Class	Index Number	Name

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MARIS STELLA HIGH SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL EXAMINATION TWO
SECONDARY THREE

COMBINED HUMANITIES **2267/01**
PAPER 1: SOCIAL STUDIES

10 October 2016
1 hour 45 minutes

Additional Materials:
Writing paper (5 sheets)

INSTUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your class, index number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
Do not use paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer all the questions in this booklet.

At the end of the examination, submit Sections A and B **separately**.
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

The total number of marks for this paper is 50.

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50

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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.

1 (a) Study Source A.
What is the message of the source? Explain your answer. [5]

(b) Study Source B.
Does the cartoonist believe that embracing diversity is beneficial for businesses? Explain your answer. [6]

(c) Study Sources C and D.
How different are the two sources in their views on diversity? Explain your answer. [8]

(d) Study Source E.
How reliable is Source E? Explain your answer. [8]

(e) Study Source F.
Is the source useful in helping you understand the impact of diversity? Explain your answer. [8]

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How far is diversity beneficial for Singapore?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Singapore society has become more diverse in terms of culture, religion and lifestyle. Increased cross-border mobility and Singapore's favourable immigration policies have attracted talents from all over the world, resulting in a diversity of lifestyles, values systems and experiences that have consequences for social interaction and integration.

One school of thought is doubtful whether diverse societies are capable of ever being integrated. Diversity has also been accused of being a hindrance to organisational efficiency and economic development, on top of causing tension in society because there are so many competing interests. For example, one group's call to build a certain facility may directly contradict another group's call to preserve the wildlife at the same place. Another impact of diversity is that there may be widespread stereotyping as people fail to see the importance of understanding others at a personal level and tend to identify them with traits assigned to particular groups.

On the other hand, another school of thought finds that a diverse society holds a lot of promise both within and beyond the country, as it is linked to being a vibrant and dynamic society. Events in Singapore over the past few years have proven both opinions right. Moving forward, how far will diversity prove to be beneficial for Singapore?

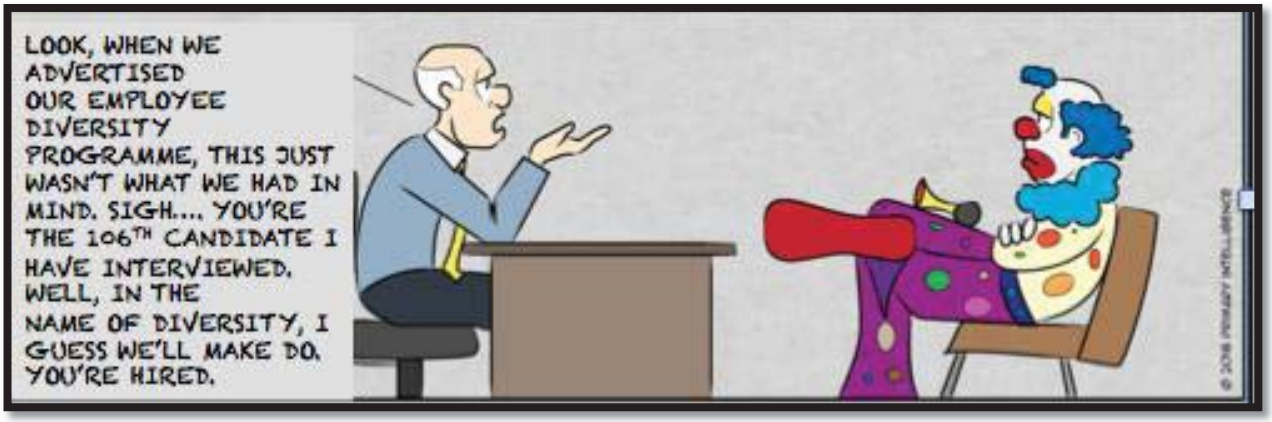
Study the following sources to evaluate if diversity is beneficial for Singapore.

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Source A: *A local cartoonist's take on the debate about whether diversity is beneficial for Singapore.*



Source B: *A cartoonist offers his perspective on the effect of diversity on organisational efficiency after the government urged businesses to embrace diversity.*



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Source C: *An extract of a blog by a young Singaporean in 2015.*

It is not easy being inclusive towards everyone. I have difficulty wanting to make friends with people whose beliefs and values are vastly different from mine. I'm not the only one who feels this way. With Singapore getting more crowded and the individual having a greater impact on society, this might spell trouble. Staying silent and tolerating our differences is a short-term option because tempers get built up. It's unhealthy because the eventual flare-up may create huge aftershocks.

Source D: *Excerpt of a speech made by a Singaporean businessman to university students and civil servants, during a lecture at the National University of Singapore in 2015.*

Singapore's challenge is to embrace diversity. Having Singaporeans who may be different from the mainstream can be a defining characteristic of Singapore's identity of being a vibrant society that is able to appeal to many. Singapore is very similar to the culturally diverse New York City rather than the homogeneous cities of Shanghai or Tokyo. We hear so much about how diversity can divide a society but if we look at the New Yorkers, we have a lot to learn. Despite their amazing diversity, New Yorkers all love their city. Like them, Singaporeans must also embrace each other as individuals and fellow Singaporeans and not as categories.

Source E: *A speech made by the Minister of Manpower, during a dialogue session with residents of HDB estate, organised by People's Association.*

Studies have shown that the economy of the region is improved by population diversity. Often, diversity is linked with creativity, openness and vitality. This attracts even more cultural and economic talents and turns the place into a breeding ground for new ideas. Just look at the array of art events and festivals that we host every single year. The Grand Prix that we host every September is a privilege only very few can claim! So Singapore is ready to benefit from the true potential for being a diverse society if it discovers how to tap on the strength of its diversity.

Source F: *A speech made by Dr Yvonne McNulty, a renowned sociology scholar who studies Singapore society, at OnePeople.sg's panel discussion on race and diversity in 2015.*

There is a lot of misunderstanding in the diverse society of Singapore. A lot of stereotyping has blinded us to different people's experiences of the city. Many people stick to stereotypes and remain prejudiced against people who are different from them. If we really want to live contentedly together in a diverse society, we should reflect on how we perceive people who are different from us.

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Section B: Structured Response Question

Question 2 is **compulsory** for all candidates.

2. EXPLORING CITIZENSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

In 2014, National Trade Union Congress (NTUC) Enterprise launched the Pioneers OK! Campaign. This was one way the social organisation expressed its appreciation for the pioneers of Singapore for their contributions to nation-building. It was also meant to recognise the important roles they continue to play in our lives today. This campaign includes preferential treatment for the pioneer generation such as being given a priority queue when they shop at NTUC supermarkets.

However, over the past year, some elderly Singaporeans have reported having bad experiences in relation to priority queues meant for the elderly. These bad experiences stemmed from staff members not managing the priority queues well due to lack of training as well as the reluctance of the public to give way to the elderly in these queues.

Extract 2

The government implements legislation that safeguards the interests of citizens. The interests of citizens can be safeguarded in various ways such as ensuring that there are measures in place such as the Central Provident Fund (CPF) to help Singaporeans feel a sense of security in the future.

Extract 3

Citizens with common interests organise themselves into groups to contribute towards the needs of society. These groups can have a significant effect on the areas of need they are addressing as they can direct collective efforts, ideas and resources towards their causes.

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(a) Extract 1 states that the elderly have been facing bad experiences in using the priority queues meant for seniors.

In your opinion, what can be done to improve the situation? Explain your answer using **two** strategies. [7]

(b) Extract 2 and Extract 3 reflect on the role of government and organised groups in meeting the needs of Singaporeans.

Do you think the government has a more important role to play than organised groups in helping to meet the needs of Singaporeans?

Explain your answer. [8]

-End of paper-

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SA2 SOCIAL STUDIES 2016
SUGGESTED ANSWERS
SOURCE BASED CASE STUDY

1 (a) Study Source A.

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

MARKER'S COMMENTS:

Many students were able to grasp the main message of the source. Students who were able to do so displayed awareness of the main issue of the SBCS, having noted the issue and read the background information.

Answers which did not detect the main message tended to be descriptive and preoccupied with how there are many different demands.

The best answers are those that are able to show that with many different demands, there will be a resulting tension that will not be beneficial.

L1: Descriptive/ Not answering Question **(1)**

L2: Wrong message/ Sub Message/ Main message, not supported **(2-3)**

-Answers that say diversity is good

L3: Answers that detect **main message**: **Diversity is not beneficial** because it brings about **even more demands/ competing interests that lead to conflict** **(4-5)**

Award 5 marks for well-explained answers.

The message of the cartoon is that diversity is not beneficial for Singapore as it will result in a lot of conflict that may arise from many competing interests. This is seen in the source when it portrays a group of people protesting against or lobbying for a particular cause, and all of them look unhappy/angry/upset. This shows that none of them feel happy to live in this society. For example, one protester is championing for "More malls" while another is calling for "Less malls". This outright contradiction is an example of how increasing diversity will mean that there will be even more needs and wants that need to be addressed, adding to more tension. Another clash of ideas can be found in how there are calls for "More nature", "Plant trees" and "Save the beaches" against "more resorts", "more malls" and "more COEs". These campaigns will cause tension because more COEs means more

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cars on the roads which will lead to road congestion and leading the need to expand the roads at the expense of nature. The same would apply for more malls. Conversely, if spaces were reserved for nature, then those who feel that there needs to be more space for human activities and interaction may not be happy.

(b) Study Source B.

Does the cartoonist believe that embracing diversity is beneficial for businesses? Explain your answer. [6]

MARKER'S COMMENTS:

Most students are able to detect the main message. Good answers are those which are able to explain the imagery of the "clown" in relation to the idea of organisational efficiency. Answers that attempt to explain tone often fall short because candidates do not pick up on the mockery/sarcasm/insult the cartoonist employs by depicting diversity as a clown and what it means.

L1: Descriptive/ wrong message **(1)**

L2: Sub-message **(2)**

Answers which talk about how businesses have unsuitable people applying for positions

L3: Message **(3-4)**

The cartoonist does not believe that embracing diversity is beneficial for businesses because it leads to inefficiency since they have to spend more time and resources to look for the right fit of candidate amongst a more diverse pool of people who may not fit the bill. This is shown in how the business advertised it's employee diversity programme in the name of catering and appealing to a larger pool of people and then having to spend a lot of time explaining to interested candidates (106th candidate) how they do not meet the needs of the business, represented by the clown. What is worse is that they will ultimately have to employ someone who may not be right for the job just because they have chosen to embrace diversity.

(c) **L4**: Answers that detect the Tone of the source **(5-6)**

The cartoonist does not believe that embracing diversity is beneficial for businesses because he is critical about the idea. He has chosen to present it in a negative manner because he portrays the idea of diversity as a clown, suggesting that it may end up being a mistake/ joke. He also takes on a mocking/cynical tone when he portrays how [8]

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the hiring officer says that having to spend a lot of time explaining to interested candidates (106th candidate) how they do not meet the needs of the business, represented by the clown in a corporate setting.

Study Sources C and D.
How different are the two sources in their views on diversity?
Explain your answer.

MARKER'S COMMENTS:

This question was not done well. Many students did not provide a proper point/basis of comparison and ended up making invalid comparisons. There was also a general lack of explanation as students tended to carry out comparison by merely quoting evidences from each source without explicitly explaining the ideas to draw out the exact match or contradiction.

L1: Lifting/ Answers based on provenance/wrong message **(1)**
L2: Answers based on valid message, without support **(2)**
L3: Answers based on valid message OR Vague Tone (Diff OR Sim) **(3-4)**

Similarity: E.g.: Both are similar in that both suggest that not all welcomed diversity in Singapore/ there are Singaporeans who do not like diversity
C: "I have difficulty wanting to make friends with people whose beliefs and values are vastly different from mine. I am not the only one who feels this way". This suggests that not all welcomed diversity
D: "Singapore's challenge is to embrace diversity". This suggests that not everyone embraces diversity i.e. not all welcomed diversity
Difference: in discussing whether diversity is a strength or a weakness for Singapore in that C suggests diversity is detrimental but D suggests diversity is beneficial.
C: "With Singapore getting more crowded and diverse, this might spell trouble… tolerating our differences is a short-term option" and it is unhealthy because the eventual flare-up creates huge aftershocks. This suggests that diversity may result in tension and conflict. Hence it is detrimental.
D: "Having Singaporeans who may be different from the mainstream can be a defining characteristic of Singapore's identity of being a vibrant society that is able to appeal to many". Since it can make society more vibrant, it is beneficial.
OR

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Difference in the tone/attitude of C and D

- C: is accepting/welcoming about diversity. It uses positive words like “embrace” diversity, suggesting that it is something that ought to be cherished because it is valuable. It also conveys the idea that diversity is valuable because it is “vibrant” and something that should be “loved”
- D: is resistant towards diversity. It believes that it is a weakness that is going to affect society. The blogger says that the diversity “might spell trouble”. He also portrays living in a diverse society as a negative experience suggesting some form of unpleasantness and that this approach “is a short-term option because tempers get built up” and affects the stability of the society.

L4: Diff AND Sim **(5-6)**
L5: Difference based on Tone/Attitude **(7-8)**

- C: optimistic about how/ welcome diversity is a strength because it uses positive words like “embrace” diversity, suggesting that it is something that ought to be cherished because it is valuable. It also conveys the idea that diversity is valuable because it is “vibrant” and something that should be “love(d)”
- D: pessimistic about/ dislike diversity as it believes that it is a weakness that is going to affect society. The blogger uses terms like “not easy” and that the diversity “might spell trouble”. He also portrays living in a diverse society as a negative experience because one needs to “tolerat(e) our differences” suggesting some form of unpleasantness and that this approach “is a short-term option because tempers get built up” and affects the stability of the society.

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(d) Study Source E. [8]

How reliable is Source E? Explain your answer.

MARKER'S COMMENTS:

Students are able to apply the issue to the question but are unable to link to attractiveness. Without the link to attractiveness, students are unable to attain the higher levels. Students who x-ref to Source D used the wrong evidence and interpreted the source wrongly. Some students are unaware of the question requirements and attempted to link to usefulness or trust. For students who attempted the purpose, many failed to supply the outcome or explain further.

L1: **ANSWERS BASED ON PROVENANCE/ SOURCE DESCRIPTION/ INVALID MESSAGE (1)**

L2: RELIABLE OR UNRELIABLE – IDENTIFY THE POINT (2-3)

Award 2m for sub-message

Award 3m for main message

- Reliable in saying that diversity is beneficial for Singapore because it makes the society attractive. This is because "Often, diversity is linked with creativity, openness and vitality. This attracts even more cultural and economic talents and turns the place into a breeding ground for new ideas."

L3: RELIABLE OR NOT RELIABLE –USING CROSS-REFERENCE (AWARD THIS LEVEL ONLY IF ANSWERS HAVE LOGIC STATEMENTS) (4-5)

(must support the idea of "attractiveness)

- More reliable in saying that diversity is good for Singapore (L2) because it is supported by the background information which mentions how "a diverse society holds a lot of promise both within and beyond the borders of the country, as it is linked to being a vibrant and dynamic society." Since Source E is supported by background information, it is thus more reliable.

OR

- More reliable in saying that diversity is good for Singapore because it is supported by Source D which says that Singapore's diversity is a strength because it is "vibrant and able to appeal to many". Since Source E is supported by Source D, it is thus more reliable.

OR

- Not reliable is saying that diversity is good for Singapore

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because it is contradicted by Source A which shows how potential conflict may arise from competing interests, seen in how the protestors all come with very differing and sometimes opposing agenda and this may result in a conflict. Such tensions brewing will be reflected in the interactions and dynamics within the society that may translate to the society being hostile and hence unattractive.

OR

- Not reliable is saying that diversity is good for Singapore because it is contradicted by Source F which highlights how conflict can happen due from society's inability to embrace diversity as opposed to tolerating it. Such tensions brewing will be reflected in the interactions and dynamics within the society that may translate to the society being hostile and hence unattractive.

L4: RELIABLE AND NOT RELIABLE – USING CROSS-REFERENCE (AWARD THIS LEVEL ONLY IF ANSWERS HAVE LOGIC STATEMENTS) (6-7)

L5: NOT RELIABLE DUE TO ANALYSIS OF PROVENANCE AND MOTIVE (7-8)

- In light of the tension that has arisen in society as a result of diversity, the Minister of Manpower made this speech to reaffirm the government's stand that diversity will bring more benefit to Singapore's society and economy, making diversity one of Singapore's strength. He targets this message to people who are resistant to the idea of diversity especially considering the lack of space and opportunities in Singapore so that they would rethink their stance and really accept and work on living productively in a diverse society to reap its full benefits.

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(e) Study Source F.

Is the source useful in helping you understand the impact of diversity? Explain your answer. [8]

MARKER'S COMMENTS:

Students need to be mindful of the focus of the question. Source F inference should be related to the 'impact of diversity' *(E.g. impact of diversity is _____)*. Some students are able to infer Source F correctly - impact of diversity is negative/bad/ leads to problem, etc; and they score well for this question.

There is a handful who misread the source and claimed that Source F is discussing about the positive impact of diversity, which is not true. Thus, subsequent cross-referencing paragraphs would not be awarded any mark.

Most of the students who attempted valid x-ref include the logic statement this time, which is commendable.

L1: ANSWERS BASED ON PROVENANCE/ SOURCE DESCRIPTION/ INVALID MESSAGE (1)

L2: USEFUL – IDENTIFY THE POINT (2-3)

- Source F is useful in saying that diversity brings about negative impact. The source relates how diversity actually leads to a greater tendency to stereotype because people get overwhelmed by the idea of having to relate to others individually rather than as a group with a predictable set of characteristics. This is especially so if there is a high level of diversity because it means that more individuals will not be able to be "categorised" and understood neatly.

L3: RELIABLE OR NOT RELIABLE –USING CROSS-REFERENCE

(AWARD THIS LEVEL ONLY IF ANSWERS HAVE LOGIC STATEMENTS)

(4-5)

- Source F is more useful as it is supported by Source C which shows that the impact of diversity is negative because it may "spell trouble" lead to "huge aftershocks" such as a riot if people are unable to learn to live cohesively with one another. Since Source F is supported by Source C, it is thus more reliable and that makes Source F useful.

OR

- Source F is not useful as it is contradicted by Source D which shows that the impact of diversity is positive as it projects an image of a Singapore society that is vibrant and able to appeal to may people with many talents. This will all result in a more lively society that will benefit Singapore on many fronts. Since Source F is contradicted by Source D, it is not reliable and hence not useful in showing that the impact of diversity is negative.

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L4: BOTH ASPECTS OF L3 (6-7)

L5: USEFUL, BASED ON ANALYSIS OF PROVENANCE (7-8)

Ultimately, Source F is useful because the source is from a sociologist. She would have nothing to gain or lose whether or not society embraces diversity. Her presence in the panel discussion reflects her knowledge and research on society after having studied it which was why the organisation would feature her in the panel in the first place. Her findings are meant to help the community as well as the government make more informed decisions when making policies or encouraging campaigns that deal with issues arising from a diverse society. Hence, with such knowledge and value to society, the source is more reliable and hence more useful in saying that the impact of diversity in Singapore has been negative.

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SECTION B (Structured-Response Question)

(a) Extract 1 states that the elderly have been facing bad experiences in using the priority queues meant for seniors.
In your opinion, what can be done to improve the situation? Explain your answer using **two** strategies. [7]

MARKER'S COMMENTS:

Students proposed recommendation(staff training) that is lifted from Extract 1, which is not allowed.

Candidates proposed possible recommendations, which may not be feasible in our society. In other words, these recommendations seem to be too simplified and they do not take into consideration of existing situations / repercussion effects:

- ***Implement a fine system***
- ***Make it a law to give way***
- ***Fire staff who are not able to manage the priority queues.***
- ***Dedicated queue lanes just for the pioneers.***

For students who proposed 'campaigns/education', they need to ensure the following ideas are explained: *create awareness, contributions of pioneers, promote understanding, willingness to give in / respect elderly.*

L1 Describes the topic [1]

- i.e: elderly in society/ageing population/priority queue

L2 Identifies/ Describes strategies [2-4]

Award 2 marks for identifying one strategy and 3 marks for identifying two reasons
Award 3 marks for describing one strategy and 4 marks for describing two strategies

L3 L2 + Explains reasons [5-7]

Award 5-6 marks for explaining one reason.
Award 6-7 marks for explaining two reasons.

One way in which the priority queue system situation can be improved would be to ensure awareness. The awareness can come in the form of making regular announcements to remind patrons to give way to seniors at priority queues, by stationing a staff to usher seniors to the queue and managing the expectations and responses of other patrons who may not be entitled to the same privileges and to label these queues clearly to ensure that every patron will be able to see them. These initiatives will take some effort on the part of the hosting organisations but will reap benefits eventually when giving way to seniors become a habit in society. These initiatives help Singaporeans to realise in various ways, that there are those among

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them who may need special attention and assistance because they are unable to go about their daily chores effectively otherwise.

Another way in which the priority queue system can be improved is by using technology to help manage it. This can be done by setting up a station near the cashiers, where the seniors who hold the Pioneer Generation card can tap to indicate to the cashiers and other patrons that there is an elderly patron waiting to be served. This can be in the form of a very prominent light blinking for everyone to see so that there will be a less likelihood of anyone missing this need. A cashier who is available can then indicate to the waiting senior that he/she can proceed to the available counter, also using a similar prominent blinking light at the cashier station itself. This way, there is no need for a special lane to be dedicated to the elderly. Rather, any cashier can serve any elderly who needs priority, making service more efficient and more importantly, institutionalising a culture where people will observe the surroundings and conform to give priority to the elderly. Over a period of time, this will become a culture that will hopefully spill over to other aspects of society.

(b) Extract 2 and Extract 3 reflect on the role of government and organised groups to meet the needs of Singaporeans.

Do you think the government has a more important role to play than the organised groups in helping to meet the needs of Singaporeans? Explain your answer. [8]

MARKER'S COMMENTS:

Students are not familiar with the content of this topic and hence are not able to substantiate their response with valid facts, examples and details. Students need to know that they cannot use Extract 2, 3 (E.g. CPF) points to substantiate their argument because it would be considered 'lifting', which is not allowed. Hence, only the following main ideas are allowed. You only need one main idea from each factor to substantiate your point:

Government's Role:

- Maintaining Internal Order

- Maintaining External Security

- Provides Goods & Services

- Ensuring Justice

- Safeguarding interests of Citizens

Organised Groups' Role:

- Influencing Government's Decision

- Strengthening Citizens Sense of Belonging

- Contributing to needs of community

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L1 Writes about the topic (i.e. meeting the needs of Singaporeans) but without addressing the question [1-2]

L2 Describes the roles of the groups [3-4]

L3 Explains the roles of the groups [5-7]

The government plays an important role in meeting the needs of Singaporeans. One of the ways it does this is by maintaining internal order so that Singaporeans will be able to lead a high quality lifestyle in the place they call home. In maintaining internal order, agencies such as police, prisons and other authorities protect citizens, property and whatever society believes should be protected. One such example is the Casino Regulatory Authority (CRA) whose functions include containing and controlling the potential of a casino to cause harm to vulnerable persons and society at large. This helps to prevent the loss of life savings and hard-earned money among Singaporeans who may become addicted to gambling at the casinos. At the same time, it helps to curb the detrimental effects on society. For example, Singaporeans whose names have been surfaced to the CRA for being high risk gambling addicts will not be allowed entry into the casinos. This is to help prevent further addiction and damage done should the addicted gamblers resort to crime in order to feed their addiction. This will help to keep society safe from crime carried out by this group. Thus, with such measures in place, the government plays an important role in ensuring that the well-being of society is preserved while economic pursuits carry on. This helps to meet the needs of Singaporeans as they are assured of living in a safe country.

Organised groups play an important role in contributing to the needs of society through collective efforts whether formal or informal. An example of an organised group is a formal group, which is set up to support a specific cause, thus allowing the benefit to society to be sustainable. An example of a formal group would be a Voluntary Welfare Organisation called MINDS. This organisation was established to advance the development, well-being and aspirations of persons with intellectual disability and their integration into society. With very clear objectives and a formal organisational structure, organisations such as MINDS are able to cater to the needs of specific groups in society. By doing so, they complement the role of the government in working for the good of society.

OR

Organised groups play an important role in contributing to the needs of society through collective efforts whether formal or informal. An informal group has specific short term objectives related to issues that arise suddenly. These groups are temporarily formed and may not be registered. When a gap is noticed in an area of need, these informal groups would organise themselves to attend to this

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specific need. One such example would be how Mr Jeremy Chua set up the "SG Haze Rescue" on Facebook to call on fellow Singaporeans to come together and do things for one another. He called on Singaporeans to donate their excess masks and attracted fellow volunteers who then spent time distributing the masks to other Singaporeans who may need them. By doing so, they are able to complement the support structures provided by the government at that point in time and meet the needs of society.

L4 Both aspects in L3 plus Explains the relative importance of each group. [8]

For these measures to be effective in serving the society, both the government and organised groups need to work together. While their roles are different, they are complementary and equally important. If the government has policies in place to protect Singaporeans yet individuals find loopholes for their own benefit, then the effort of the government would go to waste, as society would still end up being harmed. Similarly, if individuals step up to the task of trying to meet the needs of one another in the society but do not receive any form of support or recognition from the government, then these efforts may receive less attention and support from the masses, preventing it from being the success it may be.

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