

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

PS2249/GEK2003/SSA2209  
Government and Politics of Singapore

Semester 2: AY2011-2012

POLITICAL SCIENCE

April/May 2012 - Time Allowed: 2 Hours

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**Instructions to Candidates**

1. This examination paper contains **SIX** questions and comprises **TWO** printed pages.
  2. Answer **TWO** questions only.
  3. The weightage of the final examination is 50%.
  4. This is a **CLOSED BOOK** examination.
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265

**ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS ONLY**

**Question 1**

**EITHER**

"As Singapore was mainly responsible for its 'separation' from the Federation of Malaysia in August 1965, it had no difficulties in coming to terms with being an independent state". Do you agree?

**OR**

"The political innovations announced by PM Lee Hsien Loong in May 2009 did not seriously undermine the PAP's hold on power in Singapore's politics". Do you agree?

**Question 2**

"Para-political organizations were critical for the PAP's political hegemony in Singapore in the past but are no longer so today". Do you agree?

**Question 3**

Even if Singaporeans increasingly feel that they are becoming a nation, various government policies have ensured that nation building will always remain a 'work-in-progress'. Do you agree?

**Question 4**

By and large, the PAP's policy of 'leadership regeneration' is a failure. Discuss.

**Question 5**

The 2011 General Elections clearly signaled the rise of opposition in Singapore's politics. Do you agree?

**Question 6**

Would you agree that immigration has emerged as the single most important political issue in Singapore's politics today?

**END OF PAPER**