



南 华 中 学

**NAN HUA HIGH SCHOOL**

**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2017**

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**Subject : Combined Humanities (Social Studies)**  
**Paper : 2267/01**  
**Level : Secondary 4 Express**  
**Date : 11 September 2017**  
**Duration : 1 hour 45 minutes**

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your name, class and index number in the spaces provided on the writing paper.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

**SECTION A**

Answer **all parts** of Question 1.

**SECTION B**

Answer **both parts** of Question 2.

Write all answers on the writing paper provided.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together if you use more than one piece of writing paper.

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

The total mark for this paper is **50**.

## Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

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

### 1 Being Part of the 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.

**(a)** Study Source A.

What is the cartoonist's message? Explain your answer, using details of the cartoon. [5]

**(b)** Study Sources B and C.

How far do you think the teenage K-pop fan in Source B would have agreed with the undergraduate student who wrote Source C? Explain your answer. [7]

**(c)** Study Source D.

Why do you think the Minister made this speech? Explain your answer. [6]

**(d)** Study Source E.

How useful is this source as evidence about the Korean Wave? Explain your answer. [7]

**(e)** 'The Korean wave has been widely welcomed by all.'

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

## How has the Korean Wave impacted the world?

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

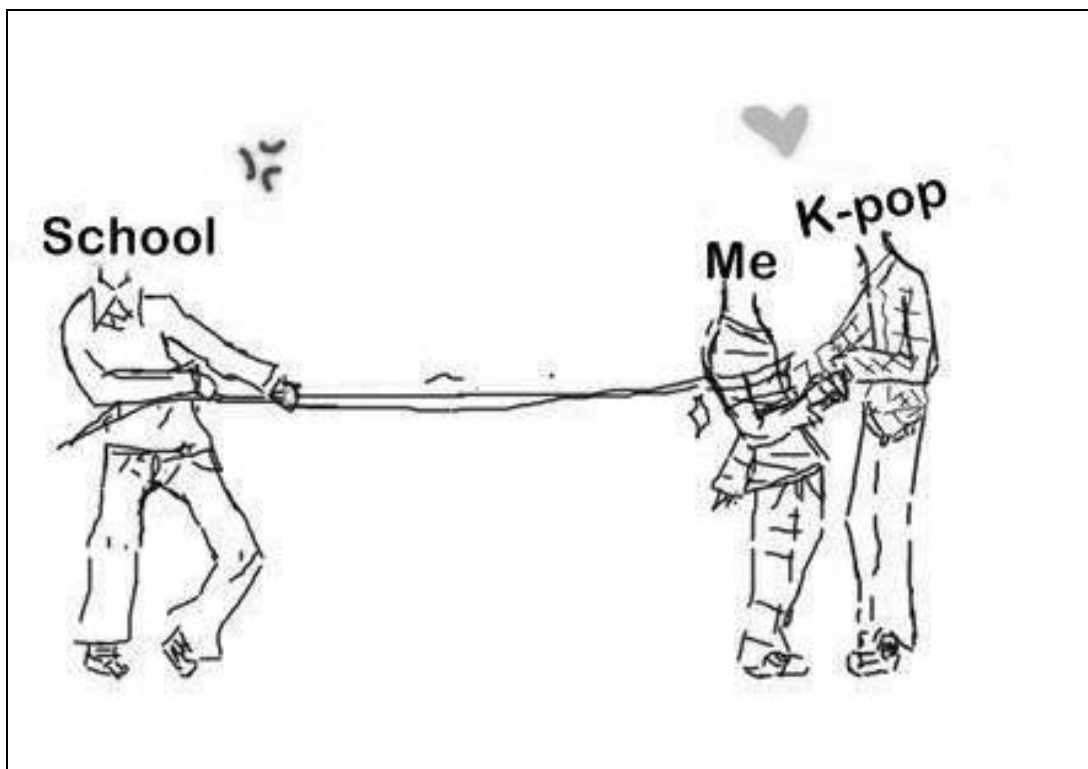
Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

Since the late 1990s, an increasing amount of Korean popular cultural content including television dramas, movies, pop songs and their associated celebrities have gained massive popularity across East and Southeast Asian countries. News media and trade magazines have recognized the rise of Korean popular (K-pop) culture in Asia by dubbing it the 'Korean Wave' (*Hallyu* in Korean). All things Korean – from food and music to eyebrow-shaping and shoe styles – are the rage across Asia, where pop culture has long been dominated by Tokyo and Hollywood.

The *Hallyu* effect has been tremendous, contributing to 0.2% of Korea's national income in 2004, amounting to approximately USD 1.87 billion. More recently in 2014, *Hallyu* had an estimated USD 11.6 billion boost on the Korean economy. While the Korean wave gains acceptance in many countries across the world, it is also facing some resistance by some groups in society due to various reasons such as the perception of the "invasion" of Korean culture and the political tensions with Korea.

Study the following sources to find out how the Korean Wave has impacted the world.

**Source A:** *A cartoonist's view of Korean popular culture.*



**Source B:** *From a blog post by a teenage K-pop fan, Sep 2016.*

My mom became interested in K-pop after we convinced her to watch a Korean drama. Korean dramas appeal to various age groups, and it is a great way for families to spend quality time together. My mom discovered Jang Keun Suk, a Korean actor and K-pop idol, from one of the dramas, and later, she joined his fan club, which has a large international fan base. This just proves that it doesn't matter what our age is, K-pop can have a great impact on our lives.

K-pop has also made a big impact on many other people in the United States and other countries. There are many K-pop songs to explore. Every K-pop song you can think of is online and most of them have videos. The videos are usually wickedly entertaining and fun!

**Source C:** *From an article written by a 2<sup>nd</sup> year undergraduate student, Nov 2010.*

Lin, a Chinese American teen finds K-pop appealing because it exhibits a combination of singing and dancing that she finds lacking in American performers. As for the language barrier, Lin finds her way around Korean culture with the help of subtitles, translators and Korean-speaking friends. Lin prefers K-pop to American music, as she feels that each K-pop song and group is unique. However, Lin does admit that sometimes there are clashes between her Chinese American heritage and her love for Korean culture.

K-pop's influence on Asian American teens is not without its faults. The Korean entertainment industry's focus on beauty and appearance has made teens, such as Lin, more focused on appearance and fashion, and the prevalence of plastic surgery among the model-like pop idols has conditioned many teens to think that beauty requires plastic surgery.

**Source D:** *A speech by the Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism at the Culture and Creativity Academy in Seoul, a training facility aimed at developing young talent, Mar 2016.*

The Korean culture effect, from entertainment and food to fashion and beauty, has made most things 'from Korea' popular. It enhanced the diversity of global culture and products. Asian countries like China and Japan are reinventing their cultural content to compete in world markets.

When you think about K-pop and K-culture, they were not originated by the government. They evolve naturally by themselves, by some small- and mid-sized entrepreneurs or film makers, because they wanted to survive. We, the culture ministry, support the work they want to make, but we would not take any role or get involved in the working process. It's the working people, I mean, film makers or singers, who take the lead in promoting Korean Wave. The government is putting a little bit of stepping stones so that they can jump up and move forward.

**Source E:** *An extract from a South Korean newspaper, Oct 2011.*

This K-pop craze is establishing its own independent domain in a variety of culture and creative art. The Korean culture, fashion, food and lifestyle have been well assimilated by youths of the world. Through expanding interest in Korean culture to Korea itself, Koreans share our friendship, sympathy and understanding with other countries, and we have laid strong foundations for industry, politics and diplomacy. It is remarkably that K-pop has received many impressive responses, not only from Asia but also from western countries. K-pop helps to eliminate prejudice and raise our national image. The world enjoys and understands Korean culture well.

## **Section B (Structured-Response Question)**

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

### **2 Exploring Citizenship and Governance**

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

#### **Extract 1**

Singapore is a small and vulnerable country. In a globalised world, the aftershocks of economic crises, disease and terrorism rippled out to affect all of us. Internally, new fault-lines have emerged that cut across the traditional ones of race and religion. There are divides between foreigners and locals, between the haves and have-nots, and between different values and ideologies. The new fault lines and divides have the potential to either bring Singaporeans together, or pull them apart.

#### **Extract 2**

Ms Prema, 62-year-old is passionate about community service, and she uses her own competencies and skills to help the less fortunate. She has a certificate in early literacy skills, and a Diploma to teach English. It has been almost a decade that she has been a Project Read volunteer. Ms Prema goes beyond just reading to her students weekly. She brings them to the library and she takes them out for meals. She is an inspiration and an excellent role model to every life she has touched.

#### **Extract 3**

The Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (MINDS) was founded in 1962. It aims to provide equal opportunities for children with intellectual disabilities to receive education and later, to be integrated as contributing and responsible citizens in Singapore. Since then, MINDS has grown to become one of the oldest and largest non-governmental organisations (NGOs) catering to the needs of persons with intellectual disability in Singapore.

- (a) Extract 1 states that new fault-lines and divides have the potential to either bring Singaporeans together, or pull them apart.

In your opinion, how can the government work with Singaporeans to meet these challenges? Explain your answer using two strategies. [7]

- (b) Extract 2 and Extract 3 reflect on the role of individuals and NGOs in working for the good of society.

Do you think individuals play a more critical role than organised groups in working for the good of society? Explain your answer. [8]

- End of Paper -

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**Acknowledgements:**

Source A <https://i.pinimg.com/736x/2a/a7/58/2aa758846ef75f477990d03dfa5d2943--school-daze-school-s.jpg>

Source B <https://www.theodysseyonline.com/rise-kpop-usa>

Source C <http://www.mochimag.com/article/k-pop-fever-and-its-asian-american-victims>

Source D <http://www.korea.net/NewsFocus/Culture/view?articleId=134924>

Source E <http://www.cbnuglobe.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=404>

Extract 1 <https://www.mccy.gov.sg/news/speeches/2016/Apr/shared-endeavour-to-strengthen-national-pride-and-identity.aspx>

Extract 2 [https://www.mccy.gov.sg/news/speeches/2014/Aug/SINDA\\_Volunteers\\_Tea\\_2014.aspx](https://www.mccy.gov.sg/news/speeches/2014/Aug/SINDA_Volunteers_Tea_2014.aspx)

Extract 3 <http://www.minds.org.sg/>