



TEMASEK SECONDARY SCHOOL
Preliminary Examination 2024
Secondary 4 Express

HUMANITIES

2260/01

Paper 1 Social Studies

2261/01

2262/01

1 hour 45 minutes

Question Booklet

Additional Material: 5 pieces of writing paper, 2 strings

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

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

Write your name, index number and class on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

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

Section A

Answer **all** questions.

Section B

Answer **both** questions.

Write all answers on the writing paper provided.

Start each question on a new side of the paper.

Start Section B on a **FRESH** piece of paper.

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

At the end of the examination, submit Sections A and B **separately**.

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

SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

Answer **all** questions.

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 Study Source A.

What is the message of this source? Explain your answer.

[5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How different are the two sources? Explain your answer.

[6]

3 Study Source D.

How far does this source prove that the individuals must be the ones to take care of their own health? Explain your answer.

[7]

4 Study Sources E and F.

Does Source F make source E surprising about healthcare in Singapore? Explain your answer.

[7]

5 'Singapore government should share a greater responsibility than individuals in the healthcare needs of Singaporeans.'

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

[10]

How effective is the shared-responsibility approach for healthcare in Singapore?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Singapore adopts a shared-responsibility approach for our healthcare financing system, which emphasises individual responsibility and affordable healthcare for all. The government adopts multiple tiers of protection to ensure accessible and affordable healthcare for all Singaporeans. In July 2023, the Singapore government began to roll out the Healthier SG initiative. This initiative focuses on encouraging Singaporeans to take proactive steps to manage their health, prevent the onset of chronic diseases and have stronger support to lead healthier lifestyles. A key element of Healthier SG is to focus on individuals taking responsibility to stay healthy, thus there will be a reduced need for expensive healthcare spending later in life. The goal was to approach healthcare not just in terms of provisions of quality healthcare services by the government in the event of illness and disease, but for all Singaporeans to stay healthy to begin with.

Study the sources below to consider the effectiveness of the shared-responsibility approach for healthcare in Singapore.

Source A: *A poster published in a Singapore government website.*



**SUPPORT FOR
HEALTHCARE COSTS**

For all Singaporeans

SUBSIDIES

CHAS (Community Health Assist Scheme)
-For all Singaporeans with chronic conditions, regardless of income
- Lower-to-middle income Singaporeans get higher subsidies

MEDISAVE

Helps you save for your medical needs

MEDISHIELD LIFE

Gives you lifelong health insurance coverage, even for pre-existing conditions

MEDIFUND

Additional financial assistance if you still require help after Subsidies, Medisave and Medishield Life.

Source B: *From an interview published online, with a grassroots volunteer.*

A few weeks ago, I met an elderly resident at his home in Bedok, who suffers from a chronic lung disease. He is unable to work and has no children to support him. When I asked him how he was coping with his medical expenses, he told me that he was using his Medisave but had almost exhausted it. I was disturbed to learn that he often skipped medical appointments and cut back on his medication just to save money. I told him that there was financial assistance available, and that he should not compromise on his health. But he told me that he had given up applying for assistance because of all the documents that he had to submit, and interviews he had to attend. This shows how the tedious process of means-testing may be deterring some needy patients from obtaining financial assistance and medical treatment.

Source C: *From a report published online by the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Social and Family Development.*

The government provides subsidies and grants to support Singaporeans with the costs of healthcare, with higher subsidies extended to lower-income groups. Taking into consideration changes in household incomes, and costs of healthcare, the government will be revising the income criteria for healthcare services that are means-tested using the monthly per capita household income.

No action is required for existing or new patients when they use the services and apply for subsidies. The respective service providers and scheme administrators will automatically extend the corresponding subsidies or financial assistance to those who are eligible. No one will be denied appropriate healthcare and social support because they are unable to afford it.

Source D: *From an article on managing medical costs in Singapore by The Simple Sum, a Singapore-based organisation which helps young adults successfully manage their finances.*

Because of the rising cost of living, we've had to re-look our budgets and tighten our belts especially with the rising cost of medical expenses. So, it's always wise to be prepared financially for such a life crisis. Firstly, your lifestyle and diet play a major role in ensuring that your body remains healthy for a longer period of time. Many chronic lifestyle-related illnesses such as diabetes and high blood pressure can be costly to treat over time. In other words, the time, cost and effort you don't invest in exercising or eating well can result in you racking up thousands in the form of medical bills. All in all, health is wealth and investing in your health is as important as buying into bonds and stocks. Detect issues early, lead a healthy lifestyle and finally, set aside some of your monthly income to get yourself covered with medical insurance.

Source E: *From a media report on a study about Singaporeans living healthily beyond 100 years old.*

Respondents also believe that more than half of Singaporeans aged between 25 and 45 are not being proactive in preventing common chronic illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease, which is a cause of concern. When they are at that age, they seldom think of the consequences. Young Singaporeans are not very active in disease prevention because the idea of being disabled or ill seems far-fetched. A healthy lifestyle doesn't happen overnight. The earlier they start taking care of their well-being by keeping to a good diet and lifestyle, the higher are their chances of ageing well. After all, good health is earned, not given. The report also said that 49% of the respondents believe Singaporeans are, to some degree, unprepared for the health-related expenses of living to a ripe old age.

Source F: *An infographic about government efforts to encourage healthy living published on a government website.*



SECTION B (Structured-Response Question)

Answer **both** questions.

Living in a Globalised World

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

The Singapore Cybersecurity Agency (CSA) has recorded an upsurge in cybercrimes such as phishing, ransomware, and scams over the past few years. Among the most common types of scams in the country, phishing scams, employment scams, and e-commerce scams are the most frequent. To deceive consumers, scammers use messaging applications and social media platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, and Telegram.

Extract 2

Individuals can play a part in responding to the threat of terrorism by staying vigilant. Individuals can exercise vigilance by watching out for the tell-tale signs of self-radicalisation in others, and inform the relevant authorities about suspicious activity.

Extract 3

Governments have responded to the threat of transnational terrorism by taking border management measures to proactively prevent potential terrorist attacks from occurring within their country.

- 6 Extract 1 shows that cybersecurity threats are on the rise in Singapore.

In your opinion, what are the impacts of cybersecurity threats? Explain your answer with reference to **two** impacts. [7]

- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 state the responses by individuals and governments towards the threat of transnational terrorism.

Do you think that responses by individuals or responses by governments are more effective at curbing the threat posed by transnational terrorism? Explain your answer. [8]

END OF PAPER

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