Agreement

Comparison with a human dimension.

• Infer with author's attitude

They would disagree as both authors in the sources have different stances on the effects of cultural globalisation.

The author of B is **critical** (author's stance on the issue) of and shows the disadvantages of globalisation as he titled his cartoon as "problems of globalisation".

In the cartoon, he is highly sarcastic when he shows the problems of how the three tourists were not experiencing the authentic cultures of the places they visited namely: Paris, London and Rome as they were more into purchasing American products such as Nike, Disney and McDonalds, Gap which they could get anywhere.

This implies that globalisation causes places of interest to lose their distinctive traits, uniqueness and cultural identity.

On the other hand, Source C, supports globalisation as it shows the benefits of globalisation.

He applauds the availability of the common consumer goods. "It is a good thing. Even if it means the loss of cultural diversity. It increases our sense of togetherness via sense of shared culture." This implies that author's approval of globalisation despite recognising the fact that there will be problems of uniformity and the loss of distinctive traits. The author believes the common experiences will bring about togetherness. This is in contrast to author B's stance, thus not in agreement.

Possible Lorms

• L1: Agree/Disagree based on Prov

- L2: Agree/Disagree based on Topic
- L3: Agree OR/AND Disagree (Surface S/D using Content)
- L4: Disagree in L3+ Evaluation of Sarcastic Tone in Source B

Must Do: Agreement + Disagreement

Depth of Analysis

e.g. Tone / Attitude / Stances / Bias / Hidden Purpose / Inclination / Due to Provenance

Utility

How useful is Source E as evidence about Pokemon Go?

- L3: Utility in Content: PEE for Source A
- L4: Useful/Not Useful based on Cross Reference to check on Content
 - PEE + Logic of Cross Reference for Source B
 - Useful then not useful Both sides CR -> breadth of analysis L5/6-7

3 Step Process in CR

- 1. What to check on
- 2. What to check against
- 3. Logic for doing CR

Source E is useful as it is reliable. Source E tells me Pokemon Go has caused many people to venture out to different areas in their purusit of the Pokemons. This is evident in Source E, "We don't know that it's attracting people who wouldn't have otherwise come, but it's a fair assumption that some passing players will pop in to play." This implies that Pokemmon Go

allows many players to explore places that they have not explored before. This is supported by Source D, which tells me that Pokemon Go has caused many people to venture out to different areas in their pursuit of the Pokemon. This is evident in Source D, "

Source E is not useful as it is not reliable. Source E tells me Pokemon Go is perceived to the beneficial and is welcomed by the properties.

This is evident from the source "At the very least, it flags up to players nearby that the Museum exits. It's free advertising with a huge audience." This implies that some properties recognised the merits of Pokemon Go and welcomed Pokemon Go as a platform to attract visitors. This is contradicted by Source D, which tells me Pokemon Go is perceived to be detrimental and is not welcomed by the properties. This is evident in the source "religious leaders here are worried that the game might provoke many to enter places of worship, disturbing prayer and creating law and order problems."

This implies that some properties view Pokemon Go as causing disrupting the physical space and also orderliness of the space.

This contradiction makes Source E unreliable, hence, not useful.

GCE O Level 2021 - Social Studies Practice Paper

Background Info

Sir James Dyson is a British inventor and entrepreneur. Over several decades he has built up a huge business in Britain, specialising in small domestic appliances such as vacuum cleaners and hair dryers, although since 2002 most of his products have been manufactured in Asia. In 2016, the British public voted to leave the European Union (EU), Dyson, who has a strong supporter of leaving, claimed that there would be more business opportunities for British companies.

However, in January 2019, Dyson announced that he was moving the Headquarters (HQ) of his business to Singapore. He claimed that he was doing the best for his business in a competitive global market. This move has been controversial in Britain. Some view the move as contradicting Dyson's earlier optimism while others feel that he has abandoned British industry.

Implications of Dyson's Move to SG

Positive	Negative
on Companies	Dyson: access to market, cheaper cost of production, increased protfits. SG companie: innovation to meet foreign competition.
on Countries	Singapore: Dyson

Q1 - Inference

Inferring the Message

- Event (Context):
 - Dyson relocating HQ to SG (from background information)
- People: nil
- Items:
 - SG river/skyscrapers = Singapore business/economy
 - Dyson vacuum cleaner spitting out money = Dyson company producing benefits for SG economy
 - Money falling from sky = British money coming into SG
- Caption: 'Singapore' = Dyson's presence in Singapore

Message

The message of the source is to say that:

- Dyson's move to Singapore has brought positive benefits to Singapore
- Dyson's move to Singapore has brought negative outcomes on Britain

Main Message: Dyson's move to Singapore benefits Singapore at the expense of Britain.

Possible Misinterpretations:

- Dyson is losing money
- Dyson's move benefited Britain

Q2 - Comparison

Comparing Sources

Similarities

• Both sources are similar in showing British disapproval with Dyson's move to Singapore (Content)

Differences

- Both sources differ in **showing Dyson's level of involvement in Britain after the move to Singapore** (Content)
 - Dyson washed his hands off Britain
 - Dyson is still invested in Britain
- Both sources differ in the perspectives they show about Dyson's move to Singapore (Treatment of Content)
 - B: Only show British discontent with Dyson's move (-ve)
 - C: Shows both British discontent with Dyson's move (-ve) and reasons for Dyson's move (+ve)

Invalid Comparison: Misinterpretation of B

Similarities

- Both sources are similar in showing that Dyson's move to SG is a controversial decision
 - C: Decision is likely to be controversial (Correct)
 - D: Dyson washing hands of Britain (Wrong)

Q4 - Utility

Agree/Similar	Support/corroborate	
Same opinion	Confirm with evidence	
Concur	Check with evidence	
Identical		

Utility Logic

Using reliability to ascertain utility

- \bullet As it is reliable, therefore it is useful
- As it is not reliable, there it is not useful.

How Can We Work Together for the Good of Society?

Efforts by Individuals

Mdm Malligesvari

Inference

Inference Steps

1. No HLA, just content

ATQ

- "I can infer that Tom was [answer]"
 - Answer / Mirror the question

Evidence

- "The sources states (textual) / shows (picture) ..."
 - List down what the source says

Explanation [L3/4]

- Talking about why your evidence links to your inference
 - A lot easier when you understand what your inference is
 - Tip: Underline your inference in pencil
 - Need to explain your **keyword**
- Don't need to write a lot, just explain your keyword phrase

Questions that require some form of inference to be made

• What can you **infer** from this source about government policy?

•

Picture Analysis / Message

Steps

EPIC

- 1. Events: What was happening during this time? (Context)
- 2. People: Who do the people represent?
- 3. Items: Are there specific props? What do they represent?
- 4. Caption: What can you tell from the caption?

Mistakes

- 1. Do not give sub-messages
 - Hyper-focusing on one aspect of the picture
- 2. Do not do HLA

Tips

- 1. Most of the time, the message aligns with the big question
 - Don't force-fit
- 2. Do 1, not 2
 - If you have time, come back to do 1 more for 1m

Inference, Why / Purpose

Purpose

- 1. Convey a message
 - Main inference (Point)
 - Evidence (Quotation)
 - \circ Explanation of inference
- 2. To achieve an outcome
 - Direct impact on audience (Mindset + action)
 - So that the situation can **change** *Societal/national
- 3. To address the context
 - The event that happened (reaction/responses) in Background Information that caused the author to have the purpose.

Structure

- 1. Author
- 2. Action Word
- 3. Audience
- 4. Aim
- 5. Anticipated Outcome
 - Wider outcome
- 6. Context

What are the Factors That Shape the Identities of People and Contribute to a Diverse Society?

Race and Ethnicity

In general, **race** refers to the biological classification of people, in which includes their physical characteristics.

Ethnicity is based on the culture of a group of people who share the same **ancestry**, **customs and traditions** that distinguish them from other groups in society, each ethnic group has its own beliefs, values and practices that shape its identity and way of life.

In Southeast Asia, different groups have their unique customs, traditions and languages. For example, in Singapore, within the Malay community, there are different ethnic groups such as the Javanese and the Bugis.

Chinese, Malay, Indian, Others (CMIO) Categorisation

The government uses the CMIO categorisation to make decisions regarding policies to race and ethnicity in Singapore.

Group Representation Constituency (GRC)

The GRC system was established in 1988 to ensure that the minority races in Singapore are represented in Parliament.

A group of Members of Parliament (MPs) represents the interests of residents in the constituency. At least one of the MPs in the group representing a GRC must belong to the Malay or Indian community, or another minority racial community.

Ethnic Integration Policy (EIP)

The EIP was introduced in 1989 to promote interaction and harmony among ethnic groups in Singapore. Its aim was to prevent the rise of ethnic **enclaves.**

The EIP ensures that there is a mix of various ethnic groups in each HDB block, based on the ethnic make-up of Singapore. Since different ethnic groups live in the same block, they have opportunties to interact with one another.

Social Economic Categorisation

Socio-economic status refers to an economic situation shared by a group of people in society. It is measured based on a combination of social and economic factors.

Families with lower income may face challenges in providing the resources to support their children's development. To ensure children have a good start in life, the Singapore government introduced the KidSTART programme as added support for children aged six and below.

KidSTART equips parents with relevant knowledge and skills to nurture their child's early development. KidSTART is offered to families that need it most, such as those with a household income of \$2,500 or less, or a gross monthly per capita income of \$650 or less.

What are the Experiences and Effects of Living in a Diverse Society?

Interactions in a Diverse Society and Common Space

Common space refers to a physical location and/or a social space where different groups of people interact, cooperate or collaborate on projects or activities. Such interactions allow people to do the following:

- Forge ties and establish mutual understanding between people of different races, ethnicities, religions and socio-economic statuses.
- Create shared experiences and memories.

Void Decks

Void decks are the open and sheltered areas on the group floor of most blocks of flats built by the Housing and Development Board (HDB). Void decks provide opportunities for residents to meet, interact and bond.

Common spaces also include social spaces. Examples of social spaces are social and cultural events, and programmes where people can engage and develop relationships with one another. These events and programmes can be organised by governmental and non-governmental organisations to promote interaction and build understanding among different groups of people.

Inter-Racial and Religious Confidence Circles (IRCCs)

The IRCCs were first established in 2002 to serve as an inter-faith platform.

IRCCs are formed in every constituency to promote racial and religious harmony among different religious, ethnic and community groups.

On 30 July 2022, the IRCCs were renamed as Racial and Religious Harmony Circles. It continues to deepen the work of building trust, understanding and confidence among various communities through activities that promote inter-faith and inter-ethnic interactions.

People's Association (PA)

The PA aims to promote racial harmony and social cohesion in Singapore. It offers a wide range of community service, sports and cultural programmes that help connect people to people, and people with the government. These programmes are carried out through a network of over 2,000 grassroots organisations, over 100 Community Clubs/Centres (CCs), five Community Development Councils, the National Community Leadership Institute and PAssion WaVe.

Experiences and Effects of Liviing in a Diverse Society

An attitude of **openness** or being open-minded helps promote harmonious interactions in a diverse society. When people are open-minded, they are more willing to actively listen, respectfully engage and appreciate the differences between one another.

Just an Extra Chair!

Just An Extra Chair is an initiative organised by the Singaporean Kindness Movement. Singaporeans who are willing, host guests during festive celebrations. Most of the guests are foreigners working or studying in Singapore who would otherwise spend festive seasons alone.

During the Chinese New Year, Mr McRhon Banderlipe, an expatriate from the Philippines, and two other guests joined Ms Sia Yan Dih and her family for dinner.

Cultural Exchange and Appreciation

One outcome of cultural exchange is a deeper understanding and appreciation of the customs and traditions of Singapore's diverse ethnic groups. Different ethnic groups have their own cultures and ways of life, which are commonly reflected in their rituals, greetings, art and music. These aspects have been developed over a long time and have become integral to the identity and cohesion of the people within the ethnic group.

The Lion Dance

The lion dance is a performance dating back to more than 1,500 years. This custom is believed to have originated from the legends of Nian, a monster that terrorised a village in China. The villagers discovered its fear of lions and loud noises and successfully scared the monster off. Today, the lion dance continues to be performed during Chinese celebrations and auspicious occasions as it is believed to bring good fortune.

Cultural exchange also helps deepen understanding and appreciation of uniqueness, commonalities, and differences among people. This can enable people to build meaningful relationships with others from different backgrounds, and to learn from their ideas, experiences and cultures.

Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Youth Fellowship (AYF)

Cultural exchanges can take place through programmes such as the ASEAN AYF. Through the AYF, ASEAN Youth Fellows commit themselves to forging closer partnerships and strengthening connections with young ASEAN leaders from across the region. They also commit to enacting positive change within communities and countries in ASEAN.

Cultural exchange can also deepen one's appreciation of other cultures and contribute to shaping the local cultural and arts landscape.

Dr Iskandar Jalil

Inspired by Dr Iskandar's time in Japan, he integrates Japanese and Islamic styles into his pottery. His art is influenced by *wabi-sabi*, a Japanese approach to life that sees beauty in imperfections and in the passing of time. This is reflected by Dr Iskandar's pottery, which showcases natural weathering and imperfections. His pottery is found in many public and private art collections in Singapore and around the world.

Cultural exchange and appreciation can also result in **cultural fusion**.

Ms Oniatta Effendi

In Ms Oniatta's designs, she incorporates classically Javanese motifs, including the *parang*, *kawung* and *wahyu temurun* together with contemporary patterns such as the Japanese-influenced *sashiko* motif.

When one culture adopts some aspects from another culture, it is important to acknowledge and give recognition to that culture. When the language, cuisine, music, dance or dress of a culture is used without permission or portrayed in an insensitive manner, it is known as **cultural appropriation**.

The Oma Ethnic Minority Group (Laos)

In 2019, a large Italian company plagiarised the traditional designs of the Oma ethnic minority group in their clothing collection. The company digitally duplicated and printed the designs onto their dresses, skirts and blouses. The colours, shapes and arrangement were identical to the traditional Oma designs.

The company was called out for cultural appropriation. People pointed out that simply scanning and printing the traditional designs on clothing was disrespectful to the Oma people, who take the time, skill and patience to create their homemade textiles. Furthermore, the company did not acknowledge the Oma in their marketing, labelling or display of the clothing collection, nor did they provide any compensation to the Oma.

Exchange of Knowledge and Skills

A diverse society like Singapore's brings together people with different backgrounds, qualifications and experiences to share their share their knowledge and skills. An outcome of this exchange is the creation of new ideas, methods and products.

Thermo Fisher Scientific

Thermo Fisher is a multinational company with over 2,000 employees in Singapore and 80,000 employees globally as of 2021. (1) Singaporeans in the company are trained in leadership skills and encouraged to collaborate with employees from different cultures and with different experiences and expertise. (2) Such collaborations enable employees to sharpen their skills by sharing and learning from one another. It also allows younger technicians to be mentored to produce high-quality equipment. (3)

The company also collaborates with Singapore-based design firms, universities and research institutions, such as A-STAR, to support their R&D in a wide range of areas, including genetics and cancer research. (4) Thermo Fisher played a critical role in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. It collaborated with the Ministry of Health (MOH) (5), Temasek Holdings (6) and the Economic Development Board (EDB) (7) in the production of personal protective equipment (PPE) and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) kits. (8)

Prejudice

Prejudice refers to attitudes and feelings towards other groups that are not based on reason or fact. It can come in the form of stereotyping, assumptions, generalisations, beliefs or feelings about a group.

Discrimination

In June 2021, an interracial couple comprising a man of Indian and Filipino-Spanish descent and his girlfriend of Thai-Chinese descent were strolling along Orchard Road. A local Chinese man confronted the couple and accused the man of "preying on a Chinese girl" and ordered him to "date people of his own race."

Later, in a social media post, the couple shared that they felt embarrassed and hurt by the way they were treated by a fellow Singaporean. They added that while the Chinese man admitted to being a racist, they hoped that he would learn to stop being racist and allow everyone to live in harmony. The Chinese man was later fired from his job as a polytechnic lecturer and was charged in court for his actions.

Competition for Resources

The inflow of foreigners into Singapore is meant to meet Singapore's shortage of manpower due to its low fertility rate and ageing population. This foreign workforce consists of highly-skilled, high-wage earners and lesser-skilled, low-wage workers.

Employment Passes in Singapore

Employment Pass	S Pass	Work Permit for Migrant Workers	Work Permit for Migrant Domestic Workers
For foreign	For mid-level	For semi-skilled	For
professionals,	skilled workers	migrant workers in	foreigners
managers and	earning at least	the construction,	employed as
executives earning	\$2,500 a month	manufacturing,	domestic
at least \$4,500 a	who meet the	marine shipyard,	helpers in
month with suitable	assessment	process or services	Singapore.
qualifications.	criteria.	sector.	

Singaporeans are concerned about the heightened competition with foreigners over limited resources. These resources include job opportunities and **infrastructure** such as public housing and transportation.

This competition, whether real or perceived, has led to tensions, unhappiness and negative experiences among groups of people in the country.

In 2020, a survey conducted by REACH, a governmental feedback unit, found that Singaporeans generally agreed it was important for Singapore to be regional hub as it provides good opportunities for Singaporeans. This also means remaining open to foreigners.

However, concerns over job security and career opportunities have continued to be source of anxiety for Singaporeans, especially among the unemployed.

Addressing Concerns About Foreigners in Singapore

Stricter Workforce Controls

- **Tightened the criteria for Employment Pass (EP)** resulting in slower growth in the number of EP holders each year.
- Raised the minimum qualifying salary for the S Pass to keep pace with rising wages. This means that a foreigner needs to earn a higher minimum salary before they can be considered for a pass.

Responding to Singaporeans' concerns over the competition posed by foreigners in the job market, the government has implemented the Fair Consideration Framework. Under this framework, measures are put in place to promote local hiring and ensure that employers give fair consideration to Singaporeans based on merit. For example:

- Employers submitting EP and S Pass applications must first advertise their job vacancies on MyCareersFuture, an online portal that facilitates job searches for Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents.
- Action is enforced against errant employers who carry out unfair hiring practices that favour foreigners.

Addressing Infrastructure Concerns

Land Transport Master Plan 2040

- Connecting more places by train
- Priority for buses
- Autonomous, on-demand services
- More cycling paths
- \bullet More Integrated Transport Hubs

SRQ Evaluative Questions

What are the Extracts for?

Extracts 2 & 3

- For Q7 **Evaluative type** of question
- acts as **Scaffolds**; cannot use wholesale.

No marks for copying extracts whole-sale.

Number of PEELs

Q6 - 2 PEELs Q7 - 3 PEELs

Example

Extracts 2 and 3 describe the role of Singapore government and citizens in promoting diversity.

Does the **Singapore Government** (Factor 1) have a more important **role to play** (Focus) than the **citizens** (Factor 2) in <u>managing the challenges of cultural diversity in Singapore</u> (Issue)?

Step 1: Recognise the demands of the question

- Given factors
- On Focus
- On Issue

SRQ Practice on Fake News

Extract 1

Extract 1 highlights the potential harms that fake news can inflict on a country.

In your opinion, what are the **harmful** impacts of fake news on Singapore? Explain 2 impacts.

One harmful impact of fake news on Singapore is the undermining of public trust in institutions. During the COVID-19 pandemic, false information about the virus and the government's response spread rapidly. For instance, there were false claims about the safety and efficacy of vaccines and misinformation regarding the lockdown measures. An example of this is Truth Warriors, a group which shared links to articles produced by several foreign doctors and overseas groups that have been discredited by organisation such as the CDC. Describing itself as a "community repository of evidence-based information on global developments surrounding Covid-19", sharing information on SG Suspected Vaccine Injuries and SG Covid La Kopi Telegram groups. When fake news spread misinformation about public health measures, it can lead to confusion and panic among the population. People may become skeptical of official information and less likely to follow government directives, which are crucial for managing public health crises. This undermines the government's ability to effectively govern and protect its citizens. The spread of fake news can erode the credibility of public institutions, making it harder for them to gain the public's trust and cooperation in the future. Therefore, it is vital to address and counteract

fake news to maintain public trust in institutions and ensure effective governance, especially during crises. Hence, fake news can significantly harm Singapore by undermining trust in public institutions.

Extract 2 and 3

Extracts 2 and 3 highlight the roles of the government and social media companies in managing the spread of fake news.

Do governments or social media companies play a more significant role in the spread of fake news? Explain your answer.

The role of the government in the spread of fake news is to create and enforce laws to combat the spread of fake news. For instance, Singapore has the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act (POFMA), which allows authorities to order the removal or correction of false information. As the government has the legal and constitutional power to enact legal policies to combat the spread of fake news, it is the role of the government to enforce policies that make the spread of fake news highly risky to do, deterring malicious actors from spreading fallacies which may undermine public trust in national institutions or erode social cohesion. As a result, manpower and agencies can be deployed to actively combat and respond to fake news incidents, calling on threat actors to cease the spread of fallacies before devastating damage to the social fabric of Singapore can be done.

However, social media companies also play a role in the spread of fake news through the management of content posted on their platforms. Social media companies have the responsibility to moderate content posted on their platforms, ensuring that information in posts are accurate and inoffensive. They thus also have the responsibility to curb and blacklist accounts that deliberately and maliciously incite discord among netizens through the spread of fake news. An example is Instagram's fact-checking feature, which depends on users to report false content they see on Instagram. Posts which contain false content will thereby carry alerts to users who come across them, informing them of possible fallacies in the posts. As social media companies have direct access to the content and data passing through their platform, they have the responsibility of being the first responders to posts with false content. Therefore, it is the role of social media companies to actively prevent

fake news from spreading by blacklisting accounts or posts before they go viral, an ability which third-party agencies do not have. Thus, social media companies play a role in the spread of fake news.

MTR

Note

- Q6: Singaporean interactions and context
 - Ensure your example is **relevant** and **sufficient**
 - 1: I(dentify) policy
 - 2: D(etails) / Context [Ideally Both]
 - Bullshit!!! :DDDDD
 - If you don't know what the example is, you can provide the context as details
 - Context but no example \rightarrow L3/5
- Q7: Singaporean or international
 - Evaluation only marked after L6-7

Cramming Content Sanely

Study Techniques

- 50/10 time rule: study 50 min, rest 10 min
- Chunking:
- Textbooks
 - Look at the captions of the photos
 - They are examples

Examples

- SMART
 - Specific
 - Measurable
 - Achievable
 - Realistic
 - Timely

SRQ Approach

Is the question always about why or how?

- No.
- Answer the question.

Hybrid Question

```
![Opinion Question](./o3_SRQ_Evaluative/Screenshot\ 2024-08-06\ at\ 2.00.10 PM.png)
![Opinion Question 2](./o3_SRQ_Evaluative/Screenshot\ 2024-08-06\ at\ 2.00.58 PM.png)
![Opinion Question 3](./o3_SRQ_Evaluative/Screenshot\ 2024-08-06\ at\ 2.01.47 PM.png)
```

- MySkillsFuture, skills upgrading
 - Career options, skills + competencies for the future.

SBQ Practice (Message and Surprise)

Q1. Study Source A. What is the message of the source? Explain your answer.

One message is that the ageing population has an negative impact on economic growth as it results in an economic slowdown in a country and hence New Zealanders need to have the political will to support changes to existing policies to cater to the needs of their population, despite these measures being unpopular. This is evident in Source A which shows the elderly population still working as construction workers, postman, delivery workers which may be having issues with their productivity as the workers seem lethargic and sleepy. In addition, the response from the elderly couple indicating their choice of "Letting more people into N.Z." shows that introducing younger foreign workers/new immigrants is a viable way to boost the productivity in the economy.

Q2. Study Source D. How surprised are you by this source? Explain your answer.

No Question Issue \rightarrow Look at Background Information for ideas. Cross-ref both sides

CR	CR	
PEE_D	PEE_D	
+PEE_CR	- PEE_CR	

CR	CR	
Logic	Logic	
$S \rightarrow NS_p$	$D \to S_p$	

ML

I am surprised/not surprised by content in D (Common-sense answers)

• Society needs to prepare for ageing population (Similar to Background Information)

I am surprised/not surprised by content in D by doing comparison/cross-ref checks with other sources

- D: Valuable contribution by the elderly (Similar to C: which also shows valuable contribution by the elderly)
- D: elderly workers are welcomed by companies (Different from B: which shows elderly workers are not welcomed by the companies.)

HL - 5-6m

I am not surprised + surprised by content in D by doing comparison/cross-ref checks with other sources.

I am not surprised by content in D due to developed explanation on Provenance/Purpose of the author.

- Identity: (Ong Ye Kung; Minister of Health)
- Message: Government has put in place policy to prepare for ageing population
- Context: the launch of the 2023 Action Plan for Successful Ageing in Singapore and there is a growing ageing population
- Outcome: To convince and reassure Singaporeans that government has put in place in the policy and for Singaporeans to be supportive and extending their care and support for the elderly; so as to extend the inclusivity for the elderly.

- Expectancy: Expected because as a health minister, he needs to put in place policies to cater to the needs of the elderly and convince Singaporeans to be receptive to the growing societal needs of an ageing population. (Context)
- **Notes**: Outcome includes direct impact (for Singaporeans to be supportive...) and the larger context (so as to extend the inclusivity for the elderly.)

Marking CR answers

- 1. Matching points (base vs CR)
- 2. Are evidences supporting the points
- 3. Logic of comparing/CR

$$\circ \ L_s \to NS_p$$

$$\circ$$
 D \rightarrow S_p

How Can We Respond to Diversity in Society?

Responding to Socio-Cultural Diversity

Responses of Individuals

During a concert at the 2019 Singapore Grand Prix, a social media influencer uplaced a picture of two Sikh men in white turbans in front of her, with the caption "Two huge obstructions decided to pop out of nowhere".

This post went viral on social media and caused unhappiness among the Sikh community. Many online users slammed the beauty and travel content influencer, who had more than 76,000 followers on her social media account. They felt that her comments insulted the two men and their religious beliefs.

Subsequently, the influencer apologised for her comment that many deemed "racist and culturally insensitive". She also insisted that she had not intended to offend the Sikh community or any religion.

The President of YSA responded to the insensitive post by inviting the influencer to the *gurdwara* (Sikh temple) for an informal tour.

Responses of Community Groups

Welcome In My Backyard (WIMBY)

Welcome In My Backyard (WIMBY), a youth-led group, is a ground-up campaign founded in **April 2020** to raise awareness about the lives of migrant workers. It also aims to promote interactions between migrant workers and the local community.

WIMBY's name was chosen in direct response to Singaporeans with the "Not In My Backyard" (NIMBY) sentiments.

During the relocation of foreign worker dormitories to the HDB estates, volunteers of WIMBy engaged Singaporeans to write notes to welcome migrant workers into their neighbourhoods. These notes were then translated into the native languages of the migrant workers to convey Singaporeans' appreciation for their contribution to Singapore.

Comprising almost 50 volunteers, WIMBY has organised several initiatives to encourage interactions between Singaporeans and migrant workers. One such initiative involves partnering schools in their Values-in-Action programmes to address issues facing migrant workers.

Inter-Religious Organisation (IRO)

- A non-governmental organisation
- Founded in 1949 by religious leaders from different faith groups in Singapore
- Aims of building religious harmony and peace.
- IRO leaders and members often gather together to perform joint prayers at national and public ceremonies.
- Also take part in local and international interfaith dialogues and conferences, and visit one another's place of worship.

Responses of Governments

Assimilationist Policies in France

- Immigrants are expected to adopt beliefs and practices of the majority group in the host country.
- Over time, the identities of the assimilated group are expected to become identical to those of the majority group.

Laicite

- All French citizens and immigrants have to abide by laicite
 - laicite: State secularism
- France believes that the ideal of harmony in society is achieved when every individual puts aside his or her connections to race, ethnicity and religion.
- While it acknowledges the existence of diverse cultural identities, it believes that the French national identity should be prioritised over other identities.

Education

- All children in France, regardless of citizenship status, required to attend school until age 16.
- Adaptation classes introduced to immigrant children to help them improve their French before they can assimilate into French schools.
- No discussion about religion except in History, Literature, Philosophy, and Art classes.
- In 2015, launched new course in **moral and civic education** to promote values of national motto, as well as justice, mutual respect and non-discrimination.

Employment

- Diversity Charter introduced in 2004 to raise employers' awareness of recruiting employees from diverse backgrounds.
 - First charter of its kind in Europe
 - Supports assimilation of immigrants into French society.

- Encourages companies to be inclusive and carry out tangible actions to promote diversity at the workplace.
- In 2019, 13.1 per cent of immigrant workers unemployed compared to 7.8 per cent of French natives.
 - Discrimination in the hiring practices of companies despite emphasis against discrimination in labour laws.

Naturalisation

- Immigrants seeking citizenship through naturalisation attend four-day civic training course in French principles and values,
 - o and practical aspects of life in French society
- Up to 600 hours of free language courses offered to help immigrants master French in daily life.
- Ensure immigrants are able to interact with other French citizens, and adopt French attitudes and beliefs, strengthening national identity.

Tensions Arising From Assimilationist Policies in France

- In 2004, law introduced by France banned wearing of clearly visible religious attire and symbols in schools.
 - Maintain religious neutrality in public schools.

Impact

- Muslim students not allowed to wear religious headscarves.
- Jewish students not allowed to wear kippahs
- Christian students prohibited from wearing crosses
- Sikh students not allowed to wear turbans.

Integration Policies in Singapore

- Belief that diverse socio-cultural identities complement Singapore national identity.
- Singapore identity anchored in shared values of upholding law and order, respecting racial and religious harmony, commitment to working together for better future.
- Differences in practices recognised and respected.

• Equality promoted without granting special rights to any groups.

Bilingual Policy in Singapore (1966)

- Bilingualism introduced in schools in 1966.
- Students required to learn English and one of the official Mother Tongues.
- Learning English gives different ethnic groups common language to communicate with one another.
- Helps to build relationships and promote integration in society.

Community Support

- In 2009, National Integration Council launched Community Integration
 Fund to support organisations in implementing projects to encourage interactions between Singaporeans, immigrants and foreigners.
 - Deepen mutual understanding
 - Build relationships
 - Develop stronger connection to Singapore.
- \bullet At grassroots level, community events and activities organised by People's

Association

- Include house visits, block parties, festive celebrations
- New Singapore citizens and Permanent Residents get to know neighbourhood better and make new friends in community.

Naturalisation Initiatives

- Upon receiving in-principal approval for citizenship, new Singapore citizens go through compulsory **Singapore Citizenship Journey** programme.
 - Collaborative effort between Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth,
 Immigration & Checkpoints Authority, People's Association.

Singapore Citizenship Journey

- 1. New Citizens learn about Singapore's history and development.
- 2. They deepen appreciation of Singaporean norms and shared values.
- 3. They are given opportunity to have meaningful interactions with local community.
- 4. Receive Singapore citizenship certificates at **Citizenship Ceremony** after completing programme.

Common Experiences

National Service (NS)

- Brings people from diverse backgrounds to train and live together.
- NSmen learn to develop sense of collective interest through common experience.
- Helps strengthen relationships between them and create strong Singapore national identity.

Singapore Armed Forces Volunteer Corps (SAFVC)

• Established in 2014, provides opportunity for individuals who are not required to serve NS, such as women, first-generation Singapore PRs, and new citizens aged 18 to 45, to contribute to national defense.

Responding to Socio-Economic Diversity

Responses of Individuals

Individuals can play their part and respond by contributing their time, effort and money to meet areas of need in society. For example:

• They can start ground-up initiatives and mobilise resources to distribute food to those in need.

• They can also volunteer with existing organisations to provide services to other groups in society, such as helping out at mobile clinics.

Example 1 (Free Food For All)

Free Food For All

In 2014, Mr Nizar Mohamed Shariff started a charity called Free Food For All (FFFA) to provide nutritious halal food to the less fortunate, regardless of their race or religion.

Initially focused on delivering freshly cooked meals, FFFA now offers different food options and channels, which include ready-to-eat (RTE) meals, fresh vegetables, groceries and a weekly stocked community fridge. They also collaborate with other food businesses to cater RTE meals for their beneficiaries.

In 2021 alone, FFFA served more than 160,000 meals, which include RTE meals to more than 1,000 families a month.

Another way that an individual can respond is by adopting an attitude of **grit** and perseverance. This attitude helps strengthen the individual's resilience and motivation to overcome the economic challenges of their situation.

Example 2 (Happy People Helping People)

Happy People Helping People

Ms Fiona Ke grew up in an environment where her family found it difficult to meet their basic needs. Her father left the family when she was around six years old, and her mother struggled alone to raise Ms Ke and her siblings. Motivated to give her mother a comfortable life, Ms Ke studied hard from an early age. She decided to become a nurse as she wanted to help other people. With hard word and financial aid from various organisations, Ms Ke fulfilled her dream of becoming a nurse.

In her second year of working as a nurse, Ms Ke found out that she had a hole in her heart and later had to undergo surgery. Her experience as a patient helped her develop more empathy for her patients.

Benefiting from the help given by various charities while growing up, Ms Ke believes in giving back to society. She helps out at a mobile clinic for the elderly and volunteers with Happy People Helping People, a non-profit organisation which provides food for elderly cardboard collectors. She hopes to start her own mobile clinic for the elderly in the future.

Responses of Community Groups

In a socio-economically diverse country like Singapore, there are some groups in society who may not have enough resources and opportunities to progress. This can lead to challenges with accessing healthcare and education, which can affect their quality of life and opportunities for social mobility.

Formal and informal community groups can step in by providing support in the form of financial aid, guidance and resources.

Example 1 (Daughters of Tomorrow (DOT))

Daughters of Tomorrow

Daughters of Tomorrow (DOT) is a formal community group that conduct programmes to help women aged 20 to 60 upgrade their skills and find jobs. Most of these women come from low-income families or live in subsidised rental flats.

DOT's financial literacy programme is a series of four weekly workshops followed by seven months with a support group. The women learn good money-management skills and progress towards their financial goals.

Example 2 (Keeping Hope Alive (KHA))

Keeping Hope Alive

Keeping Hope Alive (KHA) is an informal group whose volunteers offer their time and skills to help the less privileged in Singapore. Every Sunday, about 50 to 60 volunteers conduct door-to-door visits to one and two-room rental flats to look out for residents who are in need and take action to meet their needs. These actions taken include cleaning their homes, fixing and replacing their home appliances, and providing them with haircuts.

From a single volunteer, KHA has grown into a large community of individuals who share the common goal of improving the quality of life of low-income families in Singapore

Responses of Governments

Different governments adopt different approaches to manage the issues related to socioeconomic diversity. In this section, you will explore aspects of:

- the government-financed approach adopted in Sweden; and
- the shared-responsibility approach adopted in Singapore

Government-financed Approach in Sweden

Healthcare

Healthcare services such as hospital care, medicine, dental care, disability support and rehabilitation services are publicly funded.

- All families are covered by a medical protection scheme.
- Children in the household can claim up to 2,466 Swedish kronor (about \$330) in a year from the government.
- Since 2019, dental care costs are free for local residents up to the age of 23. Dental care from the age of 24 is subsidised.

Education

Education is funded by the government and provided to all Swedes.

- Education is compulsory from ages 6 to 16.
 - Sweden provides a free school lunch to every child.
 - All students have access to a school doctor, school nurse, psychologist and school welfare officer at no cost.
- Tuition fees for tertiary education are fully subsidised for Swedish residents.

Housing

Allowance is provided to lower-income individuals or families who need help to pay for housing or housing fees for their own home.

- Families may receive housing allowance if they live with children and pay more than 1,400 Swedish kronor (about \$190) for their housing.
- For the elderly with low or no income, they are entitled to a housing supplement which acts as a form of financial support.

Skills Training

The Swedish Public Employment Service provides training to equip individuals with skills to increase their chances of employment.

- Free vocational courses are provided to train individuals from diverse backgrounds for industries that lack skilled workers.
- Applicants for these courses must be registered as a job seeker with the Swedish Public Employment Service.
- Applicants must be:
 - above 25 years old;
 - under 25 years old and have a disability; or
 - over 18 years and have circumstances that make it difficult for them to be employed.

In Sweden's government-financed approach, the provision of substantial assistance and financial support ensures that citizens and individuals of different socio-economic backgrounds have access to healthcare, education, housing and employment. This also ensures that the needs of the elderly, citizens with illnesses or disabilities, and those with young children are provided for.

Challenges faced by Sweden

High Taxation Rate

The social benefits provided by the Swedish government, such as lengthy parental leave, unemployment allowances, healthcare and free education, are made possible by the high taxation rate in Sweden.

- In 2019, the highest income earners in Sweden pay income taxes of 57.2 per cent, which is one of the highest in the world.
- Besides direct taxation in the form of income tax, there is also indirect taxation in the form of Value-Added Tax (VAT), which is similar to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in Singapore. In 2019, VAT in Sweden was 25 per cent.

Ageing Population

Swedish elder care is largely funded by taxes and government grants. In 2018, the total cost of elder care in Sweden was 126.3 billion kronor (\$17.2 billion). This amount is set to increase as the country's population continues to age.

Sweden's life expectancy is one of the highest in the world - 80.6 years for men and close to 84.3 years for women. More than 5 per cent of Sweden's population is aged 80 or older. With an ageing population and high life expectancy, government spending will increase over time, especially in the areas of health and long-term care.

However, as more people retire, it will be a smaller working population to bear this increased cost. There will be a need to increase employment rates, lengthen the employment years of those still working, or raise taxes on the working population.

High immigrant unemployment rates

Sweden has one of the larger immigrant populations among the European countries. However, there are several challenges in integrating immigrants into the workforce, which widens the income gap between them and other citizens.

Challenges integrating immigrants into the workplace

Mismatch between skills and jobs

- Immigrants may not have received educational opportunities in their home countries, leaving them unable to take up unfilled jobs in Sweden.
- This has resulted in high unemployment for low-skilled workers and immigrants

Difficulty in assessing skills

- If an immigrant's training experience was not in Sweden, employers have difficulties assessing their actual competency.
- The processing time for foreign qualifications is long.
- These have resulted in highly educated immigrants with foreign qualifications facing challenges in finding suitable jobs.

Shared-responsibility approach in Singapore

Singapore adopts a shared-responsibility approach where many helping hands such as individuals and families, community groups and the government work together to address issues related to socio-economic diversity and meet the needs of society.

Individuals play an important role in making the effort to support themselves and their family members. However, some individuals may not have enough resources to take care of themselves or their family members. Hence, community groups and the government step in to support them.

The government provides targeted assistance to individuals and families who are unable to provide for themselves and where support from community groups is inadequate. This targeted assistance takes the form of subsidies, financial assistance and skills training to increase their employability.

Subsidies for essential services

Healthcare

- One example is Singapore's 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.
 - Government Subsidies
 - Helps to reduce the cost to the patient. For hospitalisation in public hospitals, subsidy goes up to 80%.
 - MediShield Life
 - Pays for large hospital bills and selected outpatient treatments.
 - MediSave
 - Helps to pay for your medical expenses or that of your immediate family members.
 - MediFund
 - Helps those who are unable to afford their subsidised medical bills.

 While Singaporeans save for their own or their dependents' healthcare needs through the CPF MediSave Account, the government provides subsidies to reduce medical costs for Singaporeans

Education

- Another example takes the form of preschool subsidies to ensure that all children have access to quality education for a good start in life, regardless of their family background.
 - While parents pay for preschool fees, government subsidies across all eligible income tiers have increased.
 - From January 2020, lower-income families earning \$3000 or less per month pay
 \$3 per month at preschool centres under the Anchor Operator Scheme funded by
 the government.

Housing

- Public housing subsidies are also provided to ensure affordable housing opportunities for Singaporeans.
 - While Singaporeans pay for their home purchase in cash or with their CPF savings,
 the government has put in place various housing grant and rental housing schemes
 to ensure that housing opportunities are kept affordable for Singaporeans.

Social and community assistance to provide targeted support for lower-income Singaporeans

- Long-term assistance is provided for persons who are permanently unable to work due to old age, illness or disability and have little to no income, savings and family support.
- Short-to-medium-term financial support is provided to help families and individuals tide over difficult times and regain stability.

Vouchers to provide more support for lower to middle-income Singaporean households

- Some areas of support provided by the permanent GST Voucher scheme are:
 - Some cash payouts in August every year to support lower-income Singaporeans with their immediate needs.

• Quarterly U-save rebates to help lower and middle-income HDB households offset their utility bills.

Opportunities for upskilling and training

- The programs and initiatives under SkillsFuture Singapore gives students and working adults access to training and courses to continually upskill and equip themselves with industry-relevant skills.
- The Workfare Skills Support scheme provides training allowance and cash awards to encourage low-wage Singaporeans to upgrade their skills.

Challenges faced by Singapore

Ageing Population

By 2030, the percentage of seniors will more than double, while citizens aged 20 to 63 will decrease. This will increase demands on government funding for healthcare and other social services to meet the needs of a larger ageing population.

With a life expectancy of close to 85 years, Singaporeans are living longer. Between 2010 and 2019, the government tripled its healthcare expenditure to \$11.3 billion to meet the growing needs of seniors and ensure that every Singaporean has access to affordable and quality healthcare.

The increasingly heavy cost of supporting an ageing population would affect the working population. With fewer working adults supporting more older people, the cost each working adult needs to shoulder would be higher.

Having fewer working adults would also affect the vibrancy of Singapore's economy. There would be lower productivity, which may lead to decreased economic output. This would result in slower economic growth for the country. If this happens, Singapore would not be able to sustain its resources to care for the elderly and people in need.

Increase in taxation

The Singapore government plans to increase the GST from 7 to 9 per cent gradually from 2023 to 2024. The higher government revenue will help to meet the needs of the population, particularly in healthcare spending.

In Singapore, higher-income earners pay a proportionally higher tax, with the highest personal income tax rate at 22 per cent as at 2021. It is estimated that more than 60 per cent of tax earned from households and individuals is paid by foreigners residing in Singapore, tourists and the top 20 percent of resident households.

Singapore's competitive tax rates are attractive to high earners and entrepreneurs who want to live and do business in Singapore. If taxes keep increasing, this may deter foreigners and tourists from residing in or coming to Singapore.

Limitations in upskilling and training

In the annual pre-budget 2020 Feedback Exercise conducted by REACH, a governmental feedback unit, many respondents who were aged 60 and above shared that they were not sure if attending courses would be sufficient to increase their chances of employment. They also shared that a mindset shift in employers would also be needed so that older workers are valued, accepted and accommodated.

By 2030, with the retirement age set at 65 and re-employment age at 70, mature workers will need more support to continue working for longer.

- Without employment support for mature workers, it would be hard for employers to retain and hire them.
- They may also not be able to advance in their jobs, earning wages that may not be enough to support their needs.

What Are The Factors That Contribute To Globalisation?

Driving Forces of Globalisation

Two driving forces:

- 1. Technological advancements in transportation and digital technology
- 2. Growth of Multinational Corporations (MNCs)
- **Globalisation**: the process through which ideas and activities of people living in different parts of the world become interconnected.
- These **interconnections** are links created or established among people, businesses and countries through the movement of goods, services, people, knowledge and resources.
- Such interconnections lead to **interdependence** where developments in the world (global) and developments in a specific place (local) affect one another. i.e. Events in one part of the world may affect other parts of the world.

Technological Advancements

Over the years, **technological advancements** have led to improvements in land, sea and air transportation.

Speed

1830s	Since 1964
The Liverpool and Manchester Railway	The Shinkansen bullet trains in Japan
marked the beginning of steam-powered	are among the world's fastest trains. As
rail travel. The railway covered a distance	of 2023, the rail network covers a
of approximately 50 km and its trains	distance of around 3,478 km and its
travelled at about 48 km/h.	trains can travel up to 320 km/h.

Capacity

1800s	Since 1956
Steam-powered ships first sailed across the	Depending on their size,
Atlantic Ocean between America and Europe, and	container ships have a
later along shipping routes to Asia. Due to space	carrying capacity ranging from
taken up by its large engine and fuel, it had limited	25,000 to 600,000 tonnes.
carrying capacity.	

Costs

1950s	Since 1990s
In the 1950s, flying was considered a	With the rise of low-cost airlines, the cost
luxury experience. Apart from the	of flights has decreased substantially. With
affluent and business travellers, few	lower airfares, more people are able to
people could afford it.	afford air travel.

Singapore - A global transport hub

Land transport

The Singapore-Johor Causeway and the Tuas Second Link connect Singapore and Malaysia by land. This land connectivity allows essential goods, such as food, into Singapore. It facilitates the commute of workers daily between Malaysia and Singapore, and also supports the **import** of water between the two countries.

Air Transport

- Key transit node on many flight routes that connect Americas, Europe, Asia and Australasia.
- Asia's economic rise further strengthened Singapore's status as important aviation hub.
- Has advantage as it is located within seven-hour flight radius of major markets in East Asia and Southeast Asia

Maritime Transport

- Port of Singapore situated at crossroads of some of world's busiest commercial shipping lanes that connect Asia, Middle East, Europe, and Americas.
- Serves as **transhipment** and refuelling hub.
- Over 130,000 vessels call at Port of Singapore annually.
- Serves 200 shipping lines linking more than 600 ports in 120 countries

Assertion

Recap

- Skill tested: "... to consider the issue of the case study from a broader prospective"
- SEE Format:
 - Stand + Evidence + Extension
 - Further development of source evidence
 - Extension in SEE response using these approaches:
 - action/outcome/significance/blame/context

LORMS

Level	Description	Mark
L1	No valid use of source	[1]
L2	Valid use of source/s (A/DA)	[2-3]

GCE 2022 Q5 (Assertion SBQ)

'Individual responsibility is the best way to manage the spread of fake news.'

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

Agree

• Individual is responsible for managing the spread of fake news

Disagree

• Other 'agent' (pls specify) is responsible for managing the spread of fake news

Manage the spread...

Possible Approaches

- Action: taking actions to prevent/stop fake news
- Outcome/Impact: The results of taking actions to prevent/stop fake news
- Significance/Influence: why agent can play a critical role to stop fake news

Different stakeholders don't have to be different paragraphs!

BSA Example

Source C Evidence	Action	Outcome	Significance
"full-scale	Because:	Because: people	Because: Information
riots have	Individuals can	have a weakness to	(e.g. news, text,
been started	take action to	share news out of	videos) are passed
by people	manage spread	excitement without	around through
Technology	of fake news by	first verifying	sharing on personal
is what we	using critical	them. Fake news	update feeds on social
make of it"	thinking skills to	become contagious	media, individuals
	decipher fake	in nature and not	encounter these news
	news from real	retractable /	directly, firsthand. So:
	news. So: Those	difficult to undo	individuals can be the
	news that are	once they spread.	ones to stop illicit
	dubious/fake will	So: people need to	information / fake
	not have the	check accuracy of	news in their path. As
	chance to be	news before	a result: spread of
	spread around.	sharing them. As a	fake news will be
	As a result:	result: the spread	reduced when it stops
	Spread of fake	of fake news can be	spreading from
	news will be	curbed/managed	human to human.
	reduced		

Answer

I agree with this statement as Source B shows that it is the role of the individual to manage the spread of fake news. The source states that "Many users often share information without considering if its true, let alone checking facts... As sharing fake news on social media generally has no immediate negative consequences for the user, it is difficult to change online behaviour. Greater education on critical thinking from an early age could help future generations of users to consider the consequences before sharing information online." Hence, because social media users are often the root of the spread of fake news due to their position as the first recipients of such fake news, it becomes crucial for individuals

to be vigilant and fact check information that they find online. While individually, the actions as an individual might seem insignificant, the summative consequence of actions from one individual to another becomes significant in the spread or prevention of fake news. So, individuals

How Do We Decide What is Good For Society?

Challenges in Deciding What is Good For Society

Differing Needs and Interests

There are generally two types of needs:

- They could be things that people depend on for their survival.
- They could be things that people depend on for their well-being.

Unequal Sharing of Costs

It is also challenging to decide what is good for society because decisions on how to meet various needs and interests may lead to an unequal sharing of costs.

The **unequal sharing of costs** refers to the varying impact that a decision has on different groups of people

Managing Trade-Offs

Cross-Island Line Project

In January 2013, the Singapore government announced plans to build the Cross Island Line (CRL) as Singapore's eighth Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) line. The CRL was proposed to pass through and run under the Central Catchment Nature Reserve. When completed, it will be the longest fully underground line and will link major hubs such as the Jurong Lake District and the Punggol Digital District.

- The CRL is projected to serve 600,000 commuters per day, increasing to over 1,000,000 in the longer term.
- The CRL will have the highest number of interchange stations, with almost half the stations on the line linked to existing rail stations.

In July 2013, the Nature Society (Singapore) (NSS) - a non-government and non-profit organisation dedicated to the appreciation, conservation, study and enjoyment of Singapore's natural heritage - officially raised its concerns about the construction of the CRL.

- It presented to the Singapore government its views on how the CRL would affect habitats within the Central Catchment Nature Reserve.
- The NSS then recommended adjusting the route to skirt around, rather than passing under, the nature reserve.

Before making the final decision on the CRL route in 2019, the Land Transport Authority (LTA) had to consider the two options carefully.

Principles Shaping Governance

- Having Good Leadership
- Anticipating Change and Staying Relevant
- Practising Meritocracy
- A stake for everyone, opportunities for all

Having Good Leadership

Mr Lim Kim San (HDB)

Mr Lim Kim San is the first chairman of the Housing & Development Board (HDB) and became Minister for National Development in 1963.

From 1960 to 1964, he led the construction of low-cost public housing to tackle the housing shortage at that time. In slightly over three years, HDB managed to complete 26,000 flats. This was considered an exceptional achievement considering the **Singapore Improvement Trust**, which came before HDB, took over 32 years to complete 23,019 units.

Mr Lim chaired HDB voluntarily for four years without any salary until he became minister in 1963. During his time at HDB, he helped improve the building and financial processes so that low-cost public housing could be built quickly and cheaply, and according to strict regulations.

Anticipating Change and Staying Relevant

In 2019, during the **National Day Rally**, PM Lee Hsien Loong spoke about the impact of climate change on Singapore. He informed Singaporeans about the government taking early and vital action to prepare the country for rising sea levels caused by climate change.

In 2020, a budget of \$5 billion was set aside for the **Coastal and Flood Protection Fund** to help the country meet the significant risks of rising sea levels.

A Stake for Everyone, Opportunities for All

Singapore Together Movement

One example of a government initiative that illustrates this principle is the engagement with citizens through the Singapore Together movement.

Launched in June 2019, Singaporeans are encouraged to partner the government and one another to shape and act on their shared future in areas they care about. This can be through partnership opportunities or government support for citizenled initiatives.

The Emerging Stronger Conversations (ESC) series was part of the larger Singapore Together movement. The ESC sessions ran from June to September 2020, involving over 16,000 Singaporeans from different backgrounds, languages and experiences who expressed their hope for how Singapore can emerge stronger from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Practising Meritocracy

Meritocracy refers to a system that distributes opportunities and rewards according to merit. People are rewarded according to the effort they put in rather than factors such as race, religion and family background.

Edusave Award for Achievement, Good Leadership and Service (EAGLES)

For up to **10 per cent** of students from each school who have demonstrated leadership qualities, service to communities and schools, excellence in non-academic activities and good conduct.

Edusave Good Progress Award

For students who are within the top 10 percent of their school's level and course in terms of improvement in academic performance and have demonstrated good conduct.

Edusave Scholarship

For students who are within the top 10 per cent of their school's level and course in terms of academic performance and have demonstrated good conduct.

Additional Practice for SBQ Message and Surprise Qns (HIHS Prelims 2023)

Source A: Adapted from an extract on the relevance of CMIO classification in policies from the Straits Times newspaper, 24 January 2022.

We want to be able to manage this, so having (CMIO) labels allows us to administer policies... It's a piece of information that allows you to take action. How this stance evolves comes down to the extent to which the Government needs to keep intervening and managing such issues. The day when people no longer use race or skin colour as an identifier is the day when policies that differentiate by race would be meaningless. The EIP, for example, will become less and less relevant as people naturally choose to live in diverse neighbourhoods. However, the fact that there are still a lot of applications that potentially could be rejected - because they have met the quota - means that there is still a tendency for people to want to congregate in a way that we think doesn't promote cohesion and a shared lived experience in a neighbourhood.

Q1 Study Source A. What is the message of this source?

The message of the source is that CMIO categorisation is still relevant in policy making in Singapore as Singaporeans are still not ready for the removal of CMIO categorisation/do not demonstrate readiness in living in a diverse society.

The evidence is "...having (CMIO) labels allows us to administer policies... It's a piece of information that allows you to take action." In addition, "However, the fact that there are still a lot of applications that potentially could be rejected - because they have met the quota - means that there is still a tendency for people to want to congregate in a way that we think doesn't promote cohesion and a shared lived experience in a neighbourhood."

Source D:

An extract from a CNA commentary, "I am Peranakan not Chinese", 8 Feb 2021.

"Are you Chinese or Malay?", people often ask me. For many years, as a Peranakan growing up in Kampong Potong Pasir, I was caught in an identity crisis. My skin was more brown than other Chinese folks. I didn't speak Chinese; only Malay. I didn't even have a Chinese name. The only Chinese thing about me was my surname. Peranakans fall in between the cracks of our traditional notions of race. Many of us in Singapore dress and talk like the Malays, and we struggle to identify with the Chinese. However, we eat pork and celebrate the Lunar New Year so we don't belong to the Malay or Muslim camp either. Unfortunately, for me, my identity card (IC) says I am Chinese but I personally would rejoice if my IC says Peranakan, not Chinese.

Study Source D. Are you surprised by the Peranakan lady's opinion on the CMIO categorisation? Explain your answer.? Explain your answer.

I am not surprised by the Peranakan lady's opinion on the CMIO categorisation as it shows that the CMIO categorisation is not relevant due to its failure to categorise major races that do not belong to any general group. The source states that "Peranakans fall in between the cracks of our traditional notions of race. Many of us in Singapore dress and talk like the Malays, and we struggle to identify with the Chinese." Additionally, the Peranakans "eat pork and celebrate the Lunar New Year so we don't belong to the Malay or Muslim camp either." Hence, the CMIO categorisation fails to categorise culturally relevant races that do not belong to any one of the particular groups, failing to differentiate races that are significantly distinct from the official groups due to their culture.

This is not surprising to me as Source D is supported by the background information, which tells me that the CMIO categorisation is not relevant due to its failure to categorise major races that do not belong to any general group. It states that "the CMIO model is problematic in a number of ways, for example, within the C, M and I categories, the model does not differentiate between local-born and foreign-born Chinese, Malays and Indians. The Others' category also does not distinguish between distinct groups such as ethnic Koreans, Americans and Filipinos - groups with unique cultural histories." This shows that the CMIO model is too general in attempting to categorise the races and cultural groups in Singapore without resorting to excessive generalisation, and is thus not relevant in the modern context of Singapore where its cultural diversity has resulted in great varieties of races that go beyond the CMIO categorisation.

As the background information supports Source D, Source D is thus expected and not surprising.

Answer Key

I am not surprised by Source D as it is similar to the Background Information.

Source D tells me that the Peranakan lady is of the opinion that the CMIO categorisation is irrelevant because it discriminates unique groups by homogenising them with majority groups. The evidence is "Unfortunately, for me, my identity card (IC) says I am Chinese but I personally would rejoice if my IC says Peranakan, not Chinese." This suggests that she thinks that the CMIO categorisation is irrelevant as it homogenised her group as Chinese even though the Peranakans and Chinese are distinct groups.

Similarly, the Background information also tells me that the CMIO

I am surprised by Source D as it is different from Source A.

Source D tells me that the Peranakan lady's opinion is that the CMIO categorisation is irrelevant because it discriminates unique groups by homogenising them with majority groups. The evidence is "Unfortunately, for me, my identity card (IC) says I am Chinese but I personally would rejoice if my IC says Peranakan, not Chinese." This suggests that she is of the opinion that CMIO categorisation is irrelevant as it homogenised her group as Chinese even though the Perankans and Chinese are distinct groups.

In contrast, Source A tells me that the CMIO categorisation is relevant because the data based on the categorisation can be productively used despite the apparent distinction of groups. The evidence from Source A is "We want to be able to manage this, so having (CMIO) labels allows us to administer policies... It's a piece of information that allows you to take action." Hence, the CMIO categorisation is useful to the government as it allows for the proper implementation of government policies.

Since Source A is different from Source D, hence I am surprised by the Peranakan lady's opinion in Source D that the CMIO categorisation is irrelevant.

I am not surprised by Source D as it is by a Peranakan lady whose group is not recognised but homogenised together with the Chinese even though her group only share some cultural aspects of the Chinese.

Source D highlights the dilemma of the Peranakan lady "caught in an identity crisis" as her "identity card (IC) says [she is] Chinese but [she]"

Functions and Roles of Government in Working for the Good of Society

Government in A Representative Democracy

A **government** is a set of institutions by which a society is ruled. Many countries form a type of government called a **democracy**. Democracy means rule of the people, which refers to the ability of citizens to participate in political decision-making.

One of the forms of democracy is a **representative democracy**, in which citizens elect representatives to form a government to make decisions on their behalf. However, a government in a representative democracy does not have unlimited power to make decisions or carry out **policies**. It is required to act according to the country's constitution.

General Elections in Singapore

• Issuance of the Writ of Election

- The Writ of Election signals the start of the election period.
- The President, on the advice of the Prime Minister, dissolves the Parliament and issues the Writ of Election.
- The Writ of Election is a public document that specifies the date when the nomination of candidates is to be taken and the place of nomination.

• Five days to a month later: Nomination Day

- Aspiring candidates file their nomination papers and make an election deposit within the nomination period between 11 am and 12 noon.
- If there is more than one eligible candidate for a constituency, a contest is declared.
- If there is no contest, the unopposed candidate will be elected by default. This is also known as a walkover.

Campaigning

- · Candidates can begin campaigning immediately after a contest has been declared.
- With the appropriate license or permit, candidates may visit homes; distribute pamphlets, handouts and newsletters; display posters and banners; use private vehicles for election advertising purposes; and advertise on the Internet.

Cooling-off Day

- Cooling-off Day is a day for voters to reflect on the issues in a rational manner.
- No new advertising or campaigning is allowed.

Polling Day

- · Voting is compulsory in Singapore for all citizens aged 21 and above.
- Polling day is, by law, a public holiday.
- All voters cast their votes. Polls usually close at 8 pm.
- \circ No campaigning is allowed, though the candidates may inspect the polling stations.

Counting of The Votes

- At the counting centres, all the ballot papers from different boxes are mixed.
- Votes are counted in the presence of the candidates or their counting agents.

Functions of Government

The Singapore government serves three main functions:

• Legislature: To make and pass laws

• Executive: To implement and enforce laws

• Judiciary: To interpret and apply laws.

Legislature

The **Legislature** performs the government function of **making and passing laws.** It consists of the President and Parliament.

Composition	President, Parliament
Function	Makes and passes laws

Before a law is passed, the draft, which is called a bill, is debated in Parliament. All bills must receive the President's agreement to become part of the law in Singapore. The President may not agree to certain bills at his or her discretion.

How a Bill Becomes Law

First Reading

 \circ The bill is formally introduced in Parliament. There is no debate at this stage.

Second Reading

• Members debate the general principles and merits of the bill. They then vote on whether the bill should proceed to the next stage.

Committee Stage

 Details of the proposed law are examined. Changes to certain provisions can be proposed.

Third Reading

• Principles behind the bill can no longer be questioned. The bill is then voted on.

• Scrutiny for the Presidential Council for Minority Rights

• This ensures the bill does not discriminate against any racial or religious minority.

• President's Assent

• The President agrees to the passing of the bill as law.

• Law

• The bill becomes an Act of Parliament and part of the law of Singapore.

Executive

The **Executive** performs the government function of **enforcing and implementing laws.** It consists of the President and the Cabinet. The work of the executive is supported by various ministries and statutory boards.

Function	 Enforces and implements laws passed by the legislature. Formulates and implements government policies in areas such as education, healthcare, housing and transport. Responsible for the day-to-day affairs of the state.
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Judiciary

The **Judiciary** fulfils the government function of **interpreting and applying laws** through the courts. The Judiciary consists of the Supreme Court, the State Courts and Family Justice Courts. The head of the Judiciary is the Chief Justice.

Composition	Supreme Court, State Courts and Family Justice Courts	
Function	 Administers justice by interpreting and applying laws made by the Legislature. Makes formal judgements on disputes between individuals and on those between individuals and the government. 	

In January 2020, Singapore announced its first case of COVID-19. Various measures such as temperature screenings and stay-home notices were put in place to prevent the spread of the disease. By April, more than 900 people in Singapore had been infected.

Legislature: In April, amid the growing threat of COVID-19 in the country, the Singapore government urgently passed the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act that made the wearing of masks compulsory by law. The Act was passed to prevent, protect against and control the transmission of the virus in Singapore.

Executive: Several government agencies were issued a letter of appointment by the Ministry of Health and involved in enforcing the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act. The agencies include the following:

- Land Transport Authority (LTA)
- National Environment Agency (NEA)
- National Parks Board (NParks)
- The Singapore Police Force (SPF)

Officers from these agencies can issue offenders a Notice of Offense, which includes the fine amount and details of the offence. First-time offenders are fined \$300 while repeat offenders are fined \$1,000.

Thousands of Safe Distancing Ambassadors (SDAs) were also deployed. Their main tasks were to remind the public to abide by the regulations and ensure that masks were worn correctly.

Judiciary: Cases involving individuals who defy the law are often resolved with individuals paying the fine meted out by the enforcement officers. However, individuals who ignore the enforcement actions or commit more serious crimes are summoned to the state courts for sentencing.

For example, in 2020, a woman was caught on video arguing with a passer-by who had told her to wear a mask and abide by the law. On 7 May 2021, she was sentenced to two weeks' jail and fined \$2,000 for failing to wear a mask as well as being a public nuisance.

Separation of Powers

The government's power is divided among the three branches of government in carrying out its functions. This **separation of powers** between the three branches prevents the concentration of power within a small select group. Each branch of government may also check that the other branches do not act illegally or irresponsibly.

- Legislature checks the Executive by asking Cabinet ministers questions on government policies for discussion or debate in Parliament.
- The Executive checks the Judiciary by the removal of judges under very limited circumstances (Such as misbehaviour or inability to perform their duties.)
- Judiciary ensures the Executive acts within the powers conferred to them by law.
 - If the Judiciary finds that an authority has acted unlawfully, it can cancel the decision made or order the authority to act lawfully.
- The Judiciary ensures that the laws passed are consistent with the Constitution. The Judiciary can declare that a law passed is void if it is deemed inconsistent with the Constitution.

Ensuring the Economic and Social Well-Being of Citizens

One way for governments to ensure citizens' economic and social well-being is by devoting significant resources to provide goods and services to the public. Such goods and services include education, healthcare, housing and transportation. These goods and services are usually highly subsidised so that all citizens have access to them.

Examples of Goods and Services for the Public

- Polyclinics located throughout Singapore are one-stop healthcare centres that provide subsidised primary care. Services include outpatient medical treatment and diagnostic tests.
- Different designs of public housing in Singapore are built by the Housing and Development Board (HDB). There are more than one million HDB flats which are homes to 80 per cent of the country's population.

- The Central Provident Fund (CPF) is a comprehensive savings plan that provides a foundation for the retirement of most Singaporeans. It can also be used to buy a home, pay for healthcare expenses and take care of loved ones.
 - The employee, employer, and government contribute to the employee's CPF savings.
 - The CPF Ordinary Account can be used to buy a home, pay for insurance and grow your savings through investments.
 - The Medisave Account helps you pay for your healthcare expenses and insurance.

SkillsFuture

SkillsFuture is a national movement to provide Singaporeans with the opportunity to develop their fullest potential throughout life, regardless of their starting points, through skills mastery and lifelong learning.

Key Features

- Skills-focused courses relevant to industry needs, for career development.
- Opening SkillsFuture Credit for Singaporeans in the year they turn 25 years old to encourage continuous learning.
- Work-Study Programmes for students to get a head start in the workforce.
- A subsidy of at least 90 per cent for eligible courses, including Ministry of Education (MOE) funded courses for Singaporeans aged 40 and above.

Promoting and Protecting a Country's National Interests

The government plays a vital role in **promoting and protecting the country's** national interests.

- Countries seek to protect or achieve their national interests.
- A country's national interests refer to what is necessary to ensure its security and wellbeing.
- These national interests influence the objectives of the country's **foreign policy.**

Diplomacy

- **Diplomacy** is the practice of obtaining agreement between countries to cooperate in order to produce results that align with their interests.
- Countries conduct diplomacy to promote common interests and resolve conflicting interests in a peaceful manner.
- With strong and friendly ties with other countries, a small country like Singapore can promote and protect its national interests.

Singaporean Bilateral Relationships

Singapore actively forges strong **bilateral relationships**. To do so, Singapore' political leaders meet with the leaders of other countries to exchange views and find ways to promote mutual interests in areas such as trade and security.

Singapore maintains strong bilateral relations with Malaysia. An example of this is in **water security**, which serves Singapore's national interests.

Under the **1962 Water Agreement**, Singapore draws 250 million gallons of raw water per day from the Johor River. In return, Singapore provides Malaysia with a daily supply of treated water up to 2 per cent of the volume supplied in Singapore.

Singaporean Multilateral Relationships

Singapore's membership in the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations** (**ASEAN**) is one example of how the Singaporean government promotes and protects Singapore's national interests through multilateral relationships.

ASEAN is a cornerstone of Singapore's foreign policy and is of critical importance to Singapore. Through ASEAN, Singapore has been able to establish partnerships with countries within and beyond ASEAN. One such partnership is the **Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)**, a trade agreement signed by Singapore and 14 other Asia-Pacific countries.

RCEP: The World's Biggest Trade Agreement

- Deepen economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Facilitate expansion of trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Increase opportunities for businesses and employment for the people in the Asia-Pacific region.

Businesses have more opportunities to expand in the Asia-Pacific region as the RCEP eliminates tariffs for about **90 per cent** of goods traded among the members.

Companies involved in e-commerce, digital services and digital services and digital trade can gain more confidence in expanding their businesses in the region. This is because RCEP is committed to protecting consumers' personal information, paperless trading, electronic authentication systems and cybersecurity.

Deterrence

Examples

The Military of Defence develops the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) to respond to military threats.

Developed and manufactured locally, the **Hunter Armoured Fighting Vehicle (AFV)** is the Singapore Army's first fully digitalised platform. It requires less manpower to operate. It also has touchscreen controls and an automatic system that enables the crew to detect and engage targets quickly and effectively.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) are crucial for effective aerial surveillance and coordinated strikes. The Orbiter 4 CR-UAV can be deployed quickly and in confined areas to scan the battlefield so that commanders can understand the situation and make better decisions during operations.

Reliability and Utility

Utility

- Utility
 - Sufficiency (Content)
 - L3
 - Reliability
 - CR
 - L4 1-sided
 - L5 2-sided
 - HLA

Difference [in meaning]

Reliability	Utility
Trustworthy, credible	Useful

• Reliability forms the basis of utility

Similarity - Tools

- Cross-reference; to confirm the credibility/non-credibility/to ascertain the information is useful/not useful
 - PEEPEEL
- Purpose explained: with provenance and evidence [5A + PEE]

Treatment of Source (treatment of content supported)

- Message (What did he say?)
- Treatment (Biased: Loaded words; emotive words) OR Balanced (even-haned)

Conclusions

- Reliability \rightarrow useful
- Unreliability → not useful

Surprise

- Surprise
 - · Comparison
 - Similar \rightarrow Not surprised
 - Different → Surprised
 - CR (3rd Source)
 - \circ HLA
 - Expected → Not surprised
 - Unexpected → Surprised

HLA

- Content
 - Prov (Identity)
 - Bias (Inclination)
 - Purpose (Intention)

Note

• Try not to go for HLA

'R' System

- Reason
- Result
- Response
- Repercussion
- Role / Responsibility

Example

Answer - showing someone is unreliable

- P: The source is **useful** as the General Manager of Coca Cola wants the consumers to know that **they are a responsible company who cares for the health of consumers in the view of health concerns such as high obesity rates.**
- HLA: However, the source is **not useful** because it is **not reliable.** This is by General Manager of Coca Cola, who aimed to convince the consumers that **they are a responsible company who cares for the health of consumers in the view of health concerns such as high obesity rates, so that consumers would continue to purchase the drinks. With the intent to paint Coca-Cola in a positive light, renders the source not reliable, hence not useful.**

Answer - Showing someone is reliable

Identity

- The local blog curates articles from well-known socio-political analysts
- Capable of developing acute insights and well-researched analyses of socio-political issues.
- Careful effort would have been taken by the blog owner to fact check, select and
 publish suitable articles that highlight the reality of socio-political conditions in the

country to maintain his audience base and preserve the trust his audience has towards him

• The **popularity** of the blog over the last 10 years also attests to the consistent reliability of the source as **readers will trust the credibility** of the blog to **visit it often** for accurate information on the topic.

How Can We Respond to Cultural Impacts of Globalisation?

Security Challenges in a Globalised World

National Security Challenges

- Military
- Environment
- Resource
- Societal
- Economic Security
- Health Security
- Cyber Security

Traditional vs Non-Traditional Security Concerns

Aspect	Traditional Security Concerns	Non-Traditional Security Concerns
Nature of Threat	Country-centric, threats to state's sovereignty	Trasnational, affecting country's security
Scope and Impact	Immediate, visible, direct implications for country	Wide-ranging effects, Long-term effects on country
Approach to Addressing	Military, Diplomatic measures	Multi-faceted, international cooperation
Key Influencing Factors	Historical dynamics of the country	Interconnected systems brought about by globalisation

Aspect	Traditional Security Concerns	Non-Traditional Security Concerns
Examples	Military security	Environmental security, economic security, resource security, etc

4 Conceptual Understandings of Security Challenges

- Tensions: Conflicting needs and interests between country and individual
- **Tradeoffs:** Countries increase level of security-privacy/rights
- Vulnerability: To reduce vulnerability through enhanced security
- Complexity: Threats are transnational in nature

Transnational Terrorism

- Refers to the acts of violence which are **global** in terms of **aims, organisation** and **impact.**
- Involves **the use of violence to harm or generate fear** amongst victims (often civilians)
- The **use of violence** against people to achieve a political goal is **never legitimate** as the **respect for differences** in opinion/views is a core component of a healthy, thriving community.

Impacts of Transnational Terrorism - 9/11

On Country

- Exposed national security vulnerabilities: Terrorists can easily access information through the Internet and use it for recruitment, fund-raising, propaganda spread
- Cost of War and Reconstruction of Nation: Human costs and casualties of wars and conflicts
- Social/Racial Divide: Example: American society
- Shakened Diplomatic Relations with other countries

On Company

- Economic Downturn: Stock markets immediately nose-dived
- Almost every sector of the economy was damaged airline and insurance were hit
 the hardest.

On Individuals

- Loss of Innocent Lives
- Violation of human rights due to increased security measures
- Unemployment
- Rise of discrimination and stereotypes against certain groups

Transnational Terrorism

- Terrorism is a complex security challenge because the threats can come from within and beyond a country's borders.
- Violent extremism is often driven by feelings of isolation and exclusion and by fear and ignorance
- Terrorists could appear to be **ordinary people** (e.g. self-radicalised individuals)

Growing Threat of Self-Radicalisation

- Terrorists groups and radical ideologies are spreading their propaganda through social media and the Internet in order to attract recruits and supporters to their violent causes
- Self-radicalised individuals or lone wolves refer to individuals who are not members of
 any organised terrorist group, but have been inspired and radicalised by
 extremised propaganda, usually through what they have read on social media and
 the Internet.

Threats from External Forces

Transnational Terrorism

• Refers to acts of violence which are global in terms of aims, organisation and impact.

Target: Singapore

Why target Singapore?

- Singapore is a globalised city, with many foreign businesses, which are the targets for terrorists.
- Singapore is also friendly to the West

Modus Operandi

- Uses racial and religious to create fear and suspicion among Singaporeans
 - Can potentially lead to anger, hatred and conflict.
 - No unity among the people.

Tackling Transnational Terrorism

Preventive Measures: Monitoring, detection and deterrence

Deterrence against threats

- Effective border controls
 - Biometrics and surveillance to prevent movement of foreign terrorists/destructive materials
- Collaboration between countries
 - UN Security Council Resolution 1373
 - ASEAN Counter-Terrorism Workshop
 - Interpol's Fusion Task Force (FTF)
- Within Singapore
 - Total Defence
 - Vigilance by individuals (prevent self-radicalisation)

Protective Measures: Strengthening Defence/Security, Reducing Vulnerability

Internal Security against Threats

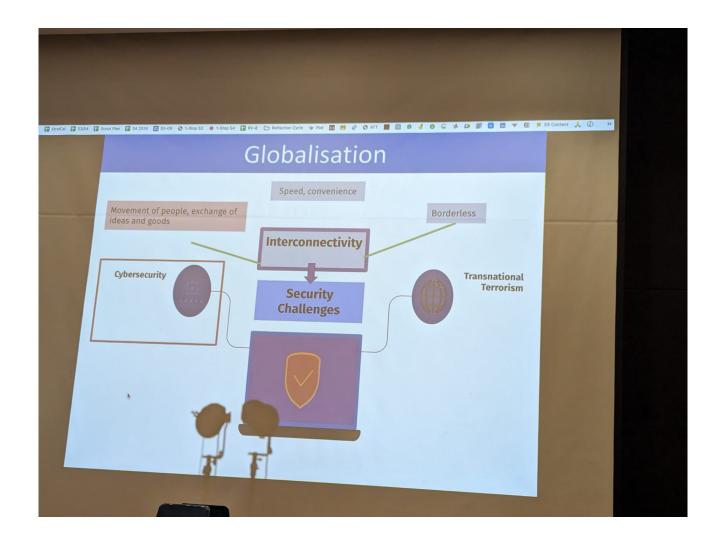
- Surveillance
 - E.g. Singapore Armed Forces (SAF)
 - \circ e.g. Individual spotting suspicious articles on MRT
- Legal detention of suspected terrorists indefinitely without trial
 - e.g. Internal Security Act (ISA)

Responsive Measures: Readiness and Speed in Response and Recovery

Being Prepared

- Test contingency plans for acts of terrorism
 - Frequent exercises held by Singapore Police Force and the Singapore Civil Defence Force.
- Enhance civilian resilience to stand united as a community and recover quickly from an incident
 - Build community trust through social harmony advocacy groups
- Collaborates with other countries to improve capabilities in responding to transnational terrorist threats
 - e.g. International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)

Globalisation



Understanding Cyber Security Challenges

There are more Cyber Security Challenges today because of...

- Advancement in technology → growth of online networks
- Increase in exchange of critical and confidential data
- Ease of access to information

Areas to Focus On

Reasons

• For the cybersecurity measures

Results

- The impact of cybersecurity challenges
 - · Roles
 - Individual
 - Company
 - Country

Vulnerabilities

The elusive nature of cyber attacks and inability to cope with challenges posed by cyber attacks.

- Greater reliance on digital information systems and connectivity
- Actors who are less familiar with digital technology becomes vulnerable

Critical information infrastructure and confidential information are at stake

- Political impact
- Economic impact
- Social impact

Country

- National security
- National reputation
- Political stability
- Diplomatic ties

Company

- Confidence and trust of stakeholders (reputation)
- Revenue
- Confidential business data/trade secrets

Individual

- Confidential information
- reputation/relationship
- monetary loss

Vigilance, resilience, and enhanced security

It is a shared responsibility and everyone has a role to play

- Country
- Company
- Individual

How Can We Respond to the Economic Impacts of Globalisation?

Economic Impacts of Globalisation and Resopnses of Countries and Individuals

Global Economy

- Countries trade in goods, such as food and appliances.
 - o Others may buy and sell services, such as finance and education.
- Countries trade with one another as they may need/want goods and services they are unable to produce themselves or when produced by other countries, are cheaper and of better quality. Not all countries participate in international trade to the same degree.

Countries also participate in global economy by **investing** in one another (international investment).

- Investments a country makes in another country or receives from another country are foreign investments.
- Foreign investments that involve businesses from one country setting up operations in another country or investing in businesses of another country are known as **foreign direct investments (FDIs)**.
 - FDIs are typically for the long term.
- FDIs arise because businesses identify opportunities to reduce costs, increase profit or expand into other markets by setting up operations in another country or investing in businesses in another country.

When country receive FDIs, it often results in an inflow of foreign equipment, talent and expertise. This enables local businesses to upgrade their technology and business practices. FDIs benefit a country by:

- Helping to increase amount of goods and services produced locally; and
- Promoting transfer of skills and expertise to local businesses and workers and creating jobs with potentially higher wages.

Economic Impacts of Globalisation

Economic Growth and Vulnerability Experienced by Countries

- Countries stand to benefit from economic growth when integrated into global economy.
 - Economic growth is increase in country's production of goods and services.
 - Can be measured using country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) over period of time.

Singapore's Growth

• 1965 to early 1970s

- After gaining independence in 1965, Singapore faced high unemployment rate
- In response, government sought to attract foreign investments, particularly in labour-intensive industries (e.g. garment manufacturing and ship-building etc.)
- Singapore enjoyed strong economic growth by end of 1960s to early 1970s.
- Singaporeans had more jobs and higher wages.

• 1970s

- Higher wages led to higher labour costs.
 - Singapore became less competitive in labour-intensive industries compared to neighbouring countries with more labour and at cheaper costs.
 - Singapore begins attracting new foreign investments in higher-value industries (e.g. petrochemicals and engineering)
 - Focused on upskilling citizens to develop more educated workforce.

• 1980s to 2000s

• Singapore reviewed its economic strategy to ensure sustained growth.

- Government focused on pursuing more trade, overseas investment and developing modern service sectors (e.g. finance and info-comm)
- Active efforts made to attract MNCs to set up operations in Singapore.

• 2010 to 2020s

- Singapore continues to attract FDIs with major sources from China, Japan and the United States.
 - Serves as gateway to fast-growing Southeast Asian region.
- By 2018, 59 per cent of total number of tech-based MNCs in Asia had established regional headquarters in Singapore.
- Singapore also invests overseas, with significant investments in China, India and Indonesia. As these countries have large populations and greater potential economic growth, investing in them will likely bring economic growth to Singapore.

Economic Vulnerability

Interconnections and interdependent relationships in global economy can make countries economically vulnerable, as what happens in one country can affect other countries.

Russia-Ukraine Conflict (24 February 2022)

- Russia and Ukraine major exporters of some of world's food products (e.g. wheat, corn and sunflower oil).
- Ukraine one of world's biggest exporters of Neon and noble gases, core components of computer chips.
- Russia major oil and natural gas producer and exporter.
- As result of Russia-Ukraine crisis, flow of goods across world disrupted.
- Many countries imposed sanctions on Russia to restrict trade, capital flows and travel with country due to its invasion of Ukraine.
- Food production in Ukraine disrupted as Ukrainian fled the country and farmlands destroyed.

Employment Opportunities and Challenges Experienced by Individuals

Individuals

Globalisation may create **employment opportunities** and new ways of working for individuals.

- When country open to global economy, businesses reach larger market, resulting in higher demand for goods and services from country.
 - Creates more jobs and provides livelihood for individuals in country.
- Presence of MNCs and increased investments like FDIs also encourage use of more advanced technologies
 - Lead to creation of jobs involving higher skills and wages
- Advancements in digital technology and transportation enable individuals to enjoy increasing mobility beyond country's borders.
 - Individuals may find jobs overseas that better match their skills and aspirations.

Challenges

- MNCs may relocate operations to other countries to save costs or access expertise elsewhere.
 - Individuals employed in these operations lose their jobs.
- Advancements in technology may cause some types of jobs to be automated as machines are increasingly used to perform work/
 - Individuals working in these jobs lose their jobs.
- Greater movement of labour as individuals relocate to work in other countries
 - · Local workers face greater competition from foreign labour in job market.

Responses to Economic Impacts of Globalisation

Government Support

Countries may become vulnerable to external events (e.g. pandemics, economic crises, political and social unrest, etc.). Countries respond through:

- Economic cooperation with other countries;
- Attracting and making foreign investments;
- Providing financial support and developing local expertises;

Economic Cooperation

Countries can choose to cooperate with other countries by pursuing policies that promote **free trade** (tariffs are removed or reduced between trading countries).

- This form of economic cooperation can be achieved by signing Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), which refer to treaties between two or more economies to make trade and investment between them easier.
- FTAs typically agree to reduce or remove **tariffs** between countries to allow foreign imports and exports to be traded more freely and at lower costs.

Bilateral FTAs: Singapore-Australia FTA (SAFTA)

- Agreement came into force in 2003
- Underwent revisions between 2006 and 2020.
- Tariffs on all imported goods removed.
- Number of Australian universities whose law degrees are recognised in Singapore increased from four to eight.
- Period of stay granted to business visitors between Singapore and Australia increased from one to three months.

Multilateral FTAs: European Union (EU) - Singapore Free Trade Agreement (EUSFTA)

- Came into effect in November 2019
- EU would remove tariffs on **84 per cent** of all Singapore products entering EU within first year and remaining **16 per cent** over a period of three to five years
- Market access for Asian food products made in Singapore enhanced.

Despite impact of COVID-19 on global trade, EU imports from Singapore saw **12 per cent** increase (\$15.8 billion) in first six months since EUSFTA came into effect.

Attracting and Making Foreign Investments

Countries may also respond to the economic impacts of globalisation by attracting and making foreign investments.

Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)

The MAS - Singapore's central bank - ensures low and stable inflation in Singapore, which helps attract foreign investors. It also manages and invests the country's foreign currencies accumulated from international trade and investment

GIC

GIC's mission is to grow the government's financial assets for the long term. It invests foreign reserves globally in public and private market assets, such as stocks, real estate and infrastructure, to preserve and enhance their value.

Financial Support and Development of Expertise

- Financial support from government cushions negative economic impacts on various sectors in short term
 - COVID-19 highlighted economic vulnerability of countries as they closed borders to curb spread of virus.
 - Sectors such as transport and tourism directly affected.
 - Other sectors such as manufacturing and retail indirectly affected.
- Singapore government responded to cushion impact of COVID-19 crisis by providing financial support for Singaporeans and local businesses.

S\$4B Stabilisation and Support Package

To support affected workers and firms with

- Retained jobs and wage support
- Cash flow support
- Property tax rebate for tourism sector
- Defrayed business costs for aviation sector
- Rental waivers for government-managed hawker centres and properties.

S\$1.6B Care and Support Package

To support Singaporean families with

- Up to S\$300 cash for adult Singaporeans
- S\$100 more for each parent with a child below 21
- Doubled utilities rebates and more for larger families
- S\$100 PAssion Card top-up for all seniors
- S\$100 supermarket vouchers for the lower-income
- Government agencies can be set up to provide resources and advice to help businesses
 - innovate;
 - develop expertise and talent;
 - expand abroad;

- Enables businesses to adapt or transform their operations to become more resilient to disruptions and economic vulnerabilities of globalisation
 - In 2017, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) Go Digital programme launched to help SMEs adopt advanced digital solutions and technologies
 - Enable them to seize growth opportunities in increasingly digital global economy
 - As of March 2022, more than 80,000 SMEs have adopted digital solutions through the programme.

Acquisition of Knowledge and Skills by Individuals

- Individuals can respond by:
 - being willing to acquire new knowledge and skills throughout life and remain relevant in job market.
 - vital in world of rapid technological advancements, current jobs evolving and new jobs created
- having flexible and open mindset about exploring and trying out different or new areas of work
- ensuring they save and invest appropriately, so that they have resources to provide for themselves and families during periods of unemployment or loss of income.
 - help tide them through financially as they take time to develop new skills or transit to new careers.

Assertion Skills

Key Understanding

1. Unpack the question issue

Assertion	Inference	
Stand	P	
Evidence	E	
Extension	E	

B.S.A (Beyond the Source)

Summary

Assertion comprises of:

- Prediction
- All sources except Background Information
 - Background Information can only be used for Surprise + Reliability + Utility
- Roles
 - Show the other roles
- Perspective (Y/N)

What is Assertion?

SBQ Assertion

- · Last question in SBQ segment
- Requires an understanding of all sources Assertion question is typically a <u>broader</u> scope compared to the SBCS issue.

"The American healthcare system has been successful in meeting the healthcare needs of the American people."

VS

"How much should the Government interfere in the provision of healthcare in the USA?"

How to Approach Assertion?

Steps to Approach Assertion

- 1. Categorise sources into two sides (e.g. agree/disagree)
- 2. Choose 2 sources from each side to address the question
- 3. Write one paragraph per source
 - Framework: Stand, Evidence, BSA (SE + BSA)

Before we go any further...

Notice you only need to select 4 sources out of the 6 provided

Choose the **4** that you are **most confident** in.

Mistakes to avoid

- Source A shows that "..." (No stand stated)
- I disagree with the statement as source A, D, and E contradicts the statement. Source A states "...", while source D states "..." and source E states "..." (Multiple sources in 1 paragraph)
- I disagree as the source mentions how people in America are not able to be insured if they have pre-existing conditions. (No specific source identified and no direct quote of the source)

Writing Frames

SE + BSA

- Stand
 - I agree with the statement as Source A supports it
 - I disagree with the statement as Source B contradicts it by showing ____
- Evidence
 - Source A states "..." (directly quote)
- Because... So... As a result (Linking to a larger context)

How do I do BSA?

1. Identify the **main information** that the source is telling you

* Predict the effect of this information

- 1. Because: Immediate impact/implication of the information
- 2. So: **Result** of the immediate impact highlighted previously
- 3. As a result: Wider outcome based on what was identified in your previous 2 portions.

Larger Outcome (individual → community → national)

Further consequence (Because of this, something else will happen)

 $EIP \rightarrow Common \ Space \rightarrow Interaction \rightarrow Understanding \rightarrow Friendship \rightarrow Overcome$ $tensions \rightarrow Reduce \ stereotypes \rightarrow Manage \ challenges$

I agree with the statement as Source B supports it. Source B states "the ACA will offer you a variety of quality, affordable, private health insurance plans to choose from. Insurance companies will no longer be able to discriminate against any American with a preexisting health condition". Because more individuals would be able to obtain access to affordable insurance coverage, so their medical needs would be addressed more promptly as individuals no longer have to worry about being unable to afford the medical costs. As a result, the overall health of the American population would increase as illnesses are addressed more promptly and not allowed to deteriorate further, ensuring that a larger proportion of the population remains healthy for a longer period of time. Therefore, the American healthcare system has been successful in meeting the healthcare needs of the public.

Analysis of Response

Evidence

The ACA will offer you a variety of quality, affordable, private health insurance plans to choose from. Insurance companies will no longer be able to discriminate against any American with a pre-existing health condition.

Because

More individuals would be able to obtain access to affordable insurance coverage.

So

Their medical needs would be addressed more promptly as individuals no longer have to worry about being unable to afford the medical costs.

As a result

The overall health of the American population would increase as illnesses are addressed more promptly and not allowed to deteriorate further, ensuring that a larger proportion of the population remains healthy for a longer period of time. Therefore, the American healthcare system has been successful in meeting the healthcare needs of the public.

Point to Note for BSA

- Cannot repeat similar analysis points for multiple sources
- Must ensure that you link to the **wider context** beyond what the source tells you
- Link back to the assertion statement.

Bonus Tasks

- 1. Bring in own examples from contextual knowledge relevant to a source
 - Parallel example OR deeper insight
- 2. Reliability/utility of a source
- 3. [VERY RISKY] Balanced conclusion on the assertion statement (Why each view is valid. Explain why using provenance and association)
 - Very strictly marked during O Levels

Bonus Analysis

- Bring in own contextual knowledge
 - Information that cannot be found in any of the sources but adds on to what the source tells you
- evaluate reliability, utility and sufficiency of source
 - HLA: quite difficult to accomplish

LORMS

LORMS	Description	Mark
L1	No valid use of source	1
L2	Valid use of source/s (A OR DA)	2-4
L3	Valid use of source/s (A AND DA)	5-8
	Special Bonus	8-10

Types of Strategies

Туре	Agree	Disagree	Basic Marks	Well-Supported Answer
Highest Marks	2	2	7m	8m
Time Constraint	1	1	5m	-

Example

Paragraph 1 [Agree]

- SEBSA [L2/3]

Paragraph 2 [Disagree]

Example Question

Unpacking

"Dyson's move to Singapore is bad for Britain." Using the sources in this case study, explain how far you would agree with this statement. "Individual responsibility is the best way to manage the spread of fake news" Using the sources...

Bad for Britain

- Job loss
- Decrease in GDP
- Decrease in revenue
- Slow economic growth

Government

- Authority
- Resources

How many paragraphs?

- 4, alternated.
 - ∘ A + Bonus, DA, A, DA
 - Time constraint: A + Bonus, DA

Example Response

Agree

- Evidence: "The commitments (of companies) are voluntary..."
- Extension: Because IT companies do not want to lose user who feel controlled or watched, so they are usually reluctant to collaborate with governments. As a result, it makes it even harder to curb the spread of extremist views.
- Because promises of IT companies to take down extremist content is optional and not mandatory, so it is very challenging to get IT companies to take full responsibility for the content they allow on their platforms. As a result, it may lead to potential further spread of extremist views.

Disagree

• Evidence: "The Christchurch Call to Action"

Two Source Surprise

Example Questions

Example Question 1: After hearing James, are you surprised by what Jamie says?

- James: I think this movie is very interesting
- Jamie: I think this movie is very interesting
- Jan: I think this movie is very interesting

No, I am not surprised because both of them found the movie interesting. In addition,

Example Question 3: After hearing James, are you surprised by what Jamie says?

- James: I think this movie is very interesting
- Jamie: I think this movie is not very interesting
- Jan: I think this movie is not very interesting

Example Question 3: After hearing James, are you surprised by what Jamie says?

- James: I think this movie is very interesting
- Jamie: I think this movie is not very interesting
- Jan: I think this movie is very interesting

Yes, I am surprised because they have different opinion on whether the movie is interesting. In addition, Jaime's opinion is contradicted by Jan's opinion that it is interesting. Thus, I am surprised by what Jamie says.

Summary of the 3 Scenarios

Key Principles for Content Analysis

- You should try to work on the source/s that you are surprised by
- You will apply comparison or/and cross-reference skills to check on expectancy
- Your conclusion should always be on the Primary Source

Key things to note when answering Surprise Questions

Flexible Application

There is no fixed method, thus you need to read the sources and apply the move that you deemed to be suitable.

Focus on Logic of 'Expectancy'

Always ask yourself if what you actually see (i.e. the reality) in the main source is expected. Be clear of your logic.

Higher Level Analysis

Steps

1. Compare A and B

Types of Higher Analysis Methods

- Tone
 - Don't
- Purpose
 - \circ A <-> B = Content different and A -- B = Purpose different
 - "As both sources have differing purposes, this explains their content difference. Therefore, I am not surprised."
- Provenance
- Context
 - Need to read provenance very clearly
 - A and B content difference but A and B context different (different dates)
 - Not surprised, context has changed

GCE-O Level 2020 Question

Does Source E make Source F surprising?

Source E makes Source F surprising as they are different on the impact of higher minimum wages on employment levels. Source E shows that higher minimum wages will increase employment levels. It states that "industries with many lowwage workers, such as retail and hospitality, show employment gains after a minimum wage rise." This shows that with greater minimum wage, there will be more workers in different industries, boosting employment and productivity. On the other hand, Source F shows that higher minimum wages will decrease employment levels. It states that "said a minimum wage may force employers to 'pay more than the market rate for some types of labour'. This will result in making some workers more expensive to employ. 'Not all employers would want to employ workers at this expensive rate, which could lead to lower levels of employment." This shows that given a minimum wage, employment will decrease as the cost of hiring workers will be too costly. Hence, even having a high minimum wage will decrease employment levels further. As Source E is different from Source F on the impact of higher minimum wages on employment levels, Source E makes Source F unexpected and thus surprising.

However, Source E does not make Source F surprising as the context in which they are written is different. Source E is taken from an article on a Canadian news site in June 2017 based in Canada, where minimum wage laws have already existed for a long time. Hence, minimum wages have already seen their benefits in Canada, where companies and the market have already adapted to the presence of a minimum wage. However, Source F is taken from an online report of a conference held in Singapore in October 2018, where there have traditionally been no minimum wage laws. Hence,

Answer

Stand

Source E makes Source F surprising as they have differing opinions on whether minimum wages will impact the number of jobs.

Source E does not make Source F surprising as they have similar opinions that the business owners are unhappy / they would be affected negatively.

Higher Analysis

Source E does not make Source F surprising because of the differing context. Minimum-wage policy had already been implemented in Canada but not in Singapore. This is evident from the source "Minimum wage will rise to Canadian \$14 an hour in 2018 and \$15 in 2019, which has prompted howls of protest by business." This shows that negative responses in Canada. However, Singapore has yet to implement. This is evident "There have been calls to implement a minimum wage to uplift disadvantaged workers."

Manpower Minister is responsible for keeping employment rates high in Singapore, it is expected for Mrs Josephine Teo was clearly worried about the welfare of the people and thus wanted to highlight the negative consequences of minimum wage.

OR

In addition, as the Manpower Minister, Mrs Josephine Teo might not want to be held responsible for the possible failing employment rates as a result of implementing the minimum wage, and thus she would rather be cautious about the plan

What Does Citizenship Mean to Me?

Citizenship

Citizenship can be characterised as follows:

- It can be understood as more than just a status that is granted by a country.
- It is a relationship that a person has with the country he or she is a member of.
- It can be understood differently by different people.
- It can be understood differently over time, depending on a person's knowledge, lived experiences and aspirations, and understanding of the four attributes.

Legal Status

A person can gain legal status as a citizen of a country by the following ways:

- 1. By country of birth
- 2. By descent
- 3. By marriage
- 4. By naturalisation

Rights of Citizens

Citizens enjoy certain **rights** as members of a country.

- Rights refer to the freedom and privileges that citizens in a country have.
- Rights of citizens, which are usually laid out in the constitution, are protected by law and should be respected by everyone in the country.

Obligations of Citizens

Being recognised as a citizen of a country also means having **obligations.** These are duties that citizens are required to fulfil by being members of the country.

An example of an obligation of male citizens in Singapore is to serve National Service (NS). Under the Enlistment Act introduced in 1967, 18-year-old male citizens and Singapore PRs are required to serve NS. Following the completion of full-time NS, they will be required to serve up to 40 days of Operationally Ready National Service per year, until the age of 40 or 50.

Sense of Identity

Shared Values

Values are principles and beliefs that influence a person's attitudes, thinking and behaviour. Values represent what is important to a person and help him or her prioritise, make decisions and exercise judgement.

Shared values refer to values that are embraced and seen as important by a group of people.

Civic Participation

Civic participation refers to citizens actively taking part in public affairs. Public affairs are matters of general interest or concern to most people in society. Those who actively take part in public affairs may see civic participation as an important obligation they want to fulfil as citizens.

Individual Participation

In 2020, Mr Andy Teo initiated the Temporary Academic Assistance project to connect students with volunteer tutors. Mr Teo saw this need when schools moved to full home-based learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. He enlisted the help of tutors through social media to teach for free. In just a week, 250 volunteered to serve.

Community Group Participation

Informal Groups

When there is an issue or area of need that requires attention, people organise themselves into informal community groups to address concerns or specific need. These groups generally exist for a period of time needed to address the specific objectives. They may not be registered with the government.

Formal Groups

Formal community groups have clear objectives and are officially registered with the government. They cater to specific needs and interests of society and generally devote their efforts over a sustained period of time.

Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and social service agencies (SSAs) are examples of formal community groups. NGOs are not necessarily affiliated with and may not receive any funding from the government. On the other hand, SSAs are affiliated with the government through the National Council of Social Service (NCSS), which provides some coordination and funding.

NGO: Zero Waste Singapore is an NGO leading the drive towards zero waste in Singapore through education and advocacy. It engages the public, companies, schools and government agencies to discuss the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) in relation to food waste, plastic disposables and organisational waste.

SSA: SG Enable is dedicated to enabling persons with disabilities and promoting an inclusive society. Through workshops organised by SG Enable, participants learnt how to interact with consumers with disabilities and improve accessibility of products and services for them.

How surprised are you by Source F?

- Surprised because the source is by a professor
- Things he says are very generalised, which does not match his sweeping statements.

L2

- Surprised/Not Surprised due to:
 - Authorship
 - \circ Content

L3

• Comparison of F with another Source

L4

- Comparison of F with another source
 - \circ Compare both sides (Both aspects of L3)

L5

- Surprised/Not surprised due to:
 - $\circ \ Context$

L₃ Answer

I am not surprised by this source as source F and Source B share the similar concern of the negative impact of globalisation on the society. This is evident from Source F, which tells me that "children who have access to TV prefer fancy western dress to our traditional dress" This implies youths have strong preference for western clothing and lifestyle. Similarly, this is seen in Source B, which tells me western fashion has dominated everyone as we can see from the source, the characters bought apparel from Nike, Gap, and Disney store. This similarity makes it not surprising.

L₅/6 Answer

I am not surprised by Source F. It is made by Professor of Bhutan and Bhutan was a small mountainous kingdom, renowned for its rich tradition and culture. In the face of globalisation, it is expected for the professor to be protective of Bhutan's rich culture to prevent erosion of Bhutanese culture as he highlighted although English is taught. "It is quite embarrassing to see that our cultural identity and values have diminished". In addition, he raised the concerns of western influences impacting the society negatively with vices such as "smoking, drugs, and gang fights" and also the erosion of culture as seen from "ignoring traditional songs and dances." Thus, from his concerns, it is natural for the government to implement a law to protect Bhutan form the negative influences of globalisation, as the professor, just like the government, is a firm believer/proponent of protecting Bhutan's culture. Therefore justifying the need for the law.

Comparison 4a.	Cross-Ref 4b.	Logic/Stand
Source E supports Source F	Source E + CR, Source F + CR	Source E -> NSp