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# PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION ORDINARY LEVEL

**HUMANITIES** 

2272/01,2273/01,2274/01

Paper 1 Social Studies

26 August 2019

1hour 45 minutes

#### **READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your name, register number, and class on all the work you hand in. Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper. Do not use highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

#### Section A

Answer all parts of Question 1.

#### Section B

Answer both parts of Question 2.

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

This document consists of **7** printed pages and 1 blanks page.



[Turn Over

#### **SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)**

Question 1 is compulsory for all candidates.

#### 1 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 topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1(a)	Study Source A.	
	What is the attitude of the professor towards the integration policy in Singapore? Explain your answer.	[5]
(b)	Study Source B.	
	Are you surprised by the views expressed in this source? Explain your answer.	[6]
(c)	Study Sources C and D.	
	How far do you think the researchers in Source C would have agreed with Source D? Explain your answer.	[7]
(d)	Study Source E.	
	How useful is this source as evidence that Singapore's efforts to foster religious harmony are successful? Explain your answer.	[7]
(e)	"The government has the most important role in building a harmonious Singapore."	
	Using sources in this case study, explain how far you would agree with this statement.	[10]

#### How can religious harmony in Singapore be safeguarded?

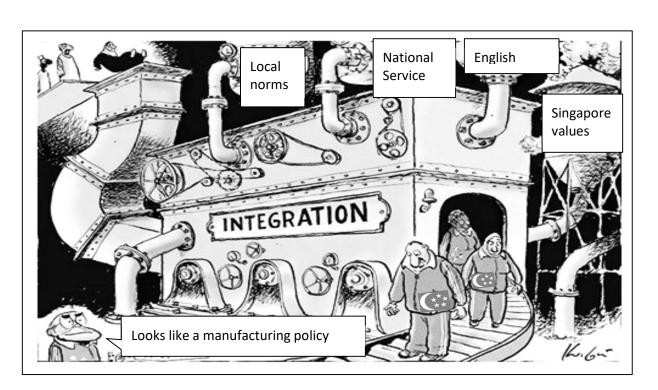
#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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

As Singapore becomes increasingly diverse, it is important to ensure interactions amongst different groups in society are meaningful. This will allow Singapore to continue to foster and strengthen harmony in society. Globally, there is a trend of increasing prejudice and discrimination. The September 11, 2001 terror attacks in the United States has unfortunately led to security agencies stereotyping Muslims in the name of anti-terrorism preventive measures, leading to a wave of Islamophobia. More recently, shootings that took place in a mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand on 15 March 2019 left many Muslims wounded and dead. The shootings were carried out by a lone gunman and were broadcasted live on social media. Such an attack can place a severe strain on relationships in a multi-religious society like Singapore if religious harmony is not strengthened. Authorities and online platforms are also realising they need to exercise extra vigilance to prevent online tools from being misused by unscrupulous users. These examples show that threats to our inter-religious harmony are prevalent. In light of this, how can religious harmony in Singapore be safeguarded?

Study the following sources to assess how religious harmony in Singapore can be safeguarded.

**Source A:** This cartoon was posted in an Australian professor's blog post, 30 Jan 2011. The post was about his research on the integration policy in Singapore.



**Source B:** An excerpt from the Singapore Interfaith Youth Circle Group posted on Facebook, 15 March 2019.

For the first time in a long time, New Zealand's terror threat level has shifted to high. This is a country whose threat levels are generally regarded as very low.

As much as our hearts and prayers are with them, we would also strongly encourage every Singaporean to reflect on where we stand as a community and a country today.

This peace we have simply cannot be taken for granted or be left to chance. The government alone cannot be left to deal with the aftermath of a terror attack. How prepared are we to stand together and ensure our social fabric stays stronger than ever before? How ready are we as individuals and communities to withstand this?

**Source C**: From a research done by an independent research institute based in Singapore, published in 20 March 2019.

In a random sampling of 1,800 Singaporean residents, seven in 10 respondents in Singapore said they feel that people from different religious backgrounds can get along when living close together.

Even so, around 15 per cent of people said they found Muslims at least somewhat threatening. This was higher than what was reported for any other religious group. Those who live in private estates were more likely to see Muslims as threats compared with those who live in public housing. On the other hand, those who had more trust in \*secular institutions were less likely to think that way.

\*Secular: The separation of state from religion.

**Source D:** From a speech by President Halimah Yacob, at a conference in Beijing, China. It was published on channelnewsasia.com in 16 May 2019 with additional commentary.

President Halimah Yacob said that: "Religious harmony is always going to be a work in progress, noting that Singaporeans have become more fervent in their religious convictions. It is important that our people are good citizens of Singapore, at the same time as they are good Buddhists, Taoists, Christians, Muslims, or Hindus. While religion is seen as a positive factor that can strengthen society, the country is a "strictly secular state."

The country's Constitution was recently amended to ensure minorities will be regularly elected as president. The country also has strict laws to prevent the unfair criticism of other faiths and the mixing of religion and politics.

**Source E** A cartoon depicting religious leaders of different faiths published on the webpage of the Commitment to Safeguard Religious Harmony website, June 2019.



**Source F** An extract from an article published on channelnewsasia.com, 19 June 2019

Bishop Terry Kee, the President of the National Council of Churches of Singapore, said religious leaders had discussed the need to enhance existing declarations of religious harmony and bring something practical to the table for years.

He added that his community will have to tackle the issue of Christians sharing about their faith when it is not welcome. "We always affirm that it is our right to embrace our faith, to practice and also to propagate (it). However, we have no right to denigrate or ridicule other faiths. We have to be sensitive as to whether it is the right thing to do at that point in time."

#### **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

With policymakers in Singapore reviewing their full-year growth projections, some economists have warned that the Singapore economy could grow slower than initially thought, or even risk falling into a technical recession, as the trade spat between the world's two biggest economies of China and United States of America drags further.

#### Extract 2

Avengers Endgame made \$850 million in the American domestic market, \$614 million in China and \$1.31 billion everywhere else. It became the highest grossing movie overtaking Avatar. In China, the movie also set records for midnight screening, first day screening and IMAX movies.

#### Extract 3

Chinese fans are questioning the authenticity of Disney's depiction of the iconic heroine Mulan, after viewing a new trailer for the highly anticipated live-action film. In the trailer, the titular character is seen riding her horse across emerald-green rice paddies and arriving at home – a distinctive donut-shaped structure with mud walls, tiled roofs and a bustling courtyard shared with neighbors. This scene has Chinese fans scratching their heads. The real Mulan, if she lived at all, could not have lived in such a house.

(a) Extract 1 predicts that Singapore may enter an economic downturn soon.
 In your opinion, how can Singapore prepare for the upcoming economic downturn? Explain your answer using two strategies.
 [7]

 (b) Extract 2 and Extract 3 reflect on the positive and negative issues of cultural homogenisation in entertainment.
 Do you think that cultural homogenisation is more positive than negative?
 [8]

#### **END OF PAPER**

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#### Copyright acknowledgements:

Source A	https://marranci.com/2011/01/30/strict-less-strict-restrict-the-diatribe-on-muslim-integration-in-singapore/
Source B	https://www.facebook.com/interfaithyouthcircle/posts/2280543185494184
Source C	https://lkyspp.nus.edu.sg/news-events/news/details/ips-working-paper-no33religion-in-singapore-the-private-and-public-spheres
Source D	https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/halimah-yacob-religious-harmony-work-in-progress-singapore-11534422
Source E	https://www.ircc.sg/PROGRAMMES/2019/June/Commitment%20to%20Safeguard%20Religious%20Harmony
Source F	https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/singapore-religious-organisations-commitment-harmony-halimah-11642114
Extract 1	https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/business/singapore-relooks-2019-projections-economists-warn-recession-11667740
Extract 2	https://www.forbes.com/sites/scottmendelson/2019/07/12/avengers-endgame-avatar-marvel-cameron-star-wars-alita-aquaman-spider-man-disney-china-box-office/#25b0535d396d
Extract 3	https://www.inkstonenews.com/arts/disneys-mulan-trailer-shows-southeastern-fujian-hakka-tulou-house/article/3017691

# Levels of Response Marking

### **Section A: Source Based Question**

1(a)	Study Source A. What is the attitude of the professor towards integration in Singapore?	
Levels	Description	Marks
1	Writes generally about the source without addressing the attitudes of the professor	1
2	Misunderstanding of the professor's attitude towards integration	2
3	Valid inference, not supported	3
	E.g. The professor's attitude towards integration in Singapore is that he does not approve of the way integration is carried out in Singapore.	
3	Valid inference, with support. Award higher marks for a better explanation.  E.g The professor's attitude towards integration in Singapore is highly critical of the way it is carried out.  He chooses this cartoon to make his point. The cartoon depicts many people going through a machine that will pump them with elements such as "local values", "English", and "National Service". These are common norms and experiences that help to bond Singaporeans. By using a machine to infuse them with these elements, it is a systematic way of integration. The people that come out have a Singapore flag on them and are dressed alike. Depicted on an assembly line, they look just like manufacturing products. This suggests that they are "products" of a system. Instead of positive social interactions which helps to integrate people of different backgrounds, and allows them to retain their unique differences, it seems like they become similar products after going through the machine. The people are also depicted looking surprised at what they have become. The caption also says "Looks like a manufacturing policy". This is a critical portray of integration as it seems like integration is manufactured in Singapore and not actually present.	4-5

1(b)	Study Source B. Are you surprised by the views expressed in this source?	6
Levels	Description	Marks
1	Answers using source content but fail to address the element of surprise	1
	E.g. In the source, the post mentions that Singaporeans should reflect on their own attitudes towards religious harmony.	
2	Identifies what is/or is not surprising, without valid explanations	2
	E.g. I am surprised that this is posted on Facebook.	
	E.g I am not surprised that the person who posted this reacts in this manner to the New Zealand attack	
3	Surprised/not surprised explained with the reasoning of view	3
	E.g I am surprised that this is posted on Facebook. This is because the background information mentions that social media may not be the best platform to express these views.	
	E.g I am not surprised that the person who posted this reacts in this manner to the New Zealand attack, because just like Singapore, New Zealand is considered a peaceful and harmonious country. However the attack has shocked many, including Singaporeans. So, the person who posted this is concerned about how many in Singapore will react. Furthermore since the attack happened in a mosque, killing many Muslims, the person could be concerned with how Muslims in Singapore will react.	
4	Surprised/not surprised by source, explained with valid cross- referencing to other sources. Award higher marks for better explanation	4-5
	E.g: I am not surprised that the source reminds Singapore citizens to stand together in the face of a terrorist attack. As Source B says, "This peace we have simply cannot be taken for granted or be left to chance. The government alone cannot be left to deal with the aftermath of a terror attack." As Source C clearly shows, even though 7 out of 10 Singaporeans feel that people from different religious backgrounds can get along when they live together, there are still 15% of 1800 Singaporeans who are threatened by another religion, Islam. This shows that more has to be done, and Singaporeans need to reflect upon their own prejudices in the face of such an incident. This attack also highlighted that terrorism is clearly not linked to any one group. But as Source C shows, there are still some people in Singapore who think that Islam is threatening, which supports the need for the reminder that Singapore citizens should stand together regardless of their religious beliefs, else an attack that happens elsewhere in the world will also have the potential to divide us in Singapore.	

5	L4+ explanation using provenance and purpose	6
	E.g: Overall, I am not surprised by the views expressed in this source. Although this post was made in the light of the New Zealand terror attack, the person who posted this wants to persuade Singapore citizens to take initiative to come together to build strong ties with each other. Since there are also Muslims in Singapore and they may be affected by this news, this is a timely reminder that religious harmony should be ground-up and not top-down.	

		T
1(c)	Study Sources C D.	7
	How far do you think the researchers in Source C would have agreed with Source D? Explain your answer.	
Levels	Description	Marks
1	Addresses agree/disagree using provenance	1
	E.g: I think the researcher would disagree with the president as they are different sources.	
2	Addresses the extent of agreement with a valid comparison of sources, unsupported with evidence from the sources.	2
3	Addresses only agreement or disagreement, with a valid comparison of sources, supported with evidence from the sources.	3
	E.g:	
	I think that the researchers in Source C would agree with Source D in saying that efforts to foster religious harmony in Singapore need to be improved.	
	According to Source C:" Even so, around 15 per cent of people said they found Muslims at least somewhat threatening." This shows that there are some people who have misconceptions towards Muslims and more work needs to be done to integrate different religions together.	
	According to Source D: "Religious harmony is always going to be a work in progress." This shows that the President agrees that religious harmony needs more effort as Singaporeans "become more fervent in their religious beliefs", which means that even as Singaporeans become more religious, they need to put their identity as Singaporean citizens first, instead of their religious identity. Therefore more efforts need to go towards this.	
	OR	

	I think that the researchers in Source C would disagree with Source D in saying that government measures to foster religious harmony are focused on the right areas.	
	Source C:"Researchers found that those who live in private housing estates or landed property were more likely to see Muslims as threats compared with those who live in public housing." It is clear from research data that the type of housing a person stays in may influence how they feel about other religions. So, the researchers will take away that more needs to be done for housing policies to integrate different religions together.	
	Source D: "The country's Constitution was recently amended to ensure minorities will be regularly elected as president." This shows that the President may feel that changing government policy and laws may be more effective in fostering religious harmony.	
4	Addressee both agreement and disagreement with a valid comparison of sources, supported with evidence from the sources.	4-5
4		4-5 6-7

1(d)	Study Source E. How useful is this source as evidence that Singapore's efforts to foster religious harmony have been successful?	7
Levels	Description	Marks
1	Useful/ Not Useful based on provenance/ source type	1
	E.g.: This source is not useful because it is just a cartoon.	
2	Addresses utility, unsupported. Award 3 marks for usefulness, unsupported. Award 2 marks for limitations, unsupported.  E.g.: This source is useful as evidence that efforts to foster religious harmony are successful as the religious leaders are able to come together and be actively involved in fostering religious harmony. The cartoon depicts religious leaders from different religions gathered in a coffee shop. The coffeeshop is symbolic of everyday life in Singapore and the leaders are depicted as smiling. They are also having a meal together, which would not be possible if there was any conflict. Two of the religious leaders have their hands up in a pledge, a sign that they are pledging towards religious harmony, as laid out by the provenance which says that this is a cartoon for the Commitment to Safeguard Religious Harmony.	2-3
	OR Source E is limited in telling me about the gaps in the Singapore's efforts to foster religious harmony	
3	Addresses utility supported by cross-referencing. Award 4 marks for either useful or limitations, supported. Award 5 marks for both sides, supported. *Note: L2 if useful and reliability unexplained.	4-5
	E.g.: This source is useful as evidence that efforts to foster religious harmony are successful as the religious leaders are able to come together and be actively involved in fostering religious harmony. The cartoon depicts religious leaders from different religions gathered in a coffee shop. The coffeeshop is symbolic of everyday life in Singapore and the leaders are depicted as smiling. They are also having a meal together, which would not be possible if there was any conflict. Two of the religious leaders have their hands up in a pledge, a sign that they are pledging towards religious harmony, as laid out by the provenance which says that this is a cartoon for the Commitment to Safeguard Religious Harmony. This is useful, as supported by Source F, as it tells us that the religious leaders had "religious leaders had discussed the need to enhance existing declarations of religious harmony and bring something practical to the table for years.", which shows that the religious leaders are committed to foster religious harmony as role models. Therefore, Source E is useful and reliable as it is supported by Source F.	

	However, Source E is limited in telling me about the gaps in the Singapore's efforts to foster religious harmony. On cross-referencing to Source C, it is clear that more work needs to be done to foster religious harmony in Singapore, as there are Singaporeans who still view Islam as a threat, especially those who live in private estates where a mix in different communities is not prevalent.	
4	L3+ Useful/ Not Useful based on purpose. Award the higher mark for more developed answers	6-7
	E.g: This source is useful as it is a cartoon posted on the website of the Commitment to Safeguard Religious Harmony which aims to assure Singaporeans that the religious leaders of different communities are able to work together in harmony, and convince all Singaporeans to also do the same.	

1e	"The governm Singapore."	nent has the most important role in bui	lding a harmonious	
Levels	Description			Marks
1	E.g. The gove	Writes about statement, no valid source use/ specific knowledge E.g. The government is important in building a harmonious Singapore as it has the most resources.		
2	Award 2 mark Award 3 mark	corted by valid source use as for 1 source as for 2 sources as for 3 sources		2-4
3	Award 5 mark Award 6 mark Award 7 mark	ks for 2+1	Disagree: Other Most	5-8
	A	Important Role  A: Government very invasive—but important	important role.	
	В		B: Individual and Community	
	С	C: Government provide platforms for religious harmony		
	D	D: Constitution set up by government and law to protect harmony		
	Е		E: Religious Community	
	F		F: Religious Community	

E.g.

I do not think that the government has the most important role in building a harmonious Singapore.

Sources B, E, F disagree that the government has the most important role.

Source B mentions: The government alone cannot be left to deal with the aftermath of a terror attack.:" and questions "How ready are we as individuals and communities to withstand this?" which shows that citizens and the various communities should also play their part in fostering religious harmony so that nothing can affect the harmony in our society.

Source E is a cartoon published on the webpage of the Commitment to Safeguard Religious Harmony website, June 2019. This commitment is led by the religious leaders of different faiths, which clearly outlines that religious leaders of different faiths should role model of how religious harmony can be fostered.

Source F mentions that "religious leaders had discussed the need to enhance existing declarations of religious harmony and bring something practical to the table for years." This shows that religious leaders are clearly aware that they are the ones who can influence their own communities, not just the government.

However, Sources C, D, A do agree that the government plays the most important role.

The research in Source C shows that those who lived in public housing, with its mixed housing policy had less prejudices against Muslims. It also shows that those who trusted government institutions which were secular felt less that way. This clearly highlights that housing policies by the government makes a difference to how people feel about social cohesion in the society, and the amount of trust they have in government institutions and their ways of handling state affairs also matters.

In Source D, the President mentions that "The country's Constitution was recently amended to ensure minorities will be regularly elected as president. The country also has strict laws to prevent the unfair criticism of other faiths and the mixing of religion and politics." This shows that clearly, the President believes that with the government's approach to bridging religious divide matters, with the Constitution and laws in place, it highlights that all religions are treated equally in Singapore.

Source A is also reflective of the government's role. While it is critical of our integration policies by mocking it as a "manufacturing process", it also highlights how important the approach taken by the government can be, in bringing about peace in the country, whether manufactured or otherwise.

\*\* To score additional 2 marks, candidates can take any one of these 3 routes:

- Through analysing at least one source in relation to its reliability, utility or sufficiency;
- By sharing example (s) from their contextual knowledge
- By giving a balanced conclusion / resolution

E.g: I think that it is not just the government that has an important role to play in religious harmony. With the New Zealand Christchurch attacks in mind, the aftermath of the terror attack had many people coming together to show solidarity with the Muslim community. For example, the Prime Minister in New Zealand wore a hijab while visiting the Muslim community to express her condolences. Other groups of people also followed her lead and wore the hijab. The haka was performed at several official and sporting events, in schools, and even at a gathering of bikers, to show the Maori community's support for the Muslim community. The Maori are the natives of New Zealand. With such an outpouring of support not just from the Prime Minister but also the people of New Zealand, it really showed the solidarity and resilience of the New Zealanders to stand united against terrorism. Therefore, I believe that individuals, religious leaders, all have a part to play in fostering religious harmony.

(accept variation)

The routes will allow scope for candidates to decide what comes more naturally for them, and will invite meaningful thinking, without making any of the above a direct requirement.

Note: Consideration on number of sources used and the quality of analysis in deciding on marks in L2 & L3.

### **Section B: Structured Response Question.**

Question		
2(a)	Extract 1 predicts that Singapore may enter an economic downturn soon.  In your opinion, how can Singapore prepare for the upcoming economic downturn? Explain your answer using <b>two</b> strategies.	7
L1	Describe the topic i.e. economic downturn	1
L2	Identify/ Describes strategies Award 2 marks for identifying one strategy and 3 marks for identifying two strategies. Award 3 marks for describing one strategy and 4 marks for describing two strategies	2-4
L3	L2+ Explains strategy Award 5-6 marks for explaining one strategy Award 7-8 marks for explaining two strategies	5-8
	E.g The Singapore government can prepare for the upcoming economic downturn by preparing economic stimulus/subsidies/help/grants to help individuals, businesses to manage in the downturn. This can include re-training grants for individuals who lost their job in the downturn to be newly trained and prepared to take on new jobs with new skills. Individuals can tap on to existing workfare measures or the government can prepare more support for these affected workers.	
	E.g The community can also help prepare for the upcoming downturn by preparing safety nets such as free meals in religious institutions and community organisations to support the people in need during the upcoming economic down turn.	
	Other answers can be: diversifying investment in other parts of the world to cushion the negative impact of the trade wars, bilateral partnerships with other countries.	

Question		
2(b)	Extract 2 and Extract 3 reflect on the positive and negative issues of cultural homogenisation in entertainment.	
	Do you think that cultural homogenisation is more positive than negative?	8
L1	Writes about the topic but without addressing the question	1-2
L2	Describe the impacts	3-4
_ <del>_</del>	Award higher mark for describing both impacts	
L3	Explain the impacts Award 5-6 for one impact Award 6-7 for both impacts	5-7
	E.g	
	Cultural homongenisation is the proliferation of dominant foreign influence. It can occur in entertainment such as movies, music and food. Cultural homogenisation can be positive because some homogenisation of some dominant foreign influences may have positive ideas such as in the American cultural exports that shares the themes of freedoms and individualism or the Korean cultural exports that share the themes of family values. These themes can be positive as it allows society to be exposed to new ideas that can enrich the discussions in society. Furthermore, cultural homogenisation also allows for shared culture which facilitates communication among people of different culture, potentially reducing conflict and tensions.	
	Cultural homogenisation however can be negative where the cultures of a more dominant group imposes the ideals and misconception on others. It can be particularly negative if the dominant group propagates false or inaccurate portrayals of certain groups. This will create anger and resistance in such cases. For example, Kungfu panda an American movie portrayed Chinese culture superficially and inaccurate creating anger within the Chinese community. Furthermore, with the rise of cultural homogenisation, they maybe a dilution of local culture eroding national identify which can be negative for countries who strive to promote their national identity.	
L4	Both aspects in L3 plus explains the relative impact of each impact.	8
	Overall, because cultural homogenisation often imposes a dominant culture over another, there is more negative impacts than positive because there is a lack of diversity in cultural appreciation, and eventually local and unique culture will become eroded.	