



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SINGAPORE  
in collaboration with  
CAMBRIDGE ASSESSMENT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

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# HUMANITIES

Paper 1 Social Studies

SPECIMEN PAPER

**2261/01**

**For examination from 2024**

**1 hour 45 minutes**

No Additional Materials are required.

## READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet will be provided with this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

### Section A

Answer **all** questions.

### Section B

Answer **both** questions.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question.

This document consists of 7 printed pages and 1 blank page.



Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board



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**SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)**

Answer **all** questions.

**Exploring Citizenship and Governance**

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.

Do you think the cartoonist supported the policy of using foreign manpower in Singapore? Explain your answer using details of the cartoon. [5]

**2** Study Sources B and C.

How similar are these two sources? Explain your answer. [6]

**3** Study Source D.

Why do you think the Minister for Manpower made this speech? Explain your answer. [7]

**4** Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer. [7]

**5** 'The policy of employing foreign manpower has had a negative impact on Singapore.'

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

## How far have Singaporeans welcomed foreign manpower into the country?

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Foreign manpower in Singapore has been closely associated with the country's development. Due to her small population, it would be difficult for Singapore to be competitive based solely on the efforts of Singaporeans alone. The Singapore government has invited foreigners, from professionals to those in lower-skilled sectors, to work in Singapore. This also included bringing in 'foreign talents' with special skills to supplement the local workforce, or to make up for the lack of local expertise in sports or the arts. In 2009, foreign manpower in Singapore comprised almost 1.1 million workers. By December 2014, the foreign workforce had grown to almost 1.4 million.

Over the years, Singaporeans have had mixed feelings about the government's policy of employing foreign manpower. Study the following sources to assess how far Singaporeans have welcomed foreign manpower into the country.

**Source A:** *A local cartoonist's view on Singapore's foreign manpower policy, The Straits Times, 10 February 2015.*



**Source B:** *Extract from a study on attitudes towards emigration\* based on two thousand Singaporeans aged 19 to 30, published in March 2011 by the Institute of Policy Studies, Singapore.*

Survey Question	Disagree (%)	Neutral (%)	Agree (%)
Our job security is compromised due to the influx of foreign talent	23.9	31.2	44.8
Singaporeans want to emigrate because there are too many foreign talents here	31.2	31.7	37.0
There will be sufficient jobs and opportunities for every Singaporean in the next 10 years	24.0	33.4	42.7

\* Emigration is the act of leaving one's own country to settle permanently in another.

**Source C:** *Part of the comments on foreign manpower by a Singaporean on a blog posted in 2013.*

Many Singaporeans are worried that they would not be able to find a job because of foreign talents here. Foreigners, however, take up jobs that we Singaporeans do not want. These jobs include bus drivers, domestic maids and construction workers, which are high in demand, but are regarded by Singaporeans as low class. Companies have to hire foreigners to take up these jobs. Some Singaporeans have also decided to leave Singapore to spare their children the painful stress of going through our competitive education system. Thus, with foreigners working here, Singapore's loss of talent could be replaced. Even so, we still complain about them although they contribute to Singapore's economy.

Government policies have been introduced to reduce the amount of foreign manpower. In Budget 2013, it was announced that foreign worker levies\* will go up from 2014, making it more expensive and difficult to hire foreign workers.

\* Foreign worker levies are taxes imposed on employers for hiring foreign workers.

**Source D:** *An extract from the speech by Mr Tan Chuan-Jin, Minister for Manpower, at the International Migrants Day celebrations, 7 December 2014.*

Foreign workers, and there are many of you here, you make up about one-third of our workforce. You make important contributions across so many different jobs and capacities, whether in construction, in the shipyards, factories, schools, departmental stores, restaurants, hospitals and even our homes. You have all played a significant role in our progress and development.

As you can see here tonight, the highlight of tonight's celebrations is a heart-shaped installation made up of 3000 message cards which carry words of appreciation for the contributions of the foreign workers. This represents just a fraction of the Singaporeans who are grateful for your contributions. There are some who are critical and negative, but we know that there are many more Singaporeans out there who share the same feelings of appreciation that are showcased here today.

**Source E:** *A photograph taken at the Labour Day demonstration about the foreign manpower policy in Singapore in 2013.*



**Source F:** *A comment by a foreign worker who has worked and lived in Singapore for 11 years, posted on an online forum, November 2009.*

The Singapore government has been trying its best to maintain calm by assuring its citizens that foreigners are essential for Singapore's future. Being a foreigner myself and having stayed in Singapore for a significant portion of my life I would like to share my experience.

I am proud to say that I have experience of Singapore and, most importantly, Singaporeans across a wide spectrum of its society. During the course of my career I have worked with people from a variety of professions. I have more local friends than friends from my own land. Many of them are glad that foreigners like me have made Singapore our home and are contributing actively to the country.

**SECTION B (Structured-Response Questions)**

Answer **both** questions.

**Being Part of a Globalised World**

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

**Extract 1**

On 9 November 2010, *Exercise Times Square* was conducted in Singapore, named after a car bomb attack in May 2010 at New York's Times Square which was foiled by public vigilance. The exercise in Singapore involved similar circumstances whereby suspicious looking cars were placed in nine locations across the country. The cars used in the exercise were rigged with tell-tale signs of car bombs and would emit smoke if people failed to notice the car-bomb signs.

The findings of the exercise revealed that public vigilance in Singapore was extremely low. Only 260 out of the 7200 passers-by took notice of the cars, and just 52 acted instantly to contact the authorities.

**Extract 2**

To manage the threat of terrorism, countries cooperate by sharing information and resource. For example, ASEAN member states adopted the 'Our Eye' Initiative to exchange information about terrorism.

**Extract 3**

To manage the threat of terrorism, countries also implement security measures within their countries. One measure is the increased surveillance around Singapore, such as the installation of security cameras in public areas. Another measure is the heightened security checks at airports in many countries, such as the installation of full-body scanners by the United States.

- 6 Extract 1 states that public vigilance was extremely low during the conduct of *Exercise Times Square* on 9 November 2010 in Singapore.

In your opinion, how can public vigilance in Singapore be improved? Explain your answer using **two** strategies. [7]

- 7 Extract 2 and Extract 3 reflect on how cooperation among countries and implementation of security measures within countries help in managing the threat of terrorism.

Do you think cooperation among countries is more important than implementation of security measures within countries in helping to manage the threat of terrorism? Explain your answer. [8]

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Source B	© Leong Chan-Hoong & Debbie Soon; <i>A Study of Emigration Attitudes of Young Singaporeans</i> ; <a href="http://www.researchgate.net/publication/254412766_A_Study_on_Emigration_Attitudes_of_Young_Singaporeans_(2010)">http://www.researchgate.net/publication/254412766_A_Study_on_Emigration_Attitudes_of_Young_Singaporeans_(2010)</a>
Source C	© Foreigners coming to Singapore – how does it affect different aspects of Singapore? (March Holiday Hw); <a href="https://jolenegpblog.wordpress.com/2013/03/19/foreigners-coming-to-singapore-how-does-it-affect-different-aspects-of-singapore-march-holiday-hw/">https://jolenegpblog.wordpress.com/2013/03/19/foreigners-coming-to-singapore-how-does-it-affect-different-aspects-of-singapore-march-holiday-hw/</a>
Source D	© <a href="http://eversafe.com.sg/es/archives/9494">http://eversafe.com.sg/es/archives/9494</a> 7 December 2014.
Source E	© <a href="https://theindependent.sg/population-white-paper-must-proceed-or-else/">https://theindependent.sg/population-white-paper-must-proceed-or-else/</a>

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