

SOCIAL STUDIES

2021 "O" LEVEL REVISION NOTES

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NOTES

Name: _____ () Class: _____

Section B

Structured Response Questions (b)

1-1 Challenges in Deciding What is Good For Society

2020

Differing needs and interests

[Elab] While a society can agree that basic needs are universal such as food, water and shelter, citizens of a country inevitably have some differing needs and interests.

[Eg] An efficient public transport system would be an important priority for those without their own mode of transport. However, those with their own transport may be concerned about efficient road network.

[Exp] This is a challenge for the govt as given the existence of limited resources, it is impossible for everyone's needs & interests to be fully met. Consequently, the govt has to consider trade-offs and make decisions that will not please everyone in society. They will also have to deal with unhappiness of citizens who feel that their needs and interests have not been met as that of others.

Differing priorities

[Elab] Although everyone may agree on the need to improve education & healthcare, the disagreements may arise over priority among different groups.

[Eg] While parents with school-going children would want the govt to invest more on education, senior citizens would want the govt to invest more on healthcare.

[Exp] This is a challenge for the govt as the govt has to consider trade-offs and make decisions that will not please everyone in society. They will also have to deal with unhappiness of citizens who feel that their priorities have not been met as that of others.

Unequal sharing of costs

[Elab] When a decision is made, some indiv or groups will bear greater costs than others.

[Eg] In building an efficient transport system for the country, it is necessary to build expressways for smooth traffic flow. While society will generally benefit, residents living near the expressways may be affected by the noise generated from the traffic.

[Exp] This is a challenge for the govt as not only do they need to weigh the benefits of their various governing decisions but also need to consider whether a particular decision will impose any significant costs on a group of citizens. They will also need to handle the backlash received from affected citizens effectively by seeking their understanding or compensating them in relevant ways.

1-2 Ideas Shaping Governance

2020

Providing a stake for everyone

[Elab] Govt must involve the people in the decision-making process because this will help develop a greater sense of belonging to the country among the citizens.

[Eg] Through "Our SG Conversation" (OSC) launched in 2012 by PM Lee Hsien Loong, it's a national-level conversation where citizens can come together to share their views and ideas about what matters to SG. In doing so, citizens participated in focus groups and dialogue sessions during which they gave their individual feedback to govt officials who were present. On a more frequent basis, citizens can simply give feedback to the govt through official communication channels via emails and telephone calls to govt organisations.

[Exp] By actively involving citizens in SG's development, we can cultivate a greater sense of attachment to the country which itself will drive SGreens to work for the greater good of society.

Practising meritocracy

- [Elab] Refers to rewarding people according to their efforts and not due to their race, religion or SES.
- [Eg] Students are rewarded based on meritocracy through the Edusave Scholarship and Merit Bursary schemes.
- [Exp] By rewarding those who have done well in school with a sum of money, the government is encouraging these students to pursue education with greater fervour, so that in the years to come, these indiv will be able to contribute back to SG and thus drive SG's progress. As such, meritocracy encourages them to work hard as they have an equal chance at achieving success and are only limited by the amount of effort they put in. This contributes back to the development of SG and furthers SG's progress.

Good leadership

- [Elab] Given the complex nature of decision-making, leaders much have the moral courage and integrity to do what is right, including making decisions that may not be popular with the people. Leaders must be honest, and be competent in their decision-making.
- [Eg] When making the decision to build integrated resorts (IRs) in 2005, there was strong opposition from the people as they were concerned that it will result in increased gambling addiction. However, the govt decided to go ahead with the plan as SG was stagnating in the tourism industry and was not influenced by the people's negative reactions.
- [Exp] This is crucial as it is difficult to decide on what is good for the country. In doing so, the govt must weigh the trade-offs of all available options and choose the best one for the country. Having good leadership enables the govt to do this in a fair and incorrupt manner, putting aside personal gains for the larger good of society. Some decisions may benefit some people and disadvantage others and the govt must not be influenced or bribed by financially powerful groups who hopes that the govt make the decision that favours them. Thus, govt must be equipped with competent and honest leaders that will analyse options and choose what's best for the overall growth of the country.

Anticipating change and staying relevant

- [Elab] When citizens' needs and interests are adversely affected in the short term due to a decision based on more long-term considerations, tensions may arise. However, the govt need to make decisions that will benefit the people of SG in the future.
- [Eg] When making the decision to build integrated resorts (IRs) in 2005, the govt anticipated that the global economy would become more competitive in the long run and hence prioritised the development of SG's tourism sector to gain potential economic benefits such as job opportunities and higher tourist income.
- [Exp] This is crucial as the decisions that meets short term needs and wants may often be easier to implement. For example, if the SG govt only considered the immediate situation of citizens protest against the potential social costs of the IRs, they would not have built it and would result in SG missing out on economic growth in the long run. Thus, govt must be able to consider the long term good of the country so that they can make the decision that ensures the country's sustainability for future generations.

1-3	Role of Government in Working for the Good of Society
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Maintaining internal order

- [Elab] Maintaining internal order ensures the good of society by giving SGreens the protection, safety and sense of security they need. The govt engages agencies such as the police, prisons and civil defence forces to protect citizens, property and whatever our society believes should be protected. With this, social services such as schools and hospitals can exist with the peace and safety that the govt provides.
- [Eg] Singapore Police Force (SPF) protects the people from crime and all manners of criminal harm so that peace can be maintained. One example is during the Little India Riot on 8 Dec 2013 where the SPF and Singapore Civil Defense Force (SCDF) worked together to contain the incident and bring about swift dispersal of the crowd to prevent further public disorder.
- [Exp] This way, the people will feel safe and the country would be stable enough to function economically to achieve progress, contributing to the good of society and possible growth.

Maintaining external security (Diplomacy)

- [Elab] Provision of external security is significant in ensuring a good society. It does so by forging strong partnerships at the bilateral and multilateral levels and positioning SG as a responsible and constructive member of the International community.
- [Eg] One of Ministry of Foreign Affairs' success is joining the other Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) founding members, and strongly contested the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia in 1978 that threatened regional security and stability. As a result, the govt was able to safeguard SG's sovereignty beyond her shores.
- [Exp] This helps to maintain external security as it maintains positive intercountry relations which lead to conflicts being settled more peacefully without military action. This safeguard a country's security, protects the country's resources and saves lives that might have otherwise been used should the countries go to war. Ensuring friendly relations also increases room for negotiation and accommodation of each other, and friendly settlement of conflicts while reducing the chances of tension and external security threats.

Maintaining external security (Deterrence)

- [Elab] Deterrence helps to maintain external security in SG. The Ministry of Defence (MINDEF) Singapore Armed Forces plays a large role in maintaining external security through deterrence.
- [Eg] This involves the SG Army, Republic of SG Navy and Republic of SG Air Force which safeguards SG's land, sea and airspace respectively. Each year, the SG govt allocates a significant percentage of the national budget to defence. The defence expenditure goes to purchasing new state of the art military weapons and vehicles. The SG military force also engages in joint military exercises with neighbouring countries.
- [Exp] This helps to maintain external security as it ensures that SG is able to defend her borders and resist potential invasions. When SG is prepared to equipped to fight wars effectively, other aggressor countries may think twice before posing a threat to SG. This helps to maintain SG's external security as it reduces the chances of an invasion and increases the chances of SG successfully resisting one.

Ensuring justice

- [Elab] Laws are duly implemented and enforced. The judiciary interprets and applies the laws passed by the legislature.
- [Eg] A Personal Protection Order (PPO) will be granted if the Family Justice Court rules that domestic violence has been committed. In such a case, the offender will be dealt with and the victim will be protected under the PPO.
- [Exp] This is important as it ensures that citizens feel safer and secure in the country. When the govt ensures justice, citizens can expect fair treatment and protection from the govt when necessary. This increases their quality of life and makes living in SG more desirable and sustainable for citizens.

Providing goods and services

- [Elab] Govt devotes significant resources to improve the well-being of their citizens by providing them with subsidised public goods and services.
- [Eg] In SG, the govt spends a lot of resources increasing the number of bus routes, bus stops, bus interchanges and other aspects of transport such as the length of expressways and number of MRT stations. In 2014, there were 22 bus interchanges, 164 km of expressways and 105 MRT stations.
- [Exp] This is important as public goods and services are things that citizens cannot obtain on their own. It is thus necessary for the govt to provide them at reasonable prices so that they are accessible and affordable to citizens. This improves' citizens' standard of living and quality of life, making them want to remain in the country and contribute to it.

Safeguarding interests of citizens

- [Elab] By implementing legislations that safeguards the interests of citizens, the govt ensures that citizens will have a sense of security in the country.
- [Eg] The WorkRight initiative which helps both employees and employers understand their rights and responsibilities. It creates awareness of employment rights amongst low-wage workers, allowing them to understand when their rights as workers are being abused. It also helps provide them an avenue to seek help in the event that employment rights are being violated.
- [Exp] As such, as it ensures that citizens will not be mistreated by other elements, this improves citizens' standard of living and quality of life, making them want to remain in the country and contribute to it.

1-4 Contributing to the Needs of Society

As individuals

- [Elab] Indvs volunteer their time toward meaningful social causes they care for. They mainly work for a cause which they feel is important. Their actions can benefit many people directly with immediate improvements and can also inspire others to volunteer as well.
- [Eg] “A Litter at a time” was a spontaneous movement driven by Ms Elisa Ng – a housewife after she saw the irresponsibility of SGreens to clean up after themselves after the Countdown.
- [Exp] By allowing indv to contribute to the needs to the society, a greater sense of ownership and commitment to certain causes is cultivated and this results in the long-term involvement of citizens, which brings various sustainable benefits to society.

As formal organised groups

- [Elab] Formally organised groups have clear objectives and are registered with the govt. They mainly complement the roles of the govt in specific areas. Their close cooperation with the govt allows the benefit they bring to society to be long term and sustainable.
- [Eg] The Nature Society is a formal organised group that contributes to the environmental needs of society by playing a role in conserving natural heritage in SG.
- [Exp] Formal groups are effective in contributing to the needs of society as they have the manpower, resources and govt approval to campaign for their cause. They have govt approval to advertise and promote their cause. In the case of The Nature Society, this helps them to make a difference to the environment by actively implementing conservation efforts while also encouraging citizens to do their part.

As informal organised groups

- [Elab] Informal organised groups are formed by citizens with a specific, short-term objective related to issues that arise suddenly. They are not registered by the govt and are usually temporary in nature. Nonetheless, these organisations complement existing govt support structures during various crisis that may arise.
- [Eg] Mr Jeremy Chua started up an initiative organised group of volunteers called “SG Haze Rescue” during the critical haze period in SG. The volunteers donated and gave out masks to those in need, especially the elderly who could not go out to purchase the masks.
- [Exp] Informal groups are effective in contributing to the needs of society as they do not suffer from the hierarchies and red-tape of govt agencies and formal organised groups. As such, they are fast in responding to immediate crisis that arise. Given that they are formed by ordinary citizens, they are likely to be knowledgeable about the ground situation enabling them to respond effectively and in a timely manner.

1-5 Influencing Governmental Decisions

As organised groups

- [Elab] Efforts of non-govt organisations can help refine govt policies and point to areas that need more attention.
- [Eg] The Humanitarian Organisation for Migration Economics (HOME) and the Transient Workers Count Two (TWC2), put forth their recommendations on improving working conditions of foreign workers in SG. Specifically, they recommended having a day off per week for foreign domestic helpers. This was eventually approved by SG govt and made mandatory.
- [Exp] Organised groups can influence govt decisions by using their manpower and resources to conduct research into prevailing societal issues and craft arguments to persuade the govt to take action on these issues. As they have resources and manpower expertise, they are able to substantiate their arguments and put forth recommendations which the govt may consider in their decision-making.

As individuals

- [Elab] Individuals influence govt decisions by giving indiv feedback to the government.
- [Eg] Through “Our SG Conversation” (OSC) launched in 2012 by PM Lee Hsien Loong, it’s a national-level conversation where citizens can come together to share their views and ideas about what matters to SG. In OSC 2012, citizens voiced out their desire for a more holistic education system that focusses less on exams. In 2018, MOE responded by reducing the weighted components for Secondary 1 and 3, showing how indiv citizens can influence govt decisions via their feedback.
- [Exp] This is because one of the roles of the govt is to meet the needs of citizens. Hence, citizen feedback influences govt decisions by helping them to make more informed decisions. Govt can choose to review their policies or create new ones after hearing citizen feedback.

2-1	Attributes Shaping Identity
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Nationality

- [Elab] One’s nationality refers to the country one legally belongs to. Most of the time, one will live in the country of one’s nationality and share a common national identity with the rest of the citizens.
- [Eg] SGreens share commonalities such as speaking Singlish, bonding over local food and espousing values of meritocracy and secularism. A citizen is also likely to have a stake in their country such as ownership of properties or having their family being based there.
- [Exp] It shapes an individual’s identity as it affects one’s values, beliefs and practices. An indiv will often identify with their country’s dominant cultures and norms. This is due to the indiv having grown up there or having been influenced by fellow citizens in the society. Thus, nationality shapes an indiv’s identity by influence one’s dominant beliefs and behaviour.

Race and ethnicity

- [Elab] Race and ethnicity refer to both the physical characteristics of a person and one’s ancestral background, cultural practices and customs respectively. It is a part of our identity as one’s race and ethnicity will likely determine the language and customs that one grows up with.
- [Eg] Malays typically grow up speaking Malay and following Islam as a religion. They also have their own unique cuisine which typically follows the dietary restrictions set by Islam. They have several traditional costumes like the baju kurung.
- [Exp] Hence, as one’s race would cause them to follow beliefs and a way of life which is different and unique from other races, it will contribute to a unique identity and a greater diversity.

Religion

- [Elab] Religion refers to an organised collection of attitudes, beliefs, practices, worldviews and often worship of one or multiple gods. It is part of our identity as most religion will have a core set of beliefs and tenets, which believers are expected to abide to, thus affecting the way they interact with each other, the choices they make and their way of thinking.
- [Eg] Buddhists follow the teaching of Buddha which promotes peace and harmony against different race and religion. Buddhists are also prohibited from eating beef and some are expected to be vegetarian, as such it will affect their cuisine.
- [Exp] Hence, as one’s religion would cause them to follow beliefs and a way of life which is different and unique from other religions, it will contribute to a unique identity and a greater diversity.

Socio-economic status (SES)

- [Elab] Indv of different SES have different levels of education, income and wealth. They also often have different types of occupations.
- [Eg] An indiv from a higher SES will probably work as a professional in a job which requires a high level of skills and knowledge. An indiv will also probably have at least tertiary education and earn a higher level of income. However, an indiv of lower SES will probably earn less and also have a lower level of education.
- [Exp] SES shapes an indiv’s identity as it affects one’s experiences in life. Indv of higher SES will interact with people of a similar SES and experience a lifestyle with greater luxuries. They will probably also have greater global exposure. Meanwhile, due to the limited exposure to the upper socio-economic ranks of society, indivs from lower SES are less well-connected. Resulting in their identity being more based on their immediate surroundings.

2-2 Reasons for Movement of People to Singapore

Immigration policy

- [Elab] Currently, our immigration policy welcomes highly-skilled foreign manpower to support our knowledge-based economy. Due to SG's low birth rate and highly mobile population who do not always stay rooted in SG, the govt adopts an open and welcoming immigration policy that allows eligible foreigners to easily live and work here. These foreign immigrants can even eventually choose to make SG their home and become naturalised citizens or PR if they meet the requirements.
- [Eg] Various *expatriates* came to SG's *burgeoning* petrochemical industry under the S-Pass scheme and decided to remain as Permanent Residents, eventually naturalising into citizens.
- [Exp] This attracts foreign manpower to SG as foreigners feel welcomed by the govt to come to SG. Those who are eligible face little difficulty and hassle and entering the country as there are no lengthy procedures to complete. Beyond that, SG's immigration policy welcomes eligible foreigners to make SG their home, this attracts foreign manpower who value the opportunity of being able to convert to a SG citizen should they find the country more desirable to live and work in.

Economic opportunities

- [Elab] In SG, economic opportunities are readily available due to the large number of businesses that operate here. The ease of doing business, growth potential, stable political environment and well-established judiciary system attracts global investors.
- [Eg] Such global investors include multination corporations (MNCs) like the L'Oreal Group. This has resulted in SG's reputation as a business hub with as many as 7000 MNCs located here.
- [Exp] This attracts foreign manpower to SG as there are available job opportunities and positive growth prospects in SG. Foreign manpower is attracted to come as they see SG as a stable economic environment where they can earn profit and accumulate wealth. This enhances their personal economic value and possibly makes them more employable in the long run.

Socio-cultural environment

- [Elab] SG is a vibrant business hub with good judicial practices and low corruption. Hence, professionals are more willing to relocate their families to SG to settle down and some of them eventually become naturalised citizens. There is also a presence of local immigrant communities which can facilitate an immigrant's naturalisation into SG's society, encouraging immigrants to migrate to SG be it for work or as a PR.
- [Eg] Various immigrant support groups like the Australia and New Zealand Association which supports both Australian and New Zealander families based in SG. These local groups help organise events for immigrants from their respective countries to help them to settle into SG.
- [Exp] Hence, as SG increasingly becomes an attractive destination to raise a family, foreign professionals are opting to settle down here and this increases diversity in SG as people from all over the world coexist alongside SGreans.

2-3 Challenges of Living In a Diverse Society

2017

Prejudices and misconceptions

- [Elab] In diverse societies like SG, there are many opportunities for people from different background to interact & communicate. However, these opportunities may also bring about misunderstandings. This is especially so where differences in cultural background can lead to conflicting views on values, beliefs and customs. Consequently, negative sentiments and prejudice may arise when people make incorrect judgements about a community based on erroneous assumptions.
- [Eg] In 2010, a pastor of a large Christian church was questioned by the Internal Security Department (ISD) for contentious remarks about Buddhism made in a video of a sermon. It spread quickly and created a huge uproar on the Internet.
- [Exp] This leads to conflicts and social tensions among the different communities. When a community is misunderstood and faces prejudice from another, unhappiness arises and negative sentiments begin to fester between the communities. Ultimately, this could lead to discrimination whereby a group starts to treat another unfairly and unkindly for no apparent reason. This could lead to a highly divided and fragmented society characterised by distrust.

2017

Competition of resources

- [Elab]** With the inflow of foreigners into SG, some SGreans worry about competition in terms of economic opportunities and availability of infrastructures.
- [Eg]** Employment, housing and transportation are key resources which SGreans have expressed concerns over. With increasingly diverse groups of foreigners entering SG, locals fear that foreigners may take their jobs away. They also blame foreigners from higher SES groups for increasing the prices of goods & services, making housing less affordable.
- [Exp]** It is a challenge as the unhappiness that some SGreans have against foreigners in our diverse society leads to high levels of social tensions among the different societal groups. This leads to lesser co-operation between the communities and more instances of conflict and discrimination. Consequently, the govt may have to spend resources to come up with measures to alleviate this tension. Even so, the govt may not be able to fully unite SG society as locals will still be disenchanting with foreigners and unwelcoming of them.

2-4 Benefits of Living in a Diverse Society

2017

Exchange and appreciation of culture

- [Elab]** With an increasing number of foreigners coming to SG, SG has become more diverse with a greater variety of racial, religious, ethnic, and cultural groups. This provides SGreans greater opportunities to interact with and learn from people from different countries and cultures. As a result of these cross-cultural interactions, SGreans will develop a greater understanding of different cultures and customs as well as new insights into the different perspectives that foreigners bring with them.
- [Eg]** Harmony can be achieved with creating of common space which is a platform for shared values, and common experience to build a national identity. The People's Association (PA) serves as a bridge between the government and the people promoting racial harmony and social cohesion through activities (i.e. learning journey, house visits).
- [Exp]** This is advantageous to SG as with greater understanding of different cultures and their respective customs, SGreans will have a more global worldview and become a more open society. Beyond this, SGreans will also be more equipped to do business with foreign businessmen as having a good understanding of other cultural traditions creates positive impressions and interactions when doing business and foreign companies. This would then enhance SG's business and trading sector, and improve our economic growth. Additionally, through cultural exchange, cultural fusions may occur in areas such as food, music and fashion. This enhances the variety of goods and services in society, increasing the standard of living in SG.

2017

Exchange of skills and knowledges

- [Elab]** Many foreigners come to SG with the intention to work. This means that they bring their own knowledge, ideas and skills, which SGreans can learn from and vice versa. Likewise, foreign companies come to SG with the intention to collaborate with local companies. They often collaborate in the area of research and development whereby foreign scientists share their knowledge and skills with local ones in working on a joint project.
- [Eg]** The outcomes of such local-foreign collaboration between SG's A*STAR and Switzerland's Cytos Biotechnology AG led to significant discoveries like the H1N1 flu vaccine.
- [Exp]** The above skills exchanges benefit SG as local workers will gain new knowledge and skills, which in turn enhances our economic development by making our workforce more competitive. Furthermore, skills exchange between local and foreign companies often results in new technological and scientific innovations which can be patented and sold for profit. It also enhances SG's reputation as a country which is strong in science and technology, attracting more international businesses to come and work with our local companies. This creates jobs for SGreans which is beneficial for the economy. Thus, the exchange of knowledge and skills between foreigners and SGreans positively impacts the economic development of SG as it leads to new innovations and ideas that enhance our economic growth.

2-5	Responses to a Diverse Society (Socio-Cultural)
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Assimilation (Education system) (French case study)

- [Elab] Assimilation is a policy in which immigrants are expected to adopt beliefs of the majority group in the host country, which over time makes the identity of the immigrants indistinguishable from the majority group. In France, secularism is present in all areas of the state and no one religion is to be favoured over the other and immigrants are expected to follow this belief.
- [Eg] The education system in France is *secular* and strengthens French national identity through schooling. In the French classroom, there are no discussions about religions except in History and Philosophy classes. Furthermore, adaptation classes are also conducted for the children of immigrants to help them improve their French and eventually join regular French schools.
- [Exp] This helps to assimilate immigrants as the education system focuses on the common uniting factor of national identity and aims to equip everyone living in France with a common language of communication. This enables both immigrants and French nationals to work towards a shared purpose and goal, making French society more cohesive. Treating immigrants equally also encourages them to adopt the French national identity and assimilate as they feel like a part of French society.

Assimilation (Naturalisation) (French case study)

- [Elab] The naturalisation processes in France aim to help immigrants develop basic knowledge about life in their country.
- [Eg] Since 1998, it became necessary for all immigrants to undergo French language courses, and attend a day of civic education about life in France before they gain permanent residency. Immigrants must also show knowledge of the history and culture of France, have proficiency in French and pass a cultural test in order to be eligible for French nationality.
- [Exp] This helps to assimilate immigrants as they develop necessary knowledge and skills to successfully interact with other French nationals and survive in French society. As they will be able to effectively communicate with others in society, immigrants will be able to socialise with French nationals, making it easier for them to adopt French beliefs, attitudes and mannerisms. This in turn, will strengthen French national identity and ensure the assimilation of these immigrants.

Integration (Naturalisation)

- [Elab] Integration as a policy refers to an approach where immigrants retain their unique identities while forging common ground with the groups already living in the host country.
- [Eg] Naturalisation initiatives are effective in integrating new citizens into SG. Upon receiving their in-principle arrival for SG citizenship, new SG citizens go through the SG Citizenship Journey. This is a three-part programme designed through collaboration between the National Integration Council, the People's Association and the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority of SG. Firstly, new citizens go through an e-journey online where they learn about SG's history, culture and values. They then attend a community sharing session to meet other citizens and articulate their aspirations for SG as well as how they can contribute to SG society. Lastly, they go on an experimental tour which brings them to key historical landmarks and national institutions.
- [Exp] This allows to them to gain more knowledge and deeper understandings about SG's history, culture, beliefs, values and social norms which helps new citizens to know how to act in order to adapt well to local society. Thus, naturalisation initiatives are effective in integrating new citizens into SG society.

Integration (Common experiences)

- [Elab] Common experiences are effective in integrating new citizens into SG society. Common experiences refer to opportunities to interact with locals and engage in similar activities together.
- [Eg] All male SG citizens and Permanent Residents are required to serve NS for two years to ensure SG's security. NS brings together both new citizens and locally-born SGreens to train, live and serve together in the SG Armed Forces, SG Police Force or the SG Civil Defence Force.
- [Exp] This helps to integrate new citizens as they engage in common experiences such as NS, new citizens develop a sense of common purpose with other SGreens and begin to put collective interests before self. As such, their national identity is strengthened which makes them more invested and willing to integrate into SG society. Common experiences also build social ties and interpersonal understanding between new citizens and other SGreens. This facilitates integration as the friendships forged will lead to a more cohesive society where new citizens are not segregated from the rest of the society.

Integration (Bilingual policy)

- [Elab] Bilingual policy is important in promoting integration. Learning English has given the different ethnic groups a common language to communicate with one another. However, learning a Mother Tongue Language (MTL) allows us to preserve of our cultural identity and heritage.
- [Eg] Students are expected to learn English and one of the official MTL.
- [Exp] As a result, this policy helps to foster a sense of belonging and promote better integration across different ethnic groups. No particular group is favoured and everybody is treated equally. This improves social cohesion in SG.

Integration (Ethnic Integration policy)

- [Elab] The Ethnic Integration Policy was introduced in 1989 to achieve a balance mix in HDB estates to prevent the formation of ethnic enclaves. This was because ethnic enclaves were thought to be one of the reasons why racial riots happened in 1964. Under this policy, there is a quota for the number of people from each racial group who can live in one block of flats.
- [Eg] If one block reaches its maximum quota for Chinese residents, a prospective buyer will be unable to buy an apartment from a Malay seller as this would dilute the minority population in a particular block.
- [Exp] Therefore, the EIP helps to foster racial harmony among the various ethnic groups and strengthens social cohesion in SG, making it easier for integration to take place.

2-6 Responses to a Diverse Society (Socio-Economic)
Market-based approach (US case study)

- [Elab] Healthcare is largely *privatised* and citizens are given the freedom to decide how much health care they need and how much they want to spend on it. The US govt adopts a *laissez-faire* attitude towards healthcare service providers as such a lot of healthcare providers are privately owned hospitals. Health insurance is usually provided by for-profit companies like Prudential and State Farm. Citizens need to buy their own insurance or secure jobs with good insurance plans in order to have decent health-care coverage. Price of insurance and even health-care can vary across state and regional lines due to the privatisation of this industry.
- [Eg] In USA, policies such as Medicaid and Medicare are provided to assist lower SES people and Obamacare for most Americans, allowing healthcare to be more affordable.
- [Exp] This is effective as private healthcare providers with better qualifications and services can charge higher prices and earn more profit. At the same time, citizens who can afford it can enjoy better quality healthcare. Resource allocation in the healthcare sector is also optimal as only healthcare goods and services that are in demand will be produced and offered. If there is no demand, healthcare providers will automatically stop offering the good or service in line with market forces. This prevents resource wastage.

2018

Shared responsibility approach

- [Elab] The government provides basic healthcare services and it is partially subsidised by the government. The remaining costs are paid individually, balancing personal responsibility and the government's role.
- [Eg] In Singapore, policies such as Medisave are created and people can choose their preferred healthcare service at their own expenses from their CPF accounts with government subsidising part of the cost. This can allow Singaporeans to have less burdens when it comes to medical expenses.
- [Ben] Healthcare remains affordable for the lower income groups due to the government's assistance. Citizens are encouraged to take responsibility for their own health, reducing the government's burden and frees up resources for them to spend on improving the quality of the healthcare system.
- [Chl] It is not easy to keep up with the growing demand for healthcare as more funding and resources are needed especially for the ageing population. There will be a rise in healthcare cost globally and it requires more government funding and cost-effective treatments by hospitals.

2018

Government-finance approach (Sweden case study)

- [Elab]** The govt provides substantial subsidies and services for most of the healthcare needs of its citizens, sometimes the healthcare could even be free. Public healthcare is largely owned and financed by the govt, allowing Sweden to provide universal healthcare. However, there are higher-tax rates in place to pay for this increased spending in healthcare. Private insurance is still possible but it only provides faster access to medical services at GPs and Hospitals.
- [Eg]** In Sweden, patients only pay the full cost of prescribed drugs up to 122 euros, after which any costs will be subsidised.
- [Exp]** This is effective as there is universal access to healthcare. Citizens have equal access to healthcare services and can go for medical treatment regardless of social class, income or place of residence. Although citizens pay for healthcare through taxation, healthcare is still affordable as they only need to pay a nominal sum of money per healthcare visit which enable them to see the doctor whenever necessary.

3-1 Driving Forces of Globalisation
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Growth of Multinational Corporations (MNCs)

- [Elab]** The growth of MNCs mean that businesses with economic activities in more than one country are growing in number and size. MNCs increase the economic interconnectedness between people and goods throughout the world.
- [Eg]** Starbucks Coffee Company, the largest coffee chain in the world, drives globalisation by sourcing beans from 27 countries which are then roasted, packed and delivered to 21000 stores in 65 countries.
- [Exp]** This increases interconnectedness and interdependence between countries and people, which leads to globalisation.

Development in transportation

- [Elab]** From the 19th century, there have been improvements in the size and speed of different modes of transportation including inventions of the railway, steamships, commercial aircrafts, large-ocean going vessels and *containerisation*. This also led to the development of integrated transportation infrastructure such as airports, seaports, railways and expressways.
- [Eg]** In SG, extensive railway and road networks have led to high connectivity between SG and Malaysia. Changi Airport and the Port of SG Authority (PSA) also connect SG to the rest of the world and help SG become a leading transportation hub.
- [Exp]** The developments in transportation help to drive globalisation as it increases the quantity and ease of movement of people and goods from one country to another while also saving in transport costs. When people move around the world more quickly at a lower cost, people's activities and ideas become more interconnected leading to a speed up in the rate of globalisation. Thus, developments in transportation help to drive the rate of globalisation.

Advancement in technology

- [Elab]** Advancement in technology allow for greater access to the internet and increasing use of mobile communication. The increase in convenience for communication makes it easier for people to communicate all around the world. This allows people to connect and communicate through messaging, video calls and social media platforms, allowing for the spread of ideas between different areas of the world.
- [Eg]** The collaboration of scientists worldwide on projects allows the spread of ideas between the *academia* of different countries.
- [Exp]** This helps to drive globalisation as people are able to easily access information and conveniently contact others at any time and place. This enables greater connectivity among people and facilitates greater intercountry economic cooperation as people will communicate their ideas and share their products and services with others in different countries, stimulating greater intercountry business and investment.

3-2 Positive Economic Impacts of Globalisation

On countries

- [Elab] With globalisation, trade becomes increasingly common and this increased trading leads to more wealth being generated. Free-trade agreements (FTA), signed between countries, are an example of how globalisation leads to the increase in trade which in turn leads to economic growth.
- [Eg] SG and the US signed a FTA that came into force in 2004 allowing for the free trade of electronics, information technology and petrochemicals.
- [Exp] This increases trades in these industries and hence increases economic growth. As a result, countries gain as the revenue gained increased, allowing revenue to be spent on developing the country such as infrastructure.

On companies / SMEs

- [Elab] Small-medium enterprises (SMEs) are smaller scale companies with annual sales turnover of not more than \$100 million or total number of workers not exceeding 200. Globalisation has allowed SMEs to gain access to lower labour costs and cheaper resources such as land and raw materials. Moreover, it has enabled SMEs to play a complementary role to the MNCs.
- [Eg] MMI Holdings, an SME, is the supplier of hard drive disks for US based Seagate Technology.
- [Exp] Globalisation has ultimately motivated SMEs to leverage upon the opportunities provided and find ways to constantly innovate their products and services to stay relevant. Whether it is adapting to local demands or utilising incentives from the government, SMEs strive to constantly reinvent themselves so that they will be able to compete more successfully and break boundaries.

On individuals

- [Elab] Globalisation leads to an increased ability for people to move around the globe in search of better job prospects and higher income.
- [Eg] NTU engineers have been headhunted for jobs in Dubai and have gotten thrice the pay in SG with a less-demanding lifestyle.
- [Exp] Individuals may benefit from globalisation as overseas companies may want to employ them due to their skills. As a result, individuals they have higher purchasing power and disposable income, increasing their standard of living.

3-3 Negative Economic Impacts of Globalisation

On countries

- [Elab] As a result of globalisation, economic downturns that may have previously only been limited to other countries may affect one's own country. A country may withdraw its investments or reduce its demand for goods and hence leads to less income and employment opportunities for other countries.
- [Eg] During the Global Financial Crisis in 2008 in which the *recession* in the US escalated to a global recession due to the US' large role in international economies. Many banks internationally were forced to close because their income was derived from investments in the US.
- [Exp] As a result of financial contraction, countries might have to ask for international aid (which might be unfair) or suffer a downward spiral.

On companies / SMEs

- [Elab] Increased competition due to the entry of foreign companies may threaten local companies. This results in a situation where SMEs are forced to compete against MNCs for control over a market. To remain successful, a company has to continually innovate and invest into research and development. However, SMEs may not have the funds required to do so unlike MNCs. Hence, the entry of MNCs means they will be outcompeted and eventually, forced to close down.
- [Eg] After the release of the iPhone by Apple, Nokia's previously majorly market-share in the mobile industry in Finland had dropped and eventually they were forced to close down due to their *tanking* profit.
- [Exp] If SMEs are unable to compete with the larger local companies, they will be forced to withdraw from the market and ultimately cease their operations. This will result in the monopolization / domination of large companies in the economy while the SMEs will be rendered irrelevant.

On individuals

- [Elab]** Loss in job opportunities may result due to increased competition for jobs all over the world.
- [Eg]** The closure of several factories by Kraft in England, displacing many factory workers and leaving them without a job. This was so that they can move production over to Poland where labour costs were cheaper.
- [Exp]** Global companies will easily shift their operations to a country with lower labour costs and it can mean a huge loss of jobs in the country the company is leaving. Individuals may lose their job if they are unequipped with new skills, resulting in lower disposable income and standard of living.

3-4 Cultural Impacts of Globalisation
Cultural homogenisation in entertainment

- [Elab]** Local cultures are changed by the dominance of foreign cultures.
- [Eg]** American messages of freedom and individuality in their entertainment products can empower consumers to develop their identities. For example, when Asian middle class women watch American soap operas, they see that the possibility to marry for love or to live independently of the extended family exists.
- [Exp]** Hence, it creates a negative impact on a country, especially for Asian countries which places more emphasis on the family than on indiv. As Asian take on the values of individualisation and independence, this could cause a loss in the Asian culture and values resulting in disharmony.

Cultural homogenisation in food

- [Elab]** Local cultures become similar to foreign culture.
- [Eg]** The presence and proliferation of fast food outlets like MacDonald's, KFC and Subway, reflect the general acceptance of foreign cultural influences. Given the case of the Italians who resisted cultural homogenisation in food, they protested against MacDonald's plans to build its first fast food restaurant in the country in 1986. Protesters held bowls of pasta in their hands to show their disapproval of American culinary culture.
- [Exp]** As many people consume from these foreign food establishments, the consumption of local and traditional food may also reduce, which may eventually lead to its decline.

Cultural hybridisation in entertainment

- [Elab]** Foreign and local cultures are blended, resulting in unique combinations containing elements from both cultures. This can lead to changes to the nature of local cultures.
- [Eg]** Dominating influence of American culture and rise of Korean influences (K-wave) – The American film 'Kung Fu Panda' was released in China and was met with protest from the Chinese because the movie was accused of creating an inaccurate portrayal of Chinese culture. Protesters perceived the movie to have misrepresented the cultural icon of China – the panda, and one of China's martial arts – kung fu. (Mainly Americanisation)
- [Exp]** Although cultural hybridisation in entertainment results in a wider variety of programmes, for China, this particular hybridisation has negatively affected the country as it was seen as an inaccurate portrayal of Chinese production and that it was an attempt by the West to *undermine* Chinese's national treasure.

Cultural hybridisation in food

- [Elab]** Foreign and local cultures are blended, resulting in unique combinations containing elements from both cultures. This can lead to changes to the nature of local cultures.
- [Eg]** Local cultures can maintain their influences when hybridisation takes place. Foreign fast food items and menus are modified to local tastes. During the Hari Raya season, MacDonald's introduces the Rendang Beef Burger to cater to the likes of locals in Singapore. The influence of local cultures can be maintained.
- [Exp]** Cultural hybridisation food would lead to a greater variety of food choices but it can result in dilution, but not as extreme as cultural homogenisation. Ideally, the local culture would experience a loss in authenticity.

3-5 Managing Cyber Security Challenges

2019

Government

- [Elab]** Government placing emphasis on strengthening security defence to manage cyber security. They can educate individuals on cyber wellness and cooperate with other agencies to protect security.
- [Eg]** The Cyber Security Agency (CSA) ensures the safety of Singapore's critical infrastructure including energy and banking sections. The Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (APCERT) is a collaboration with other countries in order to maintain a network of computer security expert in the region. Interpol opened its first digital crime centre in 2015. It provides member countries with the tools and techniques to counter the latest cybercrime trends.
- [Exp]** The government can invest the manpower and resources into ensuring the safety and security of the country's technological hardware and software. This can improve the country's competency in responding to cybersecurity challenges should they arise and also prevent cyber-attacks on SG.

2019

Individuals

- [Elab]** Individuals are to remain vigilant in ensuring own cyber security.
- [Eg]** They ensure that computer is defended against technological threats by installing anti-virus programmes. Use strong passwords and change them regularly. Be smart about what and how one accesses online materials. Never be complacent about online privacy.
- [Exp]** Individuals can reduce their vulnerability towards cyber attacks.

3-6 Managing Transnational Terrorism

Preventive measures

- [Elab]** Preventive measures prevent terror attacks from occurring. They ensure that Singapore is safe from foreign terrorists or goods that could potentially harm Singaporeans from entering Singapore.
- [Eg]** The border control system in Singapore controlled by ICA is responsible for fortifying our borders. Biometric screening is used to scan individual's fingerprints and search the system for potential criminal alerts related to terrorism. Should one have a history of terrorist activities or is on a list of suspected terrorists, they will be denied entry.
- [Exp]** Thus, effective border controls can manage terrorism in SG because by working together to implement stricter border security against acts of terrorism, terrorists will find it difficult to execute their plans. As a result, this increases the level of vigilance against possible terrorist attacks, keeping the country safe.

Protective measures

- [Elab]** Protective measures make Singapore less vulnerable to attacks as key infrastructure and installations are protected by the Home Team or the SAF. One of the protective measures is through surveillance.
- [Eg]** Security cameras installed at powerplants in Jurong, will deter terrorists from carrying out a terror attack as they know that these protective measures are in place and should they intend to carry it out, the surveillance measures will foil their attempts.
- [Exp]** The authorities will be able to anticipate the act and protect the key infrastructure by arresting the terrorists and increasing patrols in anticipation.

Responsive measures (internal)

- [Elab]** Responsive measures ensure a country is prepared to deal with damage caused by a terrorist attack.
- [Eg]** Frequent exercises such as Exercise Heartbeat are held annually where Home Team agencies work with the community and private corporations to test their *contingency* plans for acts of terrorism. A similar exercise – Exercise Northstar, tests the whole-of-govt ability to respond to emergency scenarios.
- [Exp]** Such exercises equip SGreans with the right skills so they are better prepared to deal with a range of threats. This increases the citizens' level of preparedness in case of an actual attack and if an actual attack occurs, there will be less destruction and loss of lives.

Responsive measures (by citizens)

- [Elab]** SG citizens can play an active part in managing transnational terrorism by being prepared if such an event were to occur.
- [Eg]** SG citizens can download the SG Secure application. This app can broadcast important alerts during major emergencies and provide information on ways to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks. Citizens can also send messages, photos or videos of incidents and request for help at times of emergencies.
- [Exp]** Through this application, SG citizens can now be more prepared and play a more active role by keeping an eye out for suspicious behaviour and report it to the authorities. They also learn how to protect themselves and their family during a terrorist attack and become active responders and help others in times of crisis.

Responsive measures (collaboration)

- [Elab]** SG also collaborate with the other countries to improve its capabilities in responding to transnational terrorist threats.
- [Eg]** SG's DSO National Laboratories work closely with its counterparts in countries like the USA, France and Sweden on chemical, biological, radiological and explosive (CBRE)-related research and development efforts. SG also participates in exercises with other countries to exchange knowledge on dealing with CBRE-related terrorist attacks. At the ASEAN Defence Minister's Meeting (ADMM) Plus Counter Terrorism Exercise in 2013, forces from SG, other ASEAN countries, Australia, China and USA came together to plan and discuss strategies to coordinate operations against CBRE-related terrorist attacks.
- [Exp]** Collaboration between countries is effective in preventing terrorist attack because sharing information about potential threats can allow SG to foil possible attacks that terrorist groups are planning. In addition, by working with other countries, we will be able to learn from their experience and will be able to deal with the threat of terrorism more effectively.

Glossary

1. **Expatriate** – a person who lives outside of their native country
2. **Burgeoning** – beginning to grow or increase rapidly; flourishing
3. **Nominal** – very small (to describe price/charge)
4. **Recession** – a period of temporary economic decline during which trade and industrial activity are reduced, generally identified by a fall in GDP in two successive quarters
5. **Fester** - (of a negative feeling or a problem) become worse or more intense, especially through long-term neglect or indifference.
6. **Disenchanted** - disappointed by someone or something previously respected or admired; disillusioned.
7. **Secular** – not connected with religious or spiritual matters
8. **Enclave** – a portion of territory surrounded by a larger territory whose inhabitants are culturally or ethnically distinct.
9. **Privatised** – transfer (a business, industry, or service) from public to private ownership and control
10. **Containerisation** – a system of intermodal freight transport using intermodal containers
11. **Academia** – the environment or community concerned with the pursuit of research, education and scholarship
12. **Undermine** – lessen the effectiveness, power, or ability of, especially gradually or insidiously
13. **Red-tape** – excessive bureaucracy or adherence to official rules and formalities.
14. **Laissez-faire** – an economic system in which transactions between private parties are absent of any form of government intervention such as regulation, privileges, imperialism, tariffs and subsidies

ANNEX A

EXAMPLES BANK

1-1 Challenges in Deciding What is Good For Society**Differing needs and interests**

An efficient public transport system would be an important priority for those without their own mode of transport. However, those with their own transport may be concerned about efficient road network.

Differing priorities

While parents with school-going children would want the govt to invest more on education, senior citizens would want the govt to invest more on healthcare.

Unequal sharing of costs

In building an efficient transport system for the country, it is necessary to build expressways for smooth traffic flow. While society will generally benefit, residents living near the expressways may be affected by the noise generated from the traffic.

1-2 Ideas Shaping Governance**Good leadership**

When making the decision to build integrated resorts (IRs) in 2005, there was strong opposition from the people as they were concerned that it will result in increased gambling addiction. However, the govt decided to go ahead with the plan as SG was stagnating in the tourism industry and was not influenced by the people's negative reactions.

Anticipating change and staying relevant

When making the decision to build integrated resorts (IRs) in 2005, the govt anticipated that the global economy would become more competitive in the long run and hence prioritised the development of SG's tourism sector to gain potential economic benefits such as job opportunities & higher tourist income.

Providing a stake for everyone

Through "Our SG Conversation" (OSC) launched in 2012 by PM Lee Hsien Loong, it's a national-level conversation where citizens can come together to share their views and ideas about what matters to SG. In doing so, citizens participated in focus groups and dialogue sessions during which they gave their individual feedback to govt officials who were present. On a more frequent basis, citizens can simply give feedback to the govt through official communication channels via emails and telephone calls to govt organisations.

Practising meritocracy

Students are rewarded based on meritocracy through the Edusave Scholarship and Merit Bursary schemes.

1-3 Role of Government in Working for the Good of Society**Maintaining internal order**

SPF protects the people from crime and all manners of criminal harm so that peace can be maintained. One example is during the Little India Riot on 8 Dec 2013 where the SPF and SCDF worked together to contain the incident and bring about swift dispersal of the crowd to prevent further public disorder.

Maintaining external security (Diplomacy)

One of Ministry of Foreign Affairs' success is joining the other Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) founding members, and strongly contested the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia in 1978 that threatened regional security and stability. As a result, the govt was able to safeguard SG's sovereignty beyond her shores.

Maintaining external security (Deterrence)

This involves the SG Army, Republic of SG Navy and Republic of SG Air Force which safeguards SG's land, sea and airspace respectively. Each year, the SG govt allocates a significant percentage of the national budget to defence. The defence expenditure goes to purchasing new state of the art military weapons and vehicles. The SG military force also engages in joint military exercises with neighbouring countries.

Ensuring justice

A Personal Protection Order (PPO) will be granted if the Family Justice Court rules that domestic violence has been committed. In such a case, the offender will be dealt with and the victim will be protected under the PPO.

Providing goods and services

In SG, the govt spends a lot of resources increasing the number of bus routes, bus stops, bus interchanges and other aspects of transport such as the length of expressways and number of MRT stations. In 2014, there were 22 bus interchanges, 164 km of expressways and 105 MRT stations.

Safeguarding interests of citizens

The WorkRight initiative which helps both employees and employers understand their rights and responsibilities. It creates awareness of employment rights amongst low-wage workers, allowing them to understand when their rights as workers are being abused. It also helps provide them an avenue to seek help in the event that employment rights are being violated.

1-4 Contributing to the Needs of Society**As individuals**

"A Litter at a time" was a spontaneous movement driven by Ms Elisa Ng – a housewife after she saw the irresponsibility of SGreens to clean up after themselves after the Countdown.

As formal organised groups

The Nature Society is a formal organised group that contributes to the environmental needs of society by playing a role in conserving natural heritage in SG.

As informal organised groups

Mr Jeremy Chua started up an initiative organised group of volunteers called "SG Haze Rescue" during the critical haze period in SG. The volunteers donated and gave out masks to those in need, especially the elderly who could not go out to purchase the masks.

1-5 Influencing Governmental Decisions**As organised groups**

The Humanitarian Organisation for Migration Economics (HOME) and the Transient Workers Count Two (TWC2), put forth their recommendations on improving working conditions of foreign workers in SG. Specifically, they recommended having a day off per week for foreign domestic helpers. This was eventually approved by SG govt and made mandatory.

As individuals

Through "Our SG Conversation" (OSC) launched in 2012 by PM Lee Hsien Loong, it's a national-level conversation where citizens can come together to share their views and ideas about what matters to SG. In OSC 2012, citizens voiced out their desire for a more holistic education system that focusses less on exams. In 2018, MOE responded by reducing the weighted components for Secondary 1 and 3, showing how indiv citizens can influence govt decisions via their feedback.

2-1 Attributes Shaping Identity**Nationality**

SGreens share commonalities such as speaking Singlish, boing over local food and espousing values of meritocracy and secularism. A citizen is also likely to have a stake in their country such as ownership of properties or having their family being based there.

Race and ethnicity

Malays typically grow up speaking Malay and following Islam as a religion. They also have their own unique cuisine which typically follows the dietary restrictions set by Islam. They have several traditional costumes like the baju kurung.

Religion (can also use the same example from "race and ethnicity")

Buddhists follow the teaching of Buddha which promotes peace and harmony against different race and religion. Buddhists are also prohibited from eating beef and some are expected to be vegetarian, as such it will affect their cuisine.

Socio-economic status

An indiv from a higher SES will probably work as a professional in a job which requires a high level of skills and knowledge. An indiv will also probably have at least tertiary education and earn a higher level of income. However, an indiv of lower SES will probably earn less and also have a lower level of education.

2-2 Reasons for Movement of People to Singapore**Immigration policy**

Various expatriates came to SG's burgeoning petrochemical industry under the S-Pass scheme and decided to remain as Permanent Residents, eventually naturalising into citizens.

Economic opportunities

Such global investors include multination corporations (MNCs) like the L'Oreal Group. This has resulted in SG's reputation as a business hub with as many as 7000 MNCs located here.

Socio-cultural environment

Various immigrant support groups like the Australia and New Zealand Association which supports both Australian and New Zealander families based in SG. These local groups help organise events for immigrants from their respective countries to help them to settle into SG.

2-3 Challenges of Living In a Diverse Society**Prejudices and misconceptions**

In 2010, a pastor of a large Christian church was questioned by the Internal Security Department (ISD) for *contentious* remarks about Buddhism made in a video of a sermon. It spread quickly and created a huge uproar on the Internet.

Competition of resources

Employment, housing and transportation are key resources which SGreens have expressed concerns over. With increasingly diverse groups of foreigners entering SG, locals fear that foreigners may take their jobs away. They also blame foreigners from higher SES groups for increasing the prices of goods & services, making housing less affordable.

2-4 Benefits of Living in a Diverse Society**Exchange and appreciation of culture**

Harmony can be achieved with creating of common space which is a platform for shared values, and common experience to build a national identity. The People's Association (PA) serves as a bridge between the government and the people promoting racial harmony and social cohesion through activities (i.e. learning journey, house visits).

Exchange of skills and knowledges

The outcomes of such local-foreign collaboration between SG's A*STAR and Switzerland's Cytos Biotechnology AG led to significant discoveries like the H1N1 flu vaccine.

2-5 Responses to a Diverse Society (Socio-Cultural)

Assimilation (Education system)

The education system in France is secular and strengthens French national identity through schooling. In the French classroom, there are no discussions about religions except in History and Philosophy classes. Furthermore, adaptation classes are also conducted for the children of immigrants to help them improve their French and eventually join regular French schools.

Assimilation (Naturalisation)

Since 1998, it became necessary for all immigrants to undergo French language courses, and attend a day of civic education about life in France before they gain permanent residency. Immigrants must also show knowledge of the history and culture of France, have proficiency in French and pass a cultural test in order to be eligible for French nationality.

Integration (Naturalisation)

Naturalisation initiatives are effective in integrating new citizens into SG. Upon receiving their in-principle arrival for SG citizenship, new SG citizens go through the SG Citizenship Journey. This is a three-part programme designed through collaboration between the National Integration Council, the People's Association and the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority of SG. Firstly, new citizens go through an e-journey online where they learn about SG's history, culture and values. They then attend a community sharing session to meet other citizens and articulate their aspirations for SG as well as how they can contribute to SG society. Lastly, they go on an experimental tour which brings them to key historical landmarks and national institutions.

Integration (Common experiences)

All male SG citizens and Permanent Residents are required to serve NS for two years to ensure SG's security. NS brings together both new citizens and locally-born SGreens to train, live and serve together in the SG Armed Forces, SG Police Force or the SG Civil Defence Force.

Integration (Bilingual policy)

Students are expected to learn English and one of the official MTL.

Integration (Ethnic Integration policy)

If one block reaches its maximum quota for Chinese residents, a prospective buyer will be unable to buy an apartment from a Malay seller as this would dilute the minority population in a particular block.

2-6 Responses to a Diverse Society (Socio-economic)

Market-based approach (US case study)

In USA, policies such as Medicaid and Medicare are provided to assist lower SES people and Obamacare for most Americans, allowing healthcare to be more affordable.

Shared responsibility

In Singapore, policies such as Medisave are created and people can choose their preferred healthcare service at their own expenses from their CPF accounts with government subsidising part of the cost. This can allow Singaporeans to have less burdens when it comes to medical expenses.

Government-finance approach (Sweden case study)

In Sweden, patients only pay the full cost of prescribed drugs up to 122 euros, after which any costs will be subsidised.

3-1 Driving Forces of Globalisation

Government-finance approach (Sweden case study)

Starbucks Coffee Company, the largest coffee chain in the world, drives globalisation by sourcing beans from 27 countries which are then roasted, packed and delivered to 21000 stores in 65 countries.

Development in transportation

In SG, extensive railway and road networks have led to high connectivity between SG and Malaysia. Changi Airport and the Port of SG Authority (PSA) also connect SG to the rest of the world and help SG become a leading transportation hub.

Advancement in technology

The collaboration of scientists worldwide on projects allows the spread of ideas between the *academia* of different countries.

3-2 Positive Economic Impacts of Globalisation
On countries

SG and the US signed a FTA that came into force in 2004 allowing for the free trade of electronics, information technology and petrochemicals.

On companies / SMEs

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Cultural hybridisation in entertainment

The American film 'Kung Fu Panda' was released in China and was met with protest from the Chinese because the movie was accused of creating an inaccurate portrayal of Chinese culture. Protesters perceived the movie to have misrepresented the cultural icon of China – the panda, and one of China's martial arts – kung fu. (Mainly Americanisation.)

Cultural hybridisation in food

Local cultures can maintain their influences when hybridisation takes place. Foreign fast food items and menus are modified to local tastes. During the Hari Raya season, MacDonald's introduces the Rendang Beef Burger to cater to the likes of locals in Singapore. The influence of local cultures can be maintained.

3-5 Managing Cyber Security Challenges
Government

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Individuals

They ensure that computer is defended against technological threats by installing anti-virus programmes. Use strong passwords and change them regularly. Be smart about what and how one accesses online materials. Never be complacent about online privacy.

3-6 Managing Transnational Terrorism
Preventive measures

The border control system in Singapore controlled by ICA is responsible for fortifying our borders. Biometric screening is used to scan individual's fingerprints and search the system for potential criminal alerts related to terrorism. Should one have a history of terrorist activities or is on a list of suspected terrorists, they will be denied entry.

Protective measures

Security cameras installed at powerplants in Jurong, will deter terrorists from carrying out a terror attack as they know that these protective measures are in place and should they intend to carry it out, the surveillance measures will foil their attempts.

Responsive measures (internal)

Frequent exercises such as Exercise Heartbeat are held annually where Home Team agencies work with the community and private corporations to test their *contingency* plans for acts of terrorism. A similar exercise – Exercise Northstar, tests the whole-of-govt ability to respond to emergency scenarios.

Responsive measures (by citizens)

SG citizens can download the SG Secure application. This app can broadcast important alerts during major emergencies and provide information on ways to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks. Citizens can also send messages, photos or videos of incidents and request for help at times of emergencies.

Responsive measures (collaboration)

SG's DSO National Laboratories work closely with its counterparts in countries like the USA, France and Sweden on chemical, biological, radiological and explosive (CBRE)-related research and development efforts. SG also participates in exercises with other countries to exchange knowledge on dealing with CBRE-related terrorist attacks. At the ASEAN Defence Minister's Meeting (ADMM) Plus Counter Terrorism Exercise in 2013, forces from SG, other ASEAN countries, Australia, China and USA came together to plan and discuss strategies to coordinate operations against CBRE-related terrorist attacks.

ANNEX B**O LEVEL TRENDS 2017 – 2020**

Use this section to try to predict what is going to come out this year for “O” Levels and “spot” topics. (for those last-minute muggers – spot topics at your own risk ok)

Theme 1 – Exploring Citizenship and Governance**Theme 2 – Living in a Diverse Society****Theme 3 – Being Part of a Globalised World**

For Section A: SBQ – will be set on one of the above themes. May be decontextualized. This section is completely skill based and you cannot study for it. (35 marks)

For Section B: SRQ – will be set on another theme. Part A requires you to suggest/explain stuff using your own creativity. (this part cannot be studied for.) Part B requires you to regurgitate any two points that is found in the textbook. (this is the only part that you can study.) (15 marks)
You are required to answer all the questions in all the sections.

General Trend

The table below shows which theme came out for Section A and B.

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Section A	Theme 1	Theme 3	Theme 1	Theme 2
Section B	Theme 2	Theme 2	Theme 3	Theme 1

SRQ “O” Level Questions (unlikely to come out again but you never know...)

- 2020** (a) What important messages would you share with Singaporeans to help reduce the amount of plastic waste generated? Explain your answer with reference to **two** messages. [7]
- (b) Do you agree that it is more challenging for a government to manage the competing needs and interests of citizens than to strengthen citizens' sense of belonging? Explain your answer. [8]
- 2019** (a) In your opinion, how can Singapore benefit from this development as a ‘Smart Nation’? Explain your answer with reference to **two** benefits. [7]
- (b) Do you think that individual actions have a more important role to play than global solutions in addressing cyber security threats? Explain your answer. [8]
- 2018** (a) In your opinion, why is spending on healthcare in Singapore likely to increase in the coming years? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons. [7]
- (b) Do you think that the government or individuals should have a greater responsibility for healthcare costs? Explain your answer. [8]
- 2017** (c) In your opinion, why is Singapore becoming an increasingly diverse society? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons. [7]
- (d) How far do you agree that the positive impact is more significant than the negative impacts of living in a diverse society? Explain your answer. [8]