

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 profits. SG companies: 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

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