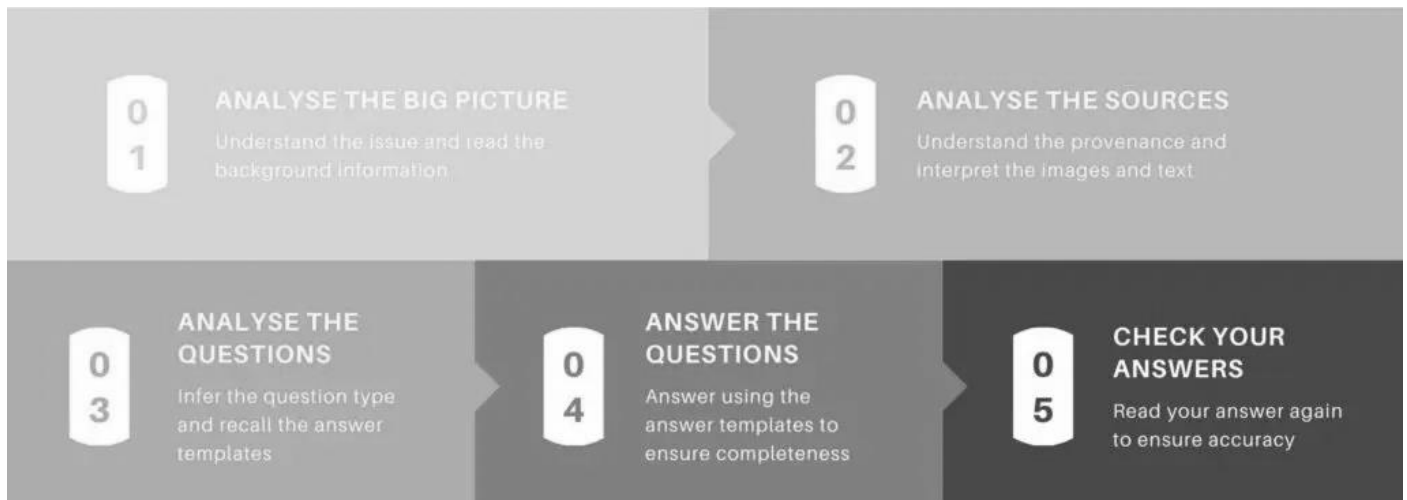


Social Studies – Source-Based Case Study

Scheme of assessment

The compulsory source-based case study can be set on any of the three Issues:

- Exploring Citizenship and Governance
- Living in a Diverse Society
- Being Part of a Globalised World



Skills

- **Inference** – message, purpose, judgement
- **Comparison**
- **Reliability**
- **Usefulness**
- **Surprise** – 1 source, 2 sources
- **Prove correct/wrong**
- **Other hybrid questions**
- **Assertion**

Skill #1: Inference

Types of inference questions

1. Direct inference
2. Inference with judgement
3. Inference with purpose

Note:

- Understand the “big picture” → **main message** of each source
- Understand how each source relates to each other
- Make precise inferences about the message and purpose of each source

Strong inference: main message of source

***DO NOT LIFT**

Studying source

Step	Explanation
1. Analyse question	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic / issue • Keywords • Requirements of question
2. Read background information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand context in which sources are produced
3. Analyse source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provenance of source (who, where, when) • Identify parts of text that answer topic → evidence
4. PEEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not lift / paraphrase evidence

Direct inference

Draw conclusion about issue by using information from source and making sense of it by using contextual knowledge to answer the focus of question

Examples of questions:

Question	Demands
What is the message of the source?	Infer <u>main message</u> of source (evidence + explanation)
What does the source tell you about (issue)?	Infer main message with regards to issue stated in question
What does the source tell you about the cartoonist's opinion / attitude ?	Infer what cartoon / author feels or what emotions / mindset conveyed through text / cartoon
What can you learn from the source about (issue)?	Infer a leaning (can be a view / opinion / message) with regards to issue
What can you infer from the source about (issue)?	Infer main message with regards to issue

Specific incident (sub message) → **theme / societal issue** (main message)

Inference with judgement

Analyse source: infer content + author's stand

1. Answer question using KEYWORD (e.g. agree / disagree, support / does not support)
2. Address question issue by using same exact phrasing (do not change)
e.g. The author supports that ...
3. Provide **REASON** after point line
 - Inference of content idea for your stand given
 - Reason and stand must match
4. Quote evidence to support inference
5. Explain how evidence links to inference and hence stand

Examples of questions:

Question	Demands
Does the writer agree or disagree with the <u>building of eldercare facilities</u> ? Explain your answer.	Infer author's stand and justify using main message of source + evidence + explanation
Does the source think that having <u>immigrants is good for Singapore</u> ? Explain your answer.	Infer author's stand and justify using main message of source + evidence + explanation
Does the author support the <u>foreign talent policy</u> ? Explain your answer.	Infer author's stand by using inference of main message to deduce if author is supportive / unsupportive
Do you think the author is a supporter of <u>(issue)</u> ?	Infer author's stand by using inference of main message to deduce if author is supportive / unsupportive

Inference with purpose

WHY source was created or published

- Consider from author's perspective
- Consider the rationale & motivation for having the source

Structure: **vMAO**

Components	Explanation
1. verb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match with message of source
2. Message	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infer main message that author tries to convey to audience
3. Audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directed group of people • Look at provenance, message, context
4. Outcome (intended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Author's intention → intended action / mindset that author wants audience to do • Trigger → in context, BI

Steps to come up with proper vMAO

1. Infer the main message (**M**)
2. Think of the outcome (**O**) – author's intended outcome, what he wants to see
3. Match an appropriate audience (**A**) with the message
4. Lastly, come up with a verb, (**v**) which matches with message

Helping phrases:

Verb (v)	Outcome (O)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • influence / convince • highlight concerns / problems • justify actions • assure • motivate / encourage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support • condemn • reconsider decision • review policy

Explanation for purpose:

- explain evidence quoted from source + how it links to point
- include provenance details → explain how provenance gives perspective on what evidence really means
 - Author + job title
 - Mode of publication
 - Date
- include relevant context (background information) that helps explain inference on purpose
- explain how message influences audience → achieve desired outcome

Examples of questions:

Question	Demands
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Why do you think the prime minister made this speech <u>at this time</u> ?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infer purpose (vMAO) • Present answer as a reason of author in producing source + specific awareness of current situation
Why did the author publish this?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infer purpose (vMAO) • Present answer → reason of author in producing source
What is the <u>purpose</u> of this source?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infer purpose (vMAO) • Present answer → reason of author in producing source

Tone and attitude

Tone

- HOW / the manner in which MESSAGE / IDEA is conveyed
- sensitive → choice of words used by author
- Must show intensity of emotion

Detect tone:

Tool	Explanation	Example
1. Loaded language	Choice of words: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emotional • Extreme • Exaggerated 	This is ridiculous! Does the government think that we are slaves of the nation by overworking us to bones?
2. Overall tone	Whole source seems: (feel / vibes of message) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly for / against • Biased / objective 	The policy is not perfect and it should be noted that there is no perfect policy in the real world. Our policy has been recognised and modelled by many other countries who look up to our system. It is well-received by the international community and highly applauded for its excellence and efficiency.

Tone must be accompanied by an issue

e.g. The source is critical (tone word) **towards** the building of eldercare centres (issue).

Loaded language	Overall tone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pessimistic • Optimistic • Bitter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balanced • Objective • Critical of

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disgruntled • Resentful • Sceptical • Disapproval • Approval • Praised / commended • Condemned • Highly supportive of • Critical of • Scornful • Ridicule • agitated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biased towards / against • Highly supportive
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Literary devices → CLUES to help detect tone (**NOT** tone)

Literary device	Explanation + effect
1. Irony	Something opposite to the author's true meaning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difference between expectation and reality
2. Sarcasm	Mean the opposite of what one says <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hurt feelings / criticise something in humorous way
3. Exaggeration	Over-emphasising something → better / worse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate importance of something • Create lasting impression • Evoke stronger feelings

Pictorial sources

1. Photographs
2. Posters
3. Political cartoons
4. Statistical representations (graphs, survey results, data)

Analysing political cartoon:

Steps	Explanation
1. Is the source negative or positive in its view?	Divide cartoon into sections + identify key features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have an overall view on whether it is positive or negative about a particular problem / issue • Has the cartoonist taken sides? • Which object / person / symbol / word is significant? • Is the cartoon biased?
2. Whose perspective is presented?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the date on the cartoon? • What is the main historical event that it refers to? • What is the main issue / problem?
3. Who does he / she represent?	Shapes person's viewpoint, interpretation of historical events
4. Anything surprising?	Try to understand purpose / central message of source

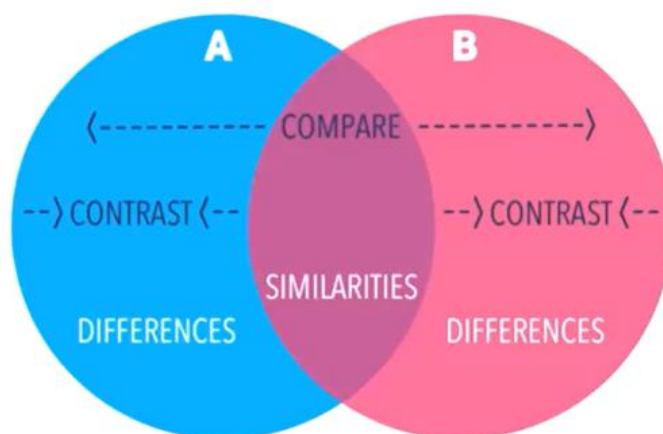
Examples of devices used in political cartoons

Device	Explanation	Examples
1. Symbolism	simple pictures to represent ideas / groups	dove = peace elephant = Republican Party
2. Stereotypes	generalisation (exaggerated, oversimplified, offensive) to describe a group	dishonest lawyers dumb jocks
3. Irony	meaning is opposite of literal meaning outcome is contradictory to expectation	"What nice weather!" during thunderstorm
4. Caricatures	drawing of person / group → exaggerate features for comedic effect	extra-wide eyes super-pointed nose
5. Analogies	comparisons of objects / events / people	US-Russia → US-Soviet
6. Juxtaposition	positioning objects / people side-by-side for comparison purposes	putting politician next to dollar sign
7. Label, caption	text used for emphasis + clarity	

Statistical representations:

- Accurate statistics and data

1. Government bureaus
 2. Research organisations that specialise in conducting national surveys
 3. Research groups funded by universities / non-profit organisations
 4. Publications (e.g. *World Almanac*)
- Do not reveal emotions + deeper understanding of issue
 - No personal experiences
 - No human perspective

Skill #2: Comparison


Compare based on a **COMMON CRITERION**

Examples of comparison questions

Question	Similarities	Differences
<u>In what ways</u> are Sources A and B similar?	✓	
<u>How</u> are Sources A and B similar?	✓	
<u>In what ways</u> are Sources A and B different?		✓
<u>How</u> do Sources A and B differ?		✓
<u>How similar</u> are Sources A and B?	✓	✓
<u>How different</u> are Sources A and B?	✓	✓
<u>To what extent</u> is Source A <u>similar</u> to Source B?	✓	✓
<u>To what extent</u> is Source A <u>different</u> from Source B?	✓	✓
<u>How far</u> are Sources A and B <u>similar</u> ?	✓	✓
<u>How far</u> are Sources A and B <u>different</u> ?	✓	✓

Answering technique: **PEEEEL**

1. Identify requirements of question
2. Identify common criterion from both sources (category & inferences of both sources)
 - 1) Provenance (origin)
 - 2) Content (information, message, viewpoint)
 - 3) Tone (tone word + issue)
 - 4) Purpose (vMAO)
3. Answering structure
 - **P**oint + keyword + common criteria
 - **E**vidence + **E**xplanation of 1st source
 - **E**vidence + **E**xplanation of 2nd source
 - **L**ink

Sources A and B are similar in terms of _____. Both sources are _____.

OR

Sources A and B are different in terms of _____. Source A is _____, whereas Source B is _____.

PEEL for Source A

PEEL for Source B

Therefore, (Link – repeat point line).

Would a poverty line help Singaporeans with low income?

Background information

There was a lot of debate over whether the government needs to implement a poverty line in Singapore. A poverty line is defined as the estimated minimum level of income needed to secure the necessities of life such as food, shelter and education. However, the challenge is at which level of income the poverty line should be drawn.

Source A: *A response from the Minister for Social and Family Development to a question in Parliament in 2013 over the poverty line*

A poverty line does not fully reflect the severity and complexity of the issues faced by poor families, which could include ill health, lack of housing or weak family relationships. If we use a single poverty line to assess the family, we also risk a “cliff effect”, where those below the poverty line receive all forms of assistance, while other genuinely needy citizens outside the poverty line are excluded. Our assessment process is rigorous but also flexible to cater to the genuinely needy. Singaporeans who do not meet scheme criteria but who still deserve help, can receive assistance.

Source B: *Excerpt from a blogger’s response to the government’s decision not to have a poverty line in Singapore, December 2013*

Those below the poverty line will naturally receive more attention and support while the attention given to those above the poverty line can be lesser in accordance to their income level. A “cliff effect” can be easily avoided. Schemes such as Workfare can continue to function and support even those above the poverty line. It is not a matter of choosing those below the poverty line and losing the others. A poverty line will help measure the number of Singapore families who actually need support, and provide a benchmark for how the country can improve the on-the-ground situation.

Source C: *An excerpt from a researcher’s report on poverty in Singapore in 2011*

While Singapore has no official poverty line, there are several different numbers commonly discussed that can provide a frame of reference. It has been estimated that a family of four would need \$1700 to cover basic costs of living. A household income level of \$1500 is the threshold level specified by the Ministry of Community, Youth and Sports (MCYS) that determines household eligibility for many of the support programmes funded through the Community Care Endowment Fund (ComCare Fund). About 12 percent to 14 percent of Singapore households live under the most conservative unofficial poverty line of \$1500. With 1.09 million Singapore households in 2008, that’s more than 131000 Singapore households living in deprived circumstances.

Source D: *Adapted from newspaper report in October 2014 about poverty situation in Singapore*

There is not enough information to draw a poverty line in Singapore. Are people really poor when they do not have regular income? Many in the bottom 20 percent of income scale live in four-room or bigger flats. If so, could they sell their flats and downgrade? Or do they have enough assets and savings to live comfortably? In recent years, Singapore has begun sharing more fruits of its economic success with the old and the poor. Government transfers to the needy have increased. Eligibility criteria are now more generous. There are many more schemes to help the poor. More clarity on the needs, numbers and profiles of poorer households may help to better gauge the effectiveness of help schemes. Singapore may not need a single poverty line, but as society ages and income gaps widen, it needs more information on the poor, for sure.

Study Sources A and B. How do the sources differ on the effectiveness of having a poverty line in Singapore? [7]

P:	Source A and B are different (<i>key word</i>) in terms of the effectiveness of having a poverty line in Singapore (<i>common criteria</i>) as Source A tells me that a poverty line is not effective (<i>inference</i>) as it may not be able to accurately identify all the families in need of financial help (<i>reason</i>). On the other hand, Source B tells me that a poverty line is effective (<i>inference</i>) as it facilitates the measuring and rendering of financial assistance to families with different degrees of need (<i>reason</i>).
Ev:	Source A states that "If we use a single poverty line to assess the family, we also risk a 'cliff effect', where those below the poverty line receive all forms of assistance, while other genuinely needy citizens outside the poverty line are excluded." (<i>evidence</i>)
Ex:	This suggests that a poverty line leads to a clear line of separation between those who require assistance, and those who do not, which may be inaccurate. This runs the risk of excluding families who are in need due to other factors such as family conflict, which cannot be captured by using a poverty line as a benchmark for needs assessment. (<i>explanation</i>) Hence, Source A tells me that having a poverty line in Singapore is ineffective in helping Singaporeans with low-incomes.
Ev:	On the other hand, Source B states that 'Those below the poverty line will naturally receive more attention and support while the attention given to those above the poverty line can be lesser in accordance to their income level.' (<i>evidence</i>)
Ex:	This suggests that a poverty line enables a fairer and more accurate assessment of the needs of low income families, allowing them to receive the right amount of assistance. (<i>explanation</i>) Hence, Source B tells me that having a poverty line is effective in helping Singaporeans with low-incomes.
L:	Thus, Source A and B are different in terms of the effectiveness of having a poverty line in Singapore. (<i>link</i>)

Skill #3: Reliability

Steps to assess reliability:

Step	Explanation
1. Infer content & evaluate	1) Analyse source 2) Infer message (refer to question for focus topic) 3) Use keyword (as stand) in P 4) Answering structure: <u>PEEEEL</u> / <u>PEEL</u>
2. Use a tool	1) Cross reference to other sources 2) Tone 3) Purpose 4) Motive

Tools:

Tool	Explanation
1. Cross reference	Look for other sources → support / contradict given source
2. Tone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show only 1 viewpoint • Show many different viewpoints • Loaded language • Overly supportive / bias
3. Purpose	Provenance / BI / context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who created the source? (Author) • Where / When was source created? • For whom was source created? (Audience) • What is main message of source? • What actions did writer want intended audience to take after reading source? (Outcome)
4. Motive	Provenance / BI / context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selfish • For OR Against <u>personal interests</u> / gain

How far do Singaporeans view foreign manpower as valuable additions to the workforce?

Background information

The hotly debated topic about whether Singapore needs foreigners to boost its population has been going on for quite some time. It has been widely debated because the inflow of foreigners into Singapore affects almost all groups of people in Singapore society - from the government, the employers, the local working population, to the students.

Source A: A student's opinion about foreign manpower who is about to enter the workforce

I understand that Singapore is indeed in need of foreign manpower, especially with the increasing ageing population. Yet I am conflicted whether I should support the policy wholeheartedly as I will be facing great competition from them. I think the Singapore government should make it into law that Singaporeans be hired first, given priority in schools and ensure housing to remain affordable for most of us. My friends and I who are graduating this year already feel that we don't belong in Singapore and that employers would prefer to hire a supposedly better-educated foreigner than to give us the opportunity to show what we can do.

Source B: A cartoon on a Singaporean's perspective towards foreign workforce



Source C: *A comment on foreign manpower in an online survey of what Singaporeans think about foreign manpower*

Personally, I feel that foreign manpower in Singapore does contribute to the economic growth of our country, bringing with them expertise and knowledge that may not be presently available here. But on the other hand, some others are not doing the same. Definitely, there is a need for foreign manpower in Singapore as they complement the existing local workforce. Just like Singaporeans who go overseas as foreign manpower themselves. We must recognise their contribution if they do. If we can feel proud of our Singaporeans going overseas as foreign manpower, then we can also accept others who come here to contribute as foreign manpower.

Source D: *A retrenched worker commenting on the topic of foreign manpower in Singapore*

I vehemently disagree totally with the constant outsourcing of work to foreigners. There is a prejudice amongst employers that Caucasian executives are “outgoing”, more “creative”, more “intelligent”, etc, than our locals. This is not true as our locals have the capability to match these foreigners and do what they can do. They are absolutely ignorant about our local work conditions? They bring with them their supposedly “superior” knowledge and skills to put on performance only! Why do we need these foreigners when we can trust locals to lead and direct?

Study source A.

How **reliable** is Source A as evidence about how Singaporeans view foreign manpower? Explain your answer.

Cross reference:

- [P] Source A is unreliable because when I cross refer to Source C, Source C contradicts what Source A says. Source A suggests that Singaporeans view foreign manpower as competitors in the job market, while Source C suggests that foreign manpower is beneficial to Singapore.
- [EVA] Source A states that ‘employers would prefer to hire a supposedly better-educated foreigner than to give us the opportunity to show what we can do.’
- [EXA] This suggests that employers tend to hire foreigners over locals and this brings no benefit to the locals. As such, the locals view foreigners as competitors in the job market.
- [EVC] On the other hand, Source C states ‘Definitely there is a need for foreign manpower in Singapore as they complement the existing local workforce.’
- [EXC] This suggests that foreign manpower is welcomed in Singapore as they are contributing positively to the progress of our country. Hence, they are not viewed as competitors in the job market.
- [L] Since Source C contradicts Source A by saying that foreign manpower contributes positively to and is beneficial for Singapore, Source A is not reliable as evidence of how Singaporeans view foreign manpower as competitors in the job market.

Motive explained:

- [P] Source A is unreliable because it has a motive. Source A suggests that Singaporeans view foreign manpower as competitors in the job market. As this source is an opinion of a student who is about to enter the workforce, he may be worried and hence is expressing his concerns in the hope that the authorities (government) will be alerted to the situation and would do something to rectify the problem (pass a law) so that he will be able to find a job quickly after his graduation.
- [Ev] Source A is an opinion of a student who is about to graduate and join the workforce. Source A states that 'I think the Singapore government should make it into law that Singaporeans be hired first, given priority in schools and ensure housing to remain affordable for most of us.'
- [Ex] This suggests that employers tend to hire foreigners over locals and as such the locals view foreigners as competitors in the job market. This student is probably expressing his concerns and the threat he felt from the competition faced in the job market. By highlighting his predicament that he may not get a job easily upon graduation as he might lose out to the foreigners, he wants the authorities (government) to review the practice (by passing a law) of employers choosing to only hire foreigners over locals so that it will be addressed and he will be able to get a job quickly when he graduates.
- [L] Hence, since Source A has an agenda / motive and is trying to further his own personal interest, Source A is not reliable, as evidence about Singaporeans viewing foreign manpower as competitors in the job market.

Study Source D.

How reliable is Source D as evidence about how Singaporeans view foreign manpower?

Cross reference:

- [P] Source D is unreliable because when I cross refer to Source C, Source C contradicts what Source D says.
Source D suggests that Singaporeans view foreign manpower as competitors in the job market, who are unnecessary as locals are just as capable, while Source C suggests that foreign manpower is beneficial to Singapore.
- [Ev] Source D states that 'This is not true as our locals have the capability to match these foreigners and do what they can do.'
- [Ex] This suggests that Singaporeans are just as qualified as foreigners. He is therefore unhappy that they are favoured by employers and often hired over locals.
Hence, the source suggests that Singaporeans see foreign manpower as competitors in the job market and think they are unnecessary as locals have the same level of skills and knowledge.
- [Ev] On the other hand, Source C states that 'Definitely there is a need for foreign manpower in Singapore as they complement the existing local workforce.'
- [Ex] This suggests that foreign manpower is welcomed in Singapore as they can contribute positively to the progress of our country.
Hence, they are not viewed as competitors in the job market.
- [L] Since Source C contradicts Source D by saying that foreign manpower contributes positively to and is beneficial for Singapore, Source D is not reliable as evidence of how Singaporeans view foreign manpower as competitors in the job market.

Tone:

- [P] Source D is unreliable as the author uses a critical tone towards foreign manpower.
Source D views foreign manpower as competitors for jobs and that they are not necessary as the locals have the same expertise and knowledge.
- [Ev] Source D states that 'This is not true as our locals have the capability to match these foreigners and do what they can do.'
- [Ex] This suggests that the author does not agree that Singaporeans are worse than foreigners. He is unhappy with foreign manpower and how they are perceived to be better when in reality they may lack the skills and knowledge that Singaporeans have.
He does not think that foreign manpower is necessary as locals are able to perform as well as the foreigners.
- [T] In addition, the author shows his disdain with the foreigners through the use of sarcasm.
The use of extreme words such as 'vehemently disagree totally', 'absolutely ignorant' and 'supposedly superior' are used to emphasise and exaggerate how he feels. It shows that

he is hostile towards them.

Moreover, he uses words such as “outgoing”, “creative” and “intelligent” in inverted commas to describe the foreign manpower. This would mean that he does not think that they reflect these qualities. Such loaded language reflects his disapproval and displeasure with foreign manpower.

- [L] Since Source D has a critical tone towards foreign manpower, there will be biasedness in the way he views foreign manpower.
Hence, Source D is unreliable as evidence about Singaporeans viewing foreign manpower as competitors in the job market.

Motive (explain content + provenance):

- [P] Source D is unreliable because it has a motive.
Source D suggests that Singaporeans view foreign manpower as competitors in the job market.
- [Int] As this source is an opinion of a retrenched worker, he may be bitter from his own personal experience of being retrenched, possibly due to employers favouring foreign manpower. Hence, he is seeking to criticise foreign manpower and emphasise that they are not as capable as Singaporeans in the hope that he will find it easier to find a new job.
- [Cnt] Source D states that ‘This is not true as our locals have the capability to match these foreigners and do what they can do.’

This suggests that the author does not agree that Singaporeans are less qualified than foreigners. He is unhappy with foreign manpower and how they are perceived to be better as in reality they may lack the skills and knowledge that Singaporeans have.
He therefore sees them as competitors who are unnecessary in Singapore’s workforce.

- [Prv] As this source is an opinion of a retrenched worker, he may be bitter and upset from his own personal experience of being retrenched when many employers are favouring foreign manpower over locals. He therefore uses extreme words such as ‘vehemently disagree’, ‘totally’, ‘absolutely ignorant’ and sarcasm in phrases such as ‘supposedly superior’ to paint foreign manpower in a negative light and emphasise that they are in fact not as capable as locals.
- [Int] In criticising foreign manpower through the use of extreme and negative language, he hopes that more locals will be considered instead of foreign manpower, thus improving his chances of getting a new job.
- [L] Hence, Source D has an agenda / motive and tries to further his own personal interest. Source D may be biased and thus not reliable as evidence about Singaporeans viewing foreign manpower as competitors in the job market.

Background information

In April 2020, the number of coronavirus in the U.S.A. had passed 1 million cases with the death
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rate surpassing 50,000, hence becoming the highest infection rate outside of China. The Trump administration has been criticised for its slow response in handling the outbreak and undermining the scientific expertise for economic and political purposes. Trump has also been blamed for not wanting to implement the lockdown in the country earlier. Trump, on the other hand, blamed WHO for failing to provide the information needed to stem the pandemic and for being complacent towards China. He announced that the USA will cut the financial support to WHO. Around this time, Trump also alleged that the coronavirus originated from a Wuhan laboratory, suggesting that the virus could have been a biological weapon and that China had wanted him to lose his re-election bid in November.

Source A: An extract from remarks made by President Donald Trump at the White House Coronavirus Press Briefing, 23 April 2020.

So, suppose we hit the body with a tremendous - whether it's ultraviolet or just very powerful light - and I think you said that that hasn't been checked, but you're going to test it. And then I said, suppose you brought the light inside the body, which you can do either through the skin or in some other way, and I think you said you're going to test that too. It sounds interesting.

Right. And then I see the disinfectant, where it knocks it out in a minute. One minute. And is there a way we can do something like that, by injection inside or almost a cleaning. Because you see it gets in the lungs and it does a tremendous number on the lungs. So it would be interesting to check that.

So we'll see. But the whole concept of the light, the way it kills it in one minute, that's - that's pretty powerful.

Source B: A response to Trump's suggestion of using disinfectant to treat Covid-19, 24 April 2020

The American Cleaning Institute, representing the US cleaning products industry, said in a statement, "Disinfectants are meant to kill germs or viruses on hard surfaces. Under no circumstances should they ever be used on one's skin, ingested or injected internally, as they could be lethal."

Cross-reference: similar to comparison skill

- [P] Source A is unreliable because when I cross refer to Source B, Source B contradicts what Source A says. Source A suggests that ultraviolet light and ingesting disinfectants can offer effective and immediate treatment of the coronavirus, while Source B suggests that ultraviolet light and ingesting disinfectants is ineffective in treating coronavirus and could bring harm.

Tone:

- [P] Source A is unreliable as it is an overly confident tone towards a treatment which had

been untested. Source A suggests that the use of ultraviolet light and disinfectants could provide an immediate cure for the coronavirus, but it has not been medically tested.

Purpose: check for intended purpose

- [P] Source A is unreliable because by saying this, Trump may have wanted to assure the Americans that his government has a treatment for the virus and is able to contain the outbreak so that people will continue to trust in his administration.

Motive: check for personal interests / hidden agenda

- [P] Source A is unreliable because it has a motive. Source A suggests that there is a quick and immediate treatment for Covid-19. As this source is from Trump whose administration has been criticised for their poor handling of the outbreak, he may be worried that the Americans may not continue to support him in the upcoming Presidential election. By offering an immediate solution to Covid-19, he hopes to regain the confidence of the Americans and secure their votes for him in the election.

Skill #4: Evaluation

Steps to approach question:

Step	Explanation
1. Unpack statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlight key terms in statement Use 5W1H to break down terms (WHO? WHY? HOW?)
2. Analyse all sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlight evidence Decide if source <u>agree / disagree</u> with statement, or both
3. Planning (T-chart)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sort out sources Pick out key ideas that address statement, jot them down (inference)
4. Write PEEL para + option	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PEEL paragraph: inference of source (CANNOT overlap) 1 source 1 PEEL (do not lump explanation together) +2 bonus

Unpack statement

'Singapore's integration policies have been successful.'	'Globalisation of culture has positive effects.'	'With Covid-19 vaccines, the pandemic can be successfully contained.'
Integration → which area? Integration policies Have been → already successful (present / current) Successful → effective → works (observable outcome) → evidences of integration → peace, no conflicts	Positive / negative effects → specify what exactly is the positive / negative effect Effects → different effect for each source	Even with vaccines, cannot contain → unwilling to jab Can contain LINK to can / cannot Look for inf in source → link to statement
Successful because different <u>rac</u> es (WHO) have friendly relations (WHAT). (SPECIFIC from source) → LINK to MAIN STATEMENT (HOW)	Positive effects on citizens (WHO) as ... (WHAT effect) Negative effects on business (WHO) as ... (WHAT effect)	

Has harmony been achieved in Singapore?

Background information

Singapore is becoming an increasingly diverse society due to the number of migrants and immigrants who have chosen Singapore as a place to work, study or make their home. As a result, it has created more opportunities for interaction and communication between them and Singaporeans.

While some Singaporeans welcome the addition of the immigrants, others are more fearful of the possible competition they may face. The influx of foreigners has put a growing strain on jobs, housing and transportation. There has also been increasing news reports that highlight the friction between Singaporeans and foreigners.

Source A: *Interview with British permanent residents living in Singapore*

A British director of a technology company felt that foreigners here are being tolerated, not welcomed, “and because of that ... we tend to put our heads down, take our salary, pay our taxes, and we’re grateful for our lifestyles and we try not to create ripples,” said the 43-year-old.

Another person shared an incident that happened five years ago: a parked car along the street in the estate where he had stayed was blocking traffic. He asked the couple sitting in the car if they could move the vehicle. What greeted him next was a string of vulgarities from the car owner, telling him to go back to his own country. “The funny thing is, that was my home. So he came into my estate and was blocking the traffic, yet he was abusing me.”

Source B: *An excerpt from an interview with a Singaporean and a foreigner.*

Greg Gomes, a 66-year-old Singaporean says that he enjoys having foreigners around, especially those who make an effort to understand local culture. He has become good friends with his neighbour despite their age difference.

Since Marius moved into a HDB flat in Woodlands, Greg has prepared many Singaporean meals for him and enjoys teaching him colloquialisms. Greg raves about how well Marius can now say “wah lau eh” and can take enough spice to rival any Singaporean.

Marius talks about his experiences with Greg’s family. “Greg and his family sometimes use some Singlish expressions that I don’t get, but of course they explain it. They also say ‘you need to try this dish’, which are things I might have missed if they hadn’t mentioned it. They explained cultural behaviours to me which really helped me understand Singaporean culture and people a lot better.”

Source C: *An excerpt from an article published in the local paper.*

When Singaporeans turn unfriendly, Chinese national Jiang Kang Ning, 42, finds it difficult to swallow. That happened once when he was lost in the alleys of Geylang. He asked an older Singaporean woman for directions but she snapped at him, saying “We’re not like you Chinese people. Our streets aren’t that complicated!”

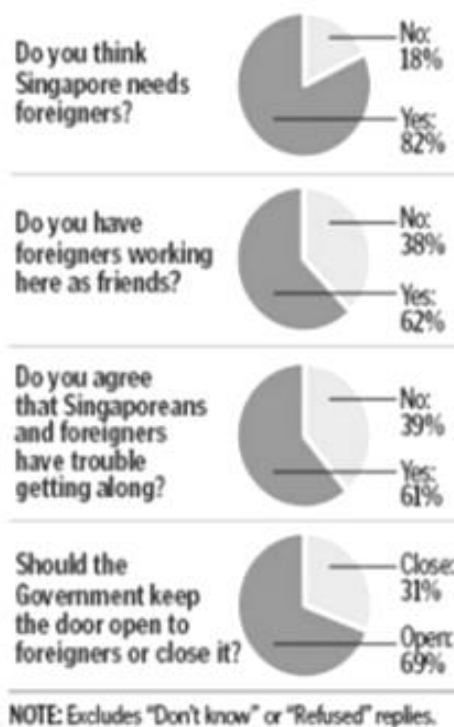
Mr Jiang, who has worked here for four years, found her hostility ‘unnecessary’.

I’m not saying that all Singaporeans are nasty but I’m just here to work and earn a living ... I work 12-hour shifts, and the pay isn’t so much higher than back in Shanghai,’ he says.

Source D: A photograph of migrant workers having a meal at a Singaporean home.



Source E: A poll, published on *Straits Times*, on Singapore citizens’ sentiments towards foreigners.



‘Interactions in a diverse Singapore have been positive.’

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

[10]

T-chart:

AGREE Interactions in a diverse Singapore have been positive		DISAGREE Interactions in a diverse Singapore have not been positive	
Friendly relationships, mutual learning	B	A	Hostile relations, locals are unwelcoming towards foreigners, aggressive behaviour
Willingness to accept one another	D	C	Tensions, prejudiced views, discriminatory actions
Get along well, good relationships	E	E	Disagreements / tensions exist

PEEL
(Agree)

Source B agrees with the statement as it suggests that foreigners and Singaporeans are willing to learn from and accept each other in society. Source B states that 'he has become good friends with his neighbour despite their age difference'. This suggests that the foreigner is willing to integrate into the local society, and the locals are also very welcoming towards them. They demonstrate a mutual respect between both parties as they are willing to learn from each other. Hence, this suggests that interactions have been positive in a diverse Singapore.

PEEL
(Disagree)

Source A disagrees with the statement as it suggests that hostility exists between foreigners and Singaporeans which may lead to conflicts. Source A describes the experience of a British permanent resident who was 'greeted with a string of vulgarities' and 'told to go back to his own country' when he asked a Singaporean who was blocking traffic if he could move his car away. He was shocked at the verbal abuse coming from the local. This suggests that Singaporeans are extremely unwelcoming of foreigners, and would not hesitate to express it through rude comments and aggressive behaviour. As such, foreigners feel upset and disappointed at the antagonistic reactions from locals, resulting in tense relations / resentment / strained relationships that may lead to further conflict. Hence, Source A suggests that interactions in a diverse Singapore have not been positive.

Options: +2 BONUS (no need to quote evidence)

Reliability / Utility + Sufficiency (use 1 source)	Share example from contextual knowledge (tag to 1 source)	Balanced conclusion / resolution
Must have L2 for source used <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannot repeat same reliability answer from earlier questions • Can use source in different way • Cannot use cross-reference to check reliability 	Must have L2 for source used <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use real life examples from articles 	Must have L3 (at least 1 agree + 1 disagree) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOT summary of arguments • Present stand + consider all perspectives • Weigh different perspectives • Resolution → suggestions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reliability: how much can I trust the source? • Utility: how useful is the source in helping me answer the question? • Sufficiency: is the source alone enough to give a full picture? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Example must be RELEVANT to source used • Use KNOWN examples (e.g. published in newspapers) • Avoid trivial personal anecdotes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weighing both sides + take a STAND • RESOLUTION can be offered (depending on issue) → cannot be from source
Source A is reliable / unreliable in ... as it has a (tone / purpose / tone). Source A is useful as it reflects ... Source A is sufficient to show ...	I agree with Source A that ... as (reason for agree / disagree). I have seen an increasing number of incidents / instances ... Hence, I agree with Source A that ... as (reason for agree / disagree).	Though the sources show both positive and negative ..., it is still generally positive / negative in our society. While we see ..., however ... (Explain stand with common criteria) Efforts have been made to manage ... more can be done ... a possible resolution is ...

Is safeguarding citizens' health the government's top priority during the COVID-19 situation?

Background information

On 23 January 2020, Singapore announced its first COVID-19 case, becoming one of the first countries to be affected by the virus outside China. The government acted swiftly by closing its borders, and introducing strict measures, such as the circuit breaker in April 2020, to control the outbreak. To complement these measures, both technology and human resources were used extensively for contact tracing and quarantining. One year on, digital solutions such as the TraceTogether app and SafeEntry system remain a key feature in the government's management of the situation.

In early August 2021, the government announced plans to ease COVID-19 restrictions on daily life and begin slightly loosening border controls with rising vaccination coverage. Many Singaporeans welcomed the news as the repeated on-off imposition of restrictions has caused considerable social and economic hardship for individuals and businesses. However, some remain concerned that opening up could lead to the introduction of new variants into the country, putting lives at risk.

Source A: *An infographic showing the number of community cases in Singapore, published in The Strait Times on 12 June 2020.*

Source B: *From a report by Channel News Asia on the challenges faced by Singapore business owners in sustaining their businesses during the pandemic, 26 April 2021.*

At the height of the pandemic last year, the biggest challenge for business owners was to find ways to continue paying their bills despite plummeting revenues.

With physical stores not allowed to open during the circuit breaker, followed by low footfall even after the gradual reopening of the economy, entrepreneurs in the retail sector said they had to turn to e-commerce.

Ms Foo, a retail owner, said while wage subsidies through the Government's Jobs Support Scheme (JSS) has helped him pay his staff and retain them till February this year, and the four months of mandated rental waiver gave him a breather to pivot online, he was not able to get a bank loan to help him tide through his cash flow problems.

Source C: *From a social media post by a prominent local food consultant and hawker champion, Mr K.F. Seetoh. Mr Seetoh is also the founder of Makansutra, a company that runs Gluttons Bay, an outdoor food court at the Singapore Esplanade.*

This reality is very overlooked. A lot of hawkers, and I mean plenty plenty, are not online nor on anything except prayers and hopes. They still sit there with all their food nicely laid out and prettily lit, waiting for the inevitable to happen. Permanent closure. The rental rebates aren't helping as the real cost, even to stay afloat, is way more. Remember, they fed generations of Singaporeans – often they went unappreciated.

I ask that you, if you eat out a lot, please patronise these silent sufferers (some are stubborn, like your ageing parents), they need help. Ignore their cranky ways and just buy and eat back home or in the workplace. They will appreciate it deep down inside. Even if you want to cook at home,

please buy your stuff from the wet markets. They are hawkers too and need your patronage as well.

Source D: *A statement by Minister Gan Kim Yong, co-chair of the multi-ministry taskforce, published in The Strait Times on 10 June 2021.*

Reopening Singapore's local community and restarting the economy in a safe manner is the Government's immediate priority before border measures can be eased.

Only after the local situation is stable will Singapore have space and capacity to think about how its borders can be relaxed, Trade and Industry Minister Gan Kim Yong, who co-chairs the multi-ministry taskforce tackling the Covid-19 pandemic, said in a virtual press conference on Thursday (June 10).

"In the immediate future, or the next couple of weeks, our focus is ... opening up our local community and restarting our economy, allowing more people to gather and allowing dining in to commence."

Singapore is also ramping up its vaccination programme to protect the local population, as well as stepping up its testing and contact-tracing capabilities.

With these enhanced capabilities, it will allow the nation to relook its border control measures.

Source E: *An extract from an article published on an alternative news website which provides contrasting views to mainstream media, 17 July 2021.*

The recent outbreak of infections at KTV outlets across Singapore shows that those in charge of the Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) are hugely incompetent in the task entrusted to them.

If this pandemic was to be a biological warfare, then our country would be doomed by now.

While the global fight against the pandemic rages on, it was foolish, or even arrogant, of the MTF to reclassify the pandemic as an endemic*.

By using endemic instead of pandemic to push our economy back to the new norms of post Covid-19, the MTF has foolishly given the presumption that it is going to be business-as-usual, come what may, and we have to be brave about it.

Now that the infections have escalated out of control, it is even more frustrating for Singaporeans when the new measures announced by the MTF mean that there will be more dark days ahead.

**endemic – disease that is constantly present within a population, with infection rates maintained at a predictable rate*

‘Government measures have met the interests of the citizens.’

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

[10]

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Agree</u> (Government measures have met the interests of the citizens)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Disagree</u> (Government measures have not met the interests of the citizens)</p>
<p>Source B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source B agrees with the statement because it suggests that measures such as wage subsidies and rental waiver have helped business owners sustain their businesses. Source B states that ‘wage subsidies through the Government’s Jobs Support Scheme (JSS) had helped him pay his staff and retain them till February this year, and four months of mandated rental waiver gave him a breather to pivot online.’ This suggests that business owners can tap onto different types of government measures to get financial support to offset the costs incurred while running their businesses. With this support given, business owners can stretch their dollar for a longer time and have time to adapt and find alternative ways of running their business. This also helps to sustain their employees’ livelihood, thus helping to meet the interests of citizens. 	<p>Source C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source C disagrees with the statement because it suggests that measures such as rental rebates were not sufficient to help hawkers sustain their businesses. Source C states that ‘The rental rebates aren’t helping as real cost, even to stay afloat, is way more.’ This suggests that the hawkers’ interests are not met as the rental rebates offered to them are insufficient to help them tide over this difficult period. Due to the restrictions in dining in, coupled with citizens’ concerns with exposure when going out, hawkers are facing fewer customers. Hence, even with the rental rebates from the government, they are unable to earn enough to cover their costs of running a stall. Thus, some hawkers will have to close their stalls for good and they will lose their source of income.
<p>Source D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source D agrees with the statement because it suggests that the vaccination programme will be intensified to include more people which would help to build up the resilience of Singapore to the virus. Source D states that ‘Singapore is also ramping up its vaccination programme to protect the local population, as well as stepping up its testing and contact-tracing capabilities.’ This suggests that with a range of measures in place, Singapore will be better equipped to deal with the virus and manage the spread of infection. With more people getting vaccinated, there is a lesser chance of Singaporeans getting infected or getting seriously ill from the virus. 	<p>Source E</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source E disagrees with the statement because it suggests that reclassifying Covid-19 as endemic will cause Covid-19 to spread in Singapore. Source E states that ‘Now that the infections have escalated out of control, it is even more frustrating for Singaporeans when the new measures announced by the MTF mean that there will be more dark days ahead.’ This suggests that following the reclassification of Covid-19 as endemic, new measures to allow Singapore’s economy to open up will be implemented. This will lead to more problems in Singapore as opening up will lead

Hence, by reducing transmission risks, more Singaporeans will remain healthy, thus meeting the interests of citizens.

to higher rates of infection as the virus will spread more easily, especially with the opening up of borders. This will affect more people and cause more people to fall sick. Thus, it does not meet the interests of the citizens as there will be more health concerns and distress as citizens may have to revert back to stricter measures.

+2 option

Reliability / utility + sufficiency	Example from contextual knowledge	Balanced conclusion / resolution

‘Governments are able to effectively manage the security challenges.’

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

[10]

(2021 CCHMS Prelim)

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Agree</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Governments are able to manage security challenges effectively)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Disagree</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Governments are unable to manage security challenges effectively)</i></p>
<p>Source B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source B agrees with the statement because it suggests that the Singapore government has managed to increase citizens' capabilities in managing the threats of terrorism through the launch of SG Secure. Source B states that 'It said the anti-terrorism movement SG Secure, which was launched in 2016, has helped to sensitise, train and mobilise the community in the fight against terror.' This suggests that the government is highly aware of the dangers and threats faced in our society. In response to the threat, steps had been taken to increase their own capabilities as well as expansion of their measures to include the whole community for more comprehensive coverage in detecting and reporting suspicious persons or articles to the authorities before any threat is to happen. This will reduce the threats of self-radicalisation to the lowest level. At the same time, the movement also educates the community on the ways to respond in an event of an attack to minimise live loss. Hence, the government is able to manage effectively. 	<p>Source A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source A disagrees with the statement because it suggests that the authorities are not able to detect potential suspects due to the lack of training, which led to self-radicalised individuals getting away scoff free. This increases the risk of potential attacks in the society threatening the safety of citizens. Source A depicts a cartoon where the authorities say 'We are only equipped to search for terror group activity. Sorry to bother you.' to the driver of the truck which represents the lone wolves terrorism. This suggests that the government failed to detect the lone wolves in their midst and they got scoff free to launch their attack in which innocent lives would be lost. Hence, governments are not able to manage effectively.

Source C

Source B

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source C agrees with the statement because the Professor's proposed suggestions reflected the government's authority and means to implement measures to fill the existing gaps in order to stop the sources of self-radicalisation at its root. • Source C states that 'Dr Rohan Gunaratna, Professor of Security Studies at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, said a mix of regulations and education is needed to counter online self-radicalisation.' • This suggests that the government has the authority and power to implement laws or institutionalise education curriculum to reduce the spread of ideology online, • limiting the potential exposure in brainwashing individuals, thereby reducing the threats of self-radicalised individuals. • Given that the government is able to have control over the situation, they are able to manage effectively. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source B disagrees with the statement because the government is appealing for community help in detecting suspects of self-radicalised individuals. • Source B states that 'Public vigilance remains key to the detection of self-radicalised individuals.' • This suggests that the government is unable to detect every suspect and needs the cooperation of other stakeholders. • The appeal reflects the government's lack of confidence as they are not at the ground 24/7 unlike the community, hence the role of community is more effective to be the first line of defence as the eyes and ears for the authorities. They are their informants to report cases of radicalisation so that any potential threats can be diffused before it turns into a tragedy. • Therefore, governments are unable to manage effectively.
<p>Source D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source D agrees with the statement because the government has taken steps to regulate cyberspace and even started education programmes to counter youth radicalisation in face of the rising trends, which serve to prevent the situation from getting worse. • Source D states that 'In 2017, the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore, MUIS, set up the Asatizah Youth Network (AYN) to offer support and guidance to our youths on social media.' • This suggests that the Singapore government has taken actions to help youths be more discerning and be cautious on the teaching online that may brainwash them and provide assistance to help them out in such situations. • As such, they will not be misled into self-radicalisation and they can be brought back to the right path to avoid extreme ideas taking root. Given that this is a counter-terrorism symposium in the region, governments' sharing of best practices is able to help each other to strengthen their counter terrorism capabilities. • Therefore, governments are able to manage effectively. 	<p>Source C</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source C disagrees with the statement because the Professor suggested the need for the government to work with other stakeholders such as technology companies and educational sectors to close gaps. • Source C states that 'He called for the government to work with technology companies, such as Facebook, to remove content related to terrorists and extremists, but also for the religious space here to be regulated – to ensure and maintain religious harmony.' • This suggests that there are existing gaps in the government's measure which is the lack of regulation and control over cyberspace. • As such, the threat of self-radicalisation is still present in cyberspace which has yet to be tackled. Online radicalisation is still ongoing. Therefore, the call reflected the importance of involving other stakeholders to strengthen the government's existing measures in order to be up to date and prevent radicalisation of individuals to take place online which governments do not have

	<p>direct control over at this point in time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hence, governments are not able to manage effectively.
<p>Source E</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source E agrees with the statement because governments have joined hands to stop the source of self-radicalisation materials in cyberspace around the world. Source E states that 'Along with France, New Zealand is leading a push to rid the world of extremist and terrorist content online – known as the Christchurch Call.' This suggests that with the joint efforts of governments around the world, the extremists' ideologies can be stemmed out to reduce the spread of such ideologies, leading to less self-radicalisation in their society and hence less risk of terror attacks. Given the collective voices and support by governments in the world, the effectiveness of the initiative will be higher with the unity and common interests shared by them to push for success. There is also greater bargaining power to speak to the technology giants to stop the transnational nature of terrorism. Therefore, governments can manage the security challenges more effectively. 	<p>Source F</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source F disagrees with the statement because the governments are responsible for encouraging hate speeches and ideologies against the Muslim community that causes extremists to breed in their societies. Source F states that "Irresponsible politicians and media organs that encourage 'xenophobia, Islamophobic tendencies and hate speech against Muslims are as much as responsible for the attacks on two mosques in New Zealand as the 'despicable' assailants." Politicians were cited as one of the reasons for self-radicalisation. This suggests that governments are the culprits in inciting negative sentiments in societies that led to self-radicalised individuals. Since they are the cause of it, they are the ones introducing the divide, tension and threats of self-radicalisation. Hence, governments cannot manage the security challenges effectively.

+2 option

Reliability / utility + sufficiency	Example from contextual knowledge	Balanced conclusion / resolution
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Reliability (Source A – using tone)

I disagree with Source A as Source A is unreliable due to its overly critical tone in mocking the American government for their inability to detect self-radicalised individuals. Given the cartoonist's displeasure towards the American government by depicting them as incapable, it reflected his biases against the government's effort and government's ability. Hence, Source A will be unreliable to establish if governments can effectively manage security challenges.

Utility + sufficiency (Sources A – F)

Sources A to F are useful in telling us the level of success of the government in a specific country. However, one example of a government able to manage the security challenges in one country does not reflect the same level of success in other countries. Hence, it is insufficient for us to conclude that governments can effectively manage security threats. In addition, with the evolving threats being ever challenging, governments' ability to manage security challenges now may not translate to the ability to manage in the future.

I agree with Source B that governments can effectively manage security challenges as they have been able to foil the attacks before tragedy happened in the past few years. For example, in Singapore, a 16-year-old Singaporean student has been detained under the Internal Security Act (ISA) for planning to attack two mosques and kill worshippers in Singapore on March 15 this year – the second anniversary of the Christchurch terror attacks. The Internal Security Department was able to detain him before the attack happened when his friends and family were not even aware of his plan.

While some governments are able to manage security challenges more effectively as they have prevented attacks, it is impossible to identify all self-radicalised individuals. It will not be 100% full proof even for the most successful government in the world. This is because ideology is invisible and with a single actor, the traces and signs are kept hidden by the individual, which makes it even harder to detect. Given that we are living in a digital world where the speed and the nature of cyberspaces facilitate the speed of extreme ideology easily, this creates a tension in the regulation of cyberspace to ensure security as it will affect the other aspects of society such as the ease of doing businesses with regulation. In addition, the complex nature of relationships in society between diverse groups of people also played a part in promoting self-radicalisation. Hence, the causes of security challenges are multi-faceted.

This calls for the governments to work with multiple stakeholders in order to manage the challenges effectively. Prevention measures, such as community engagement activities to help people in the society build understanding and friendship, should be included as it ensures the social harmony and strong bonds between the communities to work hand in hand for greater effectiveness.

Skill #5: Surprise

Tools:

1. **Content + expectation**
2. **Cross reference** (clear MATCH + accurate STAND)
3. **Purpose** (VAMO + context)
4. **Motive**

✓ I am not surprised by Source D because when I cross refer to Source C, they have similar views on the importance of regulating online materials to prevent self-radicalisation.
(clear MATCH + accurate STAND)

✗ I am surprised by Source D because when I cross refer to Source C, they have differing views. Source D suggests that online materials help to fuel self-radicalisation but Source C suggests that action must be taken to remove radical content online to prevent self-radicalisation.
(unclear MATCH + accurate STAND)

✓ I am not surprised as Source D has a purpose. The speech was made by Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman (minister of State for Defence & Foreign Affairs) at the official dinner for SEA Counter-Terrorism Symposium. He wants to convince other Southeast Asian country leaders that Singapore is fully equipped to counter terrorism and has taken strong action to manage this threat so that other countries will be inspired to follow Singapore's footsteps.

Content + expectation

Expectations	Content idea
Senior Minister of State of Defence and Foreign Affairs (Represents Singapore government so he would put the government in a good light / report on the efforts of the government in the fight of terrorism in a positive manner)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore has stepped up on the regulation of cyberspaces with new measures to deal with the new threats of youth radicalisation. • Singapore has introduced new measures in responding to the new challenges of terrorism identified. • The Singapore government has been highly responsive and responsible to collaborate with various stakeholders to manage the rising threat of youth radicalisation.
Southeast Asia Counter-Terrorism Symposium (Governments share best practices in the fight of terrorism to help each other strengthen their capabilities)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singapore has already taken the lead to manage cyberspace to combat the threats of online radicalisation.

Cross reference

[P] I am surprised by Source D because when I cross refer to Source C, they have differing

views. Source D suggests that Singapore has started the education programme among the youths in 2017 to counter online radicalisation, which contradicts with the idea in Source C which advises the Singaporean government to start an education programme among youths in 2021, which is already 4 years after they have started.

- [Ev] Source D states that 'In 2017, the Islamic Religious council of Singapore, MUIS, set up the Asatizah Youth Network (AYN) to offer support and guidance to our youths on social media'.
- [Ex] This suggests that since 2017, the Singapore government has already embarked on educational awareness programmes among the youths to counter online radicalisation.
- [P] **However**, when I cross refer to Source C, it contradicts the idea that the Singapore government has educational programmes to counter online radicalisation.
- [Ev] Source C states that 'He added that the Government should also work with the education sector to raise youth awareness of online radicalisation.'
- [Ex] Given that the Professor in Source C is suggesting that the government should work on educating and creating awareness amongst youths, it gave the idea that the Singapore government has yet to look into the area of education.
- [L] However, this idea contradicts with Source D as there are already education programmes since 2017. Therefore, when I cross refer to Source C, I am surprised to see that educational programmes were already in place, which is not what I would have expected.

OR

- [P] I am not surprised by Source D that self-radicalisation of youths is a concern in Singapore because when I cross-refer to Source C, it supports the same idea that youth radicalisation needs to be addressed by the Singapore government.
- [Ev] Source D states that 'We must increase the awareness of our people, in particular our young, on the possible influences from what they read or who they meet online.'
- [Ex] This suggests that self-radicalisation in the youths is a concern and it is a new face of terrorism that has surfaced to be addressed by the Singapore government in order to better manage the threats of terrorism.
- [P] **Similarly**, when I cross-refer to Source C, it supports the idea that youth radicalisation needs to be addressed.
- [Ev] Source C states that 'He added that the Government should also work with the education sector to raise youth awareness of online radicalisation.'
- [Ex] Given that the measure suggested focuses on the youths, it reflects the danger of youth radicalisation as a new face of terrorism that has surfaced to be addressed by the Singapore government in order to better manage the threats of terrorism.

- [L] As this is similar to the idea shared in Source D, I am not surprised by D that self-radicalisation of youths is a concern.

Purpose

- [P] I am not surprised as Source D has a purpose. In Source D, Dr Maliki highlighted the successful efforts by Singapore's government on the counter-terrorism measures in combating self-radicalisation (**message**) as it is expected in the symposium to provide possible solutions or best practices for the region's governments (**audience**) to follow.
- [Ev] Given that this is a speech at the Official Dinner of the 2018 Southeast Asia Counter-terrorism Symposium for countries to share their best practices for each other to learn (**evidence**),
- [Ex] it is only natural that Dr Maliki Osman is reporting and sharing on the success of the measures that Singapore has put in place (**explanation**) to inspire the rest to follow suit (**outcome**) to ensure greater security in the region.
- [L] Therefore, I am not surprised by Source D.

Skill #6: Prove correct / wrong

Testing the skills of comparison and reliability (1 para for each)

✓ Source F **does not prove** that source E is wrong because of a difference found in who is at fault for the attacks.

✗ Source F proves that source E is **not wrong** because of a difference found in who is at fault for the attacks.

Comparison

Content

- [P] Source F proves that Source E is wrong because they differ in who should be at fault for the attacks. Source F suggests that the politicians / government of the Western world are also at fault, not just the media that led to the attacks, while Source E states that it is the media at fault for the attacks.
- [Ev] Source E states that 'A key finding of the royal commission into the Christchurch mosque attacks was that the man who carried them out, Australian Brenton Tarrant, who has since been jailed for life without parole, was radicalised on YouTube and other online spaces while viewing white-supremacist material.'
- [Ex] This suggests that
- [Ev]
- [Ex]
- [L]

Skill #7: Usefulness

Example questions:

- How useful is Source A in showing that ... ?
- How far can Source A be useful in showing that ... ?
- How far can Source A be useful in terms of proving that ... ?

No source is useless. All sources are useful. It just depends on the extent of usefulness

- A source is useful in answering the question if it is relevant + reliable
- A source is less useful in answering the question if it is less relevant + reliable

Steps to answer:

1. **Content inference**
2. **Reliability**

Source E: *An article published by the Local, French, an independent news company.*

A notorious French mayor has kicked up a storm after introducing a burkini and Muslim veil ban at a new swimming spot in his town, despite the fact that the ban was ruled illegal last year. A sign has been erected at the swimming area, with symbols that show everything that is forbidden, including the Muslim headscarf, dogs, drinking alcohol and football.

Reacting to this ban, Aldo Oumouden, the spokesman for the Grande Mosque in a nearby city, said, "wanting to ban the burkini in this swimming area is an attack on the individual freedom of Muslims. The mayor does not realise that his decision will further increase stigma. It is not only unnecessary but also devastating for community harmony. The mayor needs to wake up, France is multicultural."

Study Source E.**How useful is this source in saying that the burkini ban is unfair? Explain your answer.****[7]****Paragraph 1: Inference**

Source is useful because it tells me [inference] [evidence] [explanation]

Source E is useful in saying that the burkini ban is unfair as it suggests that the burkini ban is harmful and violates the rights of individuals.

Source E states that the burkini ban 'is an attack on the individual freedom of Muslims. The mayor does not realise that this decision will further increase stigma.'

This suggests that the burkini ban is not justified as it demeans Muslim women and discriminates against them.

In addition, the ban was already forbidden by law in the previous year. Furthermore, Source E provides arguments more than one organisation (the Muslim spokesman and the French Law) on the negative impacts the ban brings, thus justifying that the burkini ban is unfair.

Paragraph 2: Reliability

In addition / However, Source's usefulness is enhanced / limited because it is reliable / unreliable due to its [tool] [inference] [evidence] [explanation] [link]

However, Source E's usefulness is limited as it is unreliable due to its purpose. Source E appears to be trying to sensationalise the reports on the burkini ban as it chooses to report only from the point of view of the opponents of the burkini ban, choosing to explain why the burkini ban is not justified because it infringes on individual freedom.

Source E states that the journalist describes the French mayor as being 'notorious', which is not an objective description of a politician and reflects biasness. Moreover, it chooses to publish the opinion of the spokesman for the Grande Mosque who would most definitely give arguments in favour of allowing the burkini to be worn.

This could be published to protect the interests of the Muslim community and to attract the international community to know of their plight.

Since Source E cannot be trusted to report on the issue objectively, Source E is less useful in saying that the burkini ban is unfair.

Should Singapore build Integrated Resorts?

Background Information

In 2005, the Singapore government made a decision to build IRs after considering all the trade-offs. Feedback was obtained from the public as well as government representatives on their responses towards the building of IRs prior to the decision being made.

Source A: A view by a member of the public on the building of IRs in 2004

Why must Singapore have an Integrated Resort with a casino? Wouldn't the social impact outweigh the economic impact? Having a casino can encourage gambling which can lead to an increase in divorce rates, breakup of families and crimes, the erosion of our work principles and moral values.

Source B: An extract of a speech in Parliament from Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, 18 April 2005

Thus from the economic point of view, there is no doubt that the IRs will be a major plus for Singapore. However, our considerations cannot just be economic. We must also address the non-economic issues - tangible minuses like an increase in problem gambling and broken families, and intangible losses like the impact on Singapore's brand name and social values.

Study Sources A and B. How different are they? Explain your answer.

[7]

Past year questions: #1 INFERENCE

Study Source A.

What is the message of the source? Explain your answer using details of the source.

[5]
(2020 1a)

Source A: *A cartoon published in an American magazine in 2014.*

- [P] The primary message of Source A is that the minimum wage law can benefit workers - especially those who have to work multiple jobs to make ends meet.
- [Ev] The cartoon depicts two wealthy men seated on large chairs in a room, with one saying
- [Ex] '[raise] the minimum wage and people will lose jobs'. His butler, standing next to the fireplace holding two glasses on a tray, agrees to the statement, but adds that it is for the benefit of people like him who work more than one job. By raising the minimum wage, the butler 'would finally be able to quit [his] other two jobs', since he would then be able to live on the salary of just one job as a butler.
- [L] Therefore, Source A suggests that raising the minimum wage actually benefits workers, rather than harms them.

Study Source A.

Why do you think this poster was produced? Explain your answer.

[5]
(2019 1a)

Source A: *A poster produced by the Students for Liberty group in India, 2016. Students for Liberty is a global network which campaigns to promote social freedom. Kerala is a state in India.*

'NoNanny' refers to the idea of the nanny state in which governments give too much advice or make too many laws about how people should live their lives.

- [P] The poster was produced by the Students for Liberty group, a group that 'promote[s] social freedom' to criticise the Keralan government for depriving people's freedom to make their own dietary choices.
- [Ev] In an attempt to promote healthy living, the government had imposed 'fat tax'. With phrases like '#nonanny' and 'My Life, My Choice', the Students of Liberty group is clearly unhappy with the government's decision to take on the role of a nanny, dictating what the people should or should not eat.
- [Ex] The poster might have been made, therefore, to convince the people that they should not support this and should instead voice their opposition against the Keralan government for interfering with people's personal freedom.

- [L] Therefore, the poster wanted to criticise the Keralan government for depriving people's freedom to make their own dietary choices.

Study Source A.

What is the cartoonist's message? Explain your answer, using details of the source.

[5]
(2018 1a)

Source A: *A cartoon published in an American newspaper in 2013. 'E Pluribus Unum' means 'Out of many comes one'.*

- [P] The cartoonist is suggesting that globalisation is a phenomenon that cuts through differences and brings people from all walks of life together.
- [Ev] Source A depicts a scene at a fast food restaurant counter. The four individuals in the queue have different skin tones, hinting that they may be from different ethnicities. Moreover, the difference in their attire may also point to them having different jobs and belonging to different social classes; the older-looking man at the end of the queue is clothed in typical office wear, while the others are dressed more fashionably and look younger in age. However, all four men placed the same order, that is 'Big Mac, fries, large coke'.
- [Ex] This not only indicates the spread of American fast food culture alongside globalisation, which in a way equalises people from different backgrounds, but also disapproves the assumption that people with ethnic and social differences 'can't get along'.
- [L] Therefore, the cartoonist is suggesting that globalisation is a phenomenon that cuts through differences and brings people from all walks of life together.

Study Source A.

What is the attitude of the cartoonist about the haze problem faced in Singapore? Explain your answer.

[5]
(2017 1a)

Source A: *A cartoon published in Singapore in June 2013.*

Gagging - to know the truth but be prevented from saying it.

- [P] The cartoonist of Source A is critical about the dishonesty of the palm oil company executives.
- [Ev]

The couple depicted walking on the street are wearing haze masks to protect themselves from the effects of haze, which could cause health problems. Similarly, the palm oil company executives are also wearing the haze masks, even though they are indoors and thus protected from the ill effects of haze.

- [Ex] This explains why the lady is suggesting that the haze masks worn by the executives 'aren't for breathing'. The cartoonist is accusing the executives of not telling the truth, that is they (palm oil companies) are involved in the burning of the forests, which causes the haze.
- [L] Therefore, the cartoonist of Source A is critical about the dishonesty of the palm oil company executives.

Study Source B.

Why did the Prime Minister make this social media post? Explain your answer.

[6]
(2017 1b)

Source B: *From a social media post by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, September 2015.*

The air quality worsened into the 'very unhealthy' range today. The PSI for the next 24 hours is expected to remain 'very unhealthy', and may even go into the 'hazardous' range. This is why we are closing all primary and secondary schools tomorrow. We are also giving out masks to vulnerable and needy Singaporeans at community clubs (CCs) from 10am to 10pm tomorrow. Volunteers will visit residents who are unable to go to the CCs on their own.

There is no national shutdown of work, but employers should not compromise on the health and safety of their employees, especially those working outdoors. Please drink plenty of water, and avoid going outdoors if you can. Look out for neighbours and friends, and stay safe.

- [P] The Prime Minister made the social media post in Source B to warn Singaporeans about the deteriorating air quality and haze situation in Singapore, and to remind them to take precautionary measures against the ill effects of the haze.
- [Ev] He encouraged people to 'drink plenty of water and avoid going outdoors if you can'. In addition, he also promoted neighbourliness by calling people to 'look out for neighbours and friends'.
- [Ex] It is, therefore, the aim of the social media post to convince the public of the severity of the haze problem and to make necessary efforts to take care of themselves and those around them.
- [Ev] Moreover, the Prime Minister used his social media post as a more informal channel to justify the efforts taken by the Singapore Government to counter the risks of the haze in Singapore, in particular the last-minute closure of schools. He explains that the haze 'is why we are closing all primary and secondary schools tomorrow'. Furthermore, he also

shares that the government is 'giving out masks to vulnerable and needy Singaporeans at community clubs (CCs) to assist them to better cope with the haze problem.

- [Ex] These practical measures are highlighted not only to underscore the severity of the haze, but also to convince Singaporeans that the government is trying its best to help the people through the haze situation. Through such an announcement, the Prime Minister may also be trying to gain support for the measures proposed by the government.

Background information

(2016)

On 2 August 1990, Iraqi forces, under orders from their leader, Saddam Hussein, invaded the neighbouring state of Kuwait. This invasion was immediately condemned by the United Nations (UN), which demanded Iraq's withdrawal and imposed sanctions. When Saddam ignored this demand, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 678 in November, which gave Saddam an ultimatum to withdraw from Kuwait by 15 January 1991. Should he fail to do this, member states were authorised to use all necessary means to force him. When Saddam continued to ignore the UN, the invasion of Iraq by US-led coalition forces began on 17 January 1991. This invasion, known as Operation Desert Storm, rapidly brought about the liberation of Kuwait and the defeat of Iraq.

Study Source A.

What is the cartoonist's message? Explain your answer, using details of the cartoon.

[6]

(2016 1a)

- [P] The cartoonist, presumably a Brit, portrays the United Nations as coming to the rescue of Kuwait by taking on Iraq's challenge on its behalf. He is perhaps suggesting that Iraq, being inferior to the United Nations, will lose the war once the United Nations intervenes.

- [Ev] In the first picture, the cartoonist depicts the Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein throwing a gauntlet at the foot of a figure symbolising Kuwait. This means that he is issuing a challenge to the latter. Saddam Hussein is portrayed as much taller than the little figure of Kuwait, which suggests Iraq's superiority. In the second figure, an even taller figure representing the United Nations towers over Saddam Hussein. He is depicted with a rifle slung over his shoulder as he bends down to pick up the gauntlet. The dwarfed Saddam Hussein trembles at the sight of the clearly superior United Nations.

- [L] Therefore, the cartoonist suggests that Iraq will lose the war once the United Nations intervenes.

Study Source E.

Why do you think this source was published at that time?

[7]

(2016 1d)

Source E: *A British cartoon published on 16 January 1991.*

[P] Source E intended to warn the United Nations about the suffering of the Iraqi people should the United Nations

[Ev] Source E was published on 16 January 1991, a day after the deadline (15 January 1991)
 [Ex] for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait as set by the United Nations Security Council's Resolution 678. Member states of the United Nations could use 'all necessary means' (Background Information) to liberate Kuwait should Saddam Hussein fail to comply with the ultimatum.

It is thus likely that Source E was published to foretell its audience of the impending invasion of Iraq, and the expected suffering it would bring upon the Iraqis.

The cartoon depicts a worried-looking boy, representing the Iraqi people, standing alone in an illuminated spot in the midst of darkness, balancing a fruit bearing the face of Saddam Hussein on his head. In front of him, a pair of hands holding a hand-held rocket, which symbolised the military intervention of the United Nations, takes aim at the fruit.

Source E appears to be warning its audience of the potential dangers to the lives of the innocent and helpless Iraqi people should the United Nations proceed with the invasion of Iraq to punish Saddam Hussein. The cartoonist may thus be calling for the United Nations' reconsideration of a military intervention due to the uncalculated but foreseeable risks posed to the Iraqi civilians, in what Source D calls the 'destruction of Iraq and the Iraqis'.

[L]

Background information

(2015)

On 2 May 2011, US forces raided a compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan. They had flown there by a helicopter from their base in Afghanistan. They shot and killed the leader of Al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden, who was hiding there. Throughout the Western world, the killing was hailed as a triumph and a massive blow to international terrorism. Elsewhere, reaction was more mixed, with many people questioning what the implications of bin Laden's death would be.

Study Source A.

What is the message of this cartoon? Explain your answer, using details of the cartoon.

[6]

(2015 1a)

Source A: *A South African cartoon, May 2011.*

The cartoonist is sending the message of the continued fight against terrorism with the death of Osama bin Laden. Osama is depicted as one of the two Twin Towers that were destroyed during the September 11 attacks in 2001. Smoke is coming out from a hole on his forehead, with reference to him being killed by the US forces in Abbottabad, Pakistan (Background Information). The other

tower represents 'Al-Qaeda' and 'Terror', and a helicopter is shown to be approaching it. This suggests that, just like the Twin Towers in the attacks, the destruction of one tower (Osama) signals the imminent destruction of the second (Al-Qaeda and terror).

Study Source B.

Why did the newspaper print this photograph? Explain your answer.

[7]
(2015 1b)

Source B : *A photograph in a German newspaper of the crowds at Ground Zero in New York celebrating bin Laden's death, May 2011. Ground Zero is the site of the twin towers destroyed in the September 11 attacks.*

The German newspaper printed the photograph (Source B) of the crowds at Ground Zero in New York celebrating the death of Osama because it shows the significance of Osama's death in the war against terrorism. As Osama was believed to be the mastermind behind the September 11 attacks, his death being celebrated at Ground Zero, where the Twin Towers once stood, is particularly significant, as it shows the triumph of the US over terrorism - or even to announce to the world that revenge has been taken. Moreover, the large crowd standing around the billboard depicted in the photograph - 'Obama 1, Osama 0', which plays on the similarity of the names of the terrorist leader and the then-President of the US, representing the solidarity of the American people against terrorism.

Background information

(2014)

On 30 January 1972, thirteen civilians were shot dead by the British Army in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, after a civil rights march in the city had been broken up by the troops. These events became known as 'Bloody Sunday'. The soldiers claimed that they were fired at first, probably by members of the IRA. The official inquiry into these events, set up by the British government, reported its findings in April 1972. It backed up the army's version of what had happened, and blamed the organisers of the march for creating a dangerous situation in which violence was almost bound to occur. However, local people in Londonderry never accepted the conclusions of this inquiry, and in 1998 the British government set up a new inquiry to look at the events of 'Bloody Sunday' again.

Study Source A.

What is the message of this cartoon? Explain your answer.

[6]
(2014 1a)

The cartoon shows a member of the IRA and a soldier from the British Army each holding a rifle and pointing an accusing finger at the other. They are claiming that the other side fired first, prompting them to retaliate and defend themselves. Between them are the bodies of the civilians who were killed in the crossfire.

The message of the cartoon is to illustrate that both sides were equally responsible for what resulted on 'Bloody Sunday'. Even though both placed the blame on the other party, both sides were at fault for the violence and deaths of innocent lives on that day.

Background information

(2013)

In the 1970s, Iceland's economy was dependent on fishing. Since the 1950s, the amount of cod being caught in waters around Iceland had been declining. Iceland blamed other countries for overfishing, and tried to stop them by increasing its fishing limits, first to 50 miles and then, in 1975, to 200 miles. Britain, in particular, resisted these attempts to extend Iceland's fishing limits, and British ships continued to fish inside the limits. In 1972 - 73 and 1975 - 76, 'cod wars' between the two nations broke out, with violent incidents between Iceland's coastguard ships on one side, and British trawlers (fishing boats) and naval ships sent to protect them on the other. Both Britain and Iceland were members of NATO, the American-led military alliance, and Iceland threatened to leave the alliance if Britain did not back down. Eventually, in 1976, the British gave in to the Icelandic demands.

Study Source A.

What can you tell from this source about British attitudes towards 'cod wars'? Explain your answer, using details from the source.

[5]

(2013 1a)

Source A: *A British newspaper cartoon from 1973.*

From Source A, it is possible to tell that the British was generally indifferent towards the 'cod wars'. The cartoonist drew a ship returning from a fishing trip carrying a huge haul of fish. The only reference to the 'cod wars' was the caption 'Not bad - four tons of best cod and three 45 mm shells'. The tone of the statement was nonchalant and even a little sarcastic: in addition to the fish, they had also caught three shells, presumably from Icelandic ships. Moreover, the cartoonist also suggests that the British felt that they were justified to continue fishing despite the 'cod wars'. While Iceland had extended its fishing limits in its surrounding waters, the British still managed to catch four tonnes of cod - which was 'not bad' for a fishing trip. This shows that the British believed that they should retain the right to continue fishing in the waters around Iceland.

Background information

(2012)

The National Health Service (NHS) in Britain has existed since 1948. When it was set up, it aimed to provide free healthcare for the whole population, though nowadays charges are made for some things such as dentistry, drugs and opticians' services. The NHS has been criticised for inefficiency and waste, and has been reformed many times. Some people use private medicine (for which they have to pay the full cost) instead of the NHS. However, for most of the British public, the NHS remains very popular.

Study Source A.

Do you think the cartoonist approved of the NHS? Explain your answer, using details of the cartoon.

[6]

(2012 1a)

Source A: *A British cartoon about the NHS.*

Aspirin is a cheap drug, often used to treat common illnesses.

No, the cartoonist did not approve of the NHS.

In the cartoon, a doctor is prescribing a lady 'something that works like aspirin but costs much, much more', even though the drug itself is a common and cheap drug. The cartoonist is likely to be criticising the current situation of the NHS, in which 'nowaday charges are made for some things such as [...] drugs'. The cartoonist is suggesting that doctors can now charge exorbitant prices for alternative drugs (in this case, the aspirin substitute), which would otherwise be cheap. The cartoonist may thus be highlighting the issue with having to pay for drugs, as it may become a burden of people from the lower income brackets who may not be able to afford expensive drugs, which runs counter to the intention of the NHS (i.e. to provide basic healthcare and medical care to the entire population, including the poorer people).

O-level questions: COMPARISON

Study Sources B and C.

How far would the author of Source B agree with the cartoonist in Source C? Explain your answer.

[6]
(2020 Q2)

Source B: *From a blog written in 2015 by an Irish shop worker, commenting on low minimum wages paid in Ireland.*

According to some commentators, keeping minimum wage rates low is good for creating jobs as it allows more people to be employed at lower costs. However, other commentators call them 'poverty wages'. What is the point of poverty wages if not enough is earned to be spent or saved in the economy? The harmful impact of paying low minimum wages is not just restricted to those who earn them. Tax payers then have to pay for more welfare allowances and this takes money away from other public services. The trade unions* have called for the minimum wage to be raised significantly. What is the point of such low minimum wages, except to make extra profits for the companies that employ people? At the end of the day, a minimum-wage worker is making massive profits for his employer at the expense of his own well-being.

*Organised associations of workers in a trade, group of trades, or profession, formed to protect their rights.

Source C: *A cartoon from the Solidarity Foundation, April 2018. The Solidarity Foundation is a British organisation which campaigns to improve workers' rights.*

Study Sources B and C.

How different are these two sources? Explain your answer.

[6]
(2019 1b)

Source B: *From an article on a British news site, 2016.*

The introduction of the sugar tax is the strongest message ever sent by the government that excess sugar can be toxic, especially to children, and that sugar-pushing companies are exploiting the public health service. Treating obesity and diabetes costs the health service £13.8 billion a year and the government will tackle the problem by punishing consumers and the soft drinks companies in the wallet. Just the threat of tax may bring significant change in soft drink formulas. Technology now offers manufacturers more no-calorie substitutes for sugar. Better-off consumers have been moving away from high-sugar fizzy drinks for some time. Mexico is one of the world's most obese countries. After the sugar tax was introduced in 2014, the greatest success was among the poorest people. Sales of taxed drinks have dropped by 12% in total, but dropped by 17% among the poorest groups.

Source C: *From an article in an Australian newspaper.*

The government's panic about obesity has led to some of the worst practices of the nanny state. These include impractical food labelling rules and the campaign for a sugar tax. They entirely overlook that consumers should be free to choose and take responsibility for themselves. The state has assumed authority to protect us from ourselves. Mexico imposed a tax on sugary drinks in 2014. A report claims the volume of unhealthy soft drinks sold fell by 6% in the first year. However, it did not consider other ways in which Mexicans might have been getting their sugar. Other studies merely note the lower amount consumers spend on soft drinks, but not the volume they consume as they may have simply switched to cheaper brands.

Study Sources B and C.

Do you think