

ACJC General Paper Department

JC2 Preliminary Exam 2020 Paper 2 Answer Scheme

1. In paragraph 1, why was Candid Camera's host Allen Funt described as 'an ingenious sociologist' (line 6)? **Use your own words as far as possible** [2]

From Passage	Paraphrased
...an ingenious sociologist (line 6) ... brilliant programming (line 5) Funt's hidden camera work and pranks were thought of as a valuable look into (line 6-7) ... <i>Candid Camera</i> was seen as instructive and progressive . (lines 8-9)	Allen Funt's methods were inventive / new / novel / never used before / intelligent / smart OR Allen Funt's work offered an insightful / informative observation / analysis of
...an ingenious sociologist (line 6) post-war society and the customs, rituals , and behaviours of modern society at the time. (lines 7-8)	how people / communities live together OR practices / traditions / way of life. Note: - Allow lift of 'society' if it is used together with a paraphrase of 'customs, rituals and behaviours'. - Do not accept if the answer is merely 'study of society'.

Question type: *Literal*

Examiner's comments:

This question was answered well by most students.

2. According to lines 9-12, what were the 3 characteristics of participants of reality television in the post-war era? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

From Passage	Paraphrased / Inferred
When <i>Candid Camera</i> was first on the air in 1948, the extent to which it was reality television was the simple fact that real people and their real reactions to inane situations were being filmed. (lines 9-11)	(Real people) Participants of reality television in the past were authentic / genuine / were ordinary people (not professional actors) Note: Do not accept literal paraphrase of 'real people' – 'actual humans' OR (Real reactions) Participants of reality television in the past gave actual / authentic / genuine / natural responses
...There were no weekly, attention-seeking types of characters (line 11)	Participants of reality television in the past were not overly dramatic / did not exaggerate
...There were no weekly , attention-seeking types of characters (line 11)	Participants of reality television in the past were not featured regularly / repeatedly / on a fixed schedule
... nor were there real people who became household names or pseudo-celebrities . (lines 11-12)	Participants of reality television in the past remained unknown / did not become famous / did not achieve stardom / did not become popular

1-2pts = 1m, any 3pts = 2m

Question type: *Literal + Inference*

Examiner's comments:

Most students were able to successfully paraphrase 3 characteristics. A number of students lifted 'real' and 'attention'.

3. In paragraph 2, what reasons does the author suggest as to why 'reality television did not remain in such high esteem' (line 13)? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

From Passage	Paraphrased
Once the airwaves became saturated with this genre of programming, many viewers expressed frustration over the number of reality television shows that were on the air. A study conducted even credits viewers as stating that reality television is the most overdone genre of television. (lines 14-17)	Viewers were annoyed / irritated / exasperated because there were too many reality television shows / were produced in excess. OR (Inferred) Viewers were annoyed / irritated / exasperated because these shows became boring / no longer interesting. Note: - Both 'frustration' and 'saturated' needed to get the mark - Answer must capture negative connotation
Additionally, many of the shows that gained great notoriety were shows that televised bad behaviour on the part of the participants... (lines 17-18) Physical and verbal altercations, along with intoxicated antics and hyper-sexualized men and women took over as the norm on these shows, and people began to associate these characters and behaviours with the genre itself. (lines 19-21)	The shows depicted unruly / unacceptable / despicable / delinquent / immoral attitudes / actions / conduct. Note: 'Notoriety' refers to the reputation of the shows, and is not the reason for why reality television did not remain in such high esteem.

Question type: Literal + Inferential

Examiners' comments:

This question was answered well by most students. Some students did not capture both 'frustration' and 'saturated' to get the mark for the first box. Students should note that the expression 'a great amount of shows' is not grammatical.

4. Explain what the author means when he refers to reality television as a 'juggernaut' (line 29). [1]

From Passage	Paraphrased
Watching "real life" dramas unfold on our television screens has become to many the preferred way to view television, and the reality show juggernaut has completely taken over as the genre of choice for young viewers everywhere. (lines 28-30)	He means that reality television is a huge / powerful / dominant force / an industry to be reckoned with / a genre that has to be taken seriously. Note: Award mark if the answer captures either size <u>or</u> power.

Question type: Vocab

Examiners' comments:

Most students did not successfully answer the question. Many students misinterpreted 'juggernaut' as a popular choice.

5. In paragraph 4, how have reality shows given viewers a sense of ownership over the shows and connection with the characters? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

From Passage	Paraphrased
<p>With the prevalence of competition-based shows steadily rising, audiences gain the ability to cast their votes, (lines 33-34)</p> <p>dismiss characters or competitors that they do not enjoy, (line 34)</p> <p>watch the dismissal of the person that they so desperately hope would lose (lines 38-39)</p>	<p>(With competition-based shows), viewers can select / choose / pick the contestants they liked.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Viewers can eliminate / reject contestants that they do not like / are not entertained by.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Viewers witness the elimination / rejection of the people they do not like / whom they do not want to win.</p> <p>Note: Accept holistic answer – ‘decide the fate of the competitors’</p>
<p>and even interact directly with characters via digital conversations, blogs, and social media. (lines 34-35)</p> <p>These shows have also ushered in the age of viewers gaining the ability to interact digitally with them (line 32)</p>	<p>Viewers can communicate with / talk to contestants through online platforms / via the internet.</p> <p>Allow lift for ‘digital’</p>

Question type: Literal

Examiners’ comments:

This question was answered well by most students.

6. In paragraph 8, explain how the author illustrates the way value systems in reality television are being ‘smashed into each other, like atoms in an accelerator’ (line 67). **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

From Passage	Paraphrased
<p>On ABC's <i>Wife Swap</i>, the producers find the most extreme pairings possible: an incredibly affluent family from New York paired with a low-income rural farm family, (lines 67-69)</p> <p>... a high tech mum who streams her family's entire lives on the internet paired with a techno-phobe mum who keeps her family far off the grid. (lines 69-70)</p>	<p>The author uses the example of the reality television show <i>Wife Swap</i>, where two families who are polar opposites / very different are featured / placed / put together</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If students paraphrase any of the 2 episodes of the show without mentioning the show itself, award the mark. - Do not award any mark if the student merely mentions the title of the show. - Must capture intensity of ‘most extreme pairings possible’ - Allow lift of ‘most’
<p>In reality television, value systems are smashed into each other, (line 67)</p> <p>like atoms in an accelerator. (line 67)</p>	<p>to show how these families end up in serious conflict / clash strongly with one another (because of their differing beliefs)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>to show how these families clash swiftly / rapidly with one another (because of their differing beliefs)</p>

Question type: Literal

Examiners’ comments:

Most students did not successfully explain the context in the second part of the answer. Students should explain the quote given in the question.

7. According to the author in paragraph 9, how is scripted television similar to Japanese Noh theatre? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [1]

From Passage	Paraphrased
... a stock group of characters (lines 73-74) ...grapple with endless versions of the same dilemma . (line 74) ... ritual predictability of Japanese Noh theatre: Crimes are solved, lessons are learnt, order is restored. (lines 75-76)	Both Japanese Noh theatre and episodes of network prime-time television are repetitive / routine / have expected outcomes / problems / roles.

Question type: *Literal*

Examiners' comments:

This question was answered well by most students. Students are reminded that for similarity questions, answers should be phrased as 'Both...'

8. Explain the author's use of the ellipsis (...) in line 77. [2]

From Passage	Paraphrased
Discovery's <i>Deadliest Catch</i> is an oddly transfixing series about ... crab fishermen in the Bering Sea. (line 77)	<p><u>Function</u> The author uses the ellipsis to provide a dramatic effect / to introduce suspense / anti-climax / introduce a pause for effect</p> <p>Do not accept: to show irony (not a function of ellipsis)</p>
	<p><u>Context</u> eventually revealing that the series is just about fishermen catching crabs / the ordinary / mundane action of fishermen catching crabs / the series is not 'deadliest' as the title suggests</p> <p>Do not accept: the show is not 'oddly transfixing'</p>

Question type: *Punctuation*

Examiners' comments:

Most students provided the wrong function of the ellipsis, or did not provide the function at all. Students should note that providing additional information is not the correct function of the ellipsis for this question.

9. Explain the author's use of the phrase 'worthy fodder' in line 78 to describe the show *Catch*. [2]

From Passage	Paraphrased
As a straightforward documentary, <i>Catch</i> would have been worthy fodder , but the producers have made it riveting by formatting the whole season as a sporting event, with crab tallies for each of the half dozen or so boats and a race-against-the-clock urgency that, for all its contrivance, gives structure and meaning to the fishermen's efforts. (lines 79-81)	<p>The phrase means that if <i>Catch</i> is evaluated as a standard / normal / ordinary / run-of-the-mill documentary,</p> <p>Note: Accept if student writes 'straightforward' without paraphrasing</p>
	<p>it would have been considered good enough / it would be deserving of fame / it would have been considered a decent show.</p> <p>Note: The meaning of 'fodder' in this context: people or things that are <u>useful</u> for the stated purpose (has no negative connotation)</p>

Question type: *Vocab*

Examiners' comments:

Most students were not able to interpret "worthy" in relation to the genre of straightforward documentary.

10. Suggest one reason why the author ends the passage with 'Try the crab.' (line 88) [1]

From Passage	Inferred
In the end, any genre that provokes such howls of protest is doing something interesting. Try the crab. (lines 87-88)	<p>He wants people to watch the <i>Deadliest Catch</i> show to realise that reality television can be interesting.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>He wants people to give reality television (represented by the show '<i>Deadliest Catch</i>') a chance, and not dismiss the genre.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>He is recommending that all producers of shows should try to make their shows interesting by using the format of reality television, just as the producers of the crab show have done.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accept any sensible answer but it must mention reality television or <i>Deadliest Catch</i> show – cannot just say 'end the article in an interesting manner' without the context. - Do not accept 'forms a neat conclusion' or 'comes full circle' – these are suitable for passages that <u>start and end</u> with the same example/reference.

Question type: Inference

Examiners' comments:

Most students were able to provide a sensible explanation for the use of the phrase. However, some students provided a vague answer which had no reference to the subject of reality television or the *Deadliest Catch* show. Students simply mentioned that the author was referring to the example mentioned in an earlier paragraph.

Many students also incorrectly referred to the author wanting to end the article in an interesting manner without any context or provided a memorised answer that referred to the author providing a neat conclusion / a conclusion that comes full circle.

Some common language errors (throughout the section)

Wrong: The author is 'trying to say'...

Correct: The author is saying that...

Wrong: To... (incomplete sentence)

Correct: It is to...

Wrong: use of 'amount' for countable nouns - 'amount of people', 'amount of reality shows'

Correct: The number of people, the number of reality shows

11. Using material from paragraphs 5-8 only (lines 41-70), summarise what the author has to say about the **appeal of reality television**. Write your summary in no more than 120 words, not counting the opening words which are printed below. **Use your own words as far as possible.**

Reality television is appealing because.....

No	From the text		Paraphrased
1.	Reality television combines the best elements of documentary film and scripted television (lines 41-42) allowed reality shows to skim the best elements of scripted television and documentaries (lines 55-56)	1.	it incorporates / integrates / merges / selects / takes the finest / greatest / most outstanding features of documentary and scripted television Note: must capture the superlative in 'best'
2.	while avoiding the problems inherent in each (lines 42-43) while eschewing the problems of each (line 56)	2.	while keeping away from / steering clear of their challenges / difficulties (<i>of documentary and scripted television</i>)
3.	it explores controversial issues (line 43) It has engaged hot-button cultural issues (line 50-51)	3.	It looks into contentious / debatable / topics
4.	provides valuable insight into the lives of others. (lines 43-44)	4.	and offers deep understanding / enlightening perspectives of people's lives Note: accept holistic understanding of 'valuable insight'
5.	it frames each episode in an overarching narrative that tells an interesting story (lines 44-45) Reality shows steal the story structure (line 57)	5.	Every episode tells an intriguing / captivating / refreshing tale / plot / account Note: Both 'interesting' and 'story' required
6.	unscripted format elicits " emotional truths " that are more moving (line 45) can place real people in artificial surroundings designed for maximum emotional impact (lines 59-60)	6.	(The unscripted style of reality television) evokes strong / powerful / intense feelings / sensitivities / sentiments OR Reality television is more touching
7.	("emotional truths " that are more...) realistic (lines 45-46)	7.	and convincing / authentic / genuine
8.	observations are more objective than most contemporary documentaries (lines 46-47)	8.	It offers insights that are more impartial / neutral / unbiased (than most contemporary documentaries)
9.	Television programmers see the genre as a cheap filler that saves them money (line 48)	9.	Reality television is inexpensive / low-cost (to produce)
10.	they can use elsewhere for more worthy programming (lines 48-49)	10.	The funds can be channelled to more interesting / notable shows
11.	the liveliest genre on the set right now (line 50) Reality shows steal the ... pacing of scripted television...(lines 56-57) Narrative vibrancy is not the only thing that electrifies these shows. (line 61)	11.	Reality television is exciting / fast moving / energetic
12.	Reality television presents some of the most vital political debate in America...	12.	Reality television showcases crucial / important / essential discussion
13.	... cultural issues – class, sex, race (line 50-51) ... particularly about class and race (lines 62-63) ABC's <i>Extreme Makeover: Home Edition</i> features intensely emotional tales of people who have fallen through the cracks in America (lines 65-66)	13.	about socio-economic status, gender and ethnicity. Note: Award the mark as long as students paraphrase at least 2 of the issues on class, sex, race
14.	(It has engaged hot-button cultural issues) that respectable television, including the august CBS Evening News, rarely touches . (lines 50-53)	14.	(It discusses controversial issues) that more reputable / decent / proper shows seldom / hardly cover
15.	And it has addressed a visceral need for a different kind of television at a time when the Web has made more traditionally produced video seem stagey. (lines 53-54)	15.	Reality television meets a deep emotional / basic / innate / intuitive / instinctive requirement / compulsion for something different
16.	...but leave behind the canned plots and characters . (line 58)	16.	Reality television does not have the clichéd / overused / unoriginal storyline and roles (of scripted television).
17.	They have the impact of documentary reportage (lines 57-58)	17.	Reality television has the same influence as / effect of documentaries
18.	without the self-importance (lines 58)	18.	without the arrogance / conceit / snobbery (of documentaries)
19.	and general dismal sentiment . (line 59)	19.	and miserable / gloomy / negative / bleak feelings / emotions (of documentaries)
20.	value systems are smashed into each other, like atoms in an accelerator. (line 68)	20.	(Inferred) Reality television features clashing / conflicting norms / beliefs / moral principles.

Allocation of Marks:

No. of points	1-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9	10-11	12-13	14+
Marks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Examiners' comments:

- Points that required intensity (e.g. best) were not paraphrased accurately.
- Many students did not count the number of words in the summary and fill in the blank at the end of the summary. Some had used more than 120 words.
- There were attempts to paraphrase keywords but many were not done accurately.

12. Michael Hirschorn writes about the criticisms and appeal of reality television. How far would you agree with his observations, relating your arguments to your own experience and that of your society?

Requirement

Students should...

- explain the criticisms and appeal of reality television (**including the viewing and production of local and international shows**)
- describe the benefits and detriments of reality television
- show understanding and engage with the ideas and views raised in the passage
- support their views with relevant examples from their own society

Explanation

Students should discuss some of the following in relation to their own society:

- the criticisms and appeal of reality television
- the various political, economic, social, and cultural impact of reality television
- how people enjoy watching reality television and the positive and negative outcomes of doing so

Evaluation

Students should...

- question/show reasons to explain if the author's ideas are applicable or not applicable to their own society
- provide insightful analysis of the criticisms and appeal of reality television in their own society and raise relevant issues that have emerged/are emerging
- critically evaluate the underlying benefits and detriments of reality television
- provide cogent development of arguments
- give examples from their own society to support their views

Coherence

Students should...

- adopt a consistent viewpoint
- argue logically
- organise answers into cohesive, themed paragraphs
- link paragraphs to show continuity and direction of argument
- maintain relevance to the task in everything they write
- end with a summative or concluding paragraph/ sentence

Examiners' notes:

- Students are allowed to provide examples of international reality shows that Singaporeans watch, and need not be limited to locally produced reality shows.
- Some students introduced an example immediately after the Ref without explaining and evaluating the Ref in the Singapore context.
- Students also need to explain the examples in relation to the References, and not merely list down the examples without any elaboration.
- Many students did not provide accurate examples of reality television- providing examples of docu-drama (e.g. Crime Watch), social media posts (e.g. YouTube videos.), satire (e.g. The Noose), current affairs shows (e.g. Talking Point), variety shows (e.g. The Sheng Shiong Show)

12. Michael Hirschorn writes about the criticisms and appeal of reality television. How far would you agree with his observations, relating your arguments to your own experience and that of your society?

References	Guiding Questions / Discussion Issues	Applicable	Less / Not applicable
<p>Criticism: Reality television as a genre is overdone, which results in viewers being frustrated.</p> <p>Once the airwaves became saturated with this genre of programming, many viewers expressed frustration over the number of reality television shows that were on the air. (Lines 14-15)</p> <p>A study conducted even credited viewers as stating that reality television was the most overdone genre of television. (Lines 15-17)</p>	<p>Is the media consumption in Singapore saturated with reality television?</p> <p>Do Singaporeans feel that there are too many reality television shows?</p> <p>Do Singaporeans feel annoyed that there are so many reality television shows?</p>	<p>Singaporeans are heavily exposed to foreign media, both Asian and Western. American media is saturated with reality television and most other countries have also experimented with that genre and found success. Hence, Singaporeans too find both local and cable television being saturated with reality television shows, particularly the more successful ones. At the height of <i>American Idol</i> fever, not only were all the seasons aired here, we even had our very own <i>Singapore Idol</i> that had attracted Singaporeans of all walks of life to participate and spectate. Likewise, following the success of <i>Big Brother</i> in the UK, Japan has come up with <i>Terrace House</i>. Given the demand and support for foreign reality television, Netflix has seen the potential for demand for reality television with a more local flavour, hence it has introduced <i>Singapore Social</i> to its platform just this year. Thus, it seems that reality television will further saturate local airwaves.</p>	<p>It is not true that there are too many reality television shows in Singapore. Singaporeans have a range of options when it comes to visual media. As a well-connected country, our options range from local television to cable television to streaming platforms. As such, Singaporeans have a wide range of media genre to choose from, and thus it is not true that our choices of shows are dominated by the reality television genre. In fact, out of the top 10 shows on Netflix, only one or two of them are reality shows. Scripted television series and Korean dramas tend to dominate these weekly rated shows instead. This is a good indication that reality shows do not saturate Singapore's airwaves.</p> <p>It is not true that there are viewers are frustrated over the number of reality television shows in Singapore. Living in a developed country, many Singaporeans have varied options when it comes to choice of media. Despite the airwaves being taken over by the likes of <i>The Voice</i>, <i>America's Got Talent</i>, and <i>MasterChef</i>, Singaporeans get to choose what they want to watch. Given that our options range from local television to cable television to streaming services, Singaporeans are not annoyed with reality television swarming some of these platforms as we have the choice to subscribe to another channel or media content as and when we please. In fact, less popular reality shows have disappeared, and there is still a big demand for newer, more innovative reality shows. Hence, while there might be many reality shows on air, Singaporeans are not frustrated with the number of shows.</p>
<p>Criticism: Reality television shows encourage bad behaviour.</p> <p>...many of the shows that gained great notoriety were shows that televised bad behaviour on the part of the participants. (Lines 17-18)</p> <p>Shows such as <i>Bad Girls Club</i>, <i>Real Housewives</i>, and many of the dating shows often painted characters in a negative light (Lines 18-19)</p>	<p>Are reality television shows seen as a bad influence in Singapore?</p> <p>Do reality television shows encourage negative behaviour?</p>	<p>Despite strict censorship and ratings in Singapore, streaming services are able to feature reality television programmes that feature sexual scenes and other content that local and cable television cannot. These services are not subject to the same restrictions that television programmes are since the subscriber needs to simply enter a code to allowed access to adult content. Many of the reality television shows on Netflix feature alcohol consumption, vulgarities, and even LGBTQ relationships which in particular have yet to gain support in Singapore. Shows such as <i>Love is Blind</i> question the norms of dating and marriage, while <i>Dating Around</i>, normalises the LGBTQ dating scene and <i>Too Hot to Handle</i> overtly sexualises its participants. Thus, in a conservative Asian society such as Singapore, reality television can be seen as a negative influence.</p>	<p>Singapore is predominantly a conservative society. Its laws prohibit the use of drugs and take a firm stand on behaviour that compromises public peace and individual safety. Parents and schools have a similar stance on bad behaviour amongst the young including the prohibition of the use of vulgarities and underage sex and alcohol consumption. Hence, even though many shows such as <i>Big Brother</i> and <i>Survivor</i> may feature participants backstabbing, badmouthing or outright bullying other participants, most of the younger generation are influenced in their personal life by family and school to know that such behaviour will not be tolerated. Moreover, schools in Singapore carry out character development lessons and programmes which educate against bullying and vices such as drug and alcohol addiction. Thus, reality television's bad influence is limited in Singapore society.</p>

<p>Physical and verbal altercations, along with intoxicated antics and hyper-sexualised men and women took over as the norm on these shows, and people began to associate these characters and behaviours with the genre itself.(Lines 19-21)</p> <p>these portrayals of "real" people helped reality television earn a negative connotation (Lines 22-23)</p>			
<p>Appeal: Reality television appeals to younger viewers as the preferred genre.</p> <p>Watching "real life" dramas unfold on our television screens has become to many the preferred way to view television, and the reality show juggernaut has completely taken over as the genre of choice for young viewers everywhere.</p>	<p>Are reality shows popular with the younger audiences in Singapore?</p> <p>Has the reality show genre become the genre of choice for young viewers in Singapore?</p>	<p>Reality television shows have definitely become a popular choice as they have attractive qualities that draw the younger viewers in. For example, the Netflix series <i>Singapore Social</i> is framed by glitz, glamour, and expensive backdrops, involving several young people struggling to deal with the drama in their lives. This involves parents' expectations, relationship entanglements, sacrificing their happiness to stay competitive, and such. Rebellion is also a big theme in the show. With such relatable themes that speak to the younger crowd, it is no wonder that they are highly popular.</p> <p>The young nowadays are drawn to shows which feature a lot of talents who can act, sing or dance. Young viewers who look towards a different path to success instead of the usual academic route aspire to be like the talents on reality television programmes such as <i>Campus Superstar</i>, <i>The Voice</i>, and <i>Asia's Got Talent</i>.</p>	<p>Reality television shows may be trendy but the younger viewers who are more discerning do not necessarily see them as the genre of choice as can be seen from the critical reviews of shows like <i>Singapore Social</i> questioning how realistically it portrays Singapore, for example, the different accents and the upper echelons of society.</p> <p>Many other choices of television programmes from popular streaming channels and television apps like Netflix, YouTube and Viu that contain a plethora of popular genres such as romantic comedies, drama, documentaries etc are giving reality programmes a run for their money. Hence reality shows may not necessarily be the genre of choice for young viewers given that there is such a slew of equally entertaining shows that compete with reality programmes.</p>
<p>Appeal: Reality television is interactive and allows viewers to connect with the characters on the shows.</p> <p>This interaction not only gives viewers a sense of ownership over the shows but also another level upon which they can feel connected to the shows and the characters, thus making these people and situations appear that much more "real" to them.</p>	<p>To what extent are reality shows interactive? Do they allow viewers to connect with the characters on the shows?</p>	<p>Living with a pervasive and saturated social media culture, the young viewers in Singapore today thrive on constant engagement and are not content to watch television programmes passively. For example, talent-based reality television shows like <i>Singapore Idol</i> and <i>Star Search</i> capitalise on the use of voting to gain viewers' feedback. This is popular with young people in Singapore because it meets their needs to be active participants through voting and giving comments.</p>	<p>Not all young viewers want to feel connected to the characters in reality shows as watching such shows is simply one of the ways for many students and young adults to take a respite from the stress of studying and working. Due to the long hours at school and work, they would not want to spend time and effort on the interactive nature of reality television such as voting and giving comments. Most watch such shows for leisure. They would prefer not to interact with the characters on such shows but instead be passive viewers of local family dramas like <i>Lion Mums</i> which are highly relatable to the young people.</p>
<p>Appeal: Reality television explores controversial issues</p>	<p>Do reality TV shows explore controversial issues?</p>	<p>Reality television shows in Singapore provide a platform for the audience to engage with controversial cultural issues like social class and lifestyles. <i>Renovaid</i> features needy Singaporean families needing a home makeover, giving</p>	<p>Singaporeans are not really interested in television shows that explore controversial issues. Instead, most seem to prefer shows that provide more shallow entertainment rather than shows that engage in deeper issues. Shows like <i>Singapore</i></p>

<p>and provides valuable insight into the lives of others.</p> <p>it explores controversial issues and provides valuable insight into the lives of others (line 43-4)</p> <p>It has engaged hot-button cultural issues – class, sex, race (line 51)</p> <p>Reality television presents some of the most vital political debate ... (lines 61-62)</p>	<p>Do reality TV shows in discussing socio-political issues appeal to Singaporeans?</p>	<p>viewers a glimpse of the challenges that these families face. <i>Singapore Social</i> also gives viewers a look at the lives of some young Singaporeans as they deal with issues like career, romance and family. Viewers find these shows appealing because they help them learn more about the diverse multi-racial and multi-cultural communities in the country. Singaporeans are also curious about how people who are different from themselves live their lives – this shows the ‘kaypoh’ nature of Singaporeans.</p>	<p><i>Social</i> that supposedly showcase the glamorous and indulgent lives of social influencers do not appeal to Singaporean viewers because they are said to not accurately reflect the values and behaviour of the average Singaporean.</p>
<p>Appeal: Reality television offers fresh and innovative content for viewers.</p> <p>Reality shows have leaped into this imaginative void (line 76)</p>	<p>Does reality television offer fresh and innovative content for viewers?</p>	<p>Reality shows do indeed provide fresh and exciting content to Singapore viewers. <i>Shark Tank</i> gives viewers a perspective about business decisions and entrepreneurship that they might not have experience previously. <i>Next in Fashion</i> allows viewers to appreciate the intricacies of fashion design in an exciting format. <i>Ninja Warrior</i> tests participants’ physical abilities and athleticism through creative challenges and obstacles. Korean reality show <i>Running Man</i> features many interesting and innovative challenges that captivate Singaporean audience. All these different shows contribute to the diversity of shows that viewers are able to choose from, and add creative and innovative content that they do not come across in scripted television.</p>	<p>Not all reality shows offer fresh perspectives. In fact, most of them follow the same format. Overly dramatic, exaggerated behaviour are quite expected in reality shows. The same voting and elimination types of challenges are aplenty. Shows produced in Singapore like <i>Project SuperStar</i>, <i>Singapore Idol</i> and <i>The Voice</i> all conform to this type of show. After all, Singaporean audiences are more conservative in their choice of shows and tend to prefer these tried and tested formats of reality shows rather than any other more outlandish types.</p>