***Preparations for NTU and NUS Entrance Exams ~Physics~***

**About Me [Brief]**

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Our meetings:

* Mon, 13 Jan 16:30-20:00
* Fri, 17 Jan 16:30-18:00
* Tue, 21 Jan 16:30-20:00
* Thu, 23 Jan 16:30-20:00

Don’t hesitate to contact me anytime, anywhere, anyhow for questions / corrections / suggestions / other requests!

**Know Thyself, Know Thy Exam**

Make sure you know all of these by now:

NTU:

* Exam Date: 8-9 February 2020 (Jakarta)
* The physics exam is 2 hours long, with 30 MCQ questions (@2 marks, total 60 marks) and 4 essay questions (40 marks total)
* Check which exams you are required to take (<https://www3.ntu.edu.sg/oad2/website_files/International/ExamPaperRequirements.pdf>)
* Check if your calculator is allowed (<https://www3.ntu.edu.sg/oad2/EE%20Questions/EE_calculators.pdf>)
* NTU Undergraduate International Admissions Entrance Examinations (<https://admissions.ntu.edu.sg/UndergraduateIntnlAdmissions/Pages/EntranceExaminations.aspx>)

NUS:

* Exam Date: 15-16 February 2020 (Jakarta)
* 2 hours long, 50 MCQ questions
* Like NTU, check which exams you are required to take
* I can’t find the list of allowed calculators in the NUS website, but it should be pretty much the same as NTU’s list
* NUS University Entrance Examinations (<http://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/university-exams-interviews/university-entrance-examinations>)

A Level terminology:

* There are several A Level boards (in short, “the organization that makes and grades the exams”) in the UK (AQA, Edexcel, OCR, and CIE).
* A Levels are split into two parts: the first, simpler part called the AS Level and the second, more rigorous part called the A2 Level

**Important Takeaways:**

* Singapore follows the Singapore-Cambridge General Certificate of Education Advanced Level (GCE A-Level) examination → a lot of the (mostly MCQ) questions in NUS and NTU are said to be similar to A Level exam questions. This is true especially for NUS, since NTU’s exam is often said to be more difficult.
* ~~Since Singapore uses Cambridge (CIE), it is better for you to focus on Cambridge resources.~~ It’s fine to use any A-level practice resources from any boards! They aren’t that different.
* Check out the syllabi and sample papers!
* Graphing calculators will provide you with more aid during the exam, but if you’re not used to it, better take the one you normally use (after you make sure it’s allowed!). Familiarity beats functionality.
* Bring your test taker’s card and ID card!
* Sleep well. Don’t panic on exam day. Arrive early. Make sure you already know where the exam place is. Don’t be late!

**Preparation Materials Recommended by the Internet**

* Past papers!
* Reference Books:
  + CS Toh A-Level Study Guide Physics & A-level Practice MCQ
  + Halliday-Resnick Fundamentals of Physics (check Drive!)
  + The books mentioned in the syllabi, if you have some extra time (which you most probably don’t)
* Youtube videos and Khan Academy, if you prefer video lectures for fundamental concepts
* Useful links:
  + <https://www.alevelphysicsonline.com/cie>
  + <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-international-as-and-a-level-physics-9702/>

**Final Words**

The contents of the NTU/NUS entrance examination might be similar to the A Level, but unlike the A Level exams, they are, nevertheless, NOT a standardized exam. There is no fixed guideline on how it is supposed to be, what type of question it frequently asks, or how difficult it should be. Thus, DO NOT be discouraged if after all that you’ve learned, you still find it difficult or unpredictable. Remember, just try to study as much as possible and later on, do the exams to the best of your abilities.

After the exam’s over? Treat yourself with a nice cup of boba tea, a box full of chicken, a whole tiramisu cake, or whatever you like~ You’ve done well, you deserve a reward!

*~ With all that said, happy learning! Don’t get too stressed :) ~*