

2016 JC2 PRELIM: Paper 2 Suggested Answer Scheme

1. How is a city without old buildings “like a man without memory” (line 6)? [2]

Text	Paraphrase / Inferred
Nearly everyone will say that certain songs, scents or tastes bring it all back. A distinctive smell can immediately and powerfully make us recall an experience. The songs of one's adolescence can immediately transport one back to a time and a series of feelings long forgotten. To taste the food of one's childhood or homeland can cause people to have sudden and sometimes quite unexpected memories. The same can be said for cities. A city without old buildings is like a man without memory.	<p>a) A man without memory does not have memories which are part of a person / define a person / provide a sense of self / understanding of one's self / sense of identity [1]</p> <p>b) Similarly, the lack of old buildings in a city means there is no sense of rootedness / nothing to convey information about a community's culture / heritage / growth. [1]</p> <p>*A alone cannot be awarded *A can be awarded when there is an attempt of B *B alone can be awarded *Idea of “without memory/old buildings” must be present. Answers which focus on the function/importance of memory/old buildings will not be awarded.</p>

2. In paragraph 2, what is the most lasting feature of a big city? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

Text	Paraphrase / Inferred
Among the admirable and enjoyable sights to be found along the sidewalks of big cities, the (a) ingenious (b) adaptations of old buildings (c) for new uses is the most enduring one.	<p>(a) The creative / inventive / resourceful ability (b) to modify / change / transform the old buildings (c) so that they fulfil fresh purposes.</p> <p>.</p> <p>2 points = 1 m 3 points = 2 m</p>

3. What does the author mean by “visually pleasing and cohesive” (line 12)? [2]

Text	Paraphrase / Inferred
These buildings give a character to the neighbourhood and are visually cohesive . It is in this context that old buildings play an irreplaceable role in creating an image of the city: a sense of place, a sense of belonging.	<p>The old buildings (subject must be identified)</p> <p>(a) are attractive / beautiful / pretty / appealing and [1] (b) Not out of place with the rest of the buildings / not look awkward / look like they belong with the rest of the buildings / in harmony with the rest of the buildings / fit nicely into the neighbourhood [1].</p> <p>*no subject = 0m</p>

4. What contrasts does the author make between the feelings engendered by the old buildings and those by the new ones in paragraph 3? **Use your own words as far as possible.**[2]

Text	Paraphrase / Inferred
The familiar old building that you walked past every day and got accustomed to is no longer there to offer solace . You feel you have lost a friend ; you feel you have been alienated in your own home. What surround you now are the new high-tech buildings, which are like babies - charming but nothing to tell .	<p>(a) Contrast 1 [old buildings = provide <u>solace</u> (comfort/warmth/support) vs new buildings = feel <u>alienated/lost a friend</u> (isolated/distanced/alone)]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old buildings offer comfort / are relatable while new buildings make you feel like a stranger / out of place. • Old buildings would make one feel like home due to their recognisable features as opposed to new ones which make an individual feel out of place. • Old buildings are able to provide one with comfort which new ones fail to – as one is often left feeling lonely and isolated / empty / a sense of loss. <p><i>Do not accept: solace is not peace/quiet</i></p> <p>(b) Contrast 2 (charming but nothing to tell) FOCUS on presence/absence of past/memories? [old buildings evoke memories/nostalgia vs new buildings provide no feelings for the place/disconnected/no rootedness]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New buildings provide <u>no sense of attachment</u> / identity while old buildings provide a sense of nostalgia. <p>Note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explicit match in difference between old buildings and new buildings in point (a) 2. (b) must be inferred 3. Difference must be given for BOTH old buildings and new buildings to treat it as a single valid contrast. 4. To indicate a1 + a2 and b1 + b2 in our marking

5. In line 27, what does the word “utopians” suggest about city planners in the 1950s? [1]

Text	Paraphrase / Inferred
The 1950s saw America start a massive campaign of urban renewal to obliterate old buildings. The planning utopians were enchanted by the idea of “socially meaningful communities”.	<p>It suggests that they were positive to the extent of being unrealistic</p> <p>OR</p> <p>It suggests that they were idealistic</p> <p>OR</p> <p>It suggests the city planners in the 1950s had some grand plans about urban planning but these plans are actually unrealisable.</p> <p>Note: Need to capture the idea of ‘perfection’ + ‘impracticality’</p>

6. Why has the author written “socially meaningful communities” (line 28) in inverted commas? [1]

Text	Paraphrase / Inferred
The 1950s saw America start a massive campaign of urban renewal to obliterate old buildings. The planning utopians were enchanted by the idea of “ socially meaningful communities ”. Real communities were bulldozed to make way for the virtual.	<p>The author wanted to highlight that “socially meaningful communities” was not actually achieved as people were instead alienated / isolated from one another due to the changes made in urban planning.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The author questions the concept of “socially meaningful communities” because instead of becoming more cohesive / united, people are more alienated / isolated from one another due to changes in urban planning.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>The urban planners’ successful attempt to destroy old buildings to artificially construct new buildings to promote a sense of togetherness / belonging did not occur. It is because the destruction led to the removal of these positive qualities.</p> <p>*socially meaningful = anything that adds value to a community *understanding of socially meaningful communities + purpose of quotation marks + context of changes to urban planning / destruction of old buildings must be present *students can lift ‘socially’ and ‘community’</p>

7. Explain the author’s use of the word “bulldozed” in line 28. [2]

Text	Paraphrase / Inferred
The 1950s saw America start a massive campaign of urban renewal to obliterate old buildings. The planning utopians were enchanted by the idea of “socially meaningful communities”. Real communities were bulldozed to make way for the virtual.	<p>The author wants to emphasize</p> <p>(a) the careless / forceful / insensitive / ruthless / violent / aggressive OR the disregard for the consequences in the [1] (b) destruction of real communities / character or history of the city. [1]</p> <p>*context = real communities/people + emotional attachment to old buildings</p> <p>e.g. The author wants to emphasize the destruction of real communities (1m: b) e.g. The author wants to emphasize the destruction of old buildings (0m) e.g. The author wants to emphasize the insensitive destruction of old buildings (1m: a) e.g. The author wants to emphasize the insensitive destruction of old buildings which have cultural value to the people(2m)</p>

8. How does the author demonstrate the idea that “old buildings got much awaited recognition” (line 35) in paragraph 4? **Use your own words as far as possible.** [2]

Text	Paraphrase / Inferred
(a) With the passing of National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, old buildings got much awaited recognition.	The idea that old buildings got much awaited recognition through (a) the implementation / institution of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966,
(b) Boston’s market place... San Francisco’s pioneering Ghirardelli Square revival	(b) the author’s reference to Boston’s marketplace and San Francisco’s Ghirardelli Square (need to mention both buildings or refer to marketplace and chocolate factory)
(c) attracts over a million people / internationally famous shopping centre and	(c) which draws huge numbers of people / throngs of visitors OR it is well-known <u>worldwide</u> / a consumer paradise and
(d) more than \$80 million annually	(d) large economic profit to America / generates large revenue *intensifier must be present for (c) & (d)
	2 points – 1m 3-4 points – 2m

9. Using material from paragraphs 6 to 8, summarise what the author has to say about why we need new and old buildings.

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.**

We need new buildings because...

Pt	From the passage	Paraphrased
a	Neighbourhoods with more new buildings are A LOT MORE DIVERSE (line 47)	New buildings add much variety to the housing estate OR New buildings create a vastly different atmosphere
b	and creatively energetic (line 47) *context of people allowed	And are full of vitality / vigour / liveliness / dynamism / stimulating OR And much enthusiasm
c	row houses with steps leading to the front door draw people onto the street (line 48)	terrace houses attract people outdoors / out of their homes OR entrances of old buildings lure people out
d1	Filling in empty lots - or replacing the occasional architecturally undistinguished	When new buildings with shopping facilities take the place of the old ones

	low-rise building with taller new apartment buildings with taller new apartment buildings and ground-floor retail	OR Making use of unused spaces to build high rise buildings with street level shops	
d2	Washington, D.C. has done just that in gentrifying locales *d1 must be attempted for d2 to be awarded	It helps to elevate the status of the area / revive the area / makes the area more exclusive	
e1	(In the various locations that have been gentrified) pedestrian and commercial vitality *d1/d2 must be attempted for e1 to be awarded *BOTH pedestrian and commercial should be present	The vibrancy of pedestrian and commercial activity / shopper traffic and business / Business activities and traffic will also	
e2	has also simultaneously grown by leaps and bounds. (line 54) *e1 must be present for e2 to be awarded	increase tremendously at the same time	
f	Neighbourhoods with well-preserved old buildings can indeed be aesthetically charming (line 56) *context of well-preserved old buildings is necessary for f, g & h. *Lift of "well" is allowed	Old buildings that are maintained well / properly maintained in good condition can truly be beautiful / pleasing to the eye OR Areas become visually attractive when there are architecture that are well-conserved/maintained.	
g	writers and other regular folks exiled far away can walk around those neighbourhoods and marvel at their beauty (line 60) *context of well-preserved old buildings is necessary for f, g & h.	People / tourists can visit places with old buildings and wonder / appreciate their loveliness / enjoy the aesthetic treat allowing visitors to appreciate the places' charm.	
h	but their real estate is astronomical (line 57)	(We need new buildings because) the cost of well-preserved <i>old</i> property is extremely high / so expensive that it is unaffordable	(We need new buildings because) the cost of well-preserved <i>old</i> property is extremely high.
i	But if we are to maintain the		New buildings drive down the

	affordability... *for right side only		price of real estate, which
j	the high prices and their inevitable result - which is that neighbourhoods become richer , (line 58) *h is required to award j, k, l	<i>Results in</i> a sense of exclusivity/elitism, *h must be attempted for j, k, l to be awarded *j, k, l must be logically linked to h	creates inclusiveness, *i must be attempted for j, k, l to be awarded
k	LESS diverse (line 58) OR [new] that nurtures creativity and diversity in a city (line 60)	impedes innovation/variation , *h must be attempted for j, k, l to be awarded	We need new buildings because... they foster innovation/variation *i must be attempted for j, k, l to be awarded,
l	more conservative (line 58)	and creates a more traditional / more conventional / old-fashioned / less progressive / less inclined to new ideas / less closed-minded community *h must be attempted for j, k, l to be awarded	We need new buildings because... and less traditional / less conventional / less old-fashioned / more progressive / more open *i must be attempted for j, k, l to be awarded
m	But if we are to maintain the affordability... [i] *i must be attempted for m to be credited we need MORE supply of housing and office space to meet demand [m]	New buildings bring down the prices [credit for i] By increasing the areas for accommodation and work [m] (thus solving the problems above) *i must be attempted for m to be credited	 New buildings increase the areas for accommodation and work [m] (how do new buildings bring down the prices) *i must be attempted for m to be credited
n	<u>Tall buildings</u> are not just luxury condos . They are middle-income and low-income housing (line 63) *context of <i>tall</i> buildings must be present either in n, o	<u>Skyscrapers / tall buildings</u> are not merely for the rich; they are also meant for the poor or the average income group / sandwiched class, OR <u>Skyscrapers / tall buildings</u> provide homes for people from a variety of income groups / the average income.	
o	They are also office buildings (line 64)	and for corporations / businesses	

	*context of <i>tall</i> buildings must be present either in n, o	
p	When the cool new media companies incubated in little old buildings succeed and grow (line 65)	When start-ups / companies / businesses / firms thrived / flourished / achieve and develop / expand ,
q	they need big enough spaces to house all their employees . (line 66) *p must be attempted for q to be awarded	they now require more room to accommodate / put up all their workers OR they require new areas to accommodate staff .
r	The much-maligned <u>skyscraper</u> has enabled cities to add vast amounts of floor space using the same amount of ground area (line 68) *context of skyscrapers must be present *'same' and 'ground area' can be lifted	<u>Tall buildings/skyscrapers</u> have allowed cities to tremendously increase the work area based on the same / equal amount of land area/space OR <u>Tall buildings/skyscrapers</u> created a lot more area with the same base OR <u>Tall buildings</u> greatly increase space efficiency
s	Given the rising demand for <u>centre-city real estate</u> , the skyscraper seemed like a godsend . (line 69) *context of city & skyscraper must be present	Given the increasing need for land/property in city , <u>tall buildings</u> are an huge welcome / a windfall / like a blessing from above / the answer
t1	With the addition of <u>skyscrapers</u> , New York grew economically and (line 71) *context of skyscrapers must be present	As a result, New York / cities / states that have <u>tall structures</u> progressed financially / commercially OR With new <u>tall buildings</u> , cities become richer
t2	industries expanded *context of skyscrapers must be present	businesses grew
u	They gave factory owners and workers space that was both more humane (line 72)	Employers showed kindness by providing larger areas / not cramming workers in small spaces OR More spaces also meant better working conditions for the blue-

		collared workers OR workplaces are friendlier / more comfortable
v	and more efficient (line 73)	That enabled the work to be done faster / more productively / more effectively OR which results in increased productivity
w	Majestic <u>skyscrapers</u> are part of our architectural heritage, *context of skyscrapers should be present	Grand / awe-inspiring / magnificent <u>tall buildings / skyscrapers</u> can also be considered as our identity / culture,
x	Helping to make our cities vital and beautiful places (line 74) *context of skyscrapers should be present	Making our cities integral / essential / necessary / very important and aesthetically pleasing locations
y	New ones, when done well , (line 74) can be an exhilarating addition to their surroundings (line 75)	New buildings which are thoughtfully developed / well-constructed can add to the excitement / be an invigorating / inspiring addition to the environs

Points	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 6	7 - 8	9	10 - 11	12 - 13	14 and above
Marks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

10. Explain the irony in lines 75 – 77. [1]

Text	Paraphrase / Inferred
In championing preservation of old buildings, a group of activists tried to showcase the benefits of low-rise housing with a photograph of the Manhattan Skyline from a Brooklyn roof.	<p>One would have expected the activists to fight for what they believe in using pictures of old buildings.</p> <p>But they did so by showing a photograph of the Manhattan skyline showing new/tall buildings [1].</p> <p>OR</p> <p>It is expected that preservationists who are championing the preservation of old buildings would be critical of high rise buildings and would not want to encourage the building of high rise buildings.</p> <p>But in reality they did so by showing the view of skyscrapers which seems to show support for skyscrapers [1].</p> <p>*new buildings = high buildings, old = low *both new & old buildings need to be present</p>

11. What point is the author making in the ending question of paragraph 10? [2]

Text	Paraphrase / Inferred
Cities change. It is their nature. Those which stop changing stop being cities. Cities that change entirely, though, cease to be themselves. Let us not forget that destruction is permanent. If in the name of efficiency we condemn the old today, what will be the fate of tomorrow?	<p>(a) We should not destroy old buildings / We should not be in a hurry to destroy old buildings [1m]</p> <p>(b) because these buildings are beneficial to the future generations / as we may regret it in time to come / as the never-ending cycle of destruction will never end.[1m]</p> <p>*context of old buildings or city must be present</p>

12. Vani Bahl writes about the need to have new buildings alongside old ones in cities. To what extent do you agree or disagree with her views? Illustrate your answer by referring to the ways in which you and your society regard urban landscape. [10]

Argument from the text	Agree	Disagree
<p>"A city without old buildings is like a man without memory (lines 5-6)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>"...creating...a sense of place" (line 13)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>"...historical ... cultural symbol" (line 19)</p>	<p>Many old buildings in Singapore indeed create a sense of rootedness and conveys information about a city's growth and transformation in our short 50 years of independence. CHIJMES, for instance, used to be a Catholic school for girls and a chapel. The complex also used to house an orphanage where unwanted babies were left for the nuns to take care of. Today however, it has been transformed into a place with exciting dining and nightlife options it houses today. At the same time, its green lawns, marble waterfalls, courtyards and neoclassical buildings still convey information about its past. Its existence amid the bustle of the city and the tall modern office buildings shows how the infrastructure and city layout has changed over the years.</p> <p>(Other old buildings for discussion could include museums such as the National</p>	

	<p>museum of Singapore, Asian Civilisation Museum, Old Ford Motor Factory, mosques such as Masjid Hajjah Fatimah at Beach Road, churches such as St Andrew's Cathedral etc)</p>	
<p>"Among the admirable and enjoyable sights to be found along the sidewalks of big cities, the ingenious adaptations of old buildings for new uses is the most enduring one" (lines 7-8)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>"These buildings give a character to the neighbourhood and are visually pleasing and cohesive" (lines 11-12)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Aesthetic... cultural symbol (line 19)</p>	<p>Although Singapore does not have many cities as Singapore itself is one big city, there are many old buildings in Singapore which have been renovated and yet remain a pleasing sight amidst modernisation and new buildings. Built in the 19th century, Lau Pa Sat or Telok Ayer Market was gazetted as a national monument in 1973. It is situated in the heart of the financial district and stands out distinctively with its octagonal shape and ornamental columns. Though a graceful clock tower and a new cast-iron supporting structure were added during renovation, its original shape was retained. Yet, amidst the largely tall office buildings in Raffles Place/Tanjong Pagar, its dome-like structure is an appealing view. Its 54 stalls and 14 mini restaurants truly reflect cosmopolitan Singapore.</p> <p>(Other old buildings could include Victoria Concert Hall and Capitol Building which used to be a theatre but now houses luxury restaurants and retail shops)</p>	
<p>"For a moment, the stone whispers the stories of the</p>	<p>This argument is indeed true of many old buildings in</p>	

<p>days long gone, the life stories of the generations of people who have lived in and around it” (lines 9-11)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>...creating...a sense of belonging (line 13)</p>	<p>Singapore. Take the Lookout Tower located in Toa Payoh Town Park for instance. Built in 1972, the Lookout Tower has grown to be an endearing landmark to past and current residents of Toa Payoh. Though it is now no longer possible to climb the tower, it is a landmark that many people identify with as being synonymous with the estate and has been a popular wedding photography site before the modern parks and gardens were built. The tower's gaining of conservation status in 2009 is truly a testament to its historical, aesthetic, emotional and social value to the town and its residents.</p>	
<p>“The familiar old building ...offer solace. You feel you have lost a friend; you feel you have been alienated in your own home. What surround you now are the new high-tech buildings, which are like babies - charming but nothing to tell” (lines 15-18)</p>		<p>Singapore’s pioneer generations are likely to find the writer’s view relatable. To accommodate the housing needs of the growing population, many old houses / buildings in places such as Punggol, Sengkang and Tampines have been torn down to make way for high rise Housing Development Blocks (HDB). For almost two centuries, Raffles Place has been the designated business centre of Singapore. However, in the past few decades, many new buildings have sprouted around Raffles Place. Whether it be the financial district or residential areas, many of the elderly in Singapore hold fondly to their memories of Singapore’s past. Beyond their aesthetic appeal, current new buildings hold no special</p>

		meaning for them.
<p>It's all about balance.</p> <p>A city with nothing but modern skyscrapers would surely lose its aesthetic charm, its creative energy and its urban vitality. (line 39-40)</p>		<p>Orchard Road, the shopping paradise, is mostly made up of new skyscrapers (hotels and shopping malls such as Marriot Hotel, Ion and Paragon. However, it definitely has not lost its aesthetic charm or urban vitality. CK Tang and Marriot is uniquely designed to represent its Chinese oriental looks that stood out from the rest of the buildings. Opposite CK Tang is Ion, which was designed by a leading architect who won awards for Ion, which is known to have a futuristic, unique, progressive and urban design. Furthermore, the pavement along Orchard road are lined up public art sculptures for display. Young undergrads are also basking at the streets, singing the latest pop songs and performing dances, adding on to the creative energy of the streets.</p>
<p>[It's all about balance.]</p> <p>However, a city with no new construction risks turning into a museum: a beautiful but stuffy repository of artwork by dead people, frequented only by the rich and tourists. (line 40-42)</p>	<p>Some areas within Chinatown such as Neil Road have indeed become the exclusive area for the rich and tourists. The shophouses along Neil road had been redeveloped and rented out for Food & Beverage businesses such as pubs and fine-dining restaurants. For example, The Library is found along Keong Saik Street. On the surface, it looked like a library but then there is a secret bar behind the shelves. One will usually only see expats with their families and friends having brunches and beer on Sunday morning. Hardly do the locals, especially those who live near</p>	<p>While it is true that Chinatown and Little India are touristy places as the areas are part of the conservation districts which have been redeveloped to make it more attractive for visitors, many locals still frequent Chinatown and Little India. During festive seasons such as Chinese New Year, Chinatown will be the definite go-to place for Singaporean Chinese to stock up the Chinese New Year goods. It is the same for Little India.</p> <p>Katong – Many locals still dine there. The famous Katong Laksa is also well-known</p>

	<p>Chinatown, would go near there these days as there are definitely cheaper dining options available.</p> <p>Clarke Quay – has also been revamped where pubs, clubs and restaurants are – is also the place where only the rich and tourists gather.</p>	<p>amongst the locals as well as the tourists.</p> <p>Haji Lane – Many young Singaporeans like to shop at this quaint street where they can get interesting and unique items from the local designers who set up their shops there.</p>
Neighbourhoods with more new buildings are a lot more diverse and creatively energetic.	Pinnacle @ Duxton was the new series of HDB flat that was added to an old estate of Tanjong Pagar. The area was meant to be an ageing district as most of the elderly and pioneers who lived in the nearly 40-year old flats used to be the only ones who populate the area. However, with the addition of Pinnacle, many new and younger families shifted to Tanjong Pagar. The children of these young families start to liven up the area too. A new primary school, Cantonment Primary School, was also built to cater to children of these young families.	Balestier Road used to be the then-Orchard Road where youngsters hang out in the 1960s. However, as the area age, it was no longer crowded like before. Despite new developments along the road such as hotels and condominiums built, the vitality that it used to have was not revived. Instead, the area became known to be sleazy where prostitutes scout for customers as the cheap motels are everywhere in that area.
(gentrifying locales) pedestrian and commercial vitality has also simultaneously grown by leaps and bounds.	Tiong Bahru old HDB estate known for the spiral staircase had been revamped. Now it is known to be the hipster area where many interestingly themed cafes popped up in the past 5 years. Many youngsters started hanging out in that area especially when they are café-hopping on a weekend. Other examples include Clarke Quay, Boat Quay, Rochester Park.	
Neighbourhoods with well-preserved old buildings	According to Lonely Planet, the five “Singapore micro-	Although the real estate prices of neighbourhoods with well-

<p>can indeed be aesthetically charming, but their real estate is astronomical. (line 56)...</p> <p>But if we are to maintain the affordability that nurtures creativity and diversity in a city like Washington, San Francisco, or New York, we need more supply of housing and office space to meet demand. (line 60-63)</p>	<p>‘burbs on the rise” are Tiong Bahru, Keong Saik, Everton Park, Jalan Besar, and Geylang. These neighbourhoods have one thing in common: the preservation of historical buildings such as heritage flats, shophouses and hotels. Due to this, locals and expats pay a premium to own a home in these areas, which cost more per square metre as compared to more heartland areas such as in Singapore. In order to maintain the affordability of these housing neighbourhoods, more housing and offices are needed to offset the demands. Indeed, the neighbourhoods in Singapore, whether old or new, contain an apt balance of commercial, housing, and public amenities, with a strong focus on meeting the demands of a burgeoning population in a land-scarce city. All this contributes to lowering the cost of real estate in heritage neighbourhoods.</p>	<p>preserved historical buildings are exceptionally high, there are property cooling measures in place to</p>
<p>Tall buildings are not just luxury condos. They are middle-income and low-income housing. (line 64)</p>	<p>Housing Development flats house more than 80% of the population. They range from studio apartments to maisonettes, providing a range of affordable housing for Singaporeans. Block 37 Circuit Road (when it was built in the 1960s, it was considered a tall building) houses 570 2/3-room flats for low-income families. The tallest HDB flats can reach a height of 40 storeys (Toa Payoh Central).</p>	<p>Arguably, The Pinnacle@Duxton was built to provide affordable public housing. It is a 50-storey residential development in Singapore’s city center, on a historically significant Tanjong Pagar site. But it is more recognised for holding the record for the highest average price of new flats purchased directly from HDB, and the most expensive resale four-room flat (\$990,000) – clearly unaffordable for the average Singaporean. Tall buildings such as The Pinnacle redefine</p>

		<p>the idea of public housing for the middle or low-income as the cost is almost equivalent to a small luxury condominium unit.</p> <p>Other tall luxury condominiums: skysuites@Anson, altez@Enggor Street (both are 250m tall)</p>
<p>They are also office buildings. When the cool new media companies incubated in little old buildings succeed and grow, they need big enough spaces to house all their employees. In other words, they need skyscrapers. (line 65-66)</p> <p>The much-maligned skyscraper has enabled cities to add vast amounts of floor space using the same amount of ground area. Given the rising demand for centre-city real estate, the skyscraper seemed like a godsend. (line 67-68)</p>	<p>Given that Singapore is a landscarce city, efficient use of space is necessary. UOB Plaza, One Raffles Place, Republic Plaza are just several skyscrapers in the central business district offer vast amounts of office space to meet our needs.</p>	<p>Singapore is a very densely populated city – it is ranked 3rd behind Macau and Monaco as one of the most densely populated countries in the world. The number of skyscrapers in the CBD area almost threaten to block</p>
<p>Hence, it is wrong to deny that majestic skyscrapers are part of our architectural heritage, helping to make our cities vital and beautiful places. (line 73)</p> <p>New ones, when done well, can be an exhilarating addition to their</p>	<p>The Marina Bay Sands integrated resort, OUB Plaza one, Tanjong Pagar Centre (which displaced the tallest buildings in Singapore at 290m), etc. add to our iconic skyline. Tourists flock to the Marina Bay/CBD area to catch a glimpse of these buildings, especially at night.</p>	

surroundings. (line 74)		
<p>Historic preservation and low-rise zoning are wise in some situations and some areas, but not merely as an abstract principle to apply without discretion. (Lines 80-82)</p>	<p>In the 1960s and 1970s, faced with limited land, overcrowded slums, rapid population growth, and the pressure to make economic progress, the primary goal of urban renewal was to re-house people and redevelop large tracts of the city centre to transform it into a modern and efficient hub for business and industry. The run-down condition of the old buildings meant that much work had to be done to restore and revitalise them as part of Singapore's built heritage for future generations. The Urban Redevelopment Authority's conservation programme has been conferred the prestigious ULI Award for Excellence 2006: Asia Pacific by the Urban Land Institute (ULI), an international non-profit education and research institute.</p>	
<p>Preservationists should absolutely stand up for that which is worth preserving. (lines 82-83)</p>	<p>Singaporeans are outspoken about preservation of old public spaces which hold fond memories for them. Social media is often the platform that is being used to gather views and rally support. However some go overboard by being antagonistic or mislead the public into thinking the worst about the government's plans. For the Rail Corridor, even though the government has declared that the corridor will be preserved but wanted ideas on the form that it can take, a group of 'preservationists' calling itself the Ministry of</p>	

	Adventure made misleading remarks, with claims about the “planned destruction” and “demise” of the rail corridor, and that the government intends to turn it into another park connector.	
Not all buildings that are old and small are better than ones that are new and big. (line 83)	The Former National Library Building at Stamford Road opened in 1960 was 10,000 sq metres in area. It was taken down in 2004 to make way for the Fort Canning Tunnel to help ease traffic flow into the city. The new National Library at Bugis is a 13-storey building of 60,000 sq metres which could comfortably accommodate books for adults, children as well as a large reference library.	Many pre-war shop houses along early settlement districts like Chinatown, Little India, Geylang and Kampong Glam areas despite being low and small have a charm that cannot be replicated by taller structures. These older buildings once housed the living quarters of the early migrants while the ground floor was used for shops selling Chinese herbs and provisions. Many of them are now converted to cafes and restaurants. The high-rise buildings definitely have an edge in functional value because of the better use of the area to house more trades and offices but these buildings lack the same feeling that you get with the old ones.
A healthy city needs a healthy mix and more, critically, a healthy city needs freedom to grow. (lines 83-84)	New buildings that are taller and have the capacity to house larger numbers of employees in a smaller piece of land optimises land use and benefits larger numbers. The old Raffles Institution building where the current Raffles City stands is an example where the old needs to make way for the new. The school did not have much architectural merit and much of the space was taken up by a large school field. Eventually it made way	

	<p>for the shopping mall and two hotels which together make up Raffles City. In the vicinity, which is the Civic District of Singapore, there are numerous well-preserved old buildings which date back to colonial times. This interesting blend of old and new make for a very attractive city with attractive sights for the tourists to enjoy.</p>	
<p>Let us not forget that destruction is permanent. If in the name of efficiency we condemn the old today, what will be the fate of tomorrow?</p> <p>(lines 86-88)</p>	<p>The old red brick National Library Building was demolished to make way for a tunnel despite the rallying call for preservation.</p> <p>URA made public their definitive decision to demolish the National Library building as "it was not of great architectural merit and should not be conserved." From March to April 1999, there arose a huge groundswell of public dissent in the media over the National Library building's fate, as well as the drastic physical alterations of its environs. A number of featured columns by journalists touched on gradually disappearing heritage landmarks, as well as shared memories of Singaporeans.</p>	