



BEDOK VIEW SECONDARY SCHOOL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2024

CANDIDATE
NAME

REGISTER
NUMBER

CLASS

HUMANITIES

2260 / 01

Secondary Four Express

2261 / 01

2262 / 01

2265 / 01

Paper 1 Social Studies

23 August 2024

Additional Materials: Foolscap Paper
Mark Page

1 hr 45 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write all answers on foolscap paper.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

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

Start all answers on a fresh page.

Section A

Answer **all** questions.

Section B

Answer **both** questions.

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

This question paper consists of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page.

[Turn over

SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

Answer **all** questions.

Being Part of a Globalised World

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer the question.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the question, in addition to those sources you are told to use. In answering the question you should use your knowledge of the issue to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1. Study Source A.

What is the attitude of the cartoonist towards the universal charger law passed in Europe? Explain your answer, using details of the source. [5]

2. Study Sources B and C.

How far do these sources agree about efforts to reduce electronic waste? Explain your answer. [6]

3. Study Sources D and E.

Does Source D prove Source E is unreliable as evidence that multinational corporations can be environmentally-friendly? Explain your answer. [7]

4. Study Source F.

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

5. 'It is possible to discourage the culture of buying new things.'

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

How challenging is it for consumers to shift towards sustainable consumption?

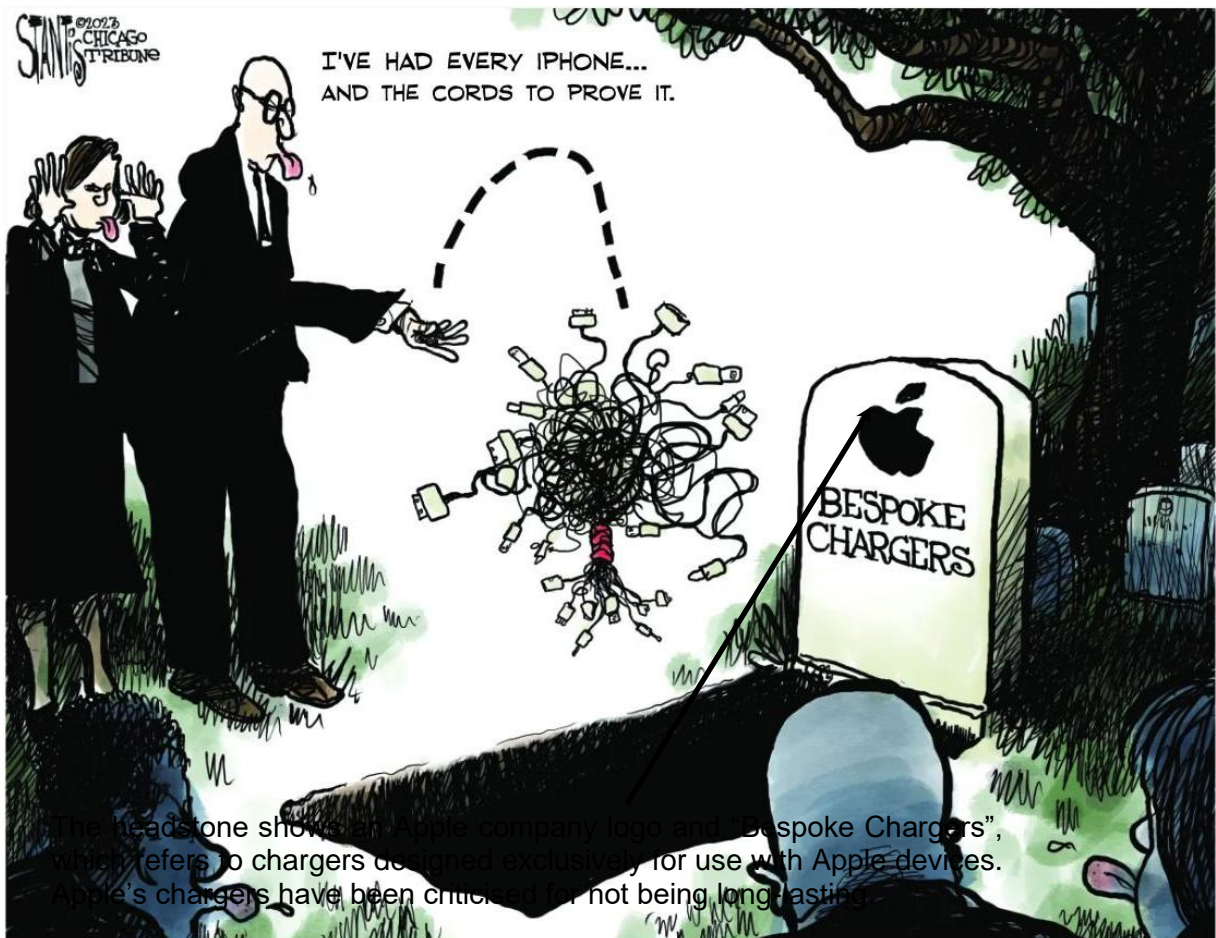
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

With globalisation, goods can be readily mass-produced, distributed and sold worldwide at lower costs. This has encouraged the emergence of a global consumer culture, where individuals around the world engage in continuous and widespread consumption of goods and services. Many are concerned about the impact on the environment if the global demand for goods continues to grow at an unsustainable pace. A possible solution is to shift consumers towards sustainable consumption. This involves practices such as buying fewer items and buying secondhand. However, there are obstacles hindering people from consuming products sustainably.

Study the following sources to find out about the challenges involved in shifting consumers towards sustainable consumption.

Source A: A cartoon published in an American newspaper on September 2023. A few months before, Europe had passed a universal charger law requiring all electronic devices to adopt a common charging connection. This allows buyers to use one common charger across all devices.



Source: C. A. Protopapaki, "Angrin 'Right to Repair' Plea to Apple's Board, 12/19/2021. The great for reducing the tangled global supply chain was designed to pass laws requiring fused the internal hardware, uses to affect lifetime repair service key, either on-site or with a repair equipment and, in 2024, European law at the Apple Store or the Apple Authorised Service Provider to get the whole keyboard replaced by an expert. And the cost of repair without warranty is so costly that it makes more sense to simply buy new. These barriers to repair must be removed but major corporations will almost certainly never go for that. Consumers, too, are all too happy to move on to the next new thing. So the cycle of constant buying continues.

Source D: A cartoon drawn by a Finnish cartoonist in 2007.



**Amazon is a major online retailer that stocks items from other*

Source E: Adapted from a statement by Amazon's Country Manager for the United Kingdom. He was speaking at the launch of Amazon UK's Second Chance Christmas pop-up store, open from 29 November till 12 December 2023.

Amazon* is committed to cutting down waste and giving more products a second chance by helping customers shop secondhand. We offer a variety of high-quality secondhand goods at our online store throughout the year. This includes pre-owned designer wear, toys, home essentials and electronics that are restored to a like-new condition and sold at lower prices.

With the launch of our Second Chance pop-up store today, festive shoppers can browse secondhand products in person for the first time. They can shop more sustainably while benefitting from up to 50% in savings compared to retail prices. The pop-up store also features a Repairs Zone where customers can participate in free repairs workshops and learn to fix broken laptops and household tech from experts onsite.

manufacturers. Customers worldwide can shop for a range of products on Amazon and have them delivered to their door.

[Turn over]

**listicles are articles that feature a list of items.*

Source F: Adapted from an article by an environmental reporter, published on an American news media on 12 July 2022. The date marks the start of Amazon Prime Day, an annual event where Amazon offers special deals and discounts on a range of products.

The Internet is alive with listicles* of "Best Prime Day Deals" for products of every kind, including eco-friendly ones. But this Prime Day, think twice before purchasing that biodegradable phone case or Adidas shoe made out of recycled plastic. The item may be green but do you really need it? Or could you buy it from your local store?

Prime Day generates more packaging waste and carbon emissions than any other period of the year. It dangles attractive sales and free shipping, feeding into our worst habits, tempting us to consume more! faster! now!

Amazon has publicly pledged to improve the sustainability of its operations but it is just empty promises. The company continues to stock and sell items from manufacturers that generate massive emissions, and maintains a fleet of gas-burning vehicles for deliveries nationwide.

Only a concerted, global effort to produce and buy less can avert environmental disaster.

SECTION B (Structured-Response Questions)

Answer **both** questions.

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

International events can have a direct impact on Singapore and its citizens. It is important for Singaporeans to stay informed about current affairs and understand how local and global news can affect their lives. This is so that they can contribute thoughtfully to discussions and solutions on some of the issues.

Extract 2

In a fast-paced and ever-changing global landscape, many unexpected events and challenges may arise. Therefore, the government needs to anticipate change and stay relevant when making decisions to ensure Singapore benefits in the long term.

Extract 3

Citizens and the government can work together to achieve positive outcomes for society. Therefore, more opportunities have been provided for the people to have a say in decision-making in Singapore over the years.

6. Extract 1 highlights the importance for Singaporeans to be aware of local and global news.

In your opinion, what can be done to improve Singaporean teenagers' awareness of current affairs? Explain your answer with reference to **two** ways.

[7]

7. Extracts 2 and 3 reflect two principles shaping governance which have contributed to Singapore's development from a third-world to a first-world country in less than 40 years.

For the continued development of Singapore, do you think it is more important for the government to uphold the principle of 'anticipating change and staying relevant' than the principle of 'providing a stake for everyone, opportunities for all'?

[8]

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Copyright Acknowledgment

- Source A: <https://www.repairworld.org/repairworld/>
 Source B: <https://www.repairworld.org/repairworld/>
 Source C: <https://www.repairworld.org/repairworld/>
 Source D: <https://www.repairworld.org/repairworld/>
 Source E: <https://www.repairworld.org/repairworld/>
 Source F: <https://www.repairworld.org/repairworld/>

