BEATTY SECONDARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2019

SUBJECT	: HUMANITIES (SOCIAL STUDIES)	**LEVEL**	: 4 EXPRESS / 5 NORMAL ACADEMIC
PAPER	: 2272/01, 2273/01	**DURATION**	: 1 HOUR 45 MINUTES
SETTER	: MR DAVID LOH	**DATE**	: 26 AUGUST 2019

CLASS:	NAME:	REG NO:

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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

1. Do not open this booklet until you are told to do so.

2. Write your name, class and index number in the spaces provided above and on all writing paper you use.

3. Answer **all parts** of Question 1 from Section A.

4. Answer **both parts** of Question 2 from Section B.

5. You are required to hand in your answers for Section A and B **separately.**

6. The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

This question paper consists of 6 printed pages (including this cover page)

[Turn over]

SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

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

1. **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.

   (a) Study Source A.

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

   (b) Study Source B.

   How useful is Source B as evidence of Singapore's preparedness to deal with security threats? [7]

   (c) Study Sources C and D.

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

   (d) Study Sources E and F.

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

   (e) 'Singapore is well-equipped to handle new and unconventional security threats.'

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

Is Singapore ready to deal with modern and unconventional security threats?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Globalisation has brought about many benefits. There are many proponents and advocates of globalisation who suggest that the range of advantages brought about by globalisation, especially in the areas of economic, socio-cultural and technological, has been wholly positive and that we should be thankful how convenient our lives have become due to this phenomenon.

But there are also various groups of people who argue otherwise. They believe that the technological advancements brought about by globalisation also cause certain challenges which, as a result, pose some unique modern and unconventional security threats to societies. Two examples are in the areas of cybersecurity and transnational terrorism.

Singapore, being a country that is so plugged into technology, does face vulnerabilities. This was especially the case when recently, several databases in the country were hacked into. In the area of transnational terrorism, the threat of Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) has been looming closer to the region of Southeast Asia when the city of Marawi in the Philippines was held hostage by the ISIS terrorists a couple of years ago. ISIS uses modern tools like social media to perpetuate the group's ideology and incite attacks.

Study the following sources to assess whether Singapore is ready to deal with modern and unconventional security threats in Singapore

Source A: *A newspaper article published by local newspaper, Today, dated 8th May 2018.*

To guard against the emergence of new and unconventional threats, the government will bolster its defence and domestic security capabilities, noted several ministries in their ministerial address. In a recent press release by the Ministry of Home Affairs, its Minister K Shanmugam described a complex security environment, where transnational terrorists and criminal syndicates exploit technology and the Internet, and operate across national boundaries. To counter these new and unconventional threats, the government will make a strong push in digital transformation and robotics in order to deal with these security challenges. These can range from integrating robotics in the operations of the Singapore Civil Defence Force, the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority of Singapore employing more biometric solutions, to the police digitalising the investigation process.

Source B: *Excerpt of an article, which includes a speech by Defence Minister, Dr Ng Eng Hen, published in Today, dated 10th May 2018.*

In an increasingly complex security environment, the government will need to partner citizens and the community to strengthen social resilience. This is according to Defence Minister Dr Ng Eng Hen, who emphasised that the strongest weapon against external forces such as transnational terrorists and cyber hackers is the unity and resolve to protect Singapore's way of life, and keep the country independent and sovereign. He added, "No amount of tanks, planes, or ships – no matter how sophisticated the systems we build – can make up for a divided nation. More than ever, Total Defence is needed and every Singaporean has to play his or her part to safeguard Singapore. Only together, can we continue to keep Singapore safe and secure for another generation."

Source C: *A cartoon that was featured in a local university's website on the topic of cybersecurity.*
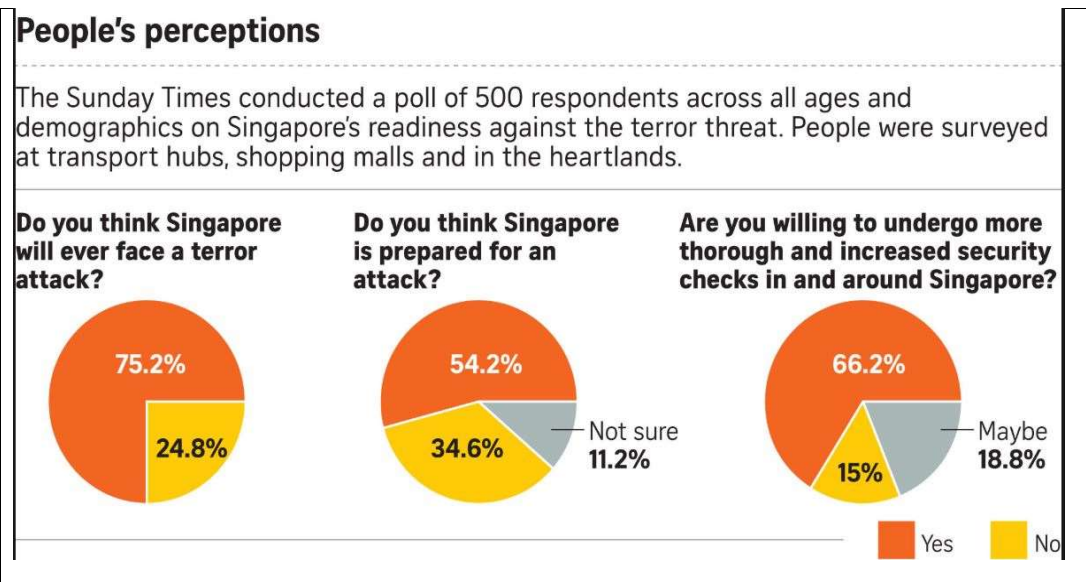

Source D: *A press release published on the official website of the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore (CSA), dated 17th May 2019.*

In the Global Cybersecurity Index ranking 2017, Singapore staved off stiff competition from countries such as United States and Australia to emerge as the most cyber-secure nation. Cyber Security Agency of Singapore CEO Mr David Koh affirmed one key aspect of this good result, which is the continued vigilance of Singaporeans to not take cybersecurity for granted, as doing so will cause disastrous consequences ranging from online identity theft to using technology to spark acts of terror. Another reason cited for this good result is bilateral cooperation, such as the recent Formal Agreement signed by Singapore and New Zealand which can help "to capitalise on each of our strengths and share information and expertise to secure our cyberspace."

Source E: *An extract of a news article published in the Straits Times, dated 20th November 2016.*

Various experts on the topic of transnational terrorism have said that when it comes to Singaporeans' capacity to respond effectively to a terror attack, it is still very much a work in progress. Professor David Chan said, that to many Singaporeans, a terror attack in Singapore is still a distant possibility and campaigns that do not make the danger relatable are at risk of being dismissed as "just another tagline". Drawing on his own experience to illustrate Singaporeans' indifference to the terror threat, he cited a recent example where he saw an unattended bag left near an escalator at the Harbourfront Ferry Terminal. Even though there was a considerable crowd, no one had reported it. This indifference might be due to the fact that although Singapore has disrupted the Jemaah Islamiah terror network and foiled its plots, and detected radicalised persons, it has not had a terror attack for decades.

Source F: *An infographic that was published in the Straits Times, dated 27th March 2016.*

People's perceptions

The Sunday Times conducted a poll of 500 respondents across all ages and demographics on Singapore's readiness against the terror threat. People were surveyed at transport hubs, shopping malls and in the heartlands.

Do you think Singapore will ever face a terror attack?
75.2%
24.8%

Do you think Singapore is prepared for an attack?
54.2%
34.6%
Not sure 11.2%

Are you willing to undergo more thorough and increased security checks in and around Singapore?
66.2%
15%
Maybe 18.8%

Yes   No

Section B (Structured-Response Question)

Question 2 is **compulsory** for all candidates.

2. **Being Part of a Globalised World**

   Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

Cultural erosion describes the process of a local culture losing many of its core elements. This is often due to the arrival of a new culture that replaces and then dominates the current local cultural elements.

Extract 2

The rapid rise in the number of Starbucks outlets across the world is a stark reminder for all that local societies' coffee culture is in danger of being diluted by this powerful American influence.

Extract 3

The pervasiveness of the K-pop culture wave in various forms of media is a good sign that people from the more obscure parts of the world can consume this global cultural phenomenon.

   (a) Extract 1 describes the phenomenon of cultural erosion.

   In your opinion, how can societies slow down this process of cultural erosion? Explain your answer using **two** strategies. [7]

   (b) Extract 2 and Extract 3 reflect on the impacts of cultural homogenisation.

   To what extent are the impacts of cultural homogenisation positive? Explain your answer. [8]

END OF PAPER