare centres and elderly centres.

**Lepak* is used to describe chilling out, or to relax at a place or home by not doing anything.

Source C: A cartoon accompanying an article on the dying Kampung spirit in Singapore published in *The Straits Times*, 2016.



Source D: *Taken from a Forum letter in The Straits Times, by a Singaporean, published on 24 Oct 1997.*

There is no doubt that our nation has to equip itself well for the 21st century. However, there are those among us who still dream of the good old Kampung days of slow-paced living. It was an era of close bonds of love and friendship between all races. More significantly, there was a true sense of family ties, and family picnicking was the best-loved recreational activity during the weekends and the holidays. But who says that, with progress or even greater progress, the picnicking has to stop or that the family's ties must become weaker or that mass friendship has to take a back seat and be a thing of the past?

We need to support our Government, which has been doing all the excellent navigating. I appeal to all mass communication networks to do their bit to help steer us to a greater tomorrow, not only for our national economy but for us as one united people. The networks ought to play a greater role, particularly in bringing back the good old Kampung spirit of good neighbourliness, close family ties and that special feeling that we are really one and not divided.

Source E: *Taken from a Channel News Asia commentary by Josephine Chia, published on 9 Aug 2019. She is a Singapore writer who has written some books about growing up in Kampung Potong Pasir in the 1950s-1970s.*

Kampung life was full of hardships and deprivations. I can vouch for it, being born and brought up in Kampung Potong Pasir, just off Upper Serangoon Road. Throughout those years, my family never had a tap in our house or a telephone. However, we took every opportunity to be jolly rather than moan our plight. We were rich in spirit. We always had to share our toilet and bathroom with our neighbours.

Nostalgia about the Kampung does not mean that I romanticise about the past. But the precious qualities of resilience and sense of community we shared in the kampung are qualities to emulate to build a strong, united nation.

Source F: *From Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's National Day message 2018. Kampung Admiralty is the first-of-its-kind development in Singapore, which integrates housing for the elderly with a wide range of social, healthcare, communal, commercial, and retail facilities.*

Kampung Admiralty, where retiree housing sits amid childcare, healthcare and other social amenities, is an example of what the Government is doing to transform education, healthcare and housing. It is bold and shows creative planning. It embodies the Kampung spirit - a colloquial term that refers to a community coming together to do things in unison. Kampung Admiralty is a model for future public housing. It meets a need as our society ages, encouraging the residents and their families to come together to build a community

2021 Prelims from Boon Lay Secondary School (SBCS)

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 you are told to use. In answering the questions you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 Study Source A.

Is the cartoonist a supporter or opponent of the terrorist attack? Explain your answer. [5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How far does Source B agree with Source C? Explain your answer. [6]

3 Study Source D.

Are you surprised by what Source D says about the New Zealand immigration policy? Explain your answer. [7]

4 Study Sources E and F

How far does Source E prove that Source F is wrong about the efforts of the government in preventing future attacks? Explain your answer. [7]

5 'The New Zealand government is to be blamed for the attack.

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

[10]

How effective were the New Zealand's government efforts in preventing terrorism?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

On 15 March 2019, an Australian gunman, Brenton Tarrant opened fire on two mosques in Chirstchurch, New Zealand. He first targeted worshippers inside the Al Noor mosque, then drove to the Linwood Islamic Centre where he continued his firing. He was eventually arrested before he could burn down the mosques after his attack. This entire incident was broadcasted on Facebook Live via a headcam he was wearing and shocked the world as global citizens saw how the attack unfolded. 51 people were killed and 40 injured.

Upon investigation, it was discovered that Brenton was a white supremacist who believed that white people are more superior than other races, hence should dominate them. This action was immediately deemed as a terrorist attack. As New Zealand Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, mourned respectfully together with the nation, she was quick to propose and pass New Zealand's first gun legislation within days of the attack. While her response was welcomed and applauded by many, some remained doubtful that the legislation will prevent future attacks as online hate speech and Islamophobia remain a huge threat.

Read the following sources to find out whether the New Zealand government is effective in preventing terrorism.

Source A: *A cartoon published by an Iranian illustrator on 15 March 2019, shortly after the shootings in Christchurch.*



**In the image, victims are depicted as bullet shells.*

Source B: *Excerpt from a speech made by Mr Gamal Fouda, an imam* of Al Noor mosque on 22nd March 2019, a week after the attack.*

The terrorist tried to tear the nation apart with evil ideology. Instead we have shown that New Zealand is unbreakable. And that the world can see injustice an example of love and unity. We are determined to not let anyone divide us.

Islamophobia kills. Muslims have felt its pain for years around the world. Islamophobia is real. It is a targeted campaign to dehumanise and irrationally fear Muslims. To fear what we wear. The choice of food we eat. To fear the way we pray and the way we practise our faith.

We call on governments around the world, including New Zealand's and its neighbouring countries, to bring an end to hate speech and the politics of fear. The martyrdom of 50 people and the injury of 42 did not come overnight, it was the result of the anti-Muslim rhetoric of some political leaders, media agencies and others.

**An imam is a worship leader of a mosque, who may lead Islamic worship services and serve as community leaders.*

Source C: *An excerpt from the parliament address made by Ms Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand on 19 March 2019.*

That quiet Friday afternoon has become our darkest of days. But for the families, it was more than that. It was the day that the simple act of prayer — of practicing their Muslim faith and religion — led to the loss of their loved ones' lives. We cannot know your grief, but we can walk with you at every stage. And we will surround you with love, compassion and all that makes us, us. Our hearts are heavy but our spirit is strong.

In a place that prides itself on being open, peaceful, diverse. And there is anger that it has happened here. We cannot allow this to happen again. Part of ensuring the safety of New Zealanders must include a frank examination of our gun laws. Our gun laws will change.

We are a nation of 200 ethnicities, 160 languages. Let us acknowledge their grief as they do. We are one, they are us.

Source D: *A statement made by Australian Senator, Fraser Anning, about the Christchurch shootings on 15 March 2019. Mr Fraser Anning is known for his anti-muslim views.*

As always, left-wing politicians and the media will rush to claim that the causes of today's shooting lie with gun laws or those who hold nationalist views but this is all clichéd nonsense.

The real cause of bloodshed on New Zealand streets today is the immigration program which allowed Muslim fanatics to migrate to New Zealand in the first place.

Let us be clear, while Muslims may have been the victims today, usually they are the perpetrators. World-wide, Muslims are killing people in the name of their faith on an industrial scale.

Source E: *An article written by Dylan Asado, a lecturer at the Auckland Law School in New Zealand, published on the 28th August 2020.*

While these laws show that the government was willing and able to respond to the gun violence aspect, one cannot help but ask – what has been done to address the white supremacist, Islamophobic hate that drove the attacks and to stop these ideas from proliferating in the first place?

Justice minister Andrew Little acknowledged that the attacks showed that New Zealand had developed a climate that is “tolerant of harmful discriminatory expression” in which minority ethnic and religious communities are regularly subjected to hate speech online and offline. Therefore, as a matter of priority, he said the government was fast-tracking a review of our “woefully inadequate” hate speech laws and exploring how hate crimes could be made an offence in New Zealand. However, the government had still not introduced any bills or specific plans to reform New Zealand’s hate speech laws.

Source F: *An excerpt from the speech made by Rebecca Kitteridge, Director-General of New Zealand Security Intelligence Service during a national security conference in Wellington on 6 May 2021.*

Globally, the extreme online environment continues to spread a range of violent extremist narratives, conspiracy theories, hate and disinformation. The terrorist attacks of 15 March 2019 continue to influence violent extremism in New Zealand. The Christchurch attacks may inspire further attacks in New Zealand in the medium or long-term.

The highly professional staff in the intelligence and law enforcement communities are dedicated to the job of protecting the country against national security threats. But it is not their responsibility alone. We need the public to play their part. It was found that even if our systems were different or better, it’s unlikely that we would have been able to detect the Christchurch terrorist. He had already radicalised when he arrived here and he was determined to keep a low profile. When people radicalise here, though, we stand a better chance of detecting them, and families and friends play a crucial role in helping us.

2022 Prelims from Greenridge Secondary School (SBCS)

SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

Question 1 is **compulsory** for all candidates.

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.

- 1** Study Source A.

What can you infer from the source? Explain your answer. [5]

- 2** Study Sources B and C.

To what extent are the sources different? Explain your answer. [6]

- 3** Study Source D.

How useful is Source D in understanding the impact of assimilation? Explain your answer. [7]

- 4** Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source F, are you surprised by what Source E says? Explain your answer. [7]

- 5** 'Assimilation is the right approach to managing a diverse society.'

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

Is assimilation beneficial for minorities?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Assimilation is a process by which a minority integrates socially, culturally, and/or politically into a larger, dominant culture and society. The term assimilation is often used in reference to immigrants and ethnic groups settling in a new country. Over time, this is supposed to make the identity of the immigrants indistinguishable from the majority group in aspects such as cultural beliefs and practices.

An example is seen in France through its principle of *laïcité*, which means secularism. There is a clear separation of religious affairs from governance and no religion is favoured over another. This can help shape a strong French national identity that is not linked to factors based on race, ethnicity, religion or socio-economic status. However, assimilation is sometimes done forcefully and this is alleged in Xinjiang, China where it is claimed that members of the Muslim Uyghur minority had been detained in mass detention camps, termed "re-education camps" with the aim of changing their political thinking, identities and religious beliefs. This was done after repeated acts of violence from the more extreme Uyghur elements who were against Chinese control over almost every aspect of their lives.

Study the following sources to find out if assimilation is beneficial for minorities.

Source A: A photograph of the victorious French football team taken at the 2018 World Cup finals. Of the 23 players in the squad, around two-thirds are of Arab or African origins.



Source B: An opinion from Rayan Khelifi, a 21 year old French Muslim, 10 Dec 2020.

Last time, there were barely any mosques to go to for prayer and there wasn't any halal food in the supermarket. There are better amenities for us now. In that sense, it is easier and I am happy here. Where I live, there is a huge variety of communities – Africans, Jews, Muslims, Chinese – all living together without problems. We mix with each other. All the products in my restaurant are halal, but we have Jewish customers that come here because they like the food.

That being said, many problems still exist. It's mainly at the political level that is stirring up this hate. It's true that there still is racism in French society. But I try to ignore the small details because if you pay attention to the small details you will always find racism.

Source C: *An opinion from Bilal Yattara, a 31 year old French Muslim, 10 Dec 2020.*

The most important lesson is that we must respect other people and they must respect us. I think that if everybody did that, the world would be a much better place. Unfortunately, that isn't the case. France is supposed to be based on "liberté, égalité, fraternité" (freedom, equality, fraternity) but that's not the reality. Some people are more equal than others. That's the truth.

Macron, the current French President and top political leader, should quit and get out. He is introducing too many laws to control us. He is targeting Muslims. When he was elected, I was much more hopeful about what his intentions were and what he could achieve. But his approach has changed a lot since then. He is passing all of this legislation that will change our lives without consulting us. Why can't we have a say?

Source D: *An excerpt of a speech by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Long at the official opening of the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, 19 May 2017.*

We are a multiracial, multi-religious, and multi-cultural society. This diversity is a fundamental aspect of our respective identities. Our aim is integration, not assimilation. No race or culture in Singapore is forced into conforming with other cultures or identities, let alone that of the majority. Ours is not a society where every race will lose its uniqueness. Instead, we encourage each race to preserve its culture and traditions, while fostering mutual appreciation and respect among all of them.

Being Singaporean has never been a matter of subtraction, but of addition; not of limitation and reduction but of openness and expansion. So over time, each race has retained and developed its own culture and heritage; but each has also allowed itself to be influenced by the customs and traditions of other races. The result has been distinctive Singaporean variants of Chinese, Malay, Indian, and Eurasian cultures, and a growing Singaporean identity that we all share.

Source E: Remarks made by *Chen Xu, China's permanent representative to the United Nations, at the opening ceremony of the photo exhibition "Home: Glimpse of People from Various Ethnic Groups in Xinjiang" in Geneva, Switzerland, on March 2, 2020.*

Today, Xinjiang is at its golden time with the most rapid and stable development in history. 70% of its financial budget is allocated for public well-being, and sustained efforts are made to public projects in employment, education, medical care and social security. The right of people of various ethnic groups to use their own spoken and written languages is protected under the law, and their right to freedom of religious faith is guaranteed.

These remarkable achievements won't be possible without a safe and stable environment. Xinjiang prioritises safeguarding the fundamental interests of all ethnic groups and has taken a series of measures which includes setting up vocational education and training centers. These measures have greatly improved the security situation in Xinjiang and protected human rights of people from all ethnic groups. No terrorist attack has occurred in Xinjiang for more than three years. Trainees of the deradicalisation* program at vocational education and training centers have all graduated.

**Deradicalisation refers to a process of encouraging a person with extreme political, social or religious views to adopt more moderate positions on the issues.*

Source F: A cartoon depicting the fate of the predominantly Muslim Uyghurs. The Uyghurs are the largest minority ethnic group in China's north-western province of Xinjiang. The man in the middle is Xi Jinping, the President of the People's Republic of China.



2023 Prelims from Changkat Changi Secondary School

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 you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 Study Source A.

What does Source A tell you about people with disabilities applying for employment? Explain your answer. [5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How far does Source B agree with Source C? Explain your answer. [6]

3 Study Sources D and E.

Having read Source D, are you surprised by Source E? Explain your answer. [7]

4 Study Source F.

How useful is Source F as evidence of Singapore having inclusive workplaces? Explain your answer. [7]

5 “Employers play the most important role in ensuring inclusive workplaces for people with disabilities.” [10]

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

Has Singapore been inclusive to people with disabilities (PWDs) in the workplace?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

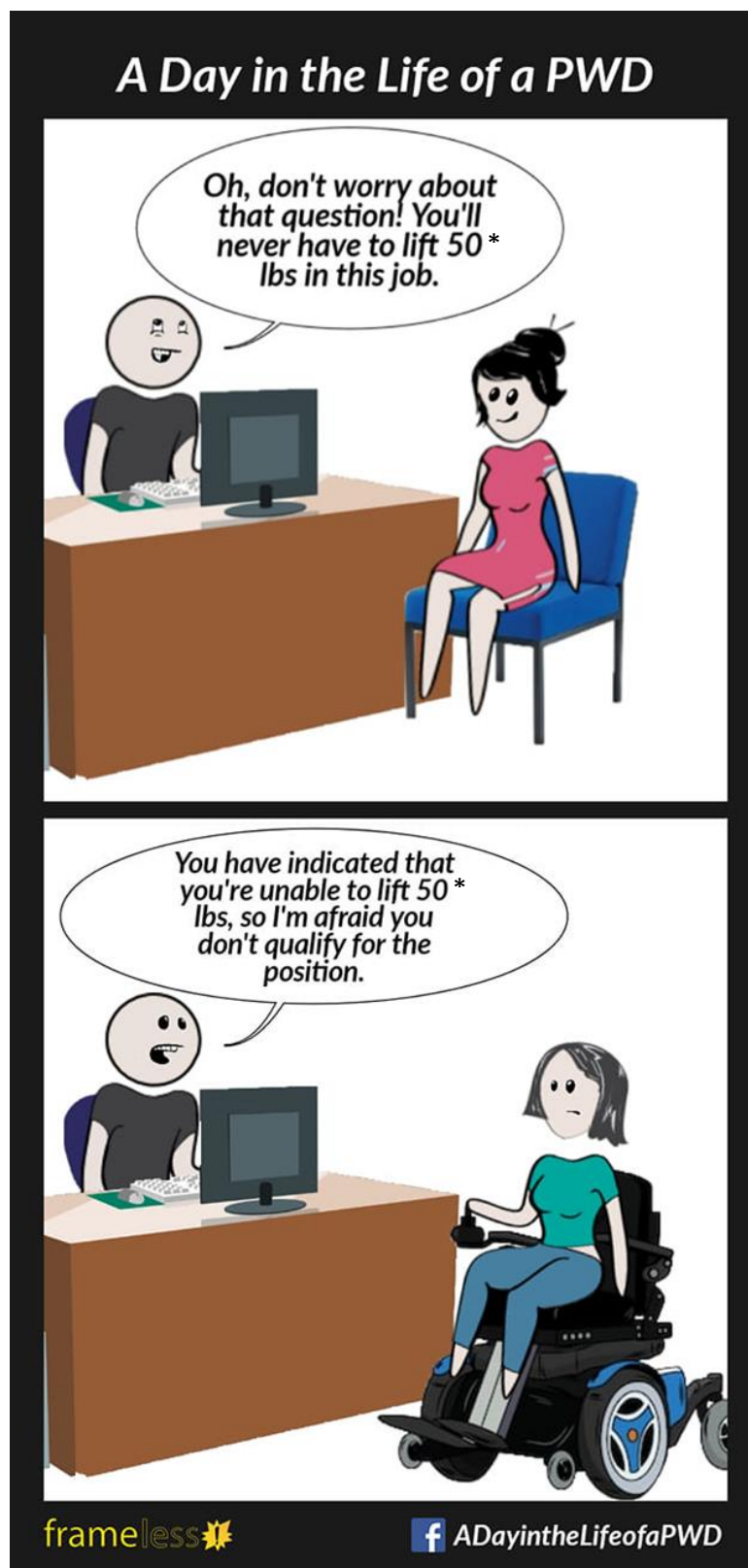
Singapore aims to have 40 per cent of working-age persons with disabilities (PWDs) employed by 2030. The goal was set out in the Enabling Masterplan 2030 (EMP2030) to support PWDs and enable them to contribute to society. The EMP2030 also came with initiatives for employers that would move the country towards this goal. The 40 per cent employment rate goal would mean employing another estimated 10,000 PWDs.

For many PWDs, graduating from school would mean that they have limited options, especially when they are unable to find employment. The government has been working to increase the number of day activity centres, as well as the options for adult disability homes. Social service agencies also have programmes such as sheltered workshops, place and train programmes, and other efforts to find suitable employment. The current employment rate of PWDs is about 30 per cent between 2020 and 2021.

Study the following sources to assess if Singapore has been inclusive to PWDs in the workplace.



Source A: An online cartoon about how people with disabilities (PWD) are treated differently from abled-bodied people during a job interview, published on a website by a person with disabilities (PWD).



*50 lbs: about 22.7 kilograms

Source B: *A news report about the employment situation faced by PWDs. SG Enable is the main agency for disability in Singapore. It is the first stop for PWDs, their caregivers and partners seeking to build an inclusive society and enabling lives.*

Representatives from SG Enable and Workforce Singapore aimed to help Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) find employment and acknowledged the bias some employers have against those with disabilities.

“Some employers hesitate to hire PWDs as they may have negative perceptions about them, such as them being less productive,” the agencies said. “They may also think that supporting an employee with disabilities would be too costly or require too much effort.”

Even after getting hired, PWDs face a lot of employment issues - low pay, a limited choice of jobs and impatient colleagues.

However, “with a reasonable amount of support and understanding, employees with disabilities are capable of working independently and be as productive,” they said.

Source C: *A report about how companies overcome their mindsets to employ PWDs.*

Apparel retailer Uniqlo currently employs 42 people with disabilities across its 28 stores in Singapore. Human resource director Juliana Tan said the company works very closely with job coaches from Minds Hi-Job!** to understand each employee’s profile and way of communication.

Uniqlo’s employees work under a buddy system where employees with disabilities work alongside fellow non-PWD employees and receive support as they adapt to the new environment. Assigned tasks are broken down into simpler steps for them to learn better.

Ms Tan said: “As with all employees, we focus on each person’s strengths and interests during training and assign tasks to maximise these capabilities.”

“The company has a worldwide goal to hire the equivalent of at least one PWD per store. This achieves two things: It enables PWDs to interact with other team members and achieve an independent life, while encouraging greater awareness, patience and inclusivity towards the PWD community.”

**** Minds Hi-Job!, a programme under the Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (Minds), is a job placement and support programme to help those with special needs seek employment opportunities.**

Source D: *From the website of the Ministry of Social and Family Development on how people with disabilities (PWD) are supported for employment by the government, August 2022.*

The Open Door Programme (ODP) provides support for up to one year to persons with disabilities and their employers, together with free job coaching and matching. Employers are supported by grants covering up to 90% of the cost of job redesign and support for course fees of up to 90% when sending supervisors and co-workers for training in integrating employees with disabilities into the workplace. Between 2014 and 2021, over 3,500 persons with disabilities were placed into new jobs through the ODP. About 600 organisations have acquired skills in implementing inclusive employment practices.

The Government also introduced the Enabling Employment Credit (EEC) in 2021. Employers of Singaporeans with disabilities earning less than \$4,000 per month can receive wage offsets of 20%. In 2021, the EEC supported close to 6,400 employers who employed more than 9,700 Singaporeans with disabilities.

Source E: *An online news article where a person with disability shares about his struggle in finding employment after his stroke, March 2020.*

Former construction company owner Chen Chee Min suffered a stroke which left him paralysed on his left side. Despite taking the initiative to get retrained, and seeking help, the 59-year-old has only been gainfully employed for one out of the last 10 years.

After Mr Chen completed an architectural software course, he interned for a year with non-profit BIM*** Studio. But after the internship, he was unable to get more permanent employment and was out of a job again.

Mr Chen took up more courses to boost his employment chances. The job offers that came were either unrealistic - one firm offered to pay S\$500 a month to design websites six days a week or the offers were suddenly withdrawn. He was told: "You don't have the right skills."

Mr Chen thinks it is his disability to blame, even though he had 28 years' experience in construction before his stroke.

***The BIM Studio (BIM stands for Building Information Modelling) is a social enterprise by Handicaps Welfare Association (HWA) alongside architect Yeo Chye Teck.

Source F: *An article published in The Business Times about how United Overseas Bank (UOB) employed people with disabilities to tap on their strengths, May 2022. The Business Times brings financial and economic views, analysis and commentaries on the Southeast Asian region.*

Huge volumes of paper had to be digitised and archived daily at UOB's Scan Hub department, back in 2012.

The bank looked into the possibility of tapping a new talent pool and found matching skill sets - which include a sharp eye for detail and high levels of concentration - in persons with autism. UOB hence began a long-term hiring relationship with the Autism Resource Centre (ARC) to supplement the overall workforce.

Today, 35 per cent of staff members at UOB Scan Hub have disabilities. Productivity has trended at over 100 per cent for the last few years and the attrition rate for this highly engaged workforce has dropped from over 50 per cent to under 5 per cent.

Building on its experience, UOB Scan Hub expanded its diverse hiring to include deaf persons, supported by Society of the Physically Disabled.

2022 Prelims from Maris Stella High School (SRQ)

SECTION B (Structured-Response Question)

Section B is **compulsory** for all candidates.

Living in a Diverse Society

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

Some Singaporeans feel that it is class divide, more than race and religion, which is the most prominent fault line in Singapore society. What sets the “high class” and “low class” populations apart in Singapore are their jobs and income, housing, ownership of wealth and education levels. This was the finding from an opinion poll commissioned by the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP).

Extract 2

Diversity may lead to undesirable experiences in society when members of one group develop prejudice against another.

Extract 3

One of the tensions associated with an influx of foreigners in the society is the competition for resources. Singaporeans are concerned about how the increase in foreigners could impact them negatively.

- 6 Extract 1 shows a worrying trend that social divide in Singapore may exist based on class.

In your opinion, what can be done to narrow the social class divide in Singapore? Explain your answer using **two** ways. [7]

- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 are about the challenges present in a diverse society.

Do you think that competition for resources is a greater challenge than prejudice and misconceptions in a diverse society? Explain your answer. [8]

2021 Prelims from New Town Secondary School (SRQ)

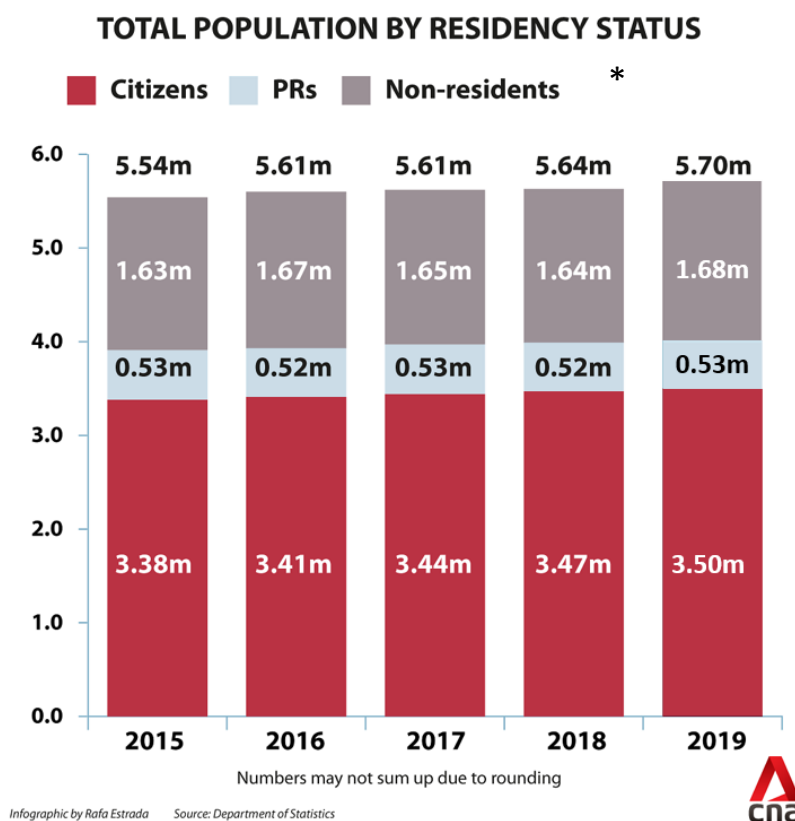
SECTION B (Structured-Response Question)

Answer **both** questions.

Living in a Diverse Society

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1



* Non-residents include foreigners working in the country.

In 2020, aside from the close to 400,000 foreign professionals holding either an Employment Pass (for foreign professionals, managers or executives) or S-Pass (for mid-level skilled staff), nearly all the rest are work permit holders in low-wage, low-skilled positions.

Extract 2

In order to manage socio-cultural diversity in the country, France adopts a policy of assimilation where immigrants are expected to adopt the beliefs and practices of the majority group living in France.

Extract 3

In Singapore, the government manages socio-cultural diversity by adopting the approach of integration where immigrants get to retain their unique identities while forging common ground with groups already living in Singapore.

- 6** Extract 1 reflects the increasing number of foreigners living and working in Singapore.

In your opinion, why must Singapore remain open to the movement of foreigners into the country? Explain your answers using **two** reasons. [7]

- 7** Extracts 2 and 3 reflect two approaches in managing socio-cultural diversity in society.

Do you think that assimilation is more successful than integration in managing socio-cultural diversity in the society? Explain your answers. [8]

List of Sample Structured Response Question 6

Issue 2: Living in a Diverse Society

[7 marks]

1)	What can the government do to foster a greater sense of belonging among newly naturalised citizens? Explain your answer using two ways.
2)	Extract 1 shows that more than half of the respondents in the survey agree that Singaporeans and foreigners have trouble getting along. In your opinion, why do Singaporeans and foreigners have trouble getting along? Explain your answer using two reasons.
3)	Extract 1 reflects that Singaporeans need to be more inclusive and celebrate diversity. In your opinion, what can be done to deepen the ties between people of different races and religions in Singapore to ensure a more inclusive society? Explain your answer using two strategies and explain how these strategies would be effective and feasible.
4)	Extract 1 shows Singapore government's initiatives to improve Singapore's healthcare services. In your opinion, how can an individual maintain healthy living? Explain your answers using two strategies.
5)	Extract 1 states that people in Singapore have encountered fake news in their daily interaction on social media. In your opinion, why does fake news pose a threat to Singapore? Explain your answer with two reasons.
6)	Why do you think it is important for Singapore to have a president of a minority race periodically? Explain your answer using two reasons.
7)	What can the consequences be on Singapore when Singaporeans make negative remarks about the different religions? Explain your answer by highlighting one social consequence and one economic consequence.
8)	What can schools do to effectively foster racial and religious harmony among students? Explain your answer using two strategies.
9)	What is the impact of poverty on Singaporeans? Explain your answer giving two impacts.
10)	Extract 1 shows that there are more mixed marriages in Singapore. In your own opinion, suggest why there are more mixed marriages in Singapore. Explain your answer using two reasons.

List of Sample Structured Response Question 7

Issue 2: Living in a Diverse Society

[8 marks]

Sub-topic: What are the factors that shape the identities of people and contribute to a diverse society?

1)	Is nationality or religion more important in shaping a person's identity in Singapore? Explain your answer.
2)	Do you think that the role of race and ethnicity is more important than socio-economic status in shaping one's identity? Explain your answer.

Sub-topic: What are the experiences and effects of living in a diverse society?

5)	To what extent do interactions between locals and immigrants bring more cultural opportunities than challenges in a diverse Singapore? Explain your answer
6)	Do you think Singaporeans' prejudice towards immigrants or the increase in competition for resources is a bigger challenge to maintaining a harmonious Singaporean society? Explain your answer.

Sub-topic: How can we respond to diversity in society?

7)	Do you think assimilation is more effective than integration in managing socio-cultural diversity? Explain your answer.
8)	Do you think that a shared responsibility approach is more effective than a government-financed approach in managing socio-economic diversity? Explain your answer.

Issue 3: Being Part of a Globalised World

2023 Prelims from Anderson Secondary School (SBCS)

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 you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 Study Source A.

What is the message of this source? Explain using details from the source. [5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How far would the author in Source B agree with the cartoonist in Source C? Explain your answer. [6]

3 Study Source D.

How useful is this source about the responses to cyber security challenges? Explain your answer. [7]

4 Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer. [7]

5 'The government should manage cybersecurity threats.'

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

How far have cyber security threats affected the lives of people?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

One of the biggest issues governments face today are cyber security threats. A cyber security threat is a hateful act that seeks to damage data, steal data, or disrupt digital life in general. Cyber-attacks can cause electrical blackouts, failure of military equipment, and data breaches* of national security secrets. They can result in the theft of valuable, sensitive data like medical records. When looking for a target, online threats are different, and they do not discriminate organisations from individuals. The question of who is responsible for cyber security has been hotly debated over the last few years

Study the following sources to consider how far cyber security threats have affected the lives of people.

Source A: A cartoon published on a social media site in Britain in 2021.



Source B: *Adapted from a news article published on Channel NewsAsia in 2021.*

According to cybersecurity experts, Singapore is already an attractive target for hacker groups. Being a highly digitalised society with a huge proportion of the population having internet access, Singapore can expect a lot of cybersecurity attacks. Singapore is also the Asia-Pacific headquarters for many companies, with a concentration of data and a concentration of people. This makes the country a “sweet target” for hacker groups. Singaporean companies know this and put in safeguards. Yet, if you look closely, many companies in Singapore, like in other countries, still use traditional antivirus technologies from Symantec and McAfee, which only protects them from older threats. Cyber threats are borderless and no country can deal with the rapidly evolving threat landscape alone. Consensus and agreement among nations are key to ensuring the success of cybersecurity cooperation. Singapore aims to be an active participant in this area.

Source C: *Adapted from a cartoon posted in a Singaporean blog in 2022 about the cybersecurity practices of local companies.*



Source D: *Adapted from an online report published in 2018 by Diligent Corporation, which is a renowned US-based cyber security company with secure data centres around the world.*

Singapore's businesses and organisations are prime targets for cyber-attacks such as ransomware— a profitable monetisation tool increasingly used by attackers. There is an underestimation of value-at-risk, and thus underinvestment in threat protection. Cyber resilience and readiness are generally low. Less than half of these organisations say that they are ready to detect and control data breaches. They either do not have incident response plans for when they are being attacked or they do not practise their incident response plans. The Singapore government is acting to improve the security readiness of businesses and organisations. A new cyber security law has been passed, and the national budget providing incentives for cyber security initiatives by private organisations has been increased. Fines for mismanagement of data breaches are now the highest in Asia.

Source E: *From a statement by the President of America, Joe Biden, 21 March 2022.*

This is a critical moment to accelerate our work to improve domestic cybersecurity. I have previously warned about the potential that Russia could conduct wicked cyber activity against the United States, as a response to the record economic costs we have imposed on Russia. My Administration will continue to use every tool to deter, disrupt, and if necessary, respond to cyberattacks against critical infrastructure. But the Federal Government can't defend against this threat alone. Most of America's critical infrastructure is owned and operated by the private sector and critical infrastructure owners, and operators must accelerate efforts to lock their digital doors. You have the power, the capacity, and the responsibility to strengthen the cybersecurity of the critical services and technologies on which Americans rely.

Source F: *From a statement by Minister for Communications and Information of Singapore Josephine Teo at the Cybersecurity Awards, 11 Nov 2022.*

I spoke to you at the last Cybersecurity Awards. Since then, unfortunately, there have been more cyber-attacks overseas. What this means is that we cannot afford to be lacking in vigilance, to be letting down our guard, and we must constantly remind ourselves that it is really not a question of if, but when. The factor that is critical for success is teamwork. We all know that no single individual, organisation or government can secure our cyberspace on its own. The Government is certainly committed to working and encouraging teamwork and partnerships across the public and private sectors. This is why the government has rolled out a series of cybersecurity toolkits. These toolkits help enterprise leaders learn about their specific roles and the measures they can take to keep their companies safe from cyber threats. I encourage business leaders and cybersecurity professionals present here to tap on these resources.

2021 Prelims from St Hilda's Secondary School (SBCS)

Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

Questions 1 to 5 are **compulsory** for all candidates.

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 you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

- 1** Study Source A.

What does Source A tell you about local SMEs? Explain your answer using details from the source. [5]
- 2** Study Source B.

Why do you think the comment was made? Explain your answer. [6]
- 3** Study Sources C and D.

How far do Sources C and D differ about government efforts? Explain your answer. [7]
- 4** Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer. [7]
- 5** 'Local SMEs will be able to survive the Covid-19 pandemic.'

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

What are the challenges that local Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) face during the Covid-19 pandemic?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) are a key pillar of Singapore's economy, contributing 50% of its national revenue and employing about 70% of its workforce. With the world economy seeing a sharp decline due to the COVID-19 pandemic, local SMEs struggle to keep their businesses alive. SMEs continue to face multiple challenges such as rising operating cost, falling profits and lack of expertise amid this global pandemic.

In response to the escalating COVID-19 situation, the Singapore government has delivered five financial aid packages as part of the 2020 Budget in support of SMEs. There have also been calls by the government for SMEs to embrace new technologies and digitalisation in order to keep their businesses afloat. However, over time, there have been increasing concerns that more local SMEs would have to cease operations in the face of the pandemic as they are unable to cope with the challenges.

Study the following sources to find out the challenges faced by local SMEs during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Source A: A cartoon about local SMEs during the COVID-19 pandemic, published in the Straits Times on 3 April 2020.



Source B: Comments by a business director of Nam Ho Travel, a Singapore travel agency, published on 31 August 2020.

With the tourism industry at a standstill, Nam Ho has had to innovate. Like many others in the industry, we have launched virtual tours to attract customers both locally and abroad. We have also set up an online store for consumers to purchase “trending” snacks and produce from overseas. We have turned our mini vans, which used to ferry tourists around Singapore, into school buses and delivery vans. We also plan to provide logistics and warehousing services. These initiatives have helped us to earn some profits to tide ourselves through this phase. And to enable our employees to assume these different tasks, most employees have attended relevant training courses. Help from government grants have also enabled us to stay afloat.

Source C: *Adapted from an online article written by a political activist on 10 April 2020.*

The government needs to take a greater lead in the face of the COVID-19 crisis and save businesses, particularly SMEs. SMEs are particularly vulnerable during this time. Many already face a 50 to 75 per cent fall in business. The current grants provided by the government are insufficient. SMEs are not able to survive. Is the government feigning ignorance and not listening to the cries of businesses? So far, we have only touched S\$17 billion in our past reserves. The government can well afford to give more. We are one of the few countries that have the resources to really support our businesses through the pandemic.

Source D: *Taken from a press release by the Ministry of Finance, 23 Jul 2021*

The government will provide a further enhanced support package to cushion the impact on businesses. This will include rental rebates for commercial businesses, and extended financial help for market and hawker centre stallholders. We want to support especially the hawkers and market stallholders whose livelihoods have been adversely affected. The government will also introduce a new Market and Hawker Centre Relief Fund whereby individual stallholders of cooked food and market stalls in centres managed by the National Environment Agency will receive a one-off cash assistance of \$500 per stallholder. In putting together these support structures, the government has taken into account the feedback from workers and businesses, and engaged businesses to understand their concerns. These measures have helped provide relief for businesses to sustain themselves during this period.

Source E: *Adapted from an online article written by a business strategist on 27 April 2021.*

In April 2021 alone, over 8,600 businesses in Singapore ceased operations. Many businesses are still refusing to jump onto the digital bandwagon and as a result, they are unable to thrive or sustain their income in the face of the pandemic. The government has also promptly created an online site to make it easy for SMEs to find out more about the available government grants that have been set aside to support SMEs through this period. Yet, some SMEs have chosen not to utilise these additional help as they find the application process bothersome.

Source F: *Taken from a speech by the Minister of State for the Ministry of Trade and Industry on 6 August 2020.*

When circuit breaker measures were introduced, Merlin Goldsmith, was one example of a traditional brick-and-mortar store in Little India that made a brave move to shift towards e-commerce and online sales. They began sending its employees for training and were swiftly able to put together a team equipped to handle digital sales. In the last few months, Merlin Goldsmith was able to ride the storm and successfully grow its online sales by 50 percent. I am heartened to see a significant number of our SMEs going digital and creating a new revenue stream for themselves.

2021 Prelims from New Town Secondary School (SBCS)

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

What is the impact of globalisation on individuals' jobs?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Globalisation, the growing interconnectedness among countries and businesses from different parts of the world, has led to the rapid spread of technology around the world. At times, technological advances provide individuals with increased business opportunities, and greater convenience and efficiency at work. Yet, it also means that many workers are at risk of losing their jobs. Some people may not be able to catch up with changes in skills required at the workplace due to increased competition from others around the world or from increasingly advanced robots.

Study the following sources to consider what impact globalisation has on individuals' jobs.

Source A: *A picture of workers from General Motors* outside a factory in America which closed down after 50 years of operation, March 2019.*



**An American Multinational Corporation that manufactures vehicles.*

***"Offshoring" refers to the practice of moving some of a company's operations overseas in order to take advantage of lower costs of production.*

Source B: *Adapted from an article on The Conversation, a not-for-profit research-based news site, August 2020.*

Properly regulated by the government, globalisation can be a powerful force to benefit societies. For those who live and work in poorer nations, globalisation can lead to greater prosperity, improve education standards, and enhance the economic and social standing of women. But not everyone gains from globalisation. Trade between United States and China has led to a negative effect on American workers, taking away 3.7 million jobs between 2001 and 2018. More than 75% of those job losses were in manufacturing.

As a result, it becomes increasingly important for the government to invest in supporting affected communities – the Department of Labour's "Trade Adjustment Assistance for Workers" programme helps workers affected by international trade with job training and

relocation assistance, subsidised health insurance and extended unemployment benefits.

Source C: *Adapted from an article on CNA, an Asian news network, February 2021.*

Governments of developing countries must seriously consider how technological changes will impact their workforce. China has increased its global contribution to manufacturing value-added goods, and has an advantageous position in using cutting edge technology. In the process, the country has made historic progress lifting its citizens out of poverty. China has accomplished this by raising worker productivity through technology and upskilling – helping its people to improve or acquire new skills.

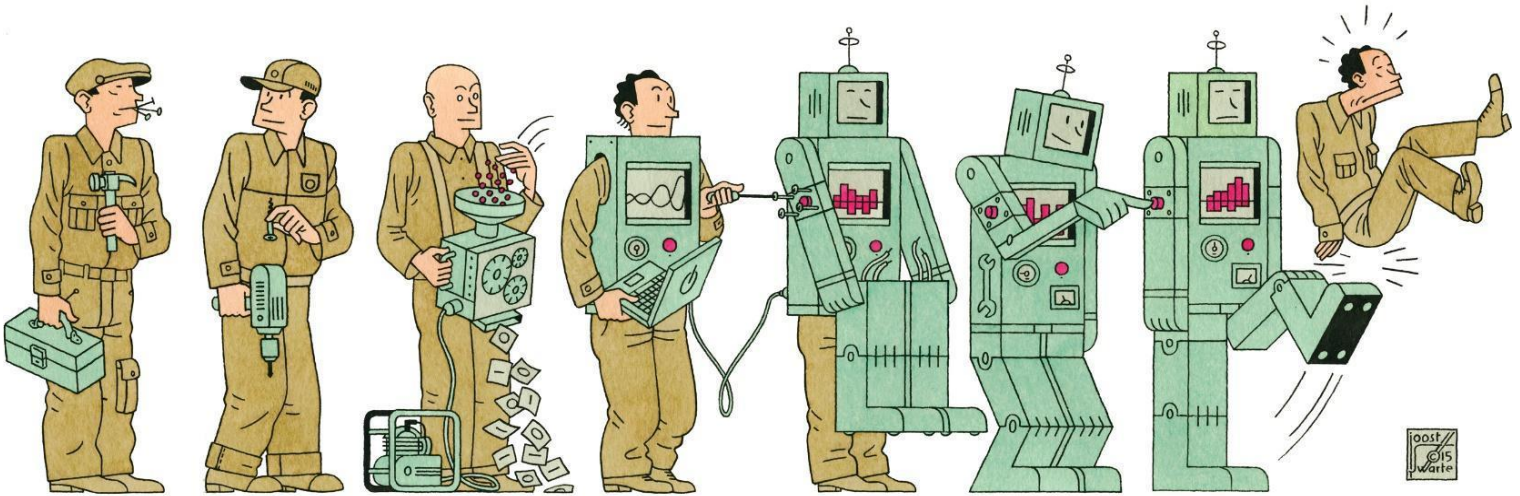
In India, the promise of higher paying jobs has attracted many rural workers into more developed areas, but these workers are often illiterate and lack sufficient skills. In the past, these workers would have had been able to find menial factory jobs. However, robots are now doing much of the low-skilled work, leaving them to be jobless. One way forward is said to be through upskilling workers to operate technology systems.

Source D: *From an article on a Canadian media site, May 2021.*

Today, during a virtual meeting with stakeholders, Canada's Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Carla Qualtrough, launched Skills for Success, a new skills training programme to help Canadians improve their foundational skills so they can find and keep good jobs. The programme will provide training to nearly 90,000 Canadians and help get them back to work.

Denise Amyot, President and CEO of Colleges and Institutes Canada, and Member of the Future Skills Council said that: "Skills for Success will make a difference for so many Canadians needing to reskill and upskill in the face of unemployment and disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This approach will be a game-changer in strengthening skills upgrading and will help Canadians who face barriers to education and employment succeed post-COVID and well beyond."

Source E: *A cartoon published by an independent media company, which was founded by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, June 2015.*



Changes in the job situation around the world...

Source F: *From a social media post by Singapore's current Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, August 2015.*

SkillsFuture provides Singaporeans opportunities to develop to their full potential, whatever their starting point may be. The SkillsFuture Earn-and-Learn Programme gives fresh Institute of Technical Education (ITE) and Polytechnic graduates a head-start in careers. They earn a full-time salary while learning new skills, so that they can upgrade to higher jobs. We have also created the SkillsFuture Credit. Every Singaporean aged 25 and above will get an initial \$500 of credit, with top-ups from time to time, to spend on training programmes throughout their lives.

2020 Prelims from Catholic High School (SBCS)

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 and understanding of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1. Study Source A.

Is the cartoonist supportive of a lockdown? Explain your answer using details from the cartoon. [5]

2. Study Source B.

Why was this source published? Explain your answer. [6]

3. Study Sources C and D.

How far would the authors of Source C and D agree with each other? Explain your answer. [7]

4. Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source E, are you surprised with Source F? Explain your answer. [7]

5.

'Individuals are supportive of lockdowns in curbing the spread of COVID-19'. [10]

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

To Lockdown or Not to Lockdown?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

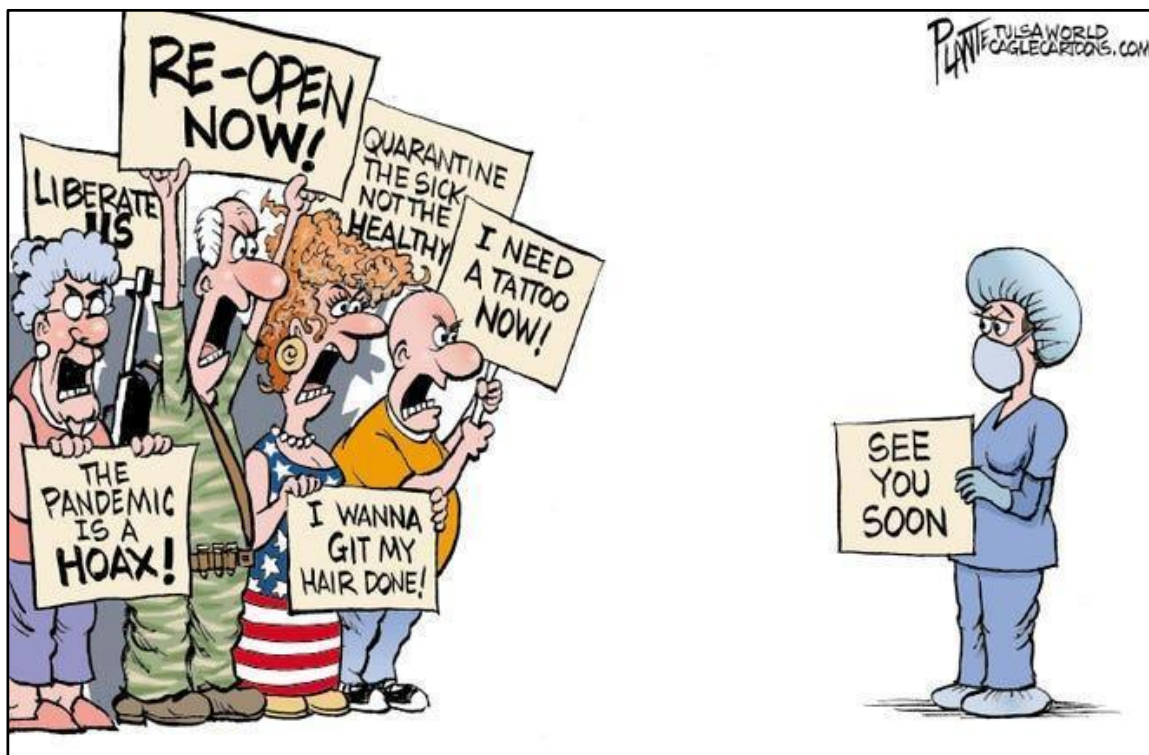
Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The disease was first flagged out to the World Health Organisation (WHO) by Chinese authorities in December 2019. As of 14 August 2020, more than 21 million cases have been reported across 188 countries and territories, resulting in more than 761,000 deaths. Common symptoms include fever, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath, and loss of smell and taste and the virus is spread primarily via small droplets produced by coughing, sneezing, and talking.

To prevent further spread of the coronavirus, many countries have implemented a lockdown, of varying degrees, to restrict movement of individuals – both internationally and domestically. While the lockdowns have seen some success in places like Singapore and China, critics question the sustainability of such a drastic measure, especially in light of some countries who seemed to have succeeded in controlling the disease without such curfews and restrictions. Furthermore, there were also questions raised on the economic sustainability of a global lockdown, threatening the livelihoods of millions.

Should we continue to rely of lockdowns in our management of COVID-19?
Read the following sources to find out more.

Source A: A cartoon published in an American newspaper on 24 April 2020.



Source B: A personal opinion by Mukesh Sharma published in an Indian newspaper on 13 July 2020. Mukesh is a grocery shop owner and small goods trader operating in the suburbs of Mumbai, India.

We are all on the verge of committing suicide due to our huge financial losses. At least 70 per cent of us run businesses on rented premises. Half of us stay in rented rooms. The havoc of the lockdown has destroyed our business. When we came out of the lockdown, we somehow tried to get back on track, but this fresh lockdown will devastate us. We are ready to face criminal cases, but we will keep our shops open. Are the authorities giving us rebate in taxes and instalments? How can they stop us from doing business? Even after relaxations, our businesses have not picked up by even 10 per cent. Fresh lockdowns will not guarantee that cases will reduce, but they will cause irreparable damage to business activities.

Source C: *A comment by Associate Professor Kenneth Mak, Director of Medical Services for the Health Ministry in Singapore. The comment was published in the Straits Times on 12 May 2020.*

Achieving herd immunity* to Covid-19 through natural infection in the population will lead to a higher number of deaths and infections and overwhelm Singapore's healthcare system. If we assume that we're going to let Covid-19 spread freely in our population, we will then have to accept the costs associated with more seniors getting ill, more seniors getting complications, and a significant number of seniors even dying from infection. We will then see also high numbers of patients with Covid-19 infection potentially in our hospitals, in our ICUs, and this is a situation, which is a very dangerous one.

** herd immunity: the resistance to the spread of a contagious disease within a population that results if sufficiently high proportion of individuals are immune to the disease. This often occurs due to natural infection when sufficient number of people in the population have recovered from a disease and have developed antibodies against future infection.*

Source D: *From an interview with Sir Patrick Vallance, Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government of the United Kingdom on 13 March 2020.*

Communities will become immune to it and that's going to be an important part of controlling this longer term. About 60 per cent is the sort of figure you need to get herd immunity. If you suppress something very, very hard, when you release those measures it bounces back. Our aim is to try to reduce the peak, broaden the peak, not suppress it completely; also, because the vast majority of people get a mild illness, to build up some kind of herd immunity so more people are immune to this disease and we reduce the transmission, at the same time we protect those who are most vulnerable to it, such as the elderly.

You can't stop it, so you should end up with a broader peak during which time you'd anticipate that more people would get immunity. That in itself becomes a protective part of this process.

Source E: *From an article titled, 'Swedes rapidly losing trust in COVID-19 strategy, poll finds', published on an online news site, 26 June 2020.*

Swedes are losing trust in authorities' handling of COVID-19, as the man behind the country's light-touch approach, Anders Tegnell, called lockdowns a form of madness. A public opinion survey this week showed confidence in the country's management of COVID-19 had fallen 11 points to 45% since April, with backing for the national public health agency down 12 points. The proportion of respondents satisfied with the government's actions in the pandemic also fell to 38% in June from 50% the previous month, while the personal approval rating of the Prime Minister, Stefan Löfven, also slid 10 points.

Sweden's 5,230 deaths translates to a toll per million inhabitants of 511, many times higher than the corresponding totals in neighbouring Denmark (104), Finland (59) and Norway (47), all of which imposed strict confinements*. Tegnell conceded earlier this month that the country has had too many deaths – particularly in care homes.

**Sweden is one of the few countries in the world that declined to 'lockdown' and relied on the collective sensibilities of its people, with hopes of herd immunity.*

Source F: *From an official address by Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven at a press conference on 2 July 2020. Löfven called for a shift in approach and ordered an inquiry into the handling of the COVID-19 virus.*

The ability of the entire community to come together is one of Sweden's great strengths. But at the same time this crisis has put a spotlight on shortfalls in our society. The committee would be tasked with evaluating the government's, the authorities', the health regions' and municipalities' measures to curb the spread of the coronavirus and the effects of the spread. The crisis has highlighted the shortcomings in our society. We have thousands of dead. Now the question is how Sweden should change, not if. We did not manage to protect the most vulnerable, the elderly, despite our best intentions.

2022 Prelims from ACSI (BR) (SRQ)

Being Part of a Globalised World

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions

Extract 1



Extract 2

Globalisation contributes to the exchange of cultural values of different countries. These services or products often reflect and impose foreign cultural ideas. This process is known as cultural homogenisation.

Extract 3

Foreign culture can influence local culture through hybridisation whereby there is a blending of the two cultures.

- 6 Extract 1 shows that there has been an increase in the number of online scam victims in Singapore.

In your opinion, why do Singaporeans fall for online scams? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons.

[7]

- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 highlight the cultural impact of globalisation.

Do you think cultural homogenisation has a greater impact on local culture than cultural hybridisation? Explain your answer.

[8]

2022 Prelims from Anglican High School (SRQ)

SECTION B (Structured-Response Question)

Answer **all** questions.

Being Part of a Globalised World

Extract 1

Singapore has never experienced a high-profile terror attack like 9/11, an incident which damaged the United States of America. The threat of such an attack in Singapore is at its highest level in recent times. The Singapore government has taken measures to counter this concern.

Extract 2

One of the roles of a citizen is to protect his country. This includes helping to fight terrorism.

Extract 3

Transnational terrorism has grown as a threat in recent years. Governments around the world are committed to work together to manage this challenge.

6. Extract 1 highlights that terrorism continues to be a challenge for Singapore.

What would be the consequences should terrorists succeed in executing a high-profile attack in Singapore? Explain your answer with reference to **two** impacts.

[7]

7. Extract 2 and Extract 3 reflect on the roles the citizens and the international community play in countering terrorism.

Do you think that actions of citizens are more important than cooperation with international partners in countering terrorism? Explain your answer.

[8]

List of Sample Structured Response Question 6

Issue 3: Being Part of a Globalised World

[7 marks]

1)	<p>Extract 1 shows that Singapore is an attractive destination for foreign talent to come to live and work.</p> <p>In your opinion, how can Singaporeans ensure they remain relevant in this globalised world with an influx of foreign talent to Singapore? Explain your answer using two strategies.</p>
2)	<p>Extract 1 shows how globalisation impacts the income of individuals.</p> <p>In your opinion, how can individuals remain competitive when globalisation can result in loss of income? Explain your answer by giving two strategies.</p>
3)	<p>Extract 1 shows the number of employees who were retrenched in Singapore between 2013 and 2017.</p> <p>In your opinion, how can the Singapore government assist Singaporeans to prepare themselves from being adversely affected by globalisation? Explain your answer using two strategies.</p>
4)	<p>How can individuals in Singapore be encouraged to be more vigilant about cyber security? Explain your answer using two strategies.</p>
5)	<p>Extract 1 states the growing threat of self-radicalization by terrorist groups like ISIS in Singapore.</p> <p>In your opinion, how can Singapore manage the threats of self-radicalization? Explain your answer using two strategies.</p>
6)	<p>Extract 1 is an account of a terrorist attack which happened in the United Kingdom.</p> <p>In your opinion, what are two ways in which the Singapore government can reduce Singapore's vulnerability to transnational terrorist threats?</p>
7)	<p>Extract 1 highlights the simulation exercise carried out by the government to manage terrorism in Singapore.</p> <p>In your opinion, why does the government want to carry out such exercise as an attempt to counter terrorism in Singapore? Explain your answer using two reasons.</p>
8)	<p>Extract 1 shows McDonalds modifying their food to suit local taste.</p>

	In your opinion, why is there hybridisation in McDonalds in Singapore? Give two reasons to account for the situation.
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List of Sample Structured Response Question 7

Issue 3: Being Part of a Globalised World

[8 marks]

Sub-topic: What are the factors that contribute to globalisation?

1)	Do you think that improvements in transportation is a more important driving force of globalisation than growth of multinational corporations? Explain your answer.
2)	Do you think the developments in transportation are a more important driving force of globalisation than the developments in digital technology? Explain your answer.

Sub-topic: How can we respond to the economic impacts of globalisation?

3)	Do you think the economic impact faced by companies is more serious than the economic impact faced by individuals? Explain your answer.
4)	How far do you agree that the economic benefits of globalisation far outweigh the disadvantages on countries? Explain your answer.

Sub-topic: How can we respond to the cultural impacts of globalisation?

5)	Do you think the spread or dilution of culture due to the cultural impact of globalisation is of a greater concern? Explain your answer.
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Sub-topic: How can we respond to the security impacts of globalisation?

7)	Do you think cyberattacks or terrorist attacks have a greater impact on citizens of a country? Explain your answer.
8)	Do you think vigilance by individuals is more important than cooperation among countries in managing acts of transnational terrorism? Explain your answer.

Full Practice Papers

2021 Prelims from Fairfield Methodist School (Secondary)

Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

Questions 1 to 5 are **compulsory** for all candidates.

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 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.

What does Source A tell you about the impact of the US-China trade war? [5]

2 Study Source B.

Why was this source published? Explain your answer. [6]

3 Study Source C and Source D.

Having read Source C, are you surprised by Source D? Explain your answer. [7]

4 Study Source E.

How useful is Source E in telling us about the impact of the US-China trade war on companies? Explain your answer. [7]

5 Study all sources.

‘The US-China trade war was beneficial.’

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

ISSUE: How has the US-China trade war affected the global economy?

Background Information

The United States and China are the two largest economies in the world. Chinese foreign trade continued to grow rapidly after its admission into the World Trade Organisation in 2001, with bilateral trade between the US and China rising to almost US\$559 billion in 2019.

However, trade between the two countries was lopsided, with the US running a large and growing trade deficit¹ with China. This became a major political issue in the 2016 US presidential campaign where Donald Trump signaled his intention to impose tariffs² on China. The US, which accused China of unfair trading practices, launched a trade war against China in July 2018. This meant that the US and China imposed tariffs on goods imported from the other country. Buyers in the opposing country needed to pay higher import tariffs to bring their purchases into the country.

At its peak at the end of 2019, the US had imposed tariffs on more than US\$360 billion worth of Chinese goods, while China had retaliated with import tariffs of their own, worth around US\$110 billion, on US products.

While the retaliating moves by China and the US were not good for either country's economy, some experts have argued that other nations may benefit due to trade diversion³.

Study the following sources to find out how the US-China trade war has affected the global economy.

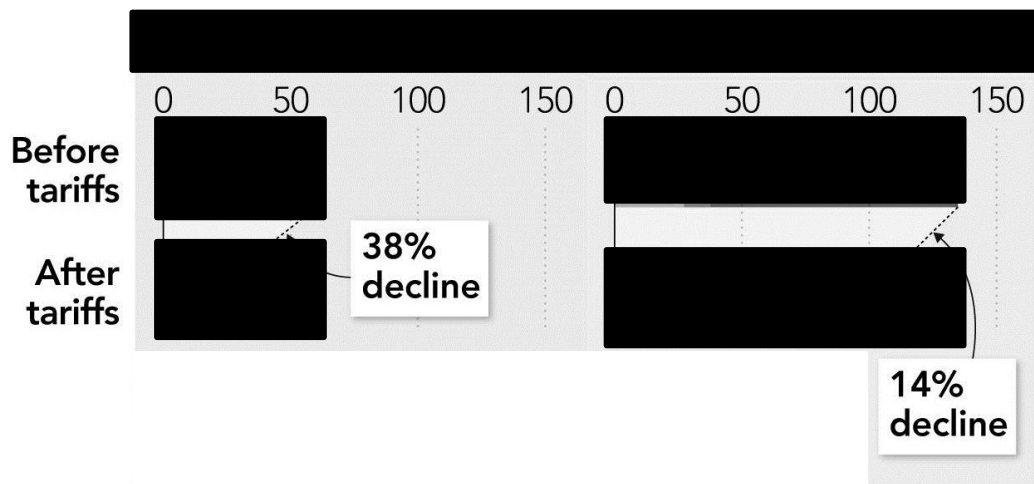
¹ A trade deficit is a situation in which a country buys more from other countries than it sells to other countries.

² Tariffs are additional fees paid when buying or selling a product.

³ Trade diversion means that trade shifts from one country to another.

Source A: A chart depicting US and China exports subjected to three rounds of tariffs from July 2018 to April 2019, published in a Japanese financial newspaper on 6 July 2019.

Exports subject to tariffs (*in billions of dollars*)



Source B: A cartoon published by *China.org.cn* on 29 March 2018. *China.org.cn* is China's national online news service.



Source C: An adapted commentary published on the company website of *Nomura*, a Japanese financial consulting company that handles investments worldwide, on June 2019.

... As tit-for-tat tariff hikes between the US and China increase, so does the cost of importing from each other. However, there is a silver lining: the two countries diverting imports away from each other potentially benefits industries in different economies, making suppliers in the rest of the world more competitive relative to US and Chinese firms. Vietnam is by far the largest beneficiary, gaining 7.9% of GDP from trade diversion, where trade diversion is mostly additional US imports.

The benefit from trade diversion can represent a substantial boost to the exports of third-party countries with smaller economies and can be even more substantial for particular industries within these third party countries.

Source D: A study published by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on 6 November 2019. UNCTAD seeks to support developing countries to access the benefits of a globalised economy more fairly and effectively.

The analysis shows that US tariffs caused a 25% export loss, inflicting a US\$35 billion blow to Chinese exports in the US market for tariffed goods in the first half of 2019. Of the \$35 billion Chinese export losses in the US market, about \$21 billion (or 63%) was diverted to other countries, while the remainder of \$14 billion was either lost or captured by US producers. According to the report, US tariffs on China resulted in Taiwan gaining \$4.2 billion in additional exports to the US in the first half of 2019 by selling more office machinery and communication equipment. The European Union gained about \$2.7 billion due to increased exports, largely in the machinery sector. Trade diversion effects favouring African countries have been minimal.

Source E: An article published by an American business news agency on 4 June 2019.

Looking at products subject to higher tariffs, economists found that levies imposed by Washington on China pushed US-based firms to opt for alternative sources for many sets of products. On the other hand, China's tariffs on the US resulted in Chinese importers buying soybeans, aircraft, grains and cotton products from other countries. While the study showed that third-party economies can benefit in the US-China tensions by becoming substitute sources for goods subject to elevated tariffs, economists warned that the findings don't paint the full picture of the trade war. "There are many other forces at work and the overall economic impact on most countries will be negative," they said. The detrimental effects may include companies holding back investment plans due to uncertainties over trade, and falling demand in the US and China because companies and consumers in both countries end up facing higher costs due to the tariffs.

Section B (Structured Response Question)

Questions 6 and 7 are **compulsory** for all candidates.

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

The Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act, commonly abbreviated as POFMA and known colloquially as the Fake News Law, enables authorities to tackle the spread of fake news or false information. POFMA's primary tools to correct falsehoods are correction directions which require recipients to insert a notice against the original post, with a link to the Government's clarification. The clarification sets out the falsehoods and facts for the public to examine, without the original post being removed. Readers can read both the original post and the clarification, and decide for themselves what the truth is.

Extract 2

Every society will have differing needs and interests, and it is a matter of how we resolve the issue so that we can make the best decision for society.

Extract 3

Each decision made for society will always benefit someone and burden someone else. We just have to try our best to do what we think is right for the country.

- 6 Extract 1 shows how the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act (POFMA) works.

In your opinion, how can POFMA benefit Singapore society? Explain your answers with reference to two benefits. [7]

- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 speak about the challenges that leaders face when deciding what is good for society. Two of the challenges are the need to manage differing needs and interests and the unequal sharing of costs.

Which of the two do you think is a greater challenge for leaders when they make decisions for the good of society? [8]

2022 Prelims from Riverside Secondary School

Section A: Source Based Case Study

Answer **all** questions.

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

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 you are told to do so. In answering the questions, you should use knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 Study Source A.

Why was this source published? Explain your answer using details of the source. [5]

2 Study Source B.

How useful is this source as evidence about Singapore's education system? Explain your answer. [7]

3 Study Sources C and D.

How far would the author in Source C agree with the cartoonist in Source D? Explain your answer. [6]

4 Study Sources E and F

After reading Source E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer. [7]

5 'Public education prepares citizens to be successful in society'

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

What is the impact of public education on societies?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

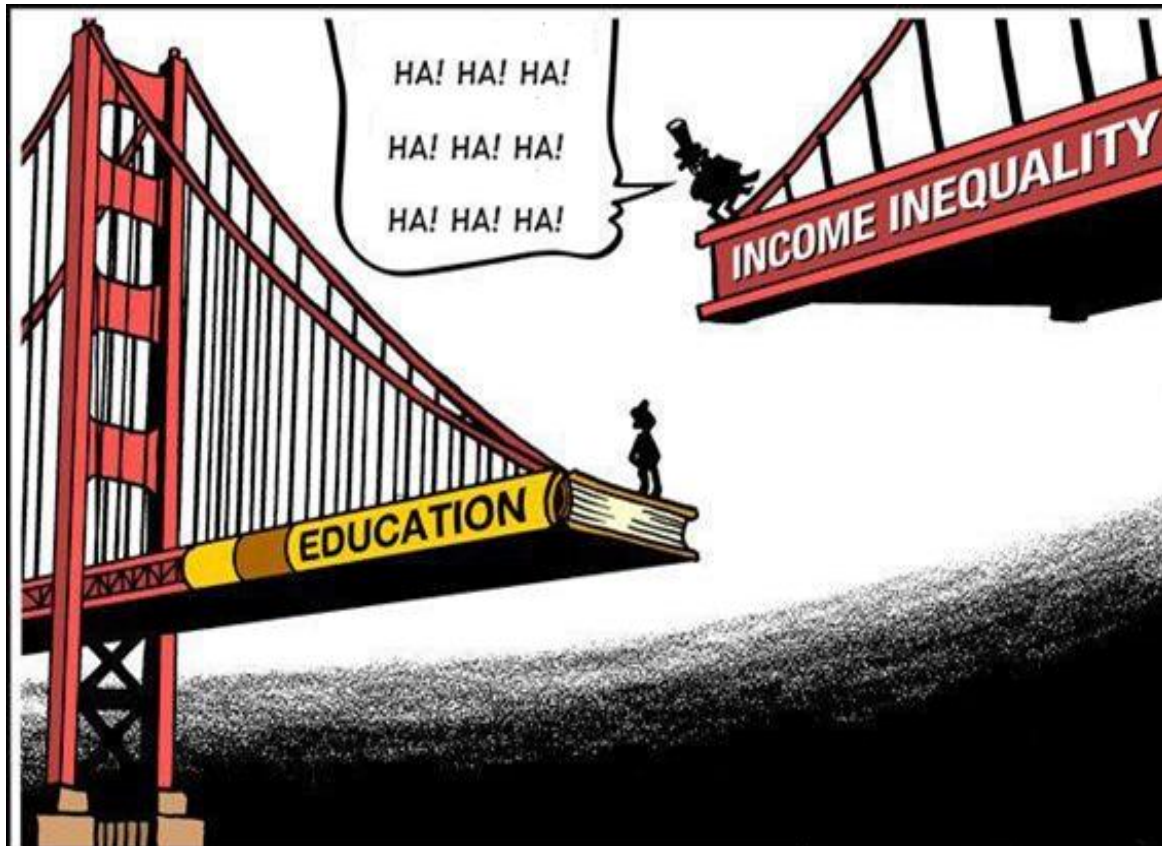
Read this carefully. It may help you answer some of the questions.

Nearly all nations in the world understand the importance of education, and in doing so, put in the effort and financial support into upgrading their citizens for future societal development. This enables children and youth to build the economic and soft skills they need to thrive in work, life, and citizenship in the 21st century. Theoretically, more education equals more economic growth, which leads to positive societal change.

However, through the decades, many of these countries have come to realise that the established systems put in place may be outdated, and there's been constant debate and discussions within education systems on what works, and what doesn't. Does public education still help in upward social mobility, tackling societal problems, and in building a skilled workforce that is relevant in a globalised world?

Study the following sources to find out about the impact of public education on societies.

Source A: From a cartoon published in 2015 in an American university newspaper, highlighting the current state of the American education system and the prospects of its graduates.



Source B: From a blogpost in 2016 of a banker, who was a former Singaporean who renounced his citizenship to take up British citizenship after he completed his National Service when he turned 21 years old.

I do feel that in Singapore, there are two fundamental problems. Firstly, the balance is wrong – there is too much emphasis on the breadth of knowledge: this is worst during secondary school where students are made to prove just how versatile they are in completely different disciplines from Physics to English Literature to Mathematics. Many students go on to do very general courses at polytechnics and universities which try to give them a broad range of skills rather than turn them into specialists. Upon graduation, they struggle to find a job because they are just not highly skilled enough in any particular discipline. They are undoubtedly well-educated but are just not in a position to easily find a job. They have a great breadth of knowledge but lack depth in any area. The system has failed them.

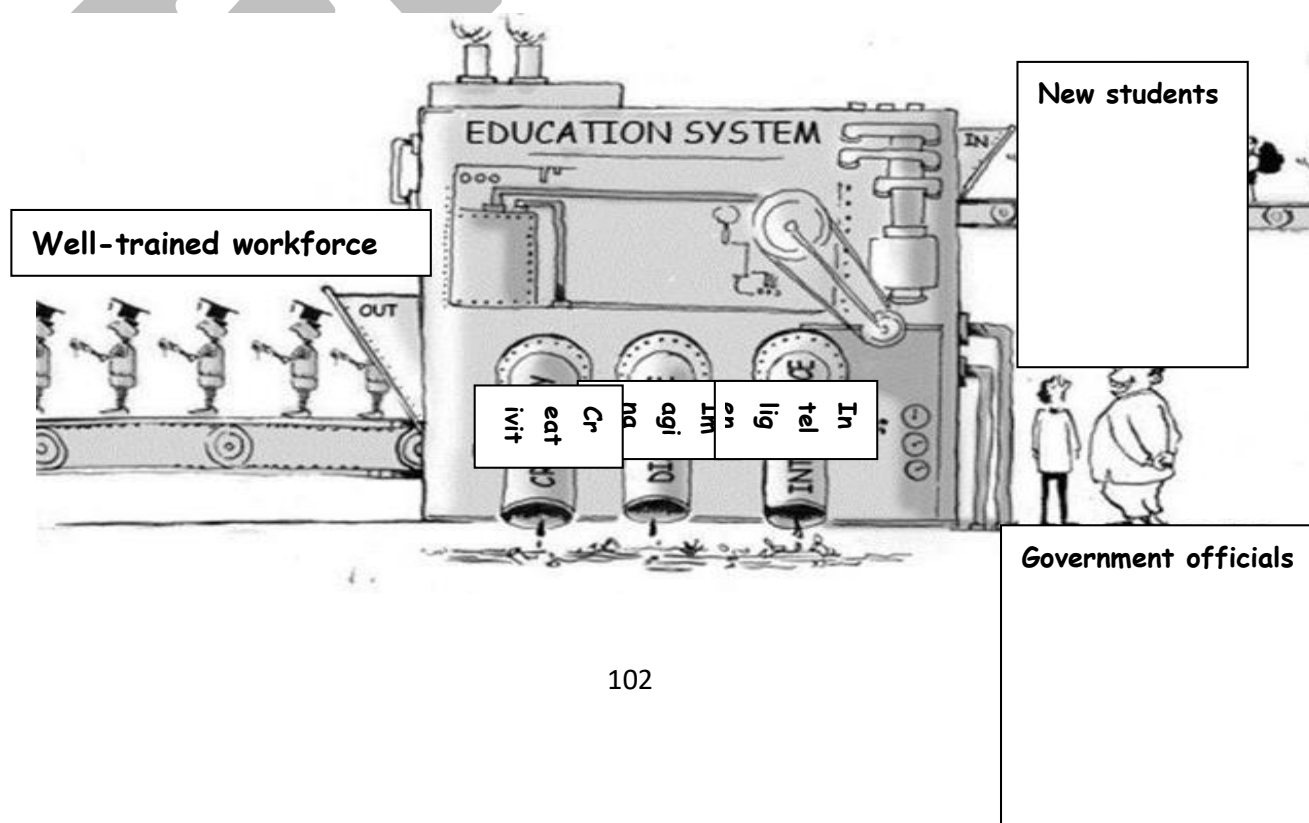
Source C: From a book published in 2020, analysing the Netherlands education system and its associated outcomes.

The Netherlands education system is generally considered to be of top quality. Dutch pupils consistently perform above average in the PISA* study, and a report from the study noted that its school system is one of the best, with a very low proportion of poor performers. Basic skills are very good on average, while the system is enhanced by a strong post-secondary education which trains graduates to produce good labour outcomes for the country.

The country is also ranked 2nd behind Switzerland in the [Global Innovation Index](#), a study that measures research performance and potential for innovation, and ranked 6th in a recent World Economic Forum study in measuring upwards social mobility, or the movement between social-economic classes.

* The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) is a worldwide study in nearly 80 nations of 15-year-old students' scholastic performance in mathematics, science and reading

Source D: From a cartoon published in 2020 by the International Institute for Research and Education (IIRE), a non-profit organisation that analysed the Dutch education system. The IIRE has headquarters in the Netherlands, and offices in Manila and Mexico.



Source E: From an interview of Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong by the Today newspaper, on 11 April 2014.

We may spend a lot, but it is a good system and it delivers good results for us. There is no youth unemployment problem here, unlike in many other countries. Graduates from Singapore's schools, such as universities, polytechnics and the Institute of Technical Education, are highly sought after by employers and manage to get good jobs, with high starting salaries. Singapore students have also performed well in international competitions and comparison studies, such as the PISA test. It's a difficult test, no 10-year-series, no studying for it. You need common sense, you need to be able to think, to have creativity and judgment.

Source F: From a 13 April 2014 interview in the Singapore Business Review of Dr Viva Sinniah, Dean of the PSB Academy, a private university in Singapore.

Our education system has consistently topped international educational rankings like PISA and produced students that win international competitions. While these awards may be useful locally, they are not clear indicators that Singapore will maintain her global competitive edge. A closer look at certain reports has revealed that creativity was not a widespread trait among Singaporeans as we have been underperforming in areas of creative outputs like domestic trademarks applications and creative industry exports.

To help students excel, our government has given even more funding to restructure its education curriculum and place greater emphasis on reading, mathematics and sciences. Through this, the government hopes to help its students appreciate the relevance and value of what they learn in the school curriculum, and develop stronger motivation and purpose to acquire knowledge and skills to solve real-world problems.

SECTION B (Structured- Response Question)

Answer **all** questions.

Living in a Diverse Society

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

According to a 2018 mental health survey conducted by the Institute of Mental Health (IMH), approximately 14% of Singaporeans have experienced some form of mental health condition in their lifetime, up from 12% in 2010. Despite this, many of these people do not seek any form of help for their mental health conditions and those who do tend to do so after a significant delay after the occurrence of the condition.

Extract 2

Some 70% of residents called for strict limits on the number of foreigners coming into the country, as foreign labour has been a hot button issue during elections due to their far-reaching impact, including contributing towards increasing perceptions of unfair job opportunities for locals, an overcrowded transport system as well as rising property prices.

Extract 3

Groups have been capitalising on Singaporeans' anxiety over jobs to fan the flames of xenophobia and racism, and such racist behaviour will become normalised if Singapore is not careful, said Law and Home Affairs Minister K. Shanmugam.

- 6 Extract 1 shows that more Singaporeans are suffering from mental health issues over the years.

In your opinion, how can the state of mental health in Singapore be improved? Explain your answer with reference to **two** ways. [7]

- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 reflect on how competition for resources, as well as prejudice and misconceptions are consequences of living in a diverse society.

Do you agree that competition for resources is a more important reason than prejudice and misconceptions in causing disharmony in a diverse society? [8]

2022 Prelims from Tanglin Secondary School

Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

Answer **all** questions.

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

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 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.

What is the message of this source? Explain your answer using details of the source. [5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How different are these two sources? Explain your answer. [6]

3 Study Sources D and E.

Having read Source D, are you surprised by Source E? Explain your answer. [7]

4 Study Source F.

How useful is Source F as evidence about the impact of supply chain disruptions on companies? Explain your answer. [7]

5 'Companies should be responsible for managing supply chain disruptions.'

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

How can we respond to supply chain disruptions?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

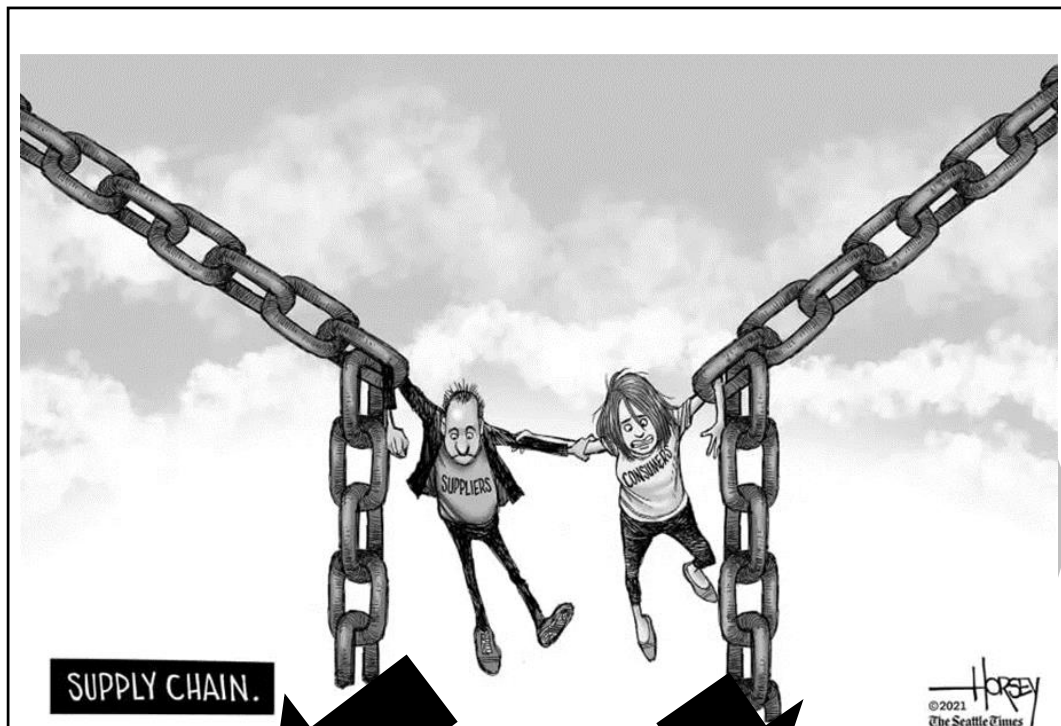
Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

The COVID-19 pandemic has severely disrupted global economic activities. Sectors like manufacturing and wholesale trade have been affected by the fall in demand and supply chain disruptions. As a result, there are shortages in consumer products like books, cars, toys and medical supplies.

Many businesses have reported an increase in customer complaints due to supply chain issues. Some businesses take this opportunity to reset their operations with digital capabilities to increase operational efficiency and effectiveness. For example, a real-time order monitoring system can be used to track the movement of their inventories. Technology therefore plays a very important role in production planning, logistics and warehouse management, inventory tracking and e-commerce sales.

Study the following sources to decide whether companies should be solely responsible for managing supply chain disruptions.

Source A: A cartoon entitled 'Consumers are left hanging' published in an American newspaper, 28 October 2021.



SUPPLIERS

CONSUMERS

Source B: *From a digital publication by Singapore Food Agency, March 2021.*

Singapore's food importers leverage the nation's connectivity and the global free trade environment to import from multiple sources in about 170 countries and regions worldwide. Should there be a disruption to any one source, importers are able to tap alternative food sources and ensure supply remains stable.

It is an ongoing effort to avoid being over-reliant on a single source and to mitigate the impact of food supply disruptions. With eggs, for example, importers made great efforts to diversify from traditional sources around the region and expanded the import network to include new sources as far away as Europe.

Lockdown measures brought about by COVID-19 emphasised Singapore's vulnerabilities to supply disruptions in food. It was not by luck that the city's food supply remained stable and market shelves continued to be promptly restocked – it was the result of a deliberate government strategy to diversify food sources.

Source C: *From an article published by The Straits Times online, June 2022.*

Over the past few months, many random foods have become wildly expensive or unusually hard to find. The problem is usually not so much a lack of the product itself but more to do with a stretched global supply chain. It is due to different factors, from adverse weather to the pandemic, to geopolitical* tensions and increasing demand.

Even vegetables are harder to come by. A lettuce shortage in Australia prompted KFC to put cabbage in its burgers. A global potato shortage made headlines after McDonald's had to halt sales of large-sized fries in several countries as supply-chain snarls slowed shipments. Singapore's KFC restaurants replaced fries with waffle hash.

Dr Madhav Durbha, the vice-president of an information technology company, said business leaders need to rethink how and where they produce and source from. Through new technologies and better planning, they can reduce potential delays, lost revenues and "constant fire fighting" to manage shortages.

*Relating to politics and international relations affected by geographical factors.

Source D: *From an article published jointly by Qingjiang Kong, the Dean at China University of Political Science and Law, and Weihuan Zhou, an Associate Professor from the University of New South Wales, Australia in July 2022.*

China's zero-COVID-19 policy has had profound impacts on global supply chains due to the large-scale lockdown of major cities that would have been unimaginable before the pandemic.

China is a major supplier of a variety of manufacturing and consumer goods. The loss of its manufacturing and logistics capacity has contributed to an ongoing shortage of supply in interdependent global markets. The wave of Omicron infections led to a lockdown of Shanghai, the country's economic powerhouse, and caused supply chain disruptions.

Source E: *From a comment by Guo Weimin, spokesperson for China's top political advisory body, at a news conference in China, Mar 2022.*

The perception that China's dynamic zero-COVID-19 policy has affected the global supply chain is incorrect. Instead, the policy ensured that China was among the first countries in restoring economic growth, which guarantees the stability of global industrial supply chains.

In 2021, China's foreign trade scale and international market share all set record highs, injecting power to the global economic and trade recovery. China is also providing assistance to the international community to help other countries overcome the epidemic and return to normality as soon as possible. China has provided 150 countries and 13 international organisations with a large number of masks, protective clothing, respirators and testing equipment, sent 37 medical expert teams to 34 countries, and provided more than 2.1 billion doses of vaccines to more than 120 countries and international organisations.

Source F: *From a blog posted by the Vice-President of Oracle Supply Chain Management (SCM) & Manufacturing company, September 2021.*

With supply chain issues so much in the news over the past two years, consumers are getting more knowledgeable about which brands can deliver on their promises. If companies do not act quickly to prevent disruptions in supply, the delays would cause consumers to cancel their order, and many would stop buying from the companies altogether.

Americans are now paying closer attention to global shortages of items they use on a regular basis. Americans say that they would be more willing to buy from a company if they know it uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to manage its supply chain. Intelligent track and trace and Internet of Things (IoT) can give brands end-to-end visibility* across their supply chains, in real time, so companies can respond to problems right away. In addition, AI can even predict likely interruptions so companies can prevent problems before they happen.

*The ability to track, monitor and easily report on all freight movements from the point of origin to the final destination.

Section B (Structured-Response Questions)

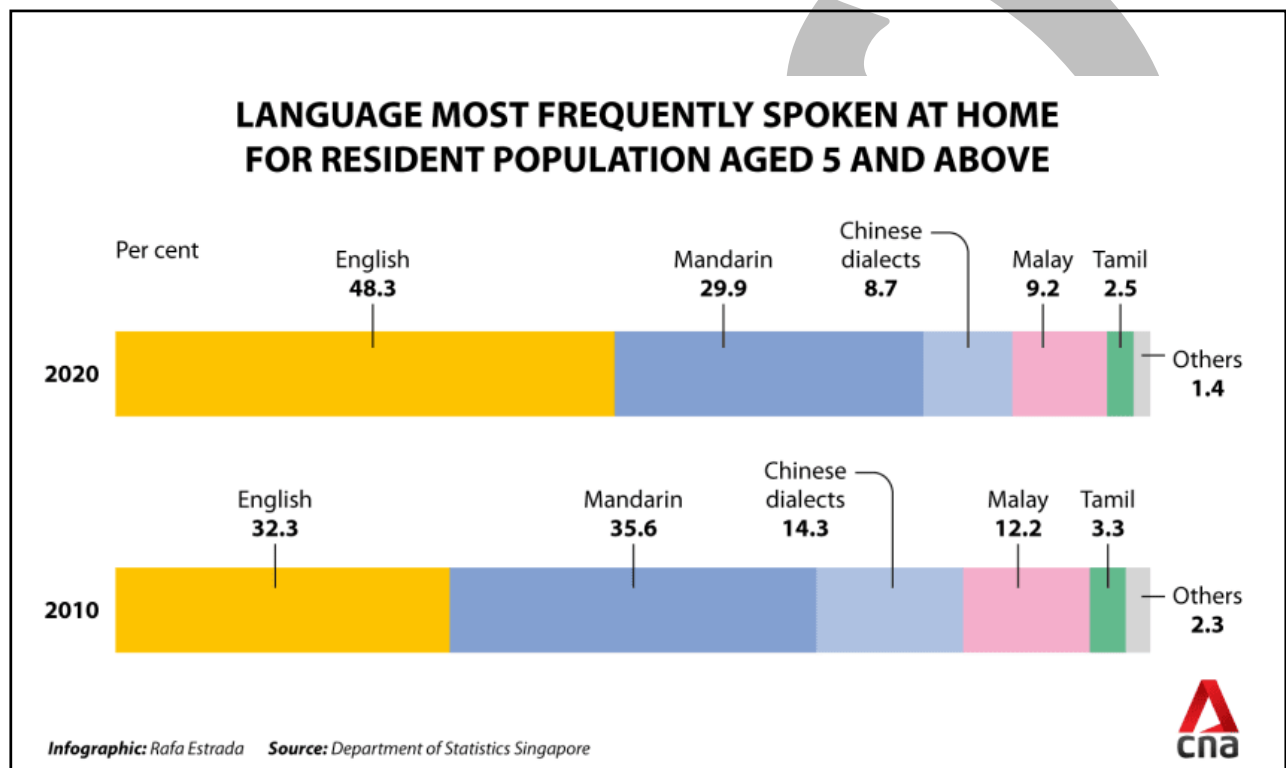
Answer **all** questions.

Being Part of a Globalised World

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

Globalisation has made English the world's most important language. The infographic below shows more households using English as the language most frequently spoken at home in Singapore.



Extract 2

Globalisation has enabled criminals coming up with innovative ways and ideas to commit a crime simply by sitting at their homes and having a good internet connection.

Extract 3

Globalisation has given terrorist groups the ability to spread their messages and widen their operations.

- 6 Extract 1 suggests that the use of English as spoken language at home across all major ethnic groups in Singapore is increasing.

In your opinion, why might the increasing use of English language across all major ethnic groups in Singapore be a cause of concern? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons. [7]

- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 reflect the challenges of living in a globalised world.

Do you agree that the impact of cyber security challenges is more damaging than transnational terrorism? Explain your answer. [8]