

## Social Studies – Structured Response Question (SRQ)

### Unpack the question

| Step                                | Thinking process                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Analyse question                 | What does the question want? (reason / solution / impact)<br>What is the focus topic of the question?<br>Whose action is required in the question? (government / individual / organisation) |
| 2. Analyse extract + identify issue | What are some possible reasons for the controversy?                                                                                                                                         |
| 3. Synthesise to get best response  | Given these reasons, what could be the appropriate responses?<br>How does your response answer the question? How will it work out to address the identified issue?                          |

After deciding on the best response, we write a proper **PEEL** (use 10 mins)

### PEEL

|                                     |                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>P</u>oint</b>                 | Answer the question by providing what the question wants                                                              |
| <b><u>E</u>laboration / Example</b> | Describe your response <b><u>in detail</u></b> and provide a valid example (Who / for Whom? What? Where? When? How?)  |
| <b><u>E</u>xplanation</b>           | Illustrate <b><u>how</u></b> your response works – the process of how the strategy can lead to the objective you want |
| <b><u>L</u>ink</b>                  | Repeat the Point line                                                                                                 |

### Marking rubrics:

| Level | Level descriptor                                                                                                                                                    | Marks |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| L1    | <b>Describe the topic</b>                                                                                                                                           | 1     |
| L2    | <b>Identify / describe strategies</b><br>2 marks : identify 1 strategy<br>3 marks : identify 2 strategies<br>describe 1 strategy<br>4 marks : describe 2 strategies | 2 ~ 4 |
| L3    | <b>L2 + explain</b><br>5 ~ 6 marks : explain 1 strategy<br>6 ~ 7 marks : explain 2 strategies                                                                       | 5 ~ 7 |

## Typical questions

### Extract 1

Bukit Brown's story is a familiar one in Singapore. Small but affluent, the country is a model of rapid development. All over the island one finds impressive displays of modernity: the steel-and-glass of shopping malls and private condominiums alongside brightly coloured concrete blocks of public housing. The population density is already one of the highest in the world, and set to grow: the government projects a population of 6.9 million by 2030. To accommodate further growth, the government often says, trade-offs need to be made.

These "trade-offs" have triggered controversy. The debate has broadly divided into two camps: on the one hand, some argue for the need for Singapore to accommodate its large population, and sentimentality is framed as an indulgence. On the other, others insist that a nation needs its heritage, and new generations need to be aware of their past to build a better future.

URL: <https://thediplomat.com/2013/10/singapore-the-fight-to-save-bukit-brown/>

Extract 1 states the different reasons for the controversy on Bukit Brown debate. In your opinion, how can the government better manage the trade-offs that come with their decision? Explain your answer using two strategies. [7]

Suggested answer:

|             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Point       | One way that Singapore government can better manage the trade-offs with their decision is to <b><u>create a Facebook group with posts related to the history and heritage of Bukit Brown.</u></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Elaboration | A community could set up a Facebook group. There would be <u>posts on pictures and different information of the history of Singapore</u> , followed by <u>different stories of our pioneers of Singapore</u> and what they go through and experience in the past. Families of these pioneers can also add on to what they have learned and gain from their pioneers. There could be <u>a new post updated frequently</u> with the use of technology.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Explanation | With this Facebook group, the history and heritage of the past would be <u>stored digitally</u> . People of Singapore would <u>not need to worry that our past would be lost</u> as it is permanent and can remain forever. Facebook is also <u>easily accessible and convenient</u> too. It is a popular social media platform. Through this way, more people can <u>learn and appreciate Singapore's history</u> . The content update can prevent them from forgetting the heritage of Singapore. Hence, Singapore's <u>heritage and history can still be preserved</u> and kept through the future generation despite any changes to the physical landscape. |
| Link        | Hence, managing the trade-offs of losing our heritage with the removal of Bukit Brown.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

\* The solutions in your response have to be:

1. Practical and feasible
2. Sustainable
3. Ethical