



BEDOK VIEW SECONDARY SCHOOL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2019

CANDIDATE
NAME

REGISTER
NUMBER

CLASS

HUMANITIES

2175/01

Secondary Four Normal (Academic)

6 August 2019

Paper 1 Social Studies

1 hour 45 minutes

Additional Materials: Foolscap Paper
Mark Page

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write all answers on the foolscap paper provided.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

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

Attach the Mark Page in front of your answers using the string provided.

Section A

Answer **all parts** of Question 1.

Section B

Answer **both parts** of Question 2.

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

Setter(s): Mr Steven Teo

This question paper consists of **6** printed pages and **0** blank page/s, including this cover page.

Do not turn over the page until you are told to do so.

[Turn Over

Section A (Source Based Case Study)

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

1 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.

(a) Study Source A.

What can you learn from this source about the identification of fake news? Explain your answer. [5]

(b) Study Source B.

Why did the Prime Minister make this comment at this time? Explain your answer. [6]

(c) Study Sources C and D.

Do you think the Member of Parliament in Source C would have agreed with the member of the public in Source D? Explain your answer. [7]

(d) Study Source E.

How surprised are you by this source? Explain your answer. [7]

(e) How far do the sources in the case study show that it is necessary for Singapore to have a law to combat fake news? Explain your answer. [10]

Is it necessary for Singapore to have a law to combat fake news?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

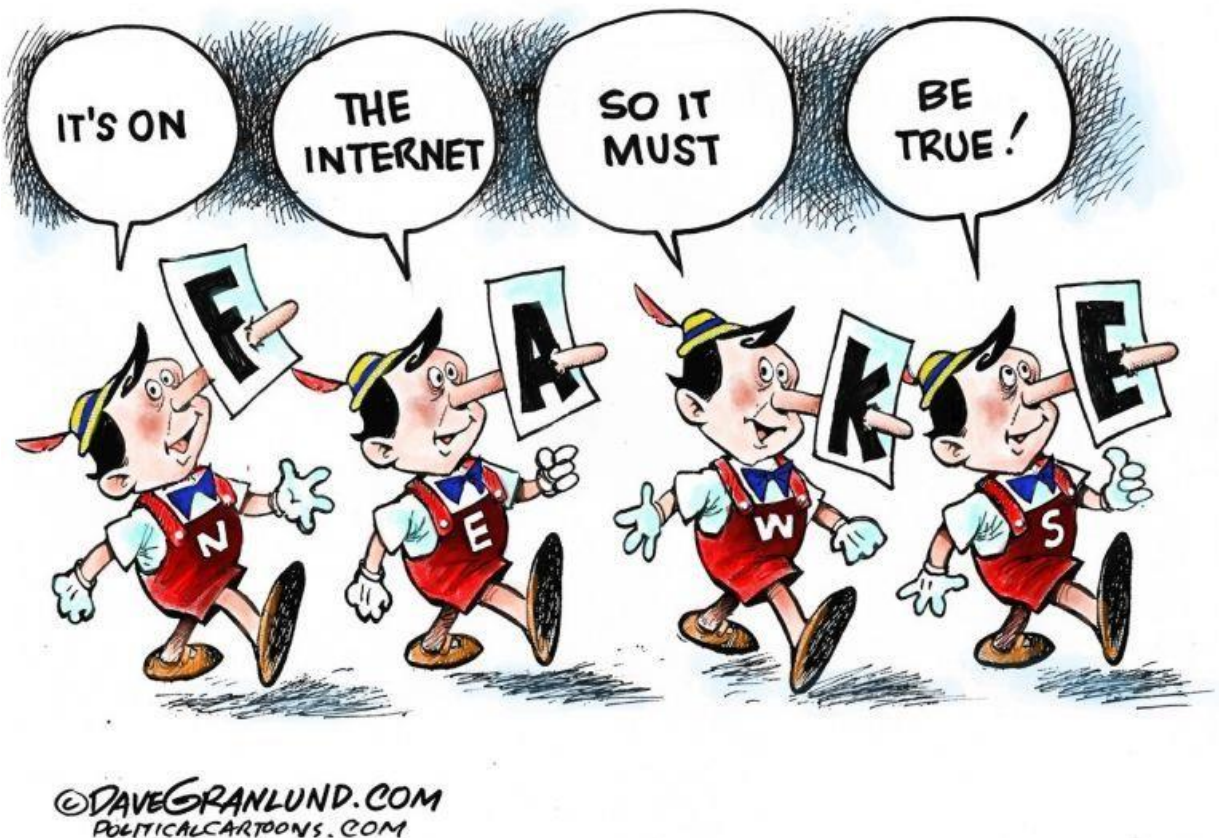
Read this carefully. It may help you answer the questions.

In recent times, the spread of false news, otherwise known as fake news, have increased with the use of the internet and the popularity of social media. In a bid to combat fake news, on 3 April 2017, the Minister of Law called for a review of existing laws to combat fake news. He explained that Singapore has been increasingly vulnerable to fake news and that fake news, when not corrected, can cause harm to Singaporeans.

On 1 April 2019, the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act (POFMA) was proposed to combat the spread of fake news. The proposed law will allow the government to correct what it deems as false information. The Ministry of Law stated that the proposed law seeks to protect the society from deliberate online falsehoods, not opinions and criticisms. The proposed law was debated in parliament and was passed as a law on 8 May 2019 after a marathon debate over two days.

Critics has condemned the law, arguing that the POFMA restricts free speech by allowing the government too much power in deciding what is fake news. Study the following sources to find out whether it is necessary for Singapore to have a law to combat fake news.

Source A: A cartoon about the spread of fake news.



Source B: *Response by Prime Minister to criticism over the POFMA, published on 18 May 2019.*

I don't see the POFMA as being in any way restrictive of free speech. The new law does not prevent people from saying things. Rather, it requires a correction to be put up, so the public will know the facts. If there is disagreement, parties can go to court. The law is a "practical arrangement" to help Singapore tackle the problem of fake news. I am under no illusions that it will solve our problem because it is a very difficult problem to deal with. But we have to do this, and it is a step in the right direction.

Source C: *Questions raised by opposition member of parliament about the POFMA during the parliamentary debate on 8 May 2019*

Prime Minister Lee pointed out recently that technology and social media have made it very easy for falsehoods to spread. People with ill intent can easily influence public opinions. And it won't be easy for the general public to tell the truth from the fake news.

But the POFMA allows the government to have absolute power to decide what are falsehoods. How can we be sure that a minister from the ruling party will not use the law to influence opinions and spread falsehoods? Who can ensure that the government will not use the POFMA to influence public opinion to benefit the ruling party?

Source D: *Comments by member of the public on Straits Times website, published on 1 May 2019*

The POFMA is not needed. Singaporeans are smart enough to know what is real and what is fake in the media. But what if someone post something positive about the government which most people know is not true? Will the government treat it as fake news?

The problem with the POFMA is that it will likely lead to more falsehoods. If the government does not classify information which is obviously false as fake news, it will likely be assumed to be true. And this will lead to more false information.

Source E: Online poster put up by website dedicated to inform and inspire citizens to tackle difficult social issues



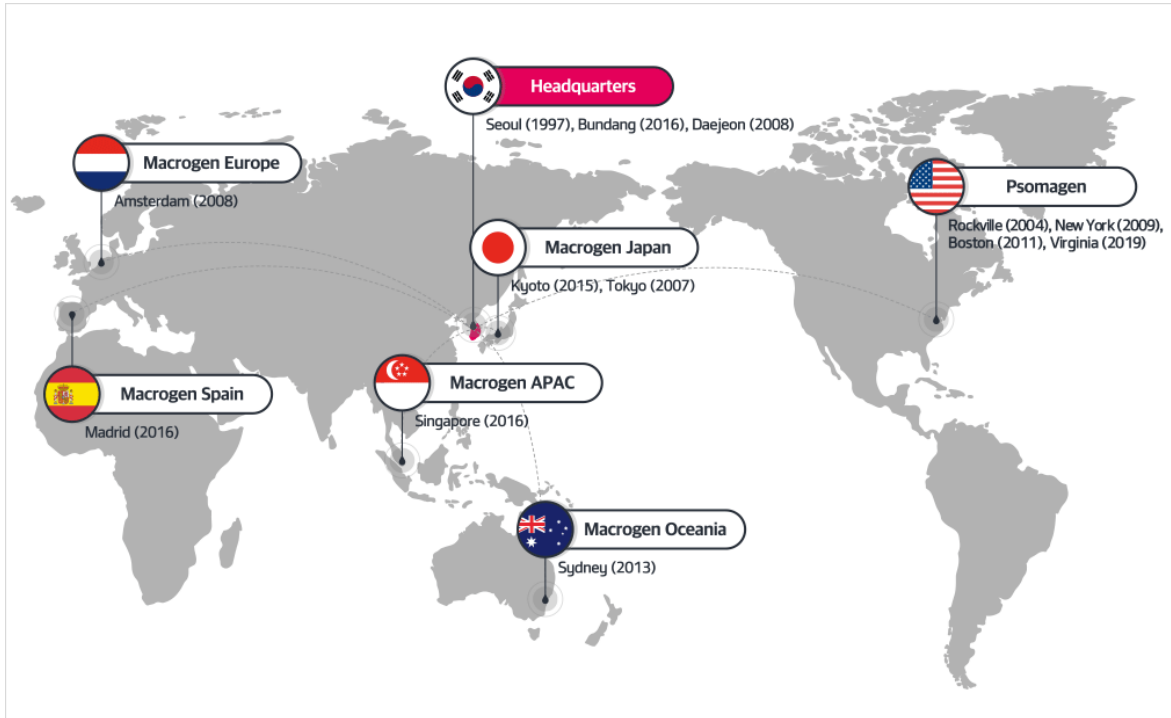
Section B (Structured-Response Question)

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



Extract 2

As part of the global economy, countries participate in Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and receive foreign direct investment (FDI). These have led to both positive and negative impacts. However, FTAs and FDI are not fully supported by everyone.

Extract 3

Participation in the global economy has led to positive developments for individuals. However, globalisation has at times been blamed for increased competition for jobs and a loss of income.

- (a) Extract 1 shows a company expanding its operations overseas.

In your opinion, what quality is required for companies expanding overseas to be successful? Explain your answer with reference to **one** quality. [7]

- (b) Extracts 2 and 3 are about the economic impacts of globalisation.

Explain the economic impacts of globalisation on countries and individuals. [8]

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