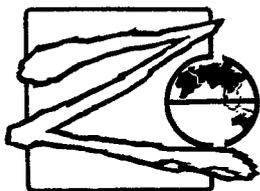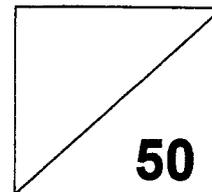NAME : _____ INDEX NO : _____ CLASS _____

ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2025
SECONDARY FOUR EXPRESS/FIVE
NORMAL ACADEMIC
HUMANITIES
SOCIAL STUDIES

50

1 hour 45 minutes   **26 August 2025**   **2260/01**
2261/01
2262/01

Additional materials:

Writing papers and thread

ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL
ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL
ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL
ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL
ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL ZHENGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Name, Class and Register number on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A
Answer **all** questions.

Section B
Answer **both** questions.

Write all answers on the writing papers provided.
At the end of the examination, fasten all work securely together.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

This Social Studies component is worth 50% of the Humanities subject.
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

The total marks for this paper is 50.

This document consists of 8 printed pages including this cover page.

SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

Answer **all** questions.

1   **Living in a Diverse Society**

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer all the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources which you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the issue to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1   Study Source A.

What is the message of this source? Explain your answer.   [5]

2   Study Sources B and C.

How different are these two sources? Explain your answer.

[7]

3   Study Source D.

Is Source D useful in telling me about racial stereotypes and discrimination in Singapore? Explain your answer.   [6]

4   Study Sources E and F.

Sources E and F say different things. Does Source E prove that Source F is wrong? Explain your answer.   [7]

5   'Individuals play an important role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore.'

Using sources in this case study, explain how far you would agree with this statement.   [10]

3

How successful is Singapore in maintaining racial harmony?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you answer some of the questions.

Although racial harmony is a cornerstone of Singapore's national identity, there are still differences in how people of different races are treated in society. For example, 2024 findings from the Institute of Policy Studies-OnePeople.sg Indicators of Racial and Religious Harmony study showed that racial stereotyping has risen, with 43.5 per cent agreeing or strongly agreeing that they form assumptions about someone's behaviour based on their race. The negative effects of this are felt most strongly by minority groups, especially when it comes to gaining equal access to jobs, opportunities, and long-term economic progress.

Over the years, the government has introduced various measures aimed at supporting disadvantaged groups and improving access to opportunities for all. Despite these efforts, some Singaporeans still feel that more persistent challenges continue to affect minority communities and feel that there needs to be more done to build a truly inclusive society.

Study the following sources to find out how racial inequalities in society continue to shape the experiences of minority groups in Singapore.

4

Source A: *An online article about a multiracial friend group and their experience watching a Tamil language film, published by Today, September 2024.*

In a TikTok video, Mr Abhimanyu Selvakumar, 22, documented the reactions of his Chinese Singaporean friends watching the Tamil language film, 'The Greatest of All Time', which had English subtitles. With over 450,000 views and 40,000 likes, the video showed the group having the time of their lives, laughing and enjoying the film. Many viewers were surprised to see the Chinese youths embracing a Tamil language movie with such enthusiasm. Mr Selvakumar said, "Given my friends' willingness to explore new cultural territories, I promptly secured tickets and planned to record the experience for memories."

Netizens found it refreshing and heartwarming to see Chinese youths thoroughly enjoying a film of a different language and culture. One user commented on the video saying, "Now, THIS is how we should celebrate Racial Harmony Day in Singapore!". Mr Selvakumar agreed with this comment and emphasised that everyday interactions are important in strengthening racial harmony.

Source B: *An online article titled 'Economic Roots of Racism in Singapore' by a Human Rights Defender who writes on social issues and equality, July 2021.*

Ethnic minorities have become victims of rising economic inequality in Singapore. Singapore's ethnic Chinese population enjoys the most economic wealth and social status in this small country, and this manifests itself in political and material privilege. These advantages are bestowed upon Chinese Singaporeans, regardless of any other intersectional identity* they carry. By being Chinese in Singapore, they start life on a higher place in the scale as compared to minorities. Many see Chinese privilege in Singapore as the root cause of Singapore's economic strength. Chinese privilege cannot exist in the U.S. or in Europe because Chinese lack economic, social and political power that is engrained in those places. In Singapore, Chinese Singaporeans have power in every facet of life; it's deeply built into the way things work and is done in an organised way."

The idea that individuals' identities consist of overlapping factors, like race, gender, and class

Source C: *An extract taken from the speech by former Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at National Day Rally, August 2021.*

It is "entirely baseless" to claim that there is "Chinese privilege" in Singapore, said former Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, noting that Singapore treats "all races equally, with no special privileges." Mr Lee added, "the Government was impartial when drafting our laws and administrative measures, and did not favour any race. This fundamental founding policy was supported by the Chinese community and became the foundation of our multiracial harmony."

On the other hand, he also emphasised how ethnic minorities face more difficulties during job searches with some employers preferring to hire Chinese employees. While some jobs require proficiency in Mandarin, it is not a must for others. If employers still state Mandarin as a requirement, the minorities will find this unreasonable and unfair, said Mr Lee. He concluded that the country's racial harmony remains a work in progress and that racial emotions still exist despite different communities becoming closer.

5

Source D: *From an article published by The Straits Times, a Singapore newspaper, about a Hari Raya short film, May 2022.*

The Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) took down a Hari Raya short film, *Messages for Syawal*, following criticism for portraying stereotypes of the Malay community. The film features a father who works as a mover and a mother who is a housewife. Their son feels ashamed to invite friends to their rental flat and skips school to distribute fliers and earn extra money. When his parents find out, his mother decides to return to work, and his father takes on a new job. The film includes mentions of government schemes such as UPLIFT and HDB grants aimed at supporting lower-income families.

Critics contrasted the film's bleak tone with Gov.sg's light-hearted Chinese New Year 2022 video and suggested it implied celebrations are only deserved after socio-economic success. Another Instagram page described the portrayal as "condescending," calling it "tiring and hurtful" to repeatedly face stereotypes that portray the community as deficient.

Source E: *An online confession of an Indian woman in 2023, as part of the 'Growing Up Indian' Project. 'Growing Up Indian' Project is an online initiative by Association of Women for Action and Research (Aware) dedicated to the narratives of Indian women in Singapore.*

In my 20s, I went for a job interview at a popular women's magazine and was asked if I speak Mandarin. As an Indian, I could not, and asked why this was needed for a job writing in English. I was given a vague response and it was shrugged off. I didn't get the job, but I knew better than to go up against the popular publishing company. I have sat through job meetings where the team started conversations in Mandarin and I was the only one who had no idea what they were talking about. They would switch back to English once I reminded them of my existence, but the fact that it needed pointing out showed how much they assumed that everyone in Singapore understands Mandarin. Job advertisements requiring applicants to speak Mandarin when it's not relevant to the job, has been happening for decades. This doesn't mean it's okay.

6

Source F: *An infographic titled 'IPS-OnePeople.sg* Indicators of Racial and Religious Harmony 2024' by the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), February 2025.*

At the workplace, overall reported experiences of discrimination at the workplace have decreased.

Among those who reported discrimination at work, the most common forms included:

Language use by others that excluded respondents from conversations.

Perceived exclusionary behaviour during job promotions

Fewer than 1 in 5

Malays and Indians in 2024 reported feeling racially discriminated against in a job or a job promotion, down from over a quarter of each group in 2018 and in 2013

7 in 10

respondents felt there were **no significant differences in the effort required by various racial groups** to:
- Achieve a basic, decent life in Singapore, or
- Reach top positions in companies

about 18%   **25.7%**   **21.7%**

feel that Singaporean Malays and Indians had to work harder, or much more than others to have a basic, decent life

feel that Singaporean Malays had to work harder, or much more than others to reach top positions in Singapore

feel that Singaporean Indians

These proportions have however, decreased marginally from 2018.

*A government organisation that advocates for racial harmony initiatives in Singapore.

7

## SECTION B (Structured-Response Question)

Answer **both** questions.

Exploring Citizenship & Governance

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

Photography enthusiast Jonathan Tan captures pictures of HDB void decks to honour the 'Singapore identity'. Through his images, Jonathan highlights these common spaces as meaningful sites of community life, aims to preserve their cultural significance amid modern changes, and reminds Singaporeans of their shared experiences.
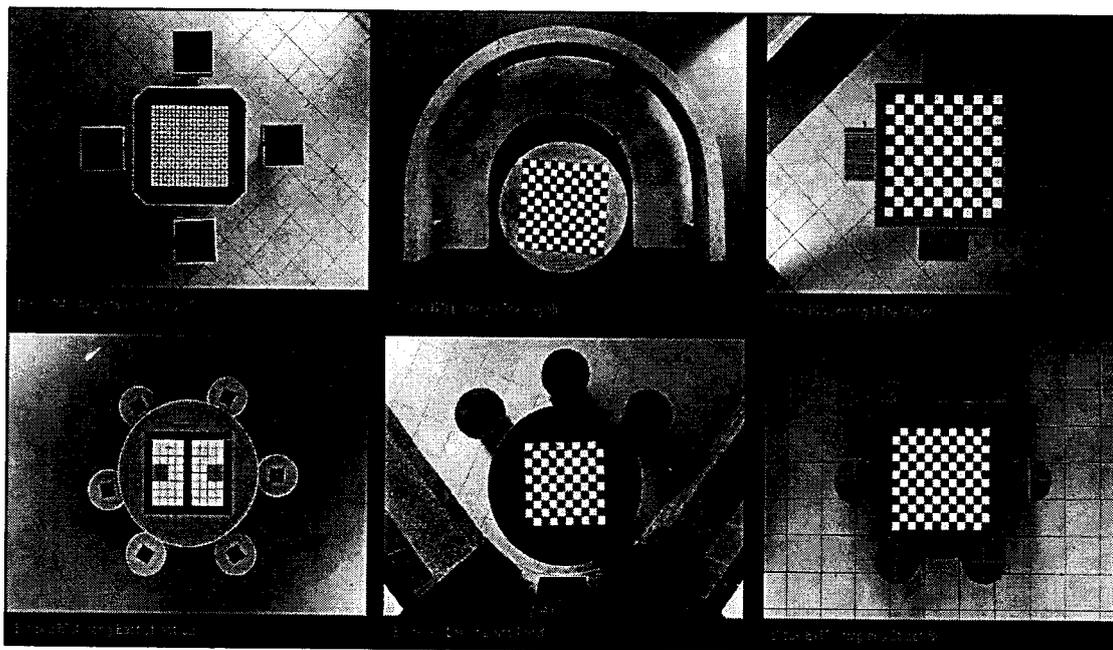
Extract 2

It is challenging for the government to decide what is good for society because although individuals may agree on certain needs and interests of society, they may have differing priorities. This challenge becomes greater when there are limited resources.

Extract 3

It is challenging for the government to decide what is good for society when deciding how to meet various needs and interests. These decisions may lead to an unequal sharing of costs that may affect different groups of people.

8

6   Extract 1 shows that appreciating landmarks unique to Singapore is a way of preserving Singapore heritage, which can help young Singaporeans strengthen their sense of national identity.

In your opinion, why do young people need to have a strong sense of identity as Singaporeans? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons.   [7]

7   Extracts 2 and 3 describe the challenges that the government faces when deciding what is good for society.

Do you think that managing the different priorities of citizens is more challenging than managing the unequal sharing of costs? Explain your answer.   [8]

– End of Paper –

ZSS 4E5N Social Studies Prelim Exam 2025 Answer Scheme

Section A: Source-Based Case Study (35 Marks)

1 Study Source A.

What is the message of this source? Explain your answer. [5]

Levels	Descriptors	Marks
L1	**Describes source based on the provenance or topic** E.g. The source is about a group of Chinese youths watching a Tamil language film. E.g. The source is about the importance of having a multiracial friend group.	1m
L2	**Inference based on sub-message (Positive attitude of Chinese friends)** *Award 2 marks for sub-message, unsupported* *Award 3 marks for sub-message, supported* E.g. The message of this source is that Selvakumar's Chinese Singaporean friends had a positive attitude towards learning about the Indian culture, which promotes racial harmony. Source A states, 'Given my friends' willingness to explore new cultural territories, I promptly secured the tickets ...' This shows that these particular Chinese youths had an open-mindedness when watching the Tamil film, allowing them to immerse in and learn more about their Indian friend, and his culture.	2 - 3m
L3	**Message based on main message (EITHER <u>Questioning the way RHD is currently celebrated</u> OR <u>Singaporeans in general are supportive of racial harmony</u>)** *Award 4 marks for main message, unsupported* *Award 5 marks for main message, supported* E.g. The message of this source is that celebrating Racial Harmony Day is more meaningful when Singaporeans get to actually immerse in one another's cultures and gain real-life experiences. Source A states, 'One user commented on the video saying, "Now, THIS is how we should celebrate Racial Harmony Day in Singapore!" and 'Mr Selvakumar agreed with this comment and emphasised that everyday interactions are important in strengthening racial harmony.' This suggests that instead of the typical Racial Harmony Day celebration in Singapore, Singaporeans feel that they get to learn more about each others' cultures through real-life experiences whereby they get to actively participate in cultural activities with their friends from other races. E.g. The message of this source is Singaporeans, generally, are supportive of experiences allowing different races to mix with one	4 - 5m

	another. They are supportive of racial harmony in Singapore. Source A states, 'Netizens found it refreshing and heartwarming to see Chinese youths thoroughly enjoying a film of a different language and culture.' This shows that many Singaporeans in society do not look down/find it strange when people of different races come together to enjoy a cultural activity and instead, support it, which helps Singapore's racial harmony.	

2 Study Source B.

How different are these two sources? Explain your answer. [7]

Levels	Descriptors	Marks
L1	**Comparison based on provenance / superficial comparison** E.g. Source B is similar to Source C in terms of provenance. Both sources are taken from news articles. E.g. Source C is similar to Source D as they are both are about Chinese privilege in Singapore.	1m
L2	**Based on content, unsupported (No explanation / No evidence)** Award 2m for similarity OR difference. Award 3m for similarity AND difference. E.g. Sources B and C are similar as they both agree that there are certain advantages that the Chinese in Singapore enjoy. **OR/AND** E.g. The sources differ as they disagree about whether or not there is Chinese privilege in Singapore. Source B says that there is Chinese privilege in Singapore and that they benefit in multiple areas (economic, social, political) but Source C says that there is no Chinese privilege in Singapore at all.	2 - 3m
L3	**One-sided comparison based on content with either difference or similarity** *Award higher marks for more developed answers.* *Accept any other plausible responses.* **Difference: Whether there is Chinese privilege in Singapore** E.g. Source B differs from Source C in terms of whether Chinese privilege exists in Singapore or not. Source B tells me that there is Chinese privilege in Singapore and that the Chinese enjoy privileges in multiple facets of their lives and reap economic, social and political advantages, while Source C tells me that there is no Chinese privilege in Singapore. This can be seen from the 'Singapore's ethnic Chinese population enjoys the most economic wealth and social status in this small country, and this	4 - 5m

2

	manifests itself in political and material privilege', 'they start life on a higher place in the scale as compared to minorities' and 'In Singapore, Chinese Singaporeans have power in every facet of life; it's deeply built into the way things work and is done in an organised, way.' <u>This suggests that the privilege that the Chinese in Singapore enjoy allows them greater access to opportunities and easier pathways to success compared to other minority races</u>. However, Source C states that 'It is entirely baseless to claim that there is Chinese privilege in Singapore' and that 'that Singapore treats all races equally, with no special privileges.' <u>This suggests that there are no unfair advantages that the Chinese enjoy in Singapore, and that all races are given a level playing filed/equal opportunities to succeed</u>.

OR

<u>**Similarity: The Chinese have a higher chance of economic success than minority races**</u>

Source B is similar to Source C in terms of stating that the Chinese enjoy have more opportunities for economic success than minority races. Source B states 'Singapore's ethnic Chinese population enjoys the most economic wealth and social status in this small country, and this manifests itself in political and material privilege,' 'By being Chinese in Singapore, they start life on a higher place in the scale as compared to minorities,' and 'In Singapore, Chinese Singaporeans have power in every facet of life; it's deeply built into the way things work and is done in an organised, way.' <u>This suggests that simply by being Chinese, they have an unfair advantage of enjoying greater access to opportunities that allow them to attain economic success, which minority races may not have</u>. Similarly, Source C states 'ethnic minorities face more difficulties during job searches with some employers preferring to hire Chinese employees,' and 'If employers still state Mandarin as a requirement, the minorities will find this unreasonable and unfair.' <u>This suggests that the Mandarin requirement at workplaces puts the Chinese at an advantage as compared to minority races, once again increasing their chances of securing jobs, and therefore, their chances of economic success</u>. | | |
| **L4** | **Balanced comparison based on content with both difference and similarity**

Award higher marks for more developed answers

E.g. Source B differs from Source C in terms of whether Chinese privilege exists in Singapore or not. Source B tells me that there is Chinese privilege in Singapore and that the Chinese enjoy privileges in multiple facets of their lives and reap economic, social and political advantages. This can be seen from the 'Singapore's ethnic Chinese population enjoys the most economic wealth and social status in this small country, and this manifests itself in political and material privilege', 'they start life on a higher place in the scale as compared to minorities' and 'In Singapore, Chinese Singaporeans have power in every facet of life; it's deeply built into the way things work and is done in an organised, way.' <u>This suggests that the privilege that the Chinese in Singapore enjoy allows them greater access to opportunities and easier pathways to success compared to</u> | **5 - 6m** | |

other minority races. Source C states that 'It is entirely baseless to claim that there is Chinese privilege in Singapore' and that 'that Singapore treats all races equally, with no special privileges.' This suggests that there are no unfair advantages that the Chinese enjoy in Singapore, and that all races are given a level playing filed/equal opportunities to succeed.

AND

Source B is similar to Source C in terms of stating that the Chinese enjoy have more opportunities for economic success than minority races. Source B states 'By being Chinese in Singapore, they start life on a higher place in the scale as compared to minorities,' and 'In Singapore, Chinese Singaporeans have power in every facet of life; it's deeply built into the way things work and is done in an organised, way.' This suggests that simply by being Chinese, they have an unfair advantage of enjoying greater access to opportunities that allow them to attain economic success, which minority races may not have. Source C states 'ethnic minorities face more difficulties during job searches with some employers preferring to hire Chinese employees,' and 'If employers still state Mandarin as a requirement, the minorities will find this unreasonable and unfair.' This suggests that the Mandarin requirement at workplaces puts the Chinese at an advantage compared to minority races, which increases their chances of securing jobs, and consequently, their chances of economic success.

L5	**Difference based on purpose**	7m

Award higher marks for answers that demonstrate clear outcomes for both sources.

E.g. Source B and Source C are different in their purpose. Source B is written by a Human Rights Defender **[Author]** to educate the Chinese Singaporeans **[Audience]** that there are deeply rooted inequalities in society favouring Chinese Singaporeans, and that they must be aware of their privilege to effectively tackle these inequalities **[Message]**. Source B states 'In Singapore, Chinese Singaporeans have power in every facet of life; it's deeply built into the way things work and is done in an organised, way.' This suggests that the Chinese Singaporeans are in a position to make changes simply by being aware of their privilege and working towards ensuring that minority races are not disadvantaged in their everyday lives **[Intended Outcome]**.

OR Source B is written by a Human Rights Defender **[Author]** to urge the Singapore government **[Audience]** that there are deeply rooted inequalities in society favouring Chinese Singaporeans, and the government has a role in enforcing these inequalities **[Message]**. Source B states 'Chinese privilege cannot exist in the U.S. or in Europe because Chinese lack economic, social and political power that is engrained in those places' and 'In Singapore, Chinese Singaporeans have power in every facet of life; it's deeply built into the way things work and is done in an organised, way.' This suggests that the dominance of Chinese Singaporeans is not accidental, and that government policies may unintentionally favour the majority Chinese community to maintain

4

their social, economic, and political dominance. As such, the author hopes that <u>the government takes action to make systemic changes to get rid of unfair treatment and practices that affect people of certain races in Singapore</u> **[Intended Outcome]**.

+

Source C, on the other hand, is given by former PM Lee **[Author]** to assure Singaporeans **[Audience]** that <u>the struggles faced by minority races are not an outcome of the Chinese privilege in Singapore as it does not exist, and that Chinese Singaporeans actually play a critical role in ensuring a harmonious multiracial society in Singapore</u> **[Message]**. Source C states 'It is entirely baseless to claim that there is "Chinese privilege" in Singapore,' 'Singapore treats all races equally, with no special privileges,' and 'This fundamental founding policy was supported by the Chinese community and became the foundation of our multiracial harmony.' This implies that Singapore offers a level playing field/equal opportunities for all, regardless of race and that there is no unfair advantages/privileges that Chinese Singaporeans enjoy. As such, former PM Lee hopes that <u>the minority races will not harbour resentment towards Chinese Singaporeans because of the frustrations they have and work towards forming a multiracial society</u> **[Intended Outcome]**.

OR: **Context + Intended Outcome**

Both sources were published in 2021, and there were multiple race-related incidents that happened that year **[Context]**. For example, the racist incident with the former Ngee Ann Polytechnic lecturer spewing racist remarks towards an interracial couple, or the incident with a Chinese man being charged due to his racially motivated attack on a 55-year old Indian woman all happened in 2021. Tensions among people were rising, and there was a need to address the root cause/reason for these incidents occurring.

As such, the Human Rights Defender and former Prime Minister Lee addressed the issue of inequalities in Singapore not only to acknowledge the growing concerns among the public, but also to highlight the importance of fostering unity and understanding in a diverse society. The human rights defender aimed to encourage policy reflection, while former PM Lee aimed to spark meaningful conversations to promote long-term efforts toward building a more equal and inclusive Singapore. Their analyses and statements were meant to reassure the public that the issue was being taken seriously, and reduce social tensions **[Intended Outcome]**.

3 Study Source D.

Is Source D useful in telling me about racial stereotypes and discrimination in Singapore? Explain your answer. [6]

Levels	Descriptors	Marks
Note	The key focus of this question is racial stereotypes and discrimination in Singapore.	-
L1	**Based on provenance** E.g. Source D is useful / not useful as it is a news coverage article about a Hari Raya short film in Singapore.	1m
L2	**Based on typicality** E.g. Source D is useful in telling me about racial stereotypes and discrimination in Singapore as it tells me about the personal experiences/feelings of the Malay community in Singapore. E.g. Source D is not useful in telling me about racial stereotypes and discrimination in Singapore as it only represents the personal experiences/feelings of the Malay community in Singapore and not others.	2m
L3	**Based on contents** *Award 3 marks for useful OR not useful, with support.* *Award 4 marks for useful AND not useful, with support.* *Note: Useful OR/AND Not useful, without support will drop back to L2/2.* E.g. Source D is useful in telling me about racial stereotypes and discrimination in Singapore as it describes the stereotypes about the Malay community being shown in a Hari Raya short film. Source D states, 'Another Instagram page described the portrayal as "condescending," calling it "tiring and hurtful" to repeatedly face stereotypes that portray the community as deficient' and 'Critics contrasted the film's bleak tone with Gov.sg's light-hearted Chinese New Year 2022 video'. This suggests that there are stereotypes about the economic success that Malays in Singapore enjoy (stereotypes that do not exist for the Chinese community), and that this discrimination is deeply hurtful for the Malay community. **OR/AND** Source D is not useful because it does not provide a full picture about racial stereotypes in Singapore. It only tells me about the stereotypes about the Malay community and not other minority races. Source D states, 'Another Instagram page described the portrayal as "condescending," calling it "tiring and hurtful" to repeatedly face	3 - 4m

6

	stereotypes that portray the community as deficient', which suggests that the Malay community is deeply hurt by the stereotypes about them and the discrimination that only they face. Since it does not state anything about the stereotypes/discrimination/prejudices experiences by other minority races, it is not useful.	
L4	**Based on L3 + Cross-Reference (CR)** *Award 5m for useful OR not useful.* *Award 6m for useful AND not useful.* • Useful (Exists): CR to sources B / F (only bottom right corner). - *No CR to Source E (biased source)* • Not useful (Does not exist): CR to source A - *No CR to Source C (biased source)* *Note: CR must match Source D. (i.e. presence of racial stereotypes and discrimination)* **USEFUL:** • <u>Source B</u> Cross-referencing to Source B, it supports Source D in showing that there are racial stereotypes and discrimination in Singapore. Source B states 'Ethnic minorities have become victims of rising economic inequality in Singapore', 'By being Chinese in Singapore, they start life on a higher place in the scale as compared to minorities' and 'In Singapore, Chinese Singaporeans have power in every facet of life; it's deeply built into the way things work and is done in an organised, way.' This shows that racial stereotypes and discrimination in Singapore are not just social attitudes but are also tied to deeper structural inequalities. Minority groups, therefore, may face more barriers in areas like education, jobs, and social mobility. As such, there is discrimination in Singapore, shaping opportunities and experiences of minority groups based on their race. When Source B supports Source D, it makes Source D more reliable, and therefore, it is useful as evidence. • <u>Source F</u> Cross-referencing to Source F, it supports Source D in showing that there are racial stereotypes and discrimination in Singapore. Source F states, that about '18% of respondents still feel that Singaporean Indians and Malays have to work harder or much more than others to have a basic, decent life.' It also states that to reach top positions in Singapore, a higher percentage of respondents feel that Singaporean Malays have to work harder, compared to Singaporean Indians. This shows that discrimination still exists for the minority groups in Singapore, especially when it comes to enjoying economic success. The barriers that minority groups face when seeking jobs lower their access to opportunities, which is unfair. This only proves that minority groups do not have the same starting point as others, and that is there discrimination in Singapore. When Source F supports Source D, it makes Source D more reliable, and therefore, it is useful as evidence.	**5 - 6m**

7

L5	**Based on Purpose of Source**	6 - 7m
	Award 7m for more developed answers.	
	E.g. Source D is useful in telling me about racial stereotypes and discrimination in Singapore as it has a clear purpose. Source D is published by The Straits Times **[Author]**, to urge/encourage the Singapore government **[Target Audience]** to be careful/mindful not to perpetuate racial stereotypes when creating media that represents a minority race **[Message]**. Source D states 'Critics contrasted the film's bleak tone with Gov.sg's light-hearted Chinese New Year 2022 video' and 'described the portrayal as "condescending," calling it "tiring and hurtful" to repeatedly face stereotypes that portray the community as deficient.' This implies that in there is indeed a clear difference in the representations of the Chinese and minority races in media created by the government, and the stereotypes that it portrays about minority races can be hurtful and further aggravate discrimination in Singapore. As such, the source intends to urge/encourage the Singapore government to be mindful and take careful consideration of how they portray minority races in media by consulting with appointed members of the minority races first before releasing these videos **[Intended Outcome]**.	
	+ From 2021-2022, there were multiple race-related incidents that happened in Singapore that aggravated the discrimination towards the minority races as well. For example, the racist incident with the former Ngee Ann Polytechnic lecturer spewing racist remarks towards an interracial couple, or the incident with a Chinese man being charged due to his racially motivated attack on a 55-year old Indian woman all happened in 2021 **[Context]**. As such, Source D was published to urge the government to be careful not to perpetuate any stereotypes unintentionally through media portrayals, which could fuel discrimination towards the minority races.	

4   Study Source E.

Sources E and F say different things. Does Source E prove that Source F is wrong? Explain your answer.   [7]

Levels	Descriptors	Marks
L1	**PROVE OR NOT PROVE based on underdeveloped provenance** E.g. Source E does not prove Source F is wrong because Source F is statistical data.	1m
L2	**Single source explanation using Content of Source E / Source F** *Award 3 marks for supported answers.* SOURCE E • **Workplace experience is negative:** Source E says that the workplace experience of minority races is definitely negative as they may feel excluded in the workplace by	2 - 3m

8

being left out or judged unfairly based on language. Source E states, 'As an Indian, I could not, and asked why this was needed for a job writing in English. I was given a vague response and it was shrugged off. I didn't get the job' and 'I have sat through job meetings where the team started conversations in Mandarin and I was the only one who had no idea what they were talking. Since this is a personal experience, it shows how one individual felt excluded in the workplace due to language and race.

OR

SOURCE F
- **Workplace experience is positive:**
  Source F says that the workplace experience of minority races has improved and many of them find it positive. 'Fewer than 1 in 5 Malays and Indians in 2024 reported feeling racially discriminated against in a job or a job promotion' and that '7 in 10 respondents felt there were no significant differences in the effort required by various racial groups to achieve a basic, decent life in Singapore or reach top positions in companies'. This suggests that racial discrimination in getting a job or promotion suggests that workplaces may be becoming more fair and inclusive. It also suggests that many Singaporeans, in general, feel that the system is fair in Singapore allowing all races to put in the same effort to live a decent life or rise to the top in a company.

- **Workplace experience is negative:**
  Source F says that the workplace experience of minority races is definitely negative as they may feel excluded in the workplace by being left out or judged unfairly based on language. Source F states that '18% of respondents still feel that Singaporean Indians and Malays have to work harder or much more than others to have a basic, decent life.' It also states that to reach top positions in Singapore, a higher percentage of respondents feel that Singaporean Malays have to work harder, compared to Singaporean Indians. This shows that discrimination still exists for the minority groups in Singapore, especially when it comes to enjoying economic success. The barriers that minority groups face when seeking jobs lower their access to opportunities, which is unfair. This only proves that minority groups do not have the same starting point as others, and that is there discrimination in Singapore.

| L3 | **PROVE OR NOT PROVE based on Comparison of Content (SUPPORTED)**

Award 5 marks for more developed answers.

PROVE:
Source E proves that Source F is wrong because they have different views about the workplace experience of the minority races in Singapore.

Source E says that the workplace experience of minority races is definitely negative, whereas Source F says that it has improved and | 4 - 5m |

many minority races find it positive. Source E states, 'As an Indian, I could not, and asked why this was needed for a job writing in English. I was given a vague response and it was shrugged off. I didn't get the job' and 'I have sat through job meetings where the team started conversations in Mandarin and I was the only one who had no idea what they were talking.' This shows how workplaces in Singapore exclude minority groups by requiring Mandarin for English-based roles or conducting meetings in Mandarin, as it suggests an unspoken preference for Chinese candidates. This puts employees from minority races at a disadvantage, limiting their chances for fair hiring, participation, and career progression. Such practices reflect deeper systemic issues where being from a minority race can lead to reduced access to opportunities.

Source F on the other hand, states 'Fewer than 1 in 5 Malays and Indians in 2024 reported feeling racially discriminated against in a job or a job promotion' and that '7 in 10 respondents felt there were no significant differences in the effort required by various racial groups to achieve a basic, decent life in Singapore or reach top positions in companies'. This suggests that racial discrimination in getting a job or promotion suggests that workplaces may be becoming more fair and inclusive. It also suggests that many Singaporeans, in general, feel that the system is fair in Singapore allowing all races to put in the same effort to live a decent life or rise to the top in a company.

OR

NOT PROVE:
Source E does not prove that Source F is wrong because they both show that there is still discrimination in the workplace experienced by the minority races.

Source E & F both agree that the workplace experience of minority races is still negative. Source E states, 'As an Indian, I could not, and asked why this was needed for a job writing in English. I was given a vague response and it was shrugged off. I didn't get the job' and 'I have sat through job meetings where the team started conversations in Mandarin and I was the only one who had no idea what they were talking.' This shows how workplaces in Singapore exclude minority groups by requiring Mandarin for English-based roles or conducting meetings in Mandarin, as it suggests an unspoken preference for Chinese candidates. This puts employees from minority races at a disadvantage, limiting their chances for fair hiring, participation, and career progression. Such practices reflect deeper systemic issues where being from a minority race can lead to reduced access to opportunities.

Source F on the other hand, states that about '18% of respondents still feel that Singaporean Indians and Malays have to work harder or much more than others to have a basic, decent life.' It also states that to reach top positions in Singapore, a higher percentage of respondents feel that Singaporean Malays have to work harder, compared to Singaporean Indians. This shows that discrimination still exists for the minority groups in Singapore, especially when it comes to enjoying economic success. The barriers that minority groups face when seeking jobs lower their access to opportunities, which is unfair. This only proves that minority

	groups do not have the same starting point as others, and that is there discrimination in Singapore.	
L4	**Based on L3 + Cross-Reference (CR)** *Award 7m for more developed answers.* E.g. Source E proves that Source F is wrong because they have different views about the workplace experience of the minority races in Singapore. Source E says that the workplace experience of minority races is definitely negative, whereas Source F says that it has improved and many minority races find it positive. Source E states, 'As an Indian, I could not, and asked why this was needed for a job writing in English. I was given a vague response and it was shrugged off. I didn't get the job' and 'I have sat through job meetings where the team started conversations in Mandarin and I was the only one who had no idea what they were talking.' This shows how workplaces in Singapore exclude minority groups by requiring Mandarin for English-based roles or conducting meetings in Mandarin, as it suggests an unspoken preference for Chinese candidates. This puts employees from minority races at a disadvantage, limiting their chances for fair hiring, participation, and career progression. Such practices reflect deeper systemic issues where being from a minority race can lead to reduced access to opportunities. Source F on the other hand, states 'Fewer than 1 in 5 Malays and Indians in 2024 reported feeling racially discriminated against in a job or a job promotion' and that '7 in 10 respondents felt there were no significant differences in the effort required by various racial groups to achieve a basic, decent life in Singapore or reach top positions in companies'. This suggests that racial discrimination in getting a job or promotion suggests that workplaces may be becoming more fair and inclusive. It also suggests that many Singaporeans, in general, feel that the system is fair in Singapore allowing all races to put in the same effort to live a decent life or rise to the top in a company. *Cross-referencing to Source C, it supports Source E in showing that the workplace experience of minority races is negative. Source C states 'On the other hand, he also emphasised how ethnic minorities face more difficulties during job searches' and 'If employers still state Mandarin as a requirement, the minorities will find this unreasonable and unfair'. This shows that for ethnic minorities, barriers in the job market still exist due to language proficiency in Mandarin. As such, the workplace experiences of minority groups are unfair and negative. When Source C supports Source E, it makes Source E more credible.*	6 - 7m

5 'Individuals play an important role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore.'

Using sources in this case study, explain how far you would agree with this statement. [10]

L1	**Writes about statement, no valid source use**	**1m**
	E.g. I think individuals play an important role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore.	
L2	**Yes / No, provides opinion, supported by valid source use**	**2 - 4m**
	Award 2m for 1 source *Award 3m for 2 sources* *Award 3-4m for at least 2 sources explained*	

<div>

'Individuals play an important role in addressing racial inequalities in Singapore.'	
Agree	**Disagree**
A, C, E, F	B, C, D

</div>

Agree: Source A, C, E, F

E.g. Source A agrees with the statement that individuals play an important role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore. Source A states, 'Many viewers were surprised to see the Chinese youths embracing a Tamil language movie with such enthusiasm' and 'Given my friends' willingness to explore new cultural territories ...'. This shows that the willingness that the Chinese friends had to enjoy a film in a different language shows respect and appreciation for another culture, is crucial in ensuring racial harmony in Singapore. By being open-minded to connect through shared experiences, Singaporeans can build stronger bonds across races and strengthen racial harmony in everyday life.

E.g. Source C agrees with the statement that individuals play an important role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore. Source C states, 'If employers still state Mandarin as a requirement, the minorities will find this unreasonable and unfair'. This suggests that racial harmony in Singapore depends not just on laws, but on the actions and attitudes of everyday people. Individual choices of employers can affect fairness and harmony and by being fair, respectful, and inclusive, Singaporeans can help keep the country united and peaceful.

E.g. Source E agrees with the statement that individuals play an important role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore. Source E states 'I have sat through job meetings where the team started conversations in Mandarin and I was the only one who had no idea what they were talking. They'd switch back to English once I reminded them of my existence, but the fact that it needed pointing out showed how much they assumed that everyone in Singapore understands Mandarin.' This shows that everyday actions, like the language we choose or how we include others, can affect how people feel. When people assume everyone speaks the same language or ignore others, it can make minority groups feel excluded. If all Singaporeans make an effort to be respectful and inclusive, they can build a more united and caring society.

E.g. Source F agrees with the statement that individuals play an important role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore. Source F states, that 'language use by others that excluded respondents from conversation and perceived exclusionary behaviour during job promotions' were some of the ways discrimination were usually shown, and 'overall reported experiences of discrimination at the workplace have decreased.' The decrease in workplace discrimination shows that suggests that Singaporeans of all races are making efforts to be more inclusive and respectful at work. Even though some issues like language use and promotion fairness still exist, the drop in overall discrimination shows that individual actions and attitudes are improving. This highlights how important it is for everyone to continue being mindful and supportive, because small everyday choices can help strengthen racial harmony in Singapore.

OR

Disagree: Source B, C, D

E.g. Source B disagrees with this statement. It tells me that the Singapore government plays an important role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore. Source B states, 'Chinese privilege cannot exist in the U.S. or in Europe because Chinese lack economic, social and political power that is engrained in those places.' This suggests that more than the individuals, the government a critical role by creating laws, policies, and support systems that help all races get equal chances in life. Without strong action from the government, these differences could grow and harm racial harmony. By taking the lead in balancing opportunities and making sure no group is left out, racial harmony can be strengthened.

E.g. Source C disagrees with this statement. It tells me that the Singapore government plays an important role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore. Source C states, 'Singapore treats "all races equally, with no special privileges." Mr Lee added, "the Government was impartial when drafting our laws and administrative measures, and did not favour any race.' This suggests that the Singapore government plays an important role in keeping racial harmony. By making laws fairly and does not favour any race, the government helps to make sure that all races are treated with respect and given equal chances, which is key to maintaining peace and harmony in Singapore.

E.g. Source D disagrees with this statement. It tells me that the Singapore government plays an important role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore. Source D states, 'The Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) took down a Hari Raya short film, *Messages for Syawal*, following criticism for portraying stereotypes of the Malay community' and 'Critics contrasted the film's bleak tone with Gov.sg's light-hearted Chinese New Year 2022 video.' This shows that the Singapore government plays a key role in supporting racial harmony, especially in terms of how different communities are shown in the media. When people

	criticised the Hari Raya short film for using negative stereotypes about the Malay community, the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) responded quickly by taking it down. This shows that the government is listening to feedback and taking action to protect the feelings and dignity of all racial groups. It also highlights how important it is for the government to promote fair and respectful portrayals of all communities, so that no group feels looked down upon.	
L3	**Yes + No, supported by valid source use** *Award 5 marks for 1 + 1 explained sources.* *Award 6 marks for 2 + 1 explained sources.* *Award 7-8 m for 2 + 2 explained sources.* *Intended unbalanced viewpoints* *Award 5 marks for 1 + 4 explained sources.* *Award 6 marks for 1 + 5 explained sources* i.e. Both elements of L2 Note: Consideration on number of sources used and the quality of analysis in deciding on marks in L3.	**5 - 8m**
	To score additional 2 marks, candidates can take any one of these 2 routes: Add 1 if these points were not written well. • **By sharing example(s) from their contextual knowledge E.g. I agree that individuals play a more critical role in maintaining racial harmony in Singapore. There were multiple race-related incidents that happened in the years 2019-2021, especially following the COVID-19 outbreak. For example, the xenophobia towards migrant workers after the dormitory COVID clusters and Singaporean landlords discriminating Chinese tenants, show how the national health crisis aggravated the discrimination towards minority groups. The race-related incidents that happened in 2020-2021 were a follow-up of the heightened tensions among the different races. As seen in Source C, I agree with former PM Lee's statement in NDP Rally 2021 that 'the country's racial harmony remains a work in progress and that racial emotions still exist despite different communities becoming closer.' I believe he said this to affirm the many positive events that happened during the pandemic proving that racial harmony exists, but also highlight that more work has to be done to alleviate the tensions. The responsibility of this lies heavily on individuals, as seen from the examples given, as individuals were the ones who chose to show discrimination and resentment. • **By writing a balanced conclusion** Individuals and the Singapore government both must work hand in hand to maintain racial harmony in Singapore. Government's involvement, be it laws or policies, will not be effective without the participation of individuals in their everyday interactions and actions. For example, as seen in Source C, the government must draft laws and administrative measures that do not favour any race, and ensure that no special privileges are given to any	**+ 2m**

particular race. This will ensure that all Singaporeans have the same starting point, which will enable equal access to opportunities and success. However, these measures will be pointless if at the individual level, employers are not reflecting the same ideals/principles of racial harmony. If at the workplace, employers and colleagues continue to choose to prefer Mandarin as their language of communication, then this will lead to micro-aggressions among minority groups, that will eventually threaten the racial harmony of Singapore.

- **By analysis of at least one source in relation to its reliability**
  - *Note: Cannot cross-reference to Source C / E because they are biased.*
    1. *Better to evaluate source using provenance, typicality etc.*
    2. *Use this route because it is the easiest way to explain.*
    3. *Only Sources B, F can be used to explain using this route.*

Source F is reliable, as it provides objective statistical data. Source F aims to educate Singaporeans by stating the positives and areas for improvement pertaining to racial harmony in Singapore. It states '18% of respondents still feel that Singaporean Indians and Malays have to work harder or much more than others to have a basic, decent life' and 'Fewer than 1 in 5 Malays and Indians in 2024 reported feeling racially discriminated against in a job or a job promotion'. This way, it provides a balanced view of both the areas that Singaporeans are doing well in/have improved, and also the areas that Singaporeans could do better to ensure an inclusive society for all. Therefore, it affirms Singaporeans for what they are already doing well but also encourages them to be aware of the experiences of others, and to take mindful action in their daily lives to be more considerate towards other, particularly minority races. Since Source F is well-balanced and has no ulterior motive, it is reliable.

SECTION B: Structured-Response Question (15 Marks)

Living in a Diverse Society

6   Extract 1 shows that appreciating landmarks unique to Singapore is a way of preserving Singapore heritage, which can help young Singaporeans strengthen their sense of national identity.

In your opinion, why do young people need to have a strong sense of identity as Singaporeans? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons.   [7]

Level	Descriptors	Marks
1	**Writes about the topic (i.e. strong sense of national identity is important / Singapore is a small) but without addressing the question.** E.g. Having a strong sense of identity as Singaporeans is important.	1m
2	**Identifies / Describes strategies** *Award 2 marks for identifying one reason.* *Award 3 marks for identifying two reasons OR describing one reason.* *Award 4 marks for describing two reasons.* E.g. Young people need to have a strong sense of identity as Singaporeans, so that they feel connected to the country and its values. With a strong national identity, young people feel a sense of belonging or pride in being Singaporean. This could lead to an avid interest in taking part in the civic activities and engaging in decision-making when it comes to the country **(Identify)**. For example, young people may take their role as a citizen seriously, and stay updated about election matters **(Describe)**. A strong Singaporean identity may make young people less vulnerable to being easily influenced by outside forces or trends, especially through social media or foreign cultures. This can be especially impactful in a world that is constantly evolving. With a firm understanding of who they are as Singaporeans, they may be less likely to adopt values or behaviours that conflict with Singapore's principles of social harmony and stability **(Identify)**. For example, the rise of self-radicalised individuals in Singapore shows how online media can be influential for those who are do not have a strong sense of belonging to the country **(Describe)**.	2 - 4m
3	**L2 + Explains strategies** *Award 5 – 6 marks for explaining one reason.* *Award 6 – 7 marks for explaining two reasons.* E.g. Young need to have a strong sense of identity as Singaporeans, so that they feel connected to the country and its values. With a strong national identity, young people feel a sense of belonging or pride in being Singaporean. This could lead to an avid interest in taking part in the civic activities and engaging in decision-making when it comes to the country **(Identify)**. For example, young people may take their role as a citizen seriously, and stay updated about election matters **(Describe)**. Such high commitment to the country / interest in contributing to the nation's growth, may lead to them feeling connected to Singapore's growth **(Explain)**.	5 - 7m

E.g. A strong Singaporean identity may make young people less vulnerable to being easily influenced by outside forces or trends, especially through social media or foreign cultures. This can be especially impactful in a world that is constantly evolving. With a firm understanding of who they are as Singaporeans, they may be less likely to adopt values or behaviours that conflict with Singapore's principles of social harmony and stability **(Identify)**. For example, the rise of self-radicalised individuals in Singapore shows how online media can be influential for those who are do not have a strong sense of belonging to the country **(Describe)**. <u>These individuals may eventually pose a threat to the country's economic and social stability. They can also weaken national unity and increase the risk of divisions among different groups. Therefore, having a strong national identity helps young people stay connected and committed to building a better Singapore together</u> **(Explain)**.

<u>Other accepted consequences:</u>
- **Struggle with a weak sense of purpose or direction**
  - If young people have a strong sense of identity as Singaporeans, they might find a sense of purpose or direction in their lives more easily. National identity often gives individuals a shared set of values, goals, and a sense of meaning **(Identify)**. For example, when young men enlist for National Service, their shared experience of going through NS together helps them figure / find out their way of contributing back to Singapore **(Describe)**. <u>This helps them to not feel lost or unsure about their role in society, which can help them feel more confident and personal development</u> **(Explain)**.

- **Face difficulty relating to others in a multicultural society**
  - If young people have a strong sense of identity as Singaporeans, they may be able to relate to fellow Singaporeans in a multicultural society. Singapore's identity is closely tied to its diversity and social harmony. If youths do not feel connected to this shared identity, they may be less understanding or respectful of different races and cultures, leading to social tensions, misunderstandings, or even prejudice **(Identify)**. For example, a young person may view another person based on race, religion or SES when they are not able to recognise them as a fellow Singaporean **(Describe)**. <u>Since Singapore is a multicultural society and racial harmony is the cornerstone of Singapore, this can aggravate tensions among people</u> **(Explain)**.

7   Extracts 2 and 3 describe the challenges that the government faces when deciding what is good for society.

Do you think that managing the different priorities of citizens is more challenging than the managing the unequal sharing of costs? Explain your answer?   [8]

Level	Descriptors	Marks
1	**Writes about the topic (i.e. diversity in Singapore) but without addressing the question** E.g. Interactions among diverse individuals and groups of people can lead to positive outcomes.	1 - 2m
2	**Describes the factors – exchange and appreciation of culture and/or exchange of skills and knowledge** *Award 3 marks for describing one factor.* *Award 4 marks for describing two factors.* E.g. When it comes to making decision-making, the government may find it challenging to decide what is good for society due to differing priorities. This challenge becomes greater when there are limited resources. In Singapore, one such limited resource is land. In Singapore, land is needed for various purposes such as education, housing, business and recreation. Given the limited land area, it is crucial that land use is optimised so that that the current and future needs of the people are met. This would mean that the government has to consider and manage the differing priorities when it comes to land use **(Identify)**. For example, is the government's decision to redevelop parts of Dover Forest for public housing sparked public concern and debate. Many Singaporeans, especially nature lovers and environmental groups, were unhappy as Dover Forest is a rich green space that is home to wildlife and provides a natural escape in the urban landscape. They felt that clearing the forest would harm biodiversity and reduce green spaces for future generations. However, the government explained that the land was needed to build new HDB flats to meet housing demands, especially for young families **(Describe)**. *OR/AND* E.g. It is also challenging to decide what is good for society because decisions on how to meet various needs and interests may lead to an unequal sharing of costs. The unequal sharing of costs refers to the varying impact that a decision has on different groups of people. While a decision may benefit society in general, it can have a negative impact on certain groups of people. When a decision leads to an unequal sharing of costs, not everyone will agree that the decision is a good one. Those who benefit from the decision to build expressways will say that it is a good decision. On the other hand, residents who are negatively impacted will say that it is not a good decision **(Identify)**. A real example of this is when the government decided to build foreign worker dormitories near residential areas, such as in Tengah and Serangoon Gardens. Some residents were unhappy with the decision, expressing concerns about overcrowding, noise, and safety. While the dormitories were necessary to provide better living conditions for migrant workers—who play a crucial role in	3 - 4m

3

		Singapore's economy—residents living nearby felt that their comfort and property value might be affected **(Describe)**.	
3		**Explains the factors**	5 - 7m
		Award 5 – 6 marks for explaining one factor. *Award 6 – 7 marks for explaining two factors.* E.g. When it comes to making decision-making, the government may find it challenging to decide what is good for society due to differing priorities. This challenge becomes greater when there are limited resources. In Singapore, one such limited resource is land. In Singapore, land is needed for various purposes such as education, housing, business and recreation. Given the limited land area, it is crucial that land use is optimised so that that the current and future needs of the people are met. This would mean that the government has to consider and manage the differing priorities when it comes to land use **(Identify)**. For example, is the government's decision to redevelop parts of Dover Forest for public housing sparked public concern and debate. Many Singaporeans, especially nature lovers and environmental groups, were unhappy as Dover Forest is a rich green space that is home to wildlife and provides a natural escape in the urban landscape. They felt that clearing the forest would harm biodiversity and reduce green spaces for future generations. However, the government explained that the land was needed to build new HDB flats to meet housing demands, especially for young families **(Describe)**. <u>This made the decision challenging, as the government had to balance between protecting the environment and providing affordable housing for citizens. It showed how difficult it can be to meet the different needs of society when land is limited and priorities differ</u> **(Explain)**. *OR/AND* E.g. It is also challenging to decide what is good for society because decisions on how to meet various needs and interests may lead to an unequal sharing of costs. The unequal sharing of costs refers to the varying impact that a decision has on different groups of people. While a decision may benefit society in general, it can have a negative impact on certain groups of people. When a decision leads to an unequal sharing of costs, not everyone will agree that the decision is a good one. Those who benefit from the decision to build expressways will say that it is a good decision. On the other hand, residents who are negatively impacted will say that it is not a good decision **(Identify)**. A real example of this is when the government decided to build foreign worker dormitories near residential areas, such as in Tengah and Serangoon Gardens. Some residents were unhappy with the decision, expressing concerns about overcrowding, noise, and safety. While the dormitories were necessary to provide better living conditions for migrant workers—who play a crucial role in Singapore's economy—residents living nearby felt that their comfort and property value might be affected **(Describe)**. <u>This made it a challenging decision for the government, as it had to weigh the needs of foreign workers against the concerns of local residents. Although the dormitories benefited society as a whole by improving public health and living standards for workers, the unequal sharing of costs led to resistance from certain groups, showing how complex such decisions can be</u> **(Explain)**.	

4	**Both factors of L3 + explains the relative importance of each factor**	8m
	E.g. *Both sample paragraphs above*	
	+	
	Both challenges are equally difficult for the government when making decisions for society. Managing differing priorities is important because people in Singapore have different needs and wants. For example, some may want more public housing, others may prioritise green spaces, jobs, or schools. If these different interests are not carefully balanced, it can lead to public unhappiness and a lack of trust in government decisions. When decisions reflect only one group's needs, other groups may feel left out or unfairly treated, which can harm social unity. At the same time, managing the unequal sharing of costs is also crucial. While a decision may benefit the country overall, certain groups may be more negatively affected than others. For example, building an expressway helps many commuters, but nearby residents may face more noise and pollution. If such costs are not addressed properly, affected groups may feel they are being unfairly burdened, which can lead to complaints or opposition. Both challenges must be carefully managed, as they affect how fair and inclusive government decisions feel. Therefore, it is important for the government to strike a balance by listening to different views, clearly explaining the reasons for decisions, and offering support to affected groups, so that the needs of society are met in a fair and responsible way.	