Anglo-Chinese School
(Independent)

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2025
YEAR FOUR (O-levels)

HUMANITIES
Paper 1 Social Studies
(2260/01, 2261/01, 2262/01)

Tuesday **12 August 2025** **1 h 45 min**

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Section A is **COMPULSORY**. You must answer **all parts** of Question 1.

Answer **BOTH** parts of Question 2 from Section B.

Write your answer on the writing paper provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

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

This question paper consists of 7 printed pages.

[Turn over

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SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

Answer **all** questions.

Being Part of a Globalised World

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully and 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 issue to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 Study Source A.

What does the source tell you about online vigilantism? Explain your answer. [5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

Having read Source B, are you surprised by Source C regarding the impact of online vigilantism? Explain your answer. [7]

3 Study Source D.

Does Source D prove that online vigilantism is justified? Explain your answer. [6]

4 Study Sources E and F.

Would Source E agree with Source F about the use of social media for online vigilantism? Explain your answer. [7]

5 'Online vigilantism does more harm than good.'

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

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Is online vigilantism beneficial at all?

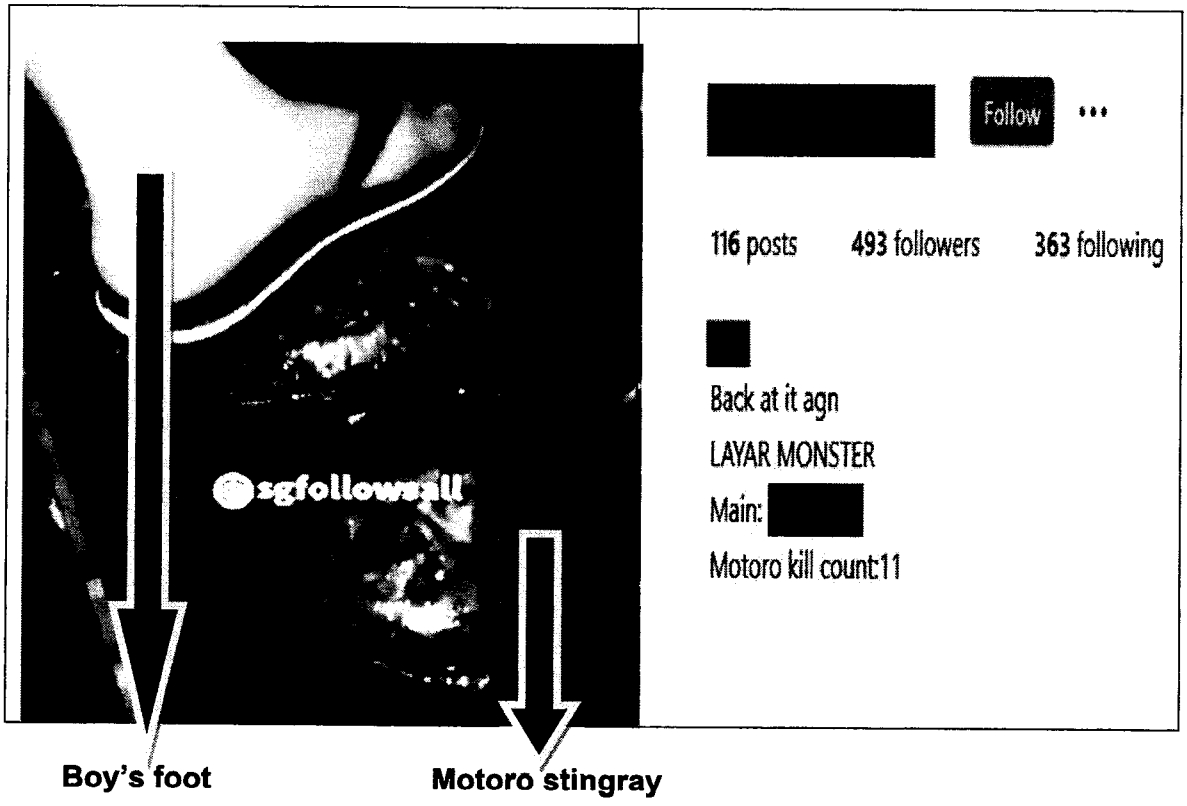
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Online vigilantism reflects how digital connections shape collective social behaviour, and evolving notions of justice in the digital age. It refers to online actions carried out by individuals or groups in the name of justice, order, or safety ranging from online shaming to more direct forms of punishment or surveillance, often coordinated via social media and other online platforms. They tend to have lower trust in the government and sometimes legal systems. However, the question is "Is this considered justice?" Experts say that the downside is clear, and the negatives are many, including vigilantes making moral judgements without having the facts of the case, spreading false information, and causing collateral damage on those they falsely accuse. The line between a helpful citizen and a problematic vigilante can be perilously thin and crossing it can have far-reaching implications for everyone involved.

Study the following sources to examine if online vigilantism is beneficial at all.

Source A: *A post taken from STOMP, a digital news portal, about a boy who stepped on Motoro stingrays. Netizens subsequently identified what they suspected to be the boy's social media account and how he had a "kill count" for stingrays, published June 2022.*



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Source B: *From an online article which explores the human flesh search following the announcement of sudden COVID-19 cases in the Chinese city of Chengdu, published in January 2021.*

On December 8, 2020, after the epidemic in China had been stabilized, the city of Chengdu suddenly reported four new cases. One of these cases was a twenty-year-old woman infected by her grandmother. Soon after the photo of the alleged 20-year-old Chengdu patient went viral, the person in the photo refuted the rumors, stating that she was not from Chengdu and was not diagnosed with coronavirus. The photos were misappropriated, and her life was greatly affected by the rumors and negative comments online. By the time she was able to refute the rumors, the damage was already done.

Source C: *From a news article published in AsiaOne, a Singaporean news and lifestyle website, December 2024.*

A personal mobility device (PMD) was spotted speeding in Queenstown before it skidded on the wet road and crashed. In a dashcam footage video submitted by a car driver to Facebook page ***SG Road Vigilante****, the PMD can be seen wobbling as its rider zooms along the leftmost lane of Alexandra Road. The PMD rider then cuts through two lanes to make a sudden right turn along Commonwealth Avenue, nearly hitting a car. The driver warned both new and experienced drivers to remain vigilant for errant PMD riders on roads. Responding to AsiaOne's queries, an LTA spokesperson said that they are aware of the incident and have stepped up enforcement efforts in the area.

**SG Road Vigilante - A community of citizens in Singapore who prioritize road safety, fairness, and justice.*

Source D: *Excerpt from an interview with Dr. Lennon Chang, a senior lecturer in Criminology, School of Social science, Monash University, published in 2018.*

Dr Chang's project called 'The co-production of cybersecurity' involves further research in internet vigilantism in different countries, including Australia. He explores the idea of netizens helping government to make the online world more secure. "Everyone is online," he says. "We have hackers, we have internet vulnerability. Can we build a good information sharing system, like a kind of quarantine using the same model in public health that alerts us to infectious diseases?" What he's talking about here is people power, or crowdsourcing, where the general population is ahead of the authorities and help those authorities spot problems and issue warnings. "These people online are not doing it for fun; they might be doing it with a sense of justice. If that's the case, we need to know how we can use their data and their information in helping investigate crimes," said Dr. Chang.

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Source E: *Comments of a foreign journalist about online vigilante justice, published in 2017.*

The justice system is there to ensure that people don't start acting as vigilantes. However, due to social media, these kinds of acts have increased again. The public does not have the proper tools to punish an offender legally. They can only get even by actions of the same character, which are crimes on its own. Besides that, what justice is, is relative. Online vigilante justice interferes with the law enforcement on several important aspects, resulting into unequal treatment of citizens. The law system can only function correctly with the absence of online vigilante justice. In order to get to this point, new laws about online speech can be developed or the online policing can be increased. But it can be best accomplished by an inherent change within social media-users. Stop engaging, harassing, and let **jurors*** do their job.

**jurors – members of a jury which is a body of people (typically twelve in number) sworn to give a verdict in a legal case on the basis of evidence submitted to them in court.*

Source F: *From an article entitled "Legal experts warn naming and shaming alleged criminals on social media can itself be a crime" published on an Australian news website September 2022.*

Social media community groups need to be policed to stop a rise in online vigilantism, according to prominent Australian criminal lawyer Bill Potts. Mr Potts says some pages resemble the Wild West without a sheriff because of the number of unsubstantiated allegations of criminal activity.

"What we are seeing is something very, very dangerous. I'm concerned that there will be violence," Mr Potts said. "It encourages people to use violence under the guise of identifying criminals. The simple truth is that we cannot clearly identify or know the basis of people saying these things; they may be doing so maliciously."

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SECTION B (Structured-Response Question)

Answer **both** questions.

Living In A Diverse Society

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

Singapore has become an increasingly popular destination for foreign students interested to study something new and exciting. Managed by the Ministry of Education, education in Singapore ranks highly compared to other nations around the globe, making it an ideal destination for international students interested in a study abroad experience.

Extract 2

Creating common spaces and shared experiences is crucial to develop harmony in a country. This involves encouraging interactions between diverse groups, promoting understanding of different cultures and perspectives, and building trust through meaningful engagement.

Extract 3

When people are open to engaging with those from different backgrounds, they are more likely to develop empathy and understanding for their perspectives and experiences.

6 Extract 1 talks about how our local universities are able to attract numerous international students.
In your opinion, why do you think Singapore is able to attract many students from other countries to study in our local universities? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons. [7]

7 Extracts 2 and 3 reflect on how a country can achieve harmony in a diverse society.

To what extent is creating common spaces more important than having an attitude of appreciating different cultures in preserving harmony? [8]

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Source A	https://www.stomp.sg/singapore-seen/nparks-investigating-alleged-animal-cruelty-involving-boy-who-stepped-on-stingrays
Source B	https://www.diggitmagazine.com/articles/digital-vigilantism-covid-19
Source C	https://www.asiaone.com/singapore/speeding-pmd-skids-and-crashes-queenstown
Source D	https://lens.monash.edu/2018/06/26/1352866/justice-and-the-internet-the-rise-and-risks-of-the-online-vigilante
Source E	https://www.diggitmagazine.com/papers/social-media-enabling-vigilante-justice#introduction
Source F	https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-01-13/identifying-people-online-community-groups-legal-risk/103310968
Extract 1	https://www.educations.com/study-guides/asia/study-in-singapore

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LORMS for Year 4 SS Preliminary Exams 2025

SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

Q.1	Study Source A. What does the source tell you about online vigilantism? Explain your answer.	[5]
Level	**Descriptor**	**Mark**
1	**Describes the source.** It is a photo posted on STOMP about a boy who stepped on motoro stingrays.	1
2	**Makes valid inference, without evidence provided.** *Award 2 marks for one inference, 3 marks for two inferences.* This source tells me that online vigilantism helps to raise awareness of potentially serious issues like animal cruelty. **OR** This source also shows that online vigilantism can cause some harm, especially if readers or public from the community read about the post and jump to conclusions, expose the individual (boy) and subsequently cause harassment to him.	2-3
3	**Makes valid inference, provided with relevant source details/evidence and explanation** *Award 5m for a well-explained inference.* E.g. This source tells me that online vigilantism helps to raise awareness of potentially serious issues like animal cruelty. In the post, the figure '11' depicts the number of stingrays the abuser hoped to 'kill'. This can possibly stir up anger among the netizens and trigger some form of investigation by the authority (such as NParks) to take firm actions against such animal abusers. **OR** This source also shows that online vigilantism can cause some harm, especially if people in the community jump to conclusions, expose the individual in the post and subsequently cause harassment to the person in the post. From the provenance, it states that netizens had identified what they suspected to be the boy's social media account and proceeded to share details (like a "kill count"). While their intentions may have been to seek justice or accountability, this raises ethical concerns as the accuracy of their identification is not confirmed. Hence, while online communities can uncover useful evidence, they also risk spreading unverified information and promoting mob justice.	4-5

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Q.2	Study Sources B and C. Having read Source B, are you surprised by Source C **regarding the impact of online vigilantism**? Explain your answer.	[7]

Surprising	**Not surprising**
Yes, Source B make me surprised by Source C regarding online vigilantism as both sources depict **different impacts of online vigilantism.** **Source B states the negative impact** of online vigilantism as it can have permanent/ long term damage resulting from the possibility of misidentification by the vigilantes **while SC states that its impact might be positive** due to its focus on highlighting public safety and awareness to warm others about reckless drivers on the road. **→SB:** highlights the **negative consequences/impact** of online vigilantism, specifically how the public exposure and shaming of an individual based on misinformation led to ***invasion of privacy, harassment, and long-term reputational damage***. **→SC:** online vigilantism—where a community group (SG Road Vigilante) shares dashcam footage of a reckless PMD rider. This act seems to focus on highlighting public safety and awareness, where ordinary citizens sharing incidents online in a way that could potentially expose or shame reckless drivers/individuals. It wishes to warn others so that accidents can be avoided and also to appeal for more enforcement actions by the traffic police etc. Yes, I am further surprised by SC regarding the **positive outcome** of online vigilantism as it is **contradicted by Source F** which supports SB in showing that online vigilante justice can be both harmful and legally problematic. SF cites a legal expert's opinion to stress how these online actions can lead to ***real-world consequences, such as violence or defamation*** seen in 'Social media community groups …resemble the Wild West without a sheriff because of the number of unsubstantiated allegations of criminal activity' which describes ***the lawlessness of unmoderated online communities***.	After reading Source B, we are not surprised by the impact seen in Source C because both sources involve ordinary citizens using online platforms to publicly expose individuals' actions in the name of justice or public interest, a form of online vigilantism, and leading to real consequences, whether positive or negative, thus showing us that the internet gives people powerful tools to influence public perception and official responses. **→SB:** Internet users conducted a "human flesh search" to identify and shame someone they believed to be a COVID-19 patient. Their actions were driven by a sense of moral responsibility or fear. **→SC**: A car driver submitted dashcam footage to a public Facebook page (SG Road Vigilante) to highlight dangerous road behaviour by a PMD rider. Hence, in both sources, citizens take justice into their own hands by sharing identifiable information or footage online. Upon cross-referencing to Source A, Source B does not make me surprised by Source C as both sources were supported by **Source A** which also shows a post on STOMP to help surface community concerns such as potential animal cruelty, alerting authorities to investigate the matter so that such pranks or anti-social behaviour can be eradicated.

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Level	Descriptor	Mark
1	**Surprised/Not surprised due to provenance of source(s)**	1
2	**Surprised/Not surprised based on content of source(s)** *Award 2m for surprise/not surprise, unsupported*	2
3	**Surprised/Not surprised based on comparison of B and C** *Lower mark if comparisons are unclear (e.g. match in issue is weak/lacks a clear common criterion) or if explanations are weak.* *Higher mark for developed and well-supported comparisons*	3-4
4	**Surprised/Not Surprised based on cross-reference** *Award 6m for a developed and well-explained answer explaining surprising/not surprising with CR* *Note: Please pay attention to how you craft the stand/conclusion when doing CR. You need to explain the relationship between all three sources.* (Accept other valid explanations and CR)	5-6
5	**Not Surprised based on different context, purpose and outcome.** *Award 7 marks for developed and well-explained answer.* ***Source B does not make me surprised by the purpose of Source C.*** *Both sources show different outcomes due to different context.* *In **Source B**, the context was about the harmful consequences of online exposure which focus on the social response of the internet users who acted out of fear and moral judgment following a COVID-19 outbreak (context). They identified and criticised those they believed were responsible as they wanted to protect the public from getting infected with the virus. However, their actions led to harmful consequences to the misidentified victim which can be seen from "The photos were misappropriated, and her life was greatly affected by the rumours and negative comments online". Hence the source warned about the negative consequences of digital vigilantism, online misinformation, and loss of privacy in the age of social media.* ***Source C, however,** highlights the positive outcome of community surveillance, citizen reporting, and the role of social media in **targeting road safety and reckless behaviour**. This can be seen in Source C when it states "the PMD rider then cuts through two lanes to make a sudden right turn along Commonwealth Avenue, nearly hitting a car". The purpose of sharing the PMD incident on SG Road Vigilante was to raise awareness about dangerous road behaviour (context) and encourage safer driving. The impact of the source is that Land Transport Authority (LTA) acknowledged the video and increased enforcement.* *As SB and SC have different purpose and outcomes, SB does not make SC surprising.*	6-7
Q.3	Study Source D. Does Source D prove that online vigilantism is justified? Explain your answer.	[6]
Level	**Descriptor**	**Mark**

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1	**Proves/Does not prove based on provenance** Source D proves that online vigilantism is justified as it is an interview with Dr. Lennon Chang, a criminology expert at Monash University.	1
2	**Proves/Does not prove based on content** Yes, Source D proves that online vigilantism is justified as it has potential benefit of helping to identify online threats and assist authorities by sharing information. This is seen in "What he's talking about here is people power, or crowdsourcing, where the general population is ahead of the authorities and help those authorities spot problems and issue warnings", implying that some people act out of a **"sense of justice,"** and raises the question of how their efforts could be used in crime investigations. **AND/OR** No, Source D does not prove that online vigilantism is justified as it does not reveal that online vigilantism can also cause potential harm through misinformation, online harassment, and privacy violations.	2-3
3	**Proves/Does not prove based on cross-reference** *Award 5m for a well-developed answer.* E.g. Yes, Source D proves that online vigilantism is justified as it has potential benefit of helping to identify online threats and assist authorities by sharing information. It discusses how ordinary internet users might help identify online threats and assist authorities by sharing information. SD tells us that Dr. Chang observes that some people act out of a **"sense of justice,"** and raises the question of how their efforts could be used in crime investigations. This is seen in "What he's talking about here is people power, or crowdsourcing, where the general population is ahead of the authorities and help those authorities spot problems and issue warnings", implying that some people act out of a **"sense of justice,"** and raises the question of how their efforts could be used in crime investigations. SD is further supported by Source C which shows a car driver submitting dashcam footage to a public Facebook page (SG Road Vigilante) to highlight dangerous road behaviour by a PMD rider. This implies that some people acted out of a concern to warn other pedestrians or road users to promote **road safety**. **OR** E.g. No, Source D does not prove that online vigilantism is justified as it does not reveal that online vigilantism has other challenges and can cause potential harm. This can be seen in SB, SE and SF which warn against the dangers of online vigilante actions. e.g. Source B and Source E highlight the threat of violence and potential for false accusations, noting that some posts are malicious or unfounded. e.g. Source F also shows that it undermines the formal justice system, causing unequal treatment and legal challenges. **(Accept other relevant cross-references & explanations)**	4-5
4	**Critical Analysis of Provenance of Source D.** *Award 6m for a well explained purpose and outcome based on the provenance.*	6

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	E.g. No, Source D **does not prove** that online vigilantism is justified **as the lecturer raises important questions rather than giving definitive answers**. He does not state in the interview if online vigilantism is always right or acceptable—only that it is worth studying and understanding. Dr. Chang's research project entitled *"The co-production of cybersecurity" shows his* interest in how this public involvement—sometimes seen as a form of online vigilantism—might be integrated into formal systems of cybercrime investigation. The **context** of the source is a discussion about how society might responsibly tap on the actions of internet users who act out of a sense of justice to support law enforcement and improve cybersecurity, without necessarily endorsing or condemning online vigilantism.	

Q.4	Study Sources E and F. Would Source E agree with Source F about the use of social media for online vigilantism?	[7]
Level	**Descriptor**	**Mark**
1	**Describes sources.**	1
2	**False matching – No valid/relevant comparison established.**	2
3	**Similarities/differences in content, unsupported.**	3
4	**Similarities AND/OR differences in content, supported.** ***Award maximum of 5 marks if similarities OR differences in content is supported.*** *Award maximum of 5 marks if similarities **OR** differences in content is supported.* *Award maximum of 6 marks if similarities **AND** differences in content are supported, with 5 marks awarded for weaker comparisons and 6 marks awarded for stronger ones.* **<u>Similarity</u>** **E.g. Source E would agree with Source F <u>in terms of online vigilantism on social media being dangerous and can escalate conflict or cause harm.</u>** Source E states that online vigilante justice leads to criminal behaviour by those engaging in harassment or naming-and-shaming. This is seen in "The public does not have the proper tools to punish an offender legally. They can only get even by actions of the same character, which are crimes on its own". Similarly, Source F supports this view by warning that online vigilantism can lead to violence, spread unsubstantiated allegations, and may even result in criminal behaviour itself. This is supported by "What we are seeing is something very, very dangerous. I'm concerned that there will be violence", highlighting the risk of false accusations and lack of control which can lead to violence. **(Accept other relevant comparisons)** **And/or**	4-6

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	<u>Difference</u> **Both Source E and Source F disagree in terms of what is the proposed solution to manage online vigilantism.** • SE: The source calls for **personal responsibility** which is supported by *"But it can be best accomplished by an inherent change within social media-users" and telling individuals to "Stop engaging, harassing, and let jurors do their job", implying that* a change in how social media users behave is more effective than increased laws or policing. • SF: The source calls for **formal regulation and external enforcement** to control harmful online behaviour. This is seen in "Social media community groups need to be policed to stop a rise in online vigilantism", implying that sometimes external intervention is needed to maintain order. **(Accept other relevant comparisons)**	
5	**Agrees in purpose with similar intended outcome** *Award maximum of 7 marks for well-explained answer.* Both sources agree with each other as they have a **similar stance** against the rising trend of unregulated justice through social media and wish to educate the public/raise awareness about the undesirable consequences. They criticise online vigilantism to be dangerous and can possibly escalate conflict or cause harm. Source E seeks to educate the public about participation in unregulated online justice efforts and the importance of letting the courts decide. Source F also aims to raise awareness about the potential criminal liability of naming and shaming online, while also stressing the risk of false accusations and incited violence. *Hence, both sources seek to discourage online vigilantism intending to protect individuals from harm, maintain justice system integrity, and prevent misuse of social media.* ***(Accept other valid explanation)***	6-7
Q. 5	'Online vigilantism does more harm than good.' Using the sources in this case study, explain how far you would agree with this statement. ***Note: Students need to support answer with relevant evidence from the source(s) and address what the term 'optimistic' entails in their explanation to be awarded marks.***	[10]
Level	**Descriptor**	**Mark**
1	**Writes about statement, no valid source use**	1
2	**Agree/Disagree arguments, supported by evidence and explanation**	2-4

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Yes, I would agree, supported by:

Source A – The source supports the statement. It shows online vigilantism could do more harm than good especially if people in the community jump to conclusions, expose the individual in the post and subsequently cause harassment to the person in the post. From the provenance, it states that netizens had identified what they suspected to be the boy's social media account and proceeded to share details (like a "kill count"). The public may react emotionally and draw harsh conclusions before knowing the full story. This rush to judgment might lead to consequences such as causing emotional distress to those involved. While the intentions of the public may have been to seek justice or accountability, this raises ethical concerns as the accuracy of their identification is not confirmed. Hence, while online communities can uncover useful evidence, they also risk spreading unverified information and promoting mob justice.

Source B – This source clearly supports the statement. It shows that online vigilantism led to serious harm such as causing unjust harm and reputational damage. This can be supported by *"The photos were misappropriated, and her life was greatly affected by the rumours and negative comments online"*, implying how rumours and personal attacks online can spiral out of control, resulting in serious consequences for innocent people.

Source E – This source is highly critical of online vigilantism and sees online vigilantism as deeply harmful to justice and social order. It also argues that online vigilantism undermines legal processes, promotes unequal treatment, and may result in online crimes like harassment. This is seen in "The public does not have the proper tools to punish an offender legally. They can only get even by actions of the same character, which are crimes on its own".

Source F – This source warns that online vigilantism can lead to unjust and dangerous outcomes. This is supported by "What we are seeing is something very, very dangerous. I'm concerned that there will be violence" which tells us that the legal expert was very concerned about the dangers and illegality of public shaming on social media.

No, I would not agree, supported by:

Source C – This source shows how online vigilance can contribute positively to public safety without clear harm. It portrays online vigilantism more positively. A citizen recorded and shared a dangerous incident involving a PMD rider, helping raise awareness and prompting authorities to act. The aim was not to harass but to protect public safety and encourage responsible behaviour. It suggests that online vigilance can fill enforcement gaps and improve safety.

Source D – This source supports a regulated, collaborative form of online vigilance with beneficial outcomes. Dr. Chang emphasizes the potential value of online citizens assisting authorities, especially in cybersecurity. He presents online vigilantism as constructive when properly integrated into official processes. He acknowledges that people often act out of a sense of justice, and their data can be useful if regulated and structured.

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L3	**Both Agree AND Disagree, supported by detail and explanation** 1 Y/1 N - 2 sources -> 5 marks 1 Y/2 N or 2 Y/1 N – 3 sources -> 6 marks 2 Y/2 N - 4 sources -> 7-8 marks 2 Y/3 N or 3Y/2 N – 5 sources -> 8 marks *Note: Consideration on number of sources used and the quality of analysis in deciding on marks in L2 and L3.	5-8
Bonus Marks (L2/L3)	**** To score additional 2 marks, candidates can take any of these routes:** • By analysing at least one source in relation to its reliability, utility or sufficiency (whether there is anything lacking in the source). • By sharing example(s) from contextual knowledge. • By giving a balanced conclusion/resolution. **By giving a balanced conclusion / resolution** *Must give a **new perspective** beyond what is talked about in the sources Most sources agree that online vigilantism does more harm than good, especially when it involves false information, harassment, or bypassing legal systems. However, Sources C and D show that it can have positive impacts ***if used carefully***, especially in reporting dangerous behaviour or aiding official investigations. Final Judgment: While there are some cases where online vigilance helps promote safety (Sources C & D), most of the sources – ***particularly those with legal and ethical concerns*** – agree that online vigilantism does more harm than good, especially when it is unregulated and emotionally driven. **Through analysing one source in relation to its utility/reliability/sufficiency** **E.g. Source F is reliable to agree with the statement.** Source F is reliable to show that online vigilantism does more harm than good. The source features Bill Potts, a prominent Australian criminal lawyer. As a legal expert, he has professional knowledge and experience regarding the consequences of unlawful behaviour, including the misuse of online platforms for vigilante actions. His perspective carries credibility and legal weight. Bill Potts clearly connects online vigilantism to serious risks, such as unsubstantiated allegations (risking defamation and false accusations), incitement of violence as well as malicious intent behind some online posts These points clearly support the idea that online vigilantism causes more harm than good, especially when due process is ignored. Finally, the context of September 2022 also makes it relatively current and relevant to today's digital environment.	**+1 or 2 marks**

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	Disagree/Agrees with source(s) by sharing example from contextual knowledge **Any other valid examples should be accepted.* There are many examples to show that online vigilantism can easily spiral out of control, leading to: • False accusations • Public harassment • Career and personal life damage • Mental health consequences • Undermining of legal due process They reinforce the argument that, although motivated by a sense of justice, online vigilantism often does more harm than good, particularly when it is unverified, emotionally driven, or public facing.	

Section B: Structured-Response Question

6 Extract 1 talks about how our local universities are able to attract numerous international students.

In your opinion, why do you think Singapore is able to attract many students from other countries to study in our local universities? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons. [7]

Level	Marks	Descriptor
1	1	Writes about topic
2	2-4	Identify way(s) (2-3m) Describe way(s) (3-4)
3	5-7	L2 + Explain 1 way (5-6m) L2 + Explain 2nd way (6-7m)

Any 2 possible reasons:

- **Singapore is reputed for its high-quality education**. National University of Singapore (NUS) and Nanyang Technological University (NTU) consistently rank among the world's top universities. Singapore universities also enjoy strong academic reputation in STEM, business, AI, biotech, and public policy. Degrees from Singapore universities are well-respected worldwide. Many programs offer international accreditations and there are also opportunities for student exchange and dual degrees with top schools like Yale, Duke, MIT, and Imperial College. Additionally, Singapore also offers a number of competitive scholarships (e.g. ASEAN, SINGA, and university-based awards) to attract top international students.

- **English is used as the medium of instruction, making learning accessible to a global audience**. Its English-speaking environment is culturally welcoming to foreigners. To ease international students into settling down in Singapore, the government and university support systems help with matters such as housing and career guidance etc. In Singapore universities, international students can possibly enjoy vibrant student life and diversity because of the multicultural student population, with peers from all over Asia, Europe, and beyond. The modern campuses with rich co-curricular activities, clubs, and leadership opportunities are also very attractive.

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- **Singapore is also strategically located in Asia, situated at the crossroads of East and West. It thus gives students easy access to ASEAN markets, China, and India**. It offers exposure to a diverse mix of cultures, languages, and business environments. Singapore itself is a safe, clean, and well-connected city among the developed cities in the world, with excellent healthcare, transport, and infrastructure. Its highly efficient public services, reliable internet, and political stability attract the foreign students to study in the country.

- **Singapore also boasts of plentiful career & industry opportunities**. It is home to regional HQs of numerous multinational companies. There are therefore strong internship, networking, and job placement opportunities in finance, tech, logistics, biomedical sciences, and more. This is extremely appealing to the foreign students who would not have to worry too much over post-degree job opportunities. In addition, there are many post-graduation work opportunities and relatively clear pathways to employment which are equally attractive to the foreign graduates.
  (Accept other relevant reasons)

7 Extracts 2 and 3 reflect on how a country can achieve harmony in a diverse society. To what extent is creating common spaces more important than having an attitude of appreciating different cultures in preserving harmony? [8]

Level	Marks	Descriptor
1	1,2	Writes about topic
2	3,4	Describes 1 factor (3m), 2nd factor (4m)
3	5-7	Explain 1 factor (5-6m); Explain 2nd factor (6-7m)
4	8	L3 (6-7m) + relative importance of each factor explained

Note: An explanation is showing how each factor is essential in preserving harmony in a diverse society.

E.g. Creating common spaces helps to preserve harmony in a society. It is necessary to allow different groups in society to build mutual trust and develop better relationships. Common spaces can be physical locations or even social spaces where there are opportunities for people from different races and ethnicities, religions, socio-economic status and nationalities to interact, collaborate and consequently build a stronger sense of belonging to the country.

For example, the People's Association (PA) in Singapore aims to promote racial harmony and social cohesion. It offers a wide range of community activities and cultural programmes to bring people together. Some examples of such community programs include social gatherings, sports events, courses and volunteering opportunities so that people from all walks of life can meet and interact. With these opportunities to socialise, collaborate and work together, there is greater possibility to interact and appreciate other groups of people. This allows deeper friendships or bonds to be built, which in turn preserves harmony in the society.

(Accept other relevant examples of common spaces)

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E.g. Having an attitude of appreciating different cultures is also important in preserving harmony in the society especially in a multi-racial and multi-religious society like Singapore. For example, an attitude of openness or being open-minded helps promote harmonious interactions in a diverse society. When we are more open-minded, we are more tolerant of differences and are more willing to understand cultures of other people. Singapore's diverse society also provides us with opportunities to be respectful of other customs through appreciating diversity such as learning about the food, music, fashion, language, customs of another ethnic group. For example, the Chinese can learn to appreciate and understand the foods of the various Indian regions while the Indians can also learn how to differentiate between cuisines from different Chinese dialect groups. Through these meaningful interactions, positive social relationships are forged, which in turn preserves harmony in the society.

(Accept other relevant examples which show how harmony is preserved through appreciation of different cultures)

E.g. In conclusion, having an attitude of appreciating different cultures is relatively more important than creating common spaces for preserving harmony in a society. This is because while common spaces provide the opportunity for interaction, it is the attitude of appreciation that **determines whether those interactions lead to harmony or conflict**. Without an attitude of mutual respect and embracing differences or diversity, even the best-designed common space can become a site of division. On the other hand, when people value diversity, they can create harmony even in the absence of shared spaces.

(Accept any relevant explanation)

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