



南 华 中 学

**NAN HUA HIGH SCHOOL**

**PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2018**

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**Subject : Humanities (Social Studies)**  
**Paper : 2272/01, 2273/01**  
**Level : Secondary 4 Express**  
**Date : 21 August 2018**  
**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.

Please begin your response to each question on a fresh page.

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**.

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This paper consists of 7 printed pages.

## 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 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 tell from this source about Singaporean attitudes towards racial harmony in Singapore? Explain your answer, using details from the source. [5]

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

Which of these two sources is more useful as evidence about multiculturalism in Singapore? Explain your answer. [7]

**(c)** Study Source D.

Why did the Prime Minister make this speech? Explain your answer. [6]

**(d)** Study Source E.

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

**(e)** 'Singapore is truly multicultural.'

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

## How successful has Singapore been in fostering multiculturalism?

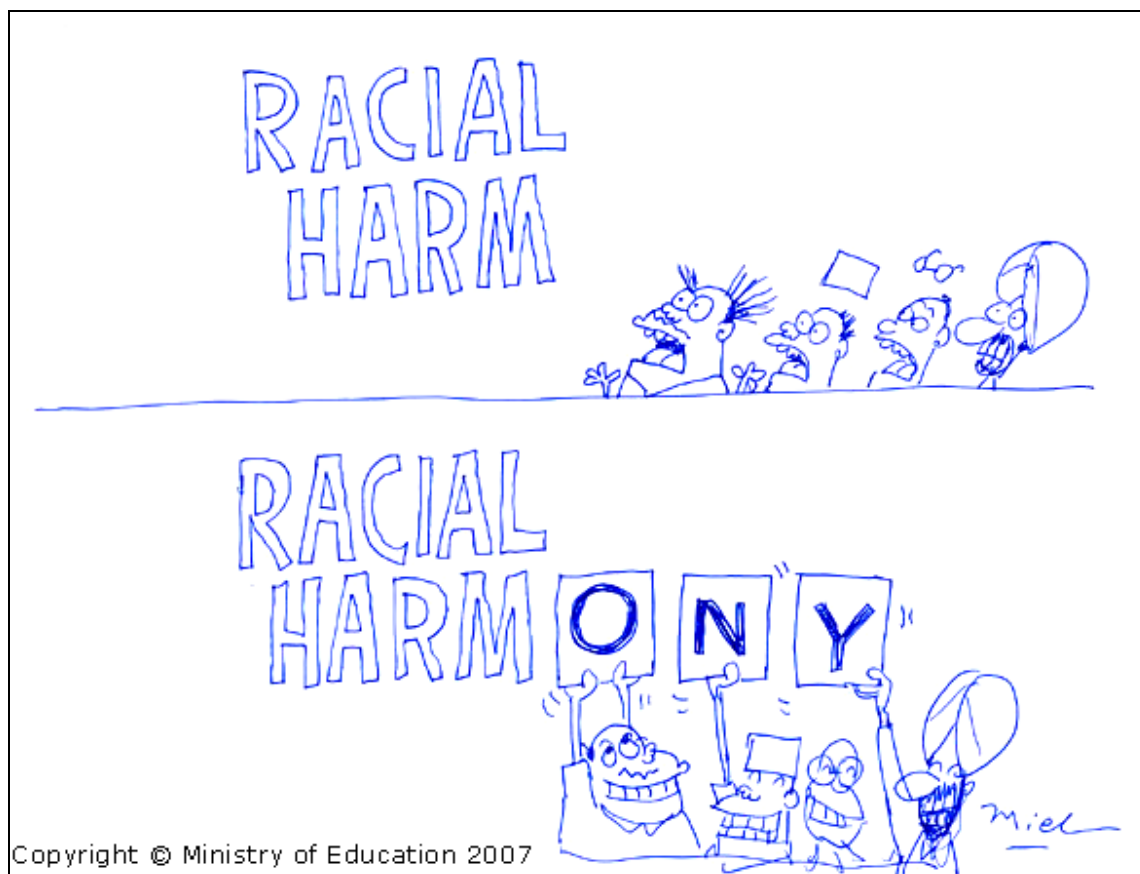
### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Race has been a fundamental issue for Singapore from the very beginning of its nationhood. In 1965, on the day it became independent, Mr Lee Kuan Yew said Singapore is "*not a Malay nation, not a Chinese nation, not an Indian nation. Everybody will have a place in Singapore*". Since then, the Government has spared no effort in nurturing Singapore's multiracial, multilingual, and multicultural environment to become conducive to harmonious living. Common spaces and opportunities were consciously created to bring people together. English was established as the common working language, while ensuring a place for the mother tongues. All races are mixed in public housing estates, so that there are no enclaves or ghettos in Singapore. In schools, the National Pledge is recited daily. And, as a result, Singapore enjoys a high degree of inclusiveness, peace and order in our common spaces.

Study the following sources to find out how successful Singapore has been in fostering multiculturalism.

**Source A:** *A cartoonist's view of Racial Harmony in Singapore.*



**Source B:** *From an interview with Professor Syed Farid Alatas, Head of the Malay Studies Department at the National University of Singapore, The Straits Times, Nov 2011.*

Singapore has arrived at a stage where religious leaders can rely on one another to dispel myths, correct negative statements or cool tensions. We are multicultural in the sense that there are many cultures co-existing. But our orientation is not founded on the idea of multiculturalism. There isn't a celebration of being multicultural or developing an admiration and keen interest in other cultures. How many Chinese have an interest in Malay culture, Islamic civilisation, its arts and poetry? And how many Malays have an interest in the achievements of Chinese civilisation? In the West, university classes in Islamic culture and civilisation are popular with non-Muslims, as are Arabic, Persian or Turkish languages.

**Source C:** *From a letter to The Straits Times Forum by Mr. Viridi Bhupinder, a former expatriate of North Indian heritage who had first moved to Singapore 16 years ago and has since taken up citizenship, Nov 2011.*

Sadly, my experiences with the Chinese, Malay and local Tamil Indians have been far from welcoming, and I feel I have not been truly accepted as a fellow citizen. The majority of our neighbours are Chinese who have never bothered to mix or get to know our culture, let alone greet us in the common lift. They have no clue as to our North Indian customs or eating habits and stare at us as if we are aliens. Our greetings are often returned with stares. I have been fortunate to have lived in Canada and Britain, where diverse languages are spoken and everybody gives and respects each other. 'Throwing in' people from different races does not create a multicultural society. A truly multicultural society does not have 'guidelines' to decide who lives where.

**Source D:** *From a speech by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at the official opening of the Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, May 2017.*

Ours is not a melting pot society, with every race *\*shorn* of its distinctiveness. Instead, we encourage each race to preserve its unique culture and traditions, while fostering mutual appreciation and respect among all of them. Being Singaporean has never been a matter of subtraction, but of addition; not of becoming less, but more; not of limitation and contraction, but of openness and expansion.

Over time, each race has retained and evolved its own culture and heritage; but each has also allowed itself to be influenced by the customs and traditions of other races. The result has been distinctive Singaporean variants of Chinese, Malay, Indian, and Eurasian cultures, and a growing Singaporean identity that we all share. When we travel overseas, we can tell if someone is Singaporean just by the way they speak and act.

*\*shorn means to remove by or as if by cutting or clipping with a sharp instrument.*

**Source E:** *Extract from a survey on ethnic identity in Singapore by the Institute of Policy Studies-Channel NewsAsia where 2,020 Singaporeans were polled to ensure a proportionate representation of people across all races and age groups.*

Despite high levels of interest expressed, generally less than half of respondents regularly experienced or participated in the practices and activities of other cultures. These include eating with their hands, participating in key festivals and weddings, and wearing the traditional ethnic outfits of other cultures. When it came to understanding key facets of the Muslim community such as eating halal food, wearing the tudung for a female, avoiding alcohol and touching dogs, younger Chinese and Indian respondents were found to be less likely to understand the importance of these beliefs and practices. Given the current levels of inter-cultural exchange, it is worth considering if more can be done to promote greater engagement and learning across the racial groups.

## Section B (Structured-Response Question)

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

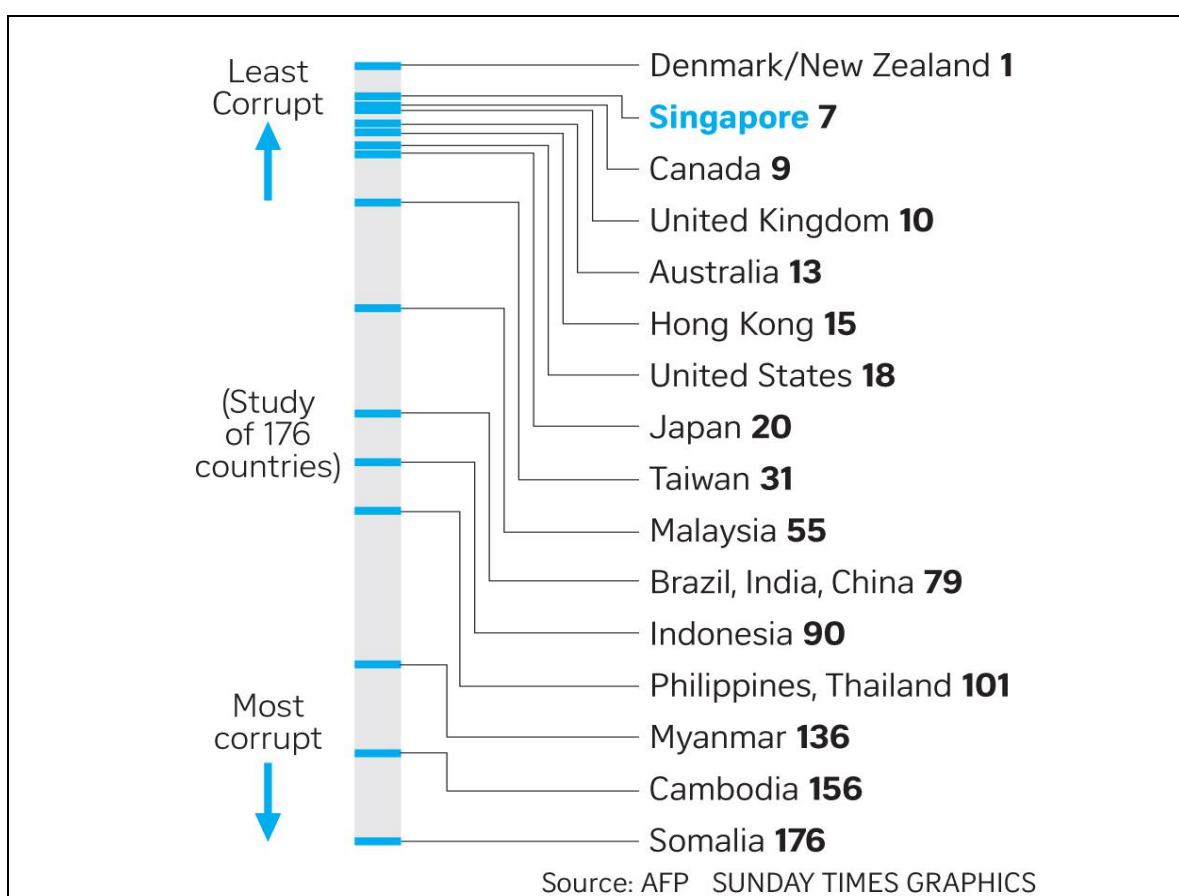
### 2 Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

#### Extract 1

#### Corruption Perceptions Index 2016

The index measures the perceived levels of public sector corruption worldwide, with country experts and business people giving their rating.



#### Extract 2

Meritocracy as an ideal resonates with most Singaporeans. As a principle, meritocracy speaks to fairness, opportunity, and the promise of social mobility.

#### Extract 3

“A Stake for Everyone, Opportunities for All” is about creating an inclusive society where citizens not merely enjoy economic wealth, but feel a sense of belonging.

- (a) Extract 1 states that Singapore has been ranked seventh in an annual ranking of countries that are considered least corrupt in 2016.

In your opinion, how did Singapore achieve its clean and incorruptible system? Explain your answer using two strategies. [7]

- (b) Extract 2 and Extract 3 reflect on the governing principles of practising meritocracy and providing a stake for everyone.

How far do you agree that practising meritocracy is a more significant governing principle than providing a stake for everyone? Explain your answer. [8]

- End of Paper -

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**Acknowledgements:**

Source A <http://threefiveunos.blogspot.com/2009/07/racial-harmony-cartoon.html>

Source B <http://newshub.nus.edu.sg/news/1111/PDF/NOT-st-9nov-pA14.pdf>

Source C <http://eresources.nlb.gov.sg/newspapers/digitised/issue/straitstimes20111116-1>

Source D <https://www.straitstimes.com/politics/singapolitics/pm-whether-chinese-malay-or-indian-a-singaporean-can-spot-a-fellow-citizen>

Source E <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/most-singaporeans-prefer-children-and-grandchildren-to-date-chinese-and-caucasians>

Extract 1 <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/to-not-bribe-and-yet-bag-deals-is-a-challenge>

Extract 2 <https://www.csc.gov.sg/articles/meritocracy-time-for-an-update>

Extract 3 <http://www.nas.gov.sg/archivesonline/speeches/view-html?filename=2004102401.htm>