



BARTLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL

Preliminary Examination

CANDIDATE NAME			
CLASS		INDEX NUMBER	

HUMANITIES
Paper 1 Social Studies

2260/01
2261/01
2262/01

26 August 2025
1 hour 45 mins

Answer Booklet

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.

For Examiner's Use	
Section A	
Section B	
Total	
Parent's Signature:	

This document consists of 9 printed pages and 3 blank pages.

Set By: Mr Tan CK

[Turn Over

Section A: Source – Based Case Study (35m)

Answer **all** questions.

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 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 Study Source A.

Why was this photograph published? Explain your answer using details from the photograph. [5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

Would the youth (in Source C) agree with the report (in Source B)? Explain your answer. [6]

3 Study Sources D and E.

Having read Source D, are you surprised by what Source E says about the management of casual racism in Singapore? Explain your answer. [7]

4 Study Source F.

Source F is an individual's reaction towards a scene from a popular cartoon for young children. Is Source F still useful in helping you understand people's attitude towards casual racism? Explain your answer using details from the source. [7]

5 'It is up to the government to manage casual racism in a society.'

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

Why is it challenging to overcome casual racism in a multi-ethnic society?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

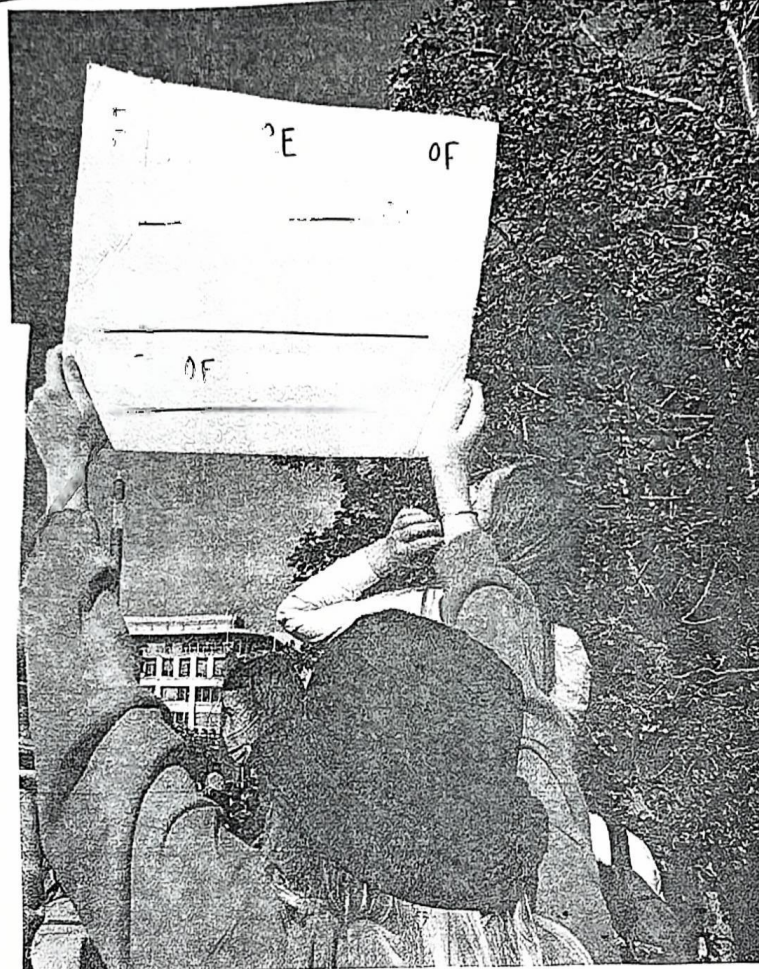
Casual racism refers to subtle or non-obvious forms of discrimination based on race and ethnicity that may have been normalised by society. Unlike obvious racist acts, casual racism shows itself in daily interactions through off-handed comments, jokes or unconscious biases. It can also be demonstrated in many different forms of media like radio and TV shows.

While it may be less obvious, casual racism can lead to severe consequences. A single instance of casual racism may be seen as minor to some since it is not often intended to cause offence, but repeated exposure to many of them can lead to stress, lower self-esteem and even self-harm when victims start to believe in the messages. The government and citizens of multi-ethnic nations like Australia, Canada, The United States of America and Singapore continue to engage in policy-making and dialogue to resolve the problems associated with casual racism. A survey conducted in Singapore in 2024 for instance reveals that minorities continue to face prejudice in the workplace. While casual racism can be difficult to overcome since it is often hard to identify with many in society being unaware or not caring about it, there have also been increased efforts in education and more willingness from members of society to actively challenge it.

Study the sources below to find the different reasons that make it difficult for a multi-ethnic society to overcome casual racism.

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Source A: A photograph taken during an anti-racism protest, published in a Canadian University's webpage, October 2023. Canada is known in the world as a multicultural and democratic nation. The protest slogan reads "If you are tired of hearing about racism, imagine how tired people are of experiencing it."



Source B: News report by Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), Australia's national public media service, published online March 2024.

A student-led report that surveyed more than 800 people studying at the University of Melbourne has found more than two-thirds have either experienced or witnessed casual racism at least once a month. One of the respondents said a tutor grabbed their braids in class, while another said they had overheard "jokes" describing Hitler* as a good person.

The report also made suggestions in the hope of improving the situation in the university. But Ms Adam, the former student union** president who started the survey, said she was frustrated that despite three years of work, the university had yet to address the bulk of their recommendations. She said she felt the university had welcomed their findings, but that nothing concrete had come from their meetings. She said that she had been left feeling disappointed and isolated. At the end of last year, she left her role as student union president.

* *Hitler*: Leader of Nazi Germany from 1933 to 1945, known for his extremely racist beliefs and policies.

** *student union*: A student-led organisation, usually present in colleges, universities and high schools that is responsible for representing the rights of students.

Source C: A personal account shared by a young Australian immigrant on a website that promotes well-being for young people, published online May 2025.

A theme of my life in Australia has been people telling me that I don't belong here. I was born in Sri Lanka but I've spent 20 years here. Yet, some people can't see past my skin colour. Once, I experienced casual racism during a football match. The girls in my team were mostly people of colour, while our opponents were all white. Supporters of the other team kept chanting 'Go Team Australia', despite us all being Australian.

Should you be upset when experiencing casual racism, focus on yourself. Do self-care activities like spending time on an enjoyable hobby. Speak up and let the other person know that their comments are hurtful. Help them realise they're being racist and learn how their comments impact others. There's a big community of people in Australia who are culturally diverse and there will always be a place for you to feel included.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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Source D: Adapted from a Straits Times report on Racial Harmony Day and how Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) lessons are conducted in class in Singapore, published July 2022. The syllabus for CCE was refreshed in 2021 that allows for more discussions on racism and stereotypes.

Students are more open to questioning racism, and teachers create a safe space for in-depth discussions to take place. A Secondary 1 student shared the importance of talking about stereotypes, "Many people assume I am Chinese because of my look. Racial stereotyping still exists, but everyone is key in ensuring harmony." Another Secondary 4 student said, "The scenarios discussed are relevant as I was the object of ridicule for my skin colour. I learnt to see how we can approach such problems from different angles to find ways to change perceptions."

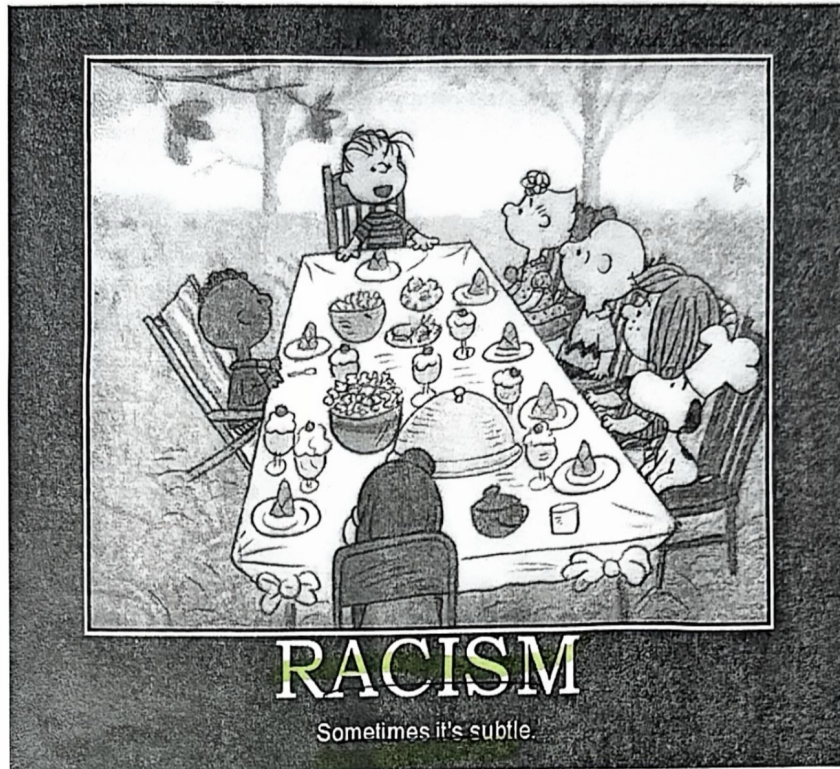
The Prime Minister said the effort to maintain racial harmony is never-ending. "Today's youth are concerned about casual racism. Our racial harmony is not perfect, and we are still learning as a nation. When we do not take this peace for granted and work together to bridge this gap not through argument but understanding, we will get there."

Source E: Adapted from a speech in Parliament by Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Law, Mr K Shanmugam, on the allegations surrounding the suicide of a police officer, Feb 2024.

On 21 July 2023, police officer, late Sergeant Uvaraja, committed suicide. Just before his passing away, he made a Facebook post. He said that he had been bullied and ill-treated by his superiors and colleagues. I directed the Singapore Police Force to investigate the claims and reviewed the findings. Uvaraja said that racially-inappropriate language was used against him. Investigations found that the officers involved were talking amongst themselves. The remarks were not specifically aimed at Uvaraja.

But, and this is important: the remarks were not acceptable at all – it does not matter whether they were directed or not directed at Uvaraja. They were and are not acceptable. Cases involving casual racism will be investigated as possible misconduct or disciplinary breaches. The Police will continue to engage officers, shape culture, and engage in frank discussion on such issues around casual racism. We cannot tolerate casual racism, snide remarks, racist jokes.

Source F: An individual American's opinion on casual racism. The meme was created as a response to a scene from a popular American cartoon series for children in which the group of friends came together for a meal to celebrate a festival. The meme reads "Racism: Sometimes it's subtle".



* Subtle – Things which are normalised and so ingrained in daily practices that they go unnoticed by many.

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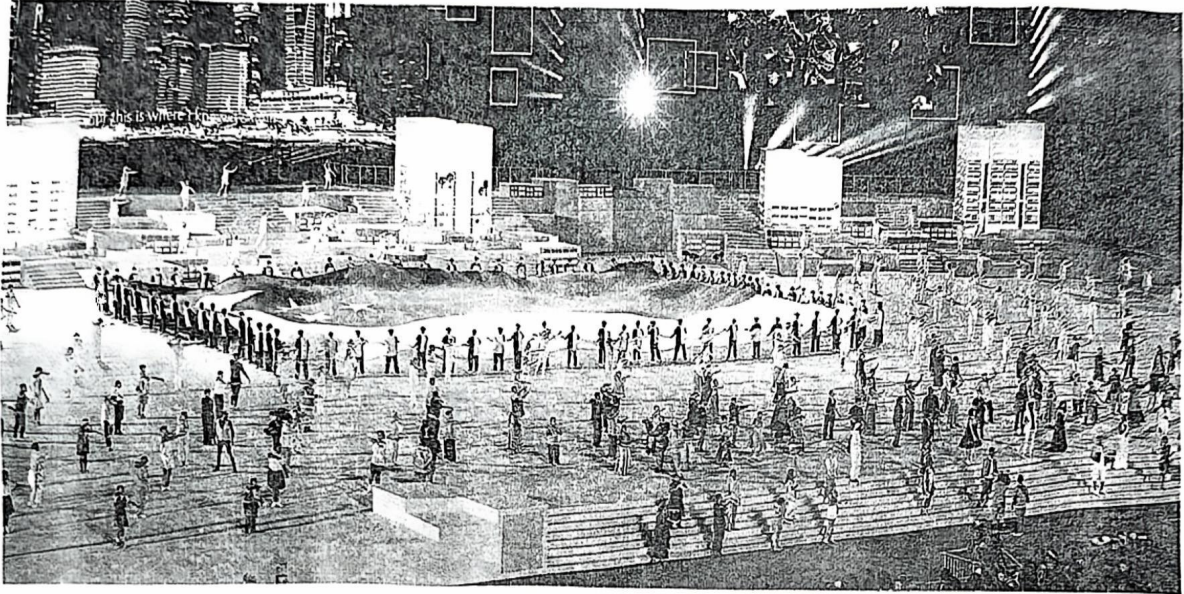
Section B: Structured – Response Question (15m)

Answer both questions.

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1



SG60 is a nationwide effort to celebrate the next chapter of our nation-building journey. Over the past 60 years, Singapore has survived and prospered against the odds. It is an opportune time to reflect on our journey as a nation and rally Singaporeans to contribute to our shared future. This is also an opportunity for us to affirm the shared commitment Singaporeans have to each other and the nation, and to build a stronger society that we are proud to call home.

Extract 2

Governments manage trade-offs to decide for the good of society. After deliberating the many perspectives to weigh the reasons for and against a course of action, consensus can be built.

Extract 3

Principles shaping governance help the government determine what is important and what should not be compromised as it governs for the good of society.

- 6 Extract 1 states an example of how the Singapore government strengthens citizens' sense of belonging.

In your opinion, how can Singapore foster a strong sense of belonging to Singapore in Singaporean youths? Explain your answer with reference to **two** ways. [7]

- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 reflect on how managing trade-offs and governing with guiding principles help in making decisions for the good of society.

Do you think managing trade-offs is more important than governance shaped by guiding principles in deciding what is good for society? [8]

~ End of Paper ~