



## General Paper Bulletin 2021 (JC 1)

Welcome to the first issue of TMJC's GP Bulletin for 2021! We bring you a selection of the essays written by your schoolmates during the recent JC1 Mid-Year Examination. We would like to express our thanks to the students who have contributed their essays.

While these essays are not perfect or model essays, there is a lot of merit in them, and they are clear evidence that good quality writing is possible!

While reading these essays, you may find some of the examples and points useful for application to other questions; do be judicious in using such information in a manner that is relevant to the question you are answering. Pay extra attention to the comments on the right column, which are based on some of the key criteria that essays are marked for.

Lastly, you should not attempt to copy and hand them in as your own!

All the best for the Year-End Examination!

### Editorial Team

---

Mdm Aslindah  
Mdm Sukhvinder Kaur  
Mdm Tan Soo Lin  
Mr Max Cheong

### Contents

Q2: Advancements in science and technology give us hope for the future. Discuss.....	2
Q6: 'Too little is being done to promote the arts in your society.' Do you agree?.....	4
Q8: 'Money is everything.' Comment. ....	7

**Q2: Advancements in science and technology give us hope for the future. Discuss. (TMJC J1 MYE 2021)**

Sample Essay	Marker's Comments
<p>Science and technology are pillars that hold our society together. From the early 1800s to the 21<sup>st</sup> century, science has come a very long way. Advancements in fields such as medicine, sustainable energy as well as the job market could only be dreamt of in the past. The people of the past thought of science as a marvel and believed it would bring society much prosperity in the future. Hence, I agree that advancements in science and technology give us hope for the future.</p>	<p><b>Clear Stand:</b> Clear stand is evident.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Shows understanding of POC. There are allusions to dream coming to reality and how science promises prosperity and advancements in impactful areas of human life.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Significant areas to be discussed are mentioned and as a reader, we expect advancements in these areas and the impact to be fleshed out in the essay. That said, the reference to science and technology coming a long way is fleeting and can be further expanded to give a stronger sense of the leaps for mankind thus far, in preparation for the greater expectation for the future, which will be discussed in the essay.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> See comment under 'contextualisation'.</p>
<p>Technology such as sustainable energy gives us hope for the future. The Earth has very limited natural fossil fuels that are depleting quickly as populations and the need for electricity grow. This has pushed countries around the world to look for more sustainable forms of energy. Nowadays, most countries have started to invest in nuclear power which is derived from particles and is just as effective, if not even more effective than non-renewable energy. Some have dams built for hydropower as well as windmills on coastal areas. This advancement has brought us hope for the future as they significantly reduce carbon emissions, releasing fewer greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. This is a strong effort to curb global warming and prevent sea levels from rising. The effects of global warming can be catastrophic as rising sea levels could submerge entire cities, including Singapore where the government has recently invested 3.8 million dollars to create seawalls that fight against rising tides. Global warming brings on extreme weather conditions like intense snowstorms or scorching heatwaves as seen in Texas. Sustainable energy that does not require fossil fuels, is like a light at the end of a dark tunnel for the future generation, a hope that they would not have to witness the disastrous impact of global warming.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> A clear and significant area where science and technology play a key role is highlighted.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Shows understanding of the POC. The reasons why the problem is expected to worsen are included and the role that science and technology play is also somewhat explained.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> While there is mention of renewable and non-renewable energy, dams, windmills and seawalls, because the question is on advancements in science and technology, further details on the advancements should perhaps be included.</p> <p>Some possible examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finite space and the need for accessibility in megacities – Wufengshan double-deck road-rail suspension bridge over the Yangtze River in China's Jiangsu province.</li> <li>• Need for alternative energy/resources – Tesla Solar Roof tiles, Livestock Water Recycling (nutrient recovery platform that concentrates nutrients from livestock manure into crop fertilisers and transforming the rest into clean water).</li> <li>• Singapore-based startup EcoWorth Technology (developing for commercial use a small, black sponge called carbon</li> </ul>

	<p>fibre aerogel that can clean waste water on a mass scale - the sponge absorbs 190 times its weight in waste, contaminants and microplastics).</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> There is understanding that the question is not just about 'your society', and a significant global problem with implications locally and abroad that are chosen.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> See comment under 'relevance of examples'.</p>
<p>Advancements in the medical field have brought relief for the present generation and hope for our future. Today, we have cures and treatments for illnesses that did not even have a name in the past. Developments in equipment include the MRI machine that can give a doctor a 3D model of a patient's brain. Advancements in screening and testing methods have allowed disease outbreaks to be regulated. The COVID-19 vaccination was developed within less than 18 months while in the past, vaccines took years to be made, tested and administered. To witness how fast technology and science have been able to completely change the medical field gives us hope for the future. People have started to live longer, fuller and healthier lives. Gone are the days where the elderly would stay confined in their house due to their chronic illnesses. This gives the future generation hope that when they grow old, they too will be able to live well and be around their loved ones. Some incurable illnesses such as cancer might have cures as much research is continually put into it. Every day, there are new medicines and new products for every illness, giving us hope that the future will only be brighter.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Clear topic sentence at the beginning of the paragraph.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Various impacts of medical advancements are explained, in disease prevention, development of certain equipment, and cures for diseases.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> A range of examples are given.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> There is consideration of various groups that will reap the benefits of these advancements, but to lend further depth to the argument, perhaps there could be reflection on the accessibility of these resources to different parts of the world, where the hope for the future may be brighter than others.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> See comments under 'contextualisation'.</p>
<p>Developments in science and technology also give hope for future job seekers. As we move away from a labour-intensive economy, the demand for cyber-skills such as computing and data analytics has sky-rocketed. In Singapore alone, a study done by tech giant Amazon, estimated that by 2030, there will be a need for more than 1.2 million more digital workers, a fifty-five percent spike from the current number of digital workers. As such, Amazon has set up a platform called Amazon Web Services (AWS) to train current middle-aged workers and students to acquire these digital skills. The rise of a completely new job skill that can be applied to almost all industries from finance to entertainment has given the future generation hope. This ensures many new opportunities for even current workers. The advancement of technology is what has caused this hyper-focus on digital skills, which is not yet a highly saturated job market. This provides hope for workers that there are still new things to discover and new job opportunities available.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Clear topic sentence of the impact of the advancements in another significant area.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> There is understanding that advancements have created more job opportunities in new areas.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> A concrete example is included, but the rest of the examples, though not as concrete, provide an overview of the need for digital skills in different areas.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> There could be more emphasis on the role of science and technology in the creation of these new jobs. As it is, the focus seems to be on digital skills needed but what are these new jobs created as a result of advancements in science and technology? What are the jobs that would require these skills?</p>

	<p><b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> See comments on 'contextualisation'.</p>
<p>However, some might argue that developing science and technology have become dangerous for the future generation. They often use social media applications such as Instagram, Twitter and Facebook as examples. Influencers, or people with a large following on these applications, are often seen as villains who provide unrealistic body standards and misinformation about current affairs to their naïve following. This has become more prevalent due to the development of body-editing applications that allow you to edit your body in not only pictures but in videos as well. This causes teenagers to be plagued with self-consciousness and self-doubt, some even going on to develop eating disorders and mental illnesses. I, however, disagree with this point. Certain sides of social media might be toxic but there also sides that are to be commended. Generation Z, or Gen Z, are often labelled as social justice warriors who do not tolerate any form of discrimination. This has only become more prevalent with developing technology and the Internet. Back in May 2020, the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement was ongoing and information on protest times, dates and venues were all spread via social media. Information on going to a protest and what to expect was also spread. Over 100 countries participated in the protest despite the death of George Floyd happening in the U.S. It was a time when so many came together for social justice and change and social media played a major role. It gives us hope that technology allows people to rally together and fight for a just cause and will make the future a happier and safer place to live in.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Clear topic sentences for OV and Rebuttal. The Rebuttal topic sentence, however, could address the 'future' component more explicitly, rather than just providing a line to say that social media could also be 'commended'.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> There is understanding of the POC, in terms of the potential destruction technology could bring about and yet there is hope in that social injustices could be addressed by technology in the future.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> While social media is a common and relevant example, it might be worth considering the inclusion of more significant examples of literally 'dangerous' and 'destructive' technologies, for example in the area of development of weapons and arms that could lead to the loss of lives.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> There is some contextualisation provided for the examples given, but more information may make the example clearer. For instance, BLM and George Floyd were mentioned but what were the key issues in the protests? The contextualisation of the example might make it clearer.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> See comments under 'examples' and 'contextualisation'.</p>
<p>Some also argue that the development of technology has led to more crimes such as gaining access to people's personal information. There are ways to stalk people online and find out everything about them and threaten them with this information. This may be true, but there are also counter-measures put in place to ensure safety of the Internet users. Most applications such as WhatsApp and Telegram allow users to fully encrypt their chats, hiding them from hackers. Social media platforms such as Instagram also make it optional for you to put in personal information. Lastly, developments in technology have actually allowed the police and the government to better track criminals. From CCTV cameras everywhere to phone-tracking, all have made it more difficult to be a criminal in today's world. This brings many people hope for a safer life and to be able live freely. It also give us hope for the future as some criminals might even be completely deterred from committing crimes for fear of being caught by technology.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Link to the 'future' could be made more explicitly.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> The point of contention is not about the problems and solutions brought about by technology. Instead, the point of contention is about whether these advancements give us hope for the future.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> The examples of technology that aid or mitigate crime are relevant, but limited. A more comprehensive showing of current and potential technology used in crime detection or prevention might enhance the quality of the examples.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> There is some contextualisation in the identification of the problem and the impacts of the problem.</p>

	<b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> Please refer to earlier sections.
In conclusion, although advancements in technology and science may scare some, for others it is a gold mine of opportunities. It is still rapidly growing and brings hope to the future generation of a happier and fulfilling life.	Conclusion summarises the key ideas raised in the essay.
<b>Marker's Overall Comment:</b>  <b>Content</b> + Clear attempt to engage and constantly link back to the POC. + Clear topic sentences for the most part, do keep this up! + Use of a range of suitable examples to support the point being made. +/- Development within paragraphs can be tighter and better linked.  <b>Mahi Pandey 21S202</b>	

**Q6: 'Too little is being done to promote the arts in your society.' Do you agree? (TMJC J1 MYE 2021)**

<b>Sample Essay</b>	<b>Marker's Comments</b>
<p>The Arts refer to various forms of aesthetic media through which ideas and emotions are skillfully designed and presented to an audience. The Arts can come in the form of visual arts, such as paintings, drawings and graphic design, performing arts, such as musical and theatrical performances, or literary arts, which include literature works such as books and plays. While Singapore is known for being an international Science and Technology hub, I believe that the Arts is still being sufficiently promoted within the country.</p>	<p><b>Clear Stand:</b> There is a clear stand which directly answers the question. Embedded within the stand is a consideration of the 'balance' which is included to contrast with the promotion of the arts.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> The use of 'sufficiently' in the expression of the stand indicates an understanding that the question requires an examination of the degree to which support is given to the promotion of the arts in Singapore.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Contextualisation in the explanation of the arts is evident in the introduction.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> While there is a brief reference to Singapore being 'an international science and technology hub', there is not much else by way of explaining the attitude of Singapore society in relation to the arts.</p>
<p>I believe that the arts are being sufficiently promoted in Singapore due to the presence of numerous art institutions in Singapore. These art institutions help to provide a medium through which Singaporeans can pursue their passion in the various forms of art. Art institutions in Singapore include the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, which offers degrees and diplomas in the aspects of music, fashion design, and graphic design, as well as courses for children gifted in drawing, music and dance, the School of the Arts, a pre-tertiary institution which blends together the academic curriculum in Singapore as well as its own artistic curriculum, and LaSalle college of the Arts, which offers courses for individuals who would like to pursue Art at the tertiary level. In addition, it was recently announced that the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts and the LaSalle College of the Arts are set to form an alliance to set up</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Directly answers the question. Evident in the phrase 'sufficiently promoted'. Also, the reasons for this stand are provided soon after stating the topic sentence.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Shows understanding that one of the ways to promote the arts is via the availability of institutions for the study of art or the arts.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> Relevant examples are provided. There is a range of local</p>

<p>Singapore's first Arts university between 2023 and 2024. These art institutions in Singapore cater to different ages, from young children identified to have a passion and talent for the Arts to pre-tertiary and tertiary students who would like to continue to pursue their passion. The fact that there are such schools in Singapore that offer art courses for individuals at various stages of their lives, along with the fact that there are plans to set up more of such institutions in Singapore, shows that the government is providing resources for budding artists in Singapore to develop their talent, and that the pursuit of the arts is not being dismissed in my society. Hence, I disagree that too little is being done to promote the arts.</p>	<p>examples too. Various art institutions are mentioned.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Shows clear understanding of what local art institutions offer and how they support the development of the arts in Singapore, at various levels. There is understanding that there is a fusion of the arts curriculum with mainstream curriculum too, hence showing an attempt to place the study of the arts side by side with the academic curriculum.</p>
<p>Secondly, I believe that the arts is being sufficiently promoted in Singapore as there have been ongoing efforts to make the arts more accessible to the general public in my society. The increase in the accessibility of the arts in Singapore allows for more people to have the chance to appreciate and learn about different forms of the arts. One example of efforts to make the arts more accessible to the general public is an initiative set up by the Singapore Symphony Orchestra called “#SSOPlayOn”, which aims to spread joy and provide Singaporeans with entertainment during the pandemic through free live streaming of past concerts performed by the orchestra on YouTube. As YouTube is an easily accessible platform used by many in Singapore, the live streaming of these concerts onto the platform allows for more Singaporeans to view the concert and appreciate the music without any cost. Additionally, the Esplanade, which is a famous performing arts venue in Singapore, also displays free art exhibitions which are frequently being changed. These art exhibitions are being displayed in easily accessible places within the building, such as along the link way connecting the train station to the Esplanade as well as in the main foyer of the building, allowing more Singaporeans to have the opportunity to view these exhibitions, even if unintentionally. These initiatives by these organisations in Singapore allow for more individuals to come across and access these works of art, which can also help the general public gain a deeper awareness and appreciation for the various artists in Singapore. The increase in accessibility to various works of art can thus help to promote the arts in Singapore.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Relevant topic sentence. Making the arts accessible and less exclusive promotes appreciation at all levels of society.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Shows understanding that the extent of the outreach will determine the level of awareness and appreciation of the arts in society.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> Relevant examples provided. A range of examples of the various forms of outreach, from the use of Youtube videos to artworks that adorn public places are included.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Strong contextualisation not just in the provision of local examples, but in the links and connections made between the efforts and how it would impact the arts in Singapore. The links are strong and convincing.</p>
<p>Lastly, I believe that the arts is being sufficiently promoted in Singapore as more funding has been given to artists. The increase in funding can help provide artists with the means to continue creating art without having to worry about the lack of funds. One example of such funding would be the \$20 million dollar arts and culture resilience package, which was just given an additional top-up of \$55 million dollars. This package is set aside to support Singaporeans working in the arts industry during this time of the pandemic, whose income might have taken a hit due to the decrease in performances. The large amount of funds that have been set aside for artists demonstrates the support that the government is giving to their careers and reaffirms the government's desire for these artists to continue creating art. This shows that the arts industry in Singapore is indeed being supported by the government and that the government is not discouraging the arts as a career in Singapore.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Relevant point on government support in terms of funding to nurture and promote the arts in Singapore, hence showing that the arts is sufficiently promoted here.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Understanding is shown in terms of how government support and funding can go a long way towards the creation of artists and stimulating the arts industry.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> The example is specific to government assistance rendered during the pandemic. Perhaps examples of more sustained funding support could be given to show the seriousness of the government's endeavour to promote the arts.</p>

	<p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Some contextualisation is provided, though it is limited to the resilience package to supplement the income of arts practitioners during the pandemic.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> There is an insertion of an additional point – on ‘the government not discouraging art as a career’ that is not quite taken up in the paragraph. There is mention of funding, but it is specific to assistance during the pandemic, thus it is not really about developing a career in the arts.</p>
<p>Critics may argue that despite these initiatives, schools in Singapore are still mainly focussed on science and mathematics, with more emphasis being placed on these subjects. It is a commonly known fact that Junior Colleges in Singapore offer more places to students in the Science stream as compared to the Arts stream, and this shows how studying Science is still more common in the Singapore education system. While it is true that more Singaporeans are studying Science-related subjects, I do not think this shows a lack of promotions of the arts in Singapore. In fact, there are still numerous arts subjects that students have to take or can choose to take in school. One example would be Art and Music lessons, which are compulsory and must be taken by every student in primary school. Additionally, all students in secondary school are required to take at least one humanities subject. The education system in Singapore also offers elective programmes, such as the Music Elective Programme and the Art Elective Programme for students who are talented in these areas and would like to pursue their talents in school. While it may be true that more students in pre-tertiary institutions take science-related subjects, the arts is still being promoted in the education system due to the wide range of arts subjects that students can take or are required to take.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b>  OV topic sentence: There is an allusion to Singapore schools emphasising Science and Mathematics but the link to the arts is implied and assumed.  Rebuttal topic sentence: Clear rebuttal provided, with a clear topic sentence to introduce it.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Shows understanding that part of promotion of the arts is ensuring that it has a place in the education system as a viable course of study.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> A range of examples is given on the introduction of the arts as part of the curriculum for the masses in primary and secondary school, as well as special programmes for the talented and deeply interested.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Deeper level of contextualisation needed, perhaps to explain why there is a preference for STEM subjects rather than arts-related courses. When we discuss promotion of the arts, perhaps there is a need to delve deeper into the reasons for the encouragement to pursue the arts. In short, a consideration of the <u>reasons</u> for the trends is critical to add depth to the paragraph, rather than just describing them.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> See comments under contextualisation.</p>
<p>Another argument against my stand would be that the arts industry is still being deemed as less important as compared to science and technological industries in Singapore. During the circuit breaker period last year, where all Singaporeans, with the exception of those deemed as working essential jobs, are to work from home, the Straits Times published a ranking of the five most essential and non-essential jobs in Singapore, with artists in the list of non-essential jobs. The placement of artists in this ranking stirred up a debate in Singapore, with many artists and individuals speaking out and defending the art industry as a career. This shows that despite some people having the mindset that the arts is less important, there are still a large number of Singaporeans who</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Generally clear but more leaning towards whether the arts has value in Singapore society rather than whether we have done enough to promote the arts.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> First, the logic of the stand would have to be more fully fleshed out. As a society, what are we doing to promote the arts as a viable career option? Has this</p>

<p>believe that this is not true and that the arts is still as essential as other careers. The fact that there are many people speaking up about this matter shows that arts is not being completely set aside as an unimportant career by my society, and that the arts as a career is still being actively promoted and supported.</p>	<p>worked? Because the survey seems to show otherwise.</p> <p>Second, the paragraph focuses on the response to the survey by 'many artists and individuals', who 'spoke out and defended' the arts, but there is a need to explain further why the arts may be perceived as 'non-essential' (by the detractors) but in actual fact is rather important to a society, especially during these trying times.</p> <p>In addition, the response by the arts practitioners revolve around the arts as a viable career, but the point of the OV is on essential and non-essential jobs in light of the pandemic. There is some disconnect in the results of the survey and the conclusion made and a clearer link has to be established.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> No real examples of careers mentioned, either in the essential services or in the arts.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Apart from the local survey conducted, there is not much else given to contextualise the results of the survey and the response of the arts practitioners. Why is this the general perception and why do many others speak up for the importance of the arts?</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> See comments in the previous sections.</p>
<p>According to a study by the National Arts Council, digital art consumption shot up to 81% last year during the pandemic. The 2017 Singapore Biennale also saw a record-breaking 600 thousand visitors. I believe that the arts industry in Singapore is being sufficiently promoted due to an increase in accessibility, funding, and art education and because of this, more Singaporeans are gaining an interest in the arts, and interest in the arts industry is expected to increase over the next few years.</p>	<p>A succinct conclusion that sums up the main points raised in the essay.</p>
<p><b>Marker's Overall Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Content</b> + SVs raise valid examples with a range of current efforts, as well as making links to the positive impact on the arts. +/- OVR1 is sensible but both OVs could evaluate the issue at a deeper level.</p> <p><b>Language</b> + Language is clear and fluent.</p> <p><b>Goh Ann Kyee 21S303</b></p>	

**Q8: 'Money is everything.' Comment. (TMJC J2 MYE 2021)**

Sample Essay	Marker's Comments
<p>In an ever more materialistic world, money is often what people desire and many feel that money is everything. Proponents would argue that this is true since money is power. Many things in life are measured using</p>	<p><b>Clear Stand:</b> Simple stating of stand – taking one side.</p>



<p>money and money is essential for our survival. Opponents argue that not everything can be bought with money and there are things more important than money. I am inclined to believe that money is everything.</p>	<p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Shows some understanding of the issues involved, that there are different views on this issue, which could have been included.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Improvement:</b> Could have made the introduction more interesting.</p>
<p>In a cutthroat world where everything is measured using money, money is everything as without it, one is unable to do anything. This is a fact that is not lost on anyone as seen by the fact that people would often work very hard in order to get into big companies like Google and Microsoft and seek to be promoted due to the pay rises that come with it. It is often said that in their youth, people trade their health for wealth and when they are old, they trade their wealth for health. This often occurs due to the desire to become affluent as people understand the value of money. In countries like Singapore, which is one of the most expensive cities to live in, it is difficult for one to underestimate the value of money. Everything in our lives from commodities to public transport, our houses, cars and education requires money. Governments can only function with money as ministers need to get paid. Money is used to maintain public infrastructure. In the current COVID-19 situation, money is needed to produce and purchase vaccines, as seen from the fact that most developing nations which are poorer, do not have access to vaccines while richer, developed nations like America and Britain do. Hence, money is everything due to its many uses.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Topic sentence is rather vague – money is everything as without it one is unable to do anything. Should provide some reason for why money is everything; that money is needed for buying commodities, public transport, etc. (stated in the middle of the paragraph instead)</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Clearly addressed through the elaboration of the significance of money despite the rather vague topic sentence.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> Some relevant examples but more details could be given (e.g. some statistics to show why SG is one of the most expensive cities to live in). Could provide a better example to show why money is needed to maintain public infrastructure – spending on vaccines is not an apt one.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Clearly describes the context of the highly competitive world we live in.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for improvement:</b> See the above sections.</p>
<p>Money is also a major source of power and as such, is desired by many. Since the beginning of time, world affairs have always been decided by the rich. This is especially true in the world of business and politics as businessmen would often provide financial assistance to politicians in exchange for future political favours. The Rothschild family is an extremely rich, powerful and influential family from Europe. They have an estimated net worth of between two hundred and six hundred trillion dollars, dwarfing men like Elon Musk and Bill Gates. The Rothschild family came from humble origins, but were elevated to the nobility due to the power that their immense wealth gave them. During the Napoleonic wars, they single-handedly funded the British war effort which directly led to France's defeat. While nations have always intervened in wars to support one side, the Rothschilds could and often did fund both sides of any conflict for profit. During the 2008 financial crisis, major conglomerates</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Clear topic sentence that supports stand stated in the introductory paragraph.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> POC is clearly addressed, with the example showing how 'money is everything' through showing the immense power that money brings.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> Apt illustration with sufficient details that show insight and clearly support the topic sentence.</p>

<p>went out of business, yet those under the Rothschild's barely felt anything. Thus, money is most important as money is power.</p>	<p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Apt description of the power of money throughout history and its global implications.</p>
<p>The importance of money is also heavily influenced by its necessity for survival. With everything being valued based on money, money is necessary for us to carry out our daily activities and fulfil our basic needs. While crop failure is the main reason for famines, the lack of money is the reason many nations are unable to respond to the situation. Just as how money is important for the survival of an individual, it is equally important for the survival of a nation. The survival of a nation depends on its economy, which decides the wealth of the nation. It decides the amount a nation can spend on its citizens, military and local infrastructure. Nations without a strong military are vulnerable to attacks by others, but maintaining a military requires a lot of money. The British Empire once had a navy larger than the next two powers combined and the only professional army in the world which was funded by the empire. The current world hegemon, America, has likewise spent a considerable amount of money on the military, totalling over one trillion dollars. Therefore, money is the only thing that matters as it is needed for survival.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Well-written, with a clear reason given. Some overlap with the first point (on money being important for meeting needs – Body Para 1). Could have either placed this as second paragraph or combined some elements with that first paragraph. However, on its own, this is an insightful paragraph.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Very clearly addressed, showing money's relevance for nations.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> Good choice of example, showing depth of knowledge and understanding of issues.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Good context given of nations, their survival, and how the economy is key.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for improvement:</b> See the above sections.</p>
<p>On the other hand, it is often said that money is not everything as money cannot buy happiness. It is argued that emotions like joy cannot be bought using money. An individual can be very wealthy, but he might not be happy. There are many people who worked their whole lives to be rich, only to find that they only have money and nothing else as they had been slaves to money. However, as Mark Twain said 'Money cannot buy happiness, but poverty cannot buy anything.' While one might not necessarily be happy with money, one most certainly would not be happy without it. Money cannot guarantee happiness, but it can allow one to do the things one enjoys as some people have expensive hobbies, like collecting cars which is impossible without money. People are free to pursue their passions even if they might not be practical since they do not need to worry about money. Thus, money is important as it can be used on things one likes.</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b> Good presentation of opposing view and strong rebuttal and holding on to stand stated in the introduction.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Excellent flow of ideas, persuasively argued without contradiction.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> Apt use of the quote. Examples about various activities that require a lot of money, very well-integrated into argument.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Perhaps more elaboration of why or in what situations money cannot buy happiness could be provided.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for improvement:</b> An example could be given for the OV point.</p>
<p>Family is also something which is brought up when discussing things that money cannot buy. One cannot simply walk up to a shop and purchase a</p>	<p><b>Quality of Topic Sentences:</b></p>

<p>family as a family is a complicated network of human relations that is developed over long periods of time. Individuals would often date for months or years before marrying and then forming a family. The intimate relationship built and the trust between the two individuals is not something that has a monetary value. The love parents have for their child is also something which is priceless and these things make a family. While money cannot buy one a family, it does decide whether one forms a family and the size of said family. One of the primary reasons people marry is to ease the financial strain of living in metropolises as it will be split between the two individuals. Due to the high costs of living, money is also a reason for families becoming smaller. Even in the past, when families were big, people had many children because that meant more pairs of hands working and money was a primary motivation. Thus, money is the most important as while it cannot buy a family, it influences one's choices in having a family.</p>	<p>A valid presentation of the opposing view followed by the rebuttal, showing reason for holding on to stand indicated in the introductory paragraph.</p> <p><b>Understanding of POC:</b> Good consideration of the family context and how, despite money not being able to 'buy' a family, it has significant ramifications on family life, addressing the POC clearly.</p> <p><b>Relevance of Examples:</b> Logical explanation provided, though it could include some concrete information to show how costly it is to raise a child in a metropolis.</p> <p><b>Contextualisation:</b> Perhaps more could be said about modern day familial relationships in the OV, though there is at least some description of it in the rebuttal.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for improvement:</b> See the sections on relevance of examples and contextualisation.</p>
<p>In conclusion, while it must be acknowledged that there are limitations to the things money can buy such as happiness and family, these are things which are still heavily influenced by money. The many uses of money also means that it affects a large part of our lives as we live in a materialistic world which values everything using money. Since money influences our thoughts, our behaviours, our daily habits and even our desires, money is everything.</p>	<p>Well-written conclusion, summing up some of the reasons given for the stand.</p>
<p><b>Marker's Overall Comment:</b></p> <p><b>Content</b> + The first argument was less clear but the rest are soundly argued and thoroughly developed, with concrete examples given.</p> <p><b>Language</b> + Excellent command of language, giving rise to a smooth read with logical flow of ideas and convincing arguments. + Personal voice is also evident.</p> <p><b>Sia Kai Jie 21S207</b></p>	