



**SEPTEMBER MOCK PAPER  
SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS  
SECONDARY 5 NORMAL ACADEMIC**

**COMBINED HUMANITIES (SOCIAL STUDIES)**

**2273/01**

**Specimen Paper**

**Date: 1 SEPT 2021**

**Duration: NIL**

**Candidates answer on separate writing paper**

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST:**

- 1. Answer Question 1 from Section A. You are advised to spend no longer than 60 minutes on Section A. Answer one question from Section B.**
- 2. Start Section B on a fresh piece of writing paper.**

Topic names will be listed above each question for your benefit and revision

Setter: Brian Tan

**This question paper consists of 8 printed pages including the cover page**

**End of Paper**

**Section A (Source-based Case Study)**  
**Question 1 is compulsory for all candidates**

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 you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

A) Study Source B.

Why did the minister make this speech? Explain your answer [6m]

B) Study Source C and D.

How are these sources different? Explain your answer [6m]

C) Study Source D.

Are you surprised by what Source D says about the impact of technological advancements on Singaporean workers? Explain your answer. [6m]

D) Study Source E.

How useful is Source E as evidence about the benefits of technological advancements? Explain your answer. [7m]

E) How far do the sources show that technological advancements have benefitted Singapore? Explain your answer. [10m]

## How have technological advancements benefitted Singapore?

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Technological advancements have resulted in greater access to the Internet and the increasing use of mobile communications. It has also led to technological innovations to enhance the lives of individuals. Electronic equipment and applications have made their way into our daily lives with devices like smartphones and smart watches becoming increasingly prevalent. However, it has changed the nature of jobs and how business operate. This has led to concerns whether individuals can keep up with the rate of the advancements and the possibilities of jobs being replaced by technology.

Study the following sources to find out if technological advancements have benefitted Singapore.

**Source A:** A picture published on a website on the impact of technological advancements.



**Source B:** *Adapted from a speech by Minister-in-charge of the Smart Nation Initiative Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, on privacy concerns with the use of TraceTogether.*

Quick and accurate contact tracing is necessary and all the more essential now that we are emerging from the circuit breaker. TraceTogether, as a digital tool, has provided data that speeds up the isolation of close contacts and reduce the spread of COVID-19. Our contact tracing app and device do not track location. It acts as a personal electronic diary. All of us would want to know if we had been exposed to someone who was infective so that we can take the necessary precautions. The more of us who are on the system, the better it is for everyone. We have to get the balance right between public health and personal privacy. It is possible to protect both.

**Source C:** *Adapted from a speech by Minister of Trade and Industry, Mr Chan Chun Sing in Parliament in January 2020.*

With the global outlook for 2020 still in uncertainty, digitalization enables small countries like Singapore to go beyond its size and geography, and helps businesses to enter new markets. With digital technologies becoming increasingly prevalent in economies, businesses and people's everyday lives, embracing it is crucial. If Singapore doesn't care, Singapore will be left behind. We will work with industries to develop programmes to help companies invest in skills. It will help workers not only upgrade their present careers but also train retrenched workers to transition into new jobs.

**Source D:** *Adapted from an online website which provides alternative perspectives to Singapore politics.*

Innovation and digital transformation, without matching skills will mean that the increased use of technology will lead to a greater displacement of production workers and labourers in Singapore. Singapore's workforce will face a major disruption and a decline is inevitable. By 2028, around 85,000 jobs will completely disappear from the workforce, leaving employees in those disappearing jobs with little to no transferable skills that they can use. The government says they will help workers upgrade their skills but will it be enough especially at the rate it is happening in Singapore? Is this how the government takes care of its citizens?

**Source E:** *Extract from an article by Mr James Lambert, one of the lead authors of the study and Director of Economic Consulting for Asia at Oxford Economics.*

The robotics revolution is rapidly accelerating with technological advancements. The result will transform what robots can do and their ability to take over tasks that humans do now. We will see a significant boost to the industry and some new types of jobs we can't even yet foresee. Singapore also has an ageing population and restraints on inwards migration, so robots may be particularly helpful in keeping the market alive. Those workers in Singapore that are displaced by technology will have to adapt their skills to the evolving demands of the future economy but the government already has put in place schemes to help to retrain workers displaced by technology.

## Section B: Structured-Essay Questions

Answer any **ONE** question.

### Extract 1



### Extract 2

A person becomes a citizen of a country by birth, descent, marriage or naturalization. As a citizen, one adopts the national identity of the country.

### Extract 3

There are three different socio-economic statuses (SES) in a society: Higher SES, Middle SES, Lower SES. Each SES group experiences different types of lifestyles and wealth levels.

(a) Extract 1 shows Singaporeans of different races interacting peacefully with one another.

Explain one reason for Singapore's racial diversity today and explain how one is used to promote greater racial harmony among Singaporeans. [7m]

(b) Extract 2 and 3 state how nationality and socio-economic status affect an individual.

Which is more important in shaping an individual's identity: nationality or socio-economic status? Explain your answer [8m]

*\*racial identity is different from nationality*

**END OF PAPER**