

SOCIAL STUDIES Explaining Strategies

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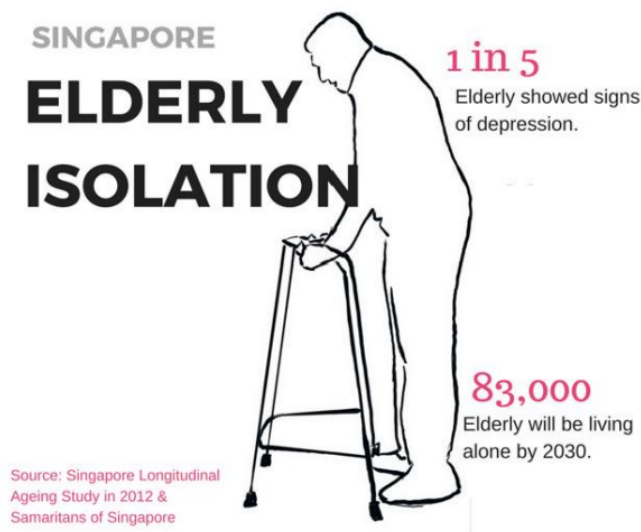
A common SRQ type for SRQ6 will ask you to explain two strategies to address a societal issue.

Some Strategies questions that have come out in SRQs for exam papers:

1. Taken from PASIR RIS CREST SECONDARY SCHOOL Preliminary Examination 2024

Extract 1

The image below shows the figures which indicate the problem of isolation as a result of reduced social interaction and loneliness among the elderly in Singapore.



Extract 1 shows the problem of elderly isolation in Singapore.

In your opinion, **what can be done** to help reduce social isolation among the elderly in Singapore? Explain your answer with reference to two ways.

[7]

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2. Taken from ANDERSON SECONDARY SCHOOL Preliminary Examination 2024

Extract 1

While Singapore attracts more global acts like Taylor Swift and Bruno Mars, more needs to be done to support local musicians who form an important part of Singapore's arts culture.

Extract 1 highlights the need for Singapore to support local musicians while attracting global acts to perform in the country.

In your opinion, **how can Singapore** promote and support the local music scene? Explain your answer using two strategies. [7]

3. Taken from ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOL (INDEPENDENT) Preliminary Examination 2024

Extract 1

In the context of radicalisation, youths are more prone to engaging in negative and extreme responses towards diverse environmental stressors – including the pursuit of violent, extremist causes.

Extract 1 states how the terrorism threat to Singapore remains high.

In your opinion, **how can we as a community** strengthen our fight against the threat of self-radicalisation in youths? Explain your answer with reference to two ways. [7]

4. Taken from BEDOK VIEW SECONDARY SCHOOL Preliminary Examination 2024

Extract 1

International events can have a direct impact on Singapore and its citizens. It is important for Singaporeans to stay informed about current affairs and understand how local and global news can affect their lives. This is so that they can contribute thoughtfully to discussions and solutions on some of the issues.

Extract 1 highlights the importance for Singaporeans to be aware of local and global news.

In your opinion, **what can be done** to improve Singaporean teenagers' awareness of current affairs? Explain your answer with reference to two ways. [7]

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5. Taken from BARTLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL Sec 3 EOY 2023

Extract 1

HOME HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATION FOR MIGRATION ECONOMICS

Our Volunteering Our Campaigns Profile

Finding Refuge in a Foreign Land

HOME Gives Migrant Workers, Comfort and Protection

Make a Difference

TAX TDR will be issued for donations of \$50 and above.

DONATE ONCE

DONATE MONTHLY

FUNDRAISE NOW

SUPPORTED CAUSES

- Community
- Humanitarian
- Social Service
- Women & Girls

HOME is a charity in Singapore that provides generous support for domestic helpers and other migrant workers who suffer abuse and exploitation. They provide financial, emotional, social and employment related support services for the migrant workers in need of help.

Extract 1 shows a local charity who provides social support for domestic helpers in Singapore ensuring their well-being.

In your opinion, how can ordinary Singaporeans show their care and concern for the migrant domestic helpers? Explain your answer with two suggestions. [7]

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As can be seen in the five questions, there are mainly two types of Strategies questions that you can broadly categorise all Strategies SRQs into:

1. “Broad”-type Strategies question: See Questions 1, 2, and 4. (No stakeholder mentioned, strategies can be implemented from POV of anyone, e.g. government, community, corporations, individuals)
2. “Specific”-type Strategies question: See Questions 3 and 5. (Specific stakeholder mentioned e.g. community, ordinary Singaporeans, so strategy must be specific to the context and constraints of that stakeholder)

Always remember to identify if the Strategies question is a “Broad” or “Specific” one, and if it’s a “Specific” one, remember to think from the POV of that stakeholder!

In each Strategies question, you are required to write 2 PEEL paragraphs according to this LORMS:

L1: Describes the topic (1m)

L2: Identifies/describes strategies (2–4m)

Award 2m for identifying one strategy and 3m for identifying two strategies.

Award 3m for describing one strategy and 4m for describing two strategies.

L3: Explains strategies (5–7m)

Award 5–6m for explaining one strategy.

Award 6–7m for explaining two strategies.

Prioritise quality over quantity as with all other SRQs. One strong PEEL paragraph will earn you up to 6 marks already!

For each PEEL paragraph, include the SWIH! You may consider the questions below:

1. **Point:** Who to implement? What to implement? Why implement? (IN BRIEF)
2. **Examples:** Who to implement? What to implement? When to implement? Where to implement? How to implement? (IN DETAIL)
3. **Explanation:** Why implement? (IN DETAIL)
4. **Link**

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We refer back to Question 1.

In your opinion, what can be done to help reduce social isolation among the elderly in Singapore? Explain your answer with reference to two ways.

Let's model two PEEL paragraphs using SWIH for Question 1!

Point	One strategy is that schools in Singapore (Who?) could implement community engagement programmes (What?) to encourage intergenerational bonding (Why?).
Examples	For example, schools in Singapore can pair up with a nearby voluntary welfare organisation (Who?) to organise a buddy programme (What?). In this buddy programme, the elderly will be paired with a student buddy. (How?) Thereafter, these pairs can engage in various activities together, such as gardening, cooking classes, or even technology workshops where the elderly learn to use smartphones and social media. (How?)
Explanation	As such, the regular interaction between the elderly and the young will make them feel less isolated and more valued (EX 1) leading to the fostering of relationships (EX 2) which provides them with a sense of belonging (EX 3). With these positive feelings, the elderly are more inclined to participate in more activities or interact with others (EX 4).
Link	Ultimately, feelings of loneliness and cases of isolation can be reduced.

Point	Another strategy is that community centres (Who?) can hold social activities (What?) to promote interactions among the elderly themselves (Why?).
Examples	For example, these centres (Who?) can hold various activities such as exercise classes, arts and crafts, and social gatherings. (How?) These hubs (Where?) can also host regular events like movie nights, festive celebrations, or health workshops (How?) on a monthly basis (When?).
Explanation	This means that the activities will encourage social interaction among peers (EX 1), building friendships (EX 2) and a sense of belonging (EX 3), which can promote a supportive network among participants (EX 4), building a shared identity (05).
Link	This reduces feelings of loneliness and social isolation.

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Let's try Question 2!

In your opinion, how can Singapore promote and support the local music scene? Explain your answer using two strategies.

Some possible strategies

- National level platforms to invite local artistes to perform/ write songs e.g. SPOP, National Day songs
- Promotion of local music in school through music lessons or assembly programmes
- Radio broadcasts to feature more local music (e.g. French laws requiring quota of French songs to be played)
- Promote busker culture in Singapore

Point	One strategy is that the government (Who?) can invite local musicians to perform on national level platforms (What?) to increase their prominence among Singaporeans (Why?).
Examples	This can be live or televised (Where?) to a wide audience especially in Singapore (Who?) so that Singaporeans are aware of these local musicians (Why?). We see this in the National Day Parades yearly (When?) as local songwriters and singers create National Day songs (How?). They then perform this during the parades (How?). The music videos of these songs are also featured (How?) on social media and TV (Where?) in the months leading up to NDP (When?).
Explanation	Such experiences will increase the exposure of these local musicians to Singaporeans (EX 1), and this in turn will pique the interest of more Singaporeans to find out more about these local musicians (EX 2). This will lead them to find out more about other songs from the musicians (EX 3). By the word of mouth, other Singaporeans will also learn about these local musicians (EX 4), hence there is a multiplied increase in the increase in popularity of these local musicians (EX 5) as more Singaporeans listen to their songs too (EX 6).
Link	Ultimately, the local music scene becomes more lively and prominent.

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Point	Another strategy is that schools (Who?) can incorporate music programmes featuring local music into their curricula (What?) to increase youths' exposure to the local music scene (Why?).
Examples	Currently, some schools (Who?) do teach students about Xinyao, a genre of Singaporean music from the 1980s (How?). This can be expanded to more contemporary local artists today (How?). Local music can also be incorporated into school performances such as dance performances (How?) during CCA practices or SYF (When?).
Explanation	During such programmes students can learn about what motivates and influences contemporary local music (EX 1) and from that discover the uniqueness of the local music scene (EX 2). This encourages them to explore the local music scene even beyond the school context (EX 3), which enables them to forge a deeper appreciation for local music (EX 4) and hence encourages a more permanent mindset change in youths in embracing the local music scene (EX 5). With more familiarity and exposure to local music (EX 6), students may also find local music more relatable to them (EX 7) which encourages them to support local music (EX 8) or even contribute to the local music scene in the future (EX 9).
Link	This thus promotes the local music scene.

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Moving on to Question 3...

In your opinion, how can we as a community strengthen our fight against the threat of self-radicalisation in youths? Explain your answer with reference to two ways.

Here, the question asks about the COMMUNITY level, so the focus should be on community groups, families, and individuals.

Point	One strategy is that families (Who?) can play an active role in guiding youths at home (What?) to help them develop resilience against extremist ideas (Why?).
Examples	For example, parents and siblings (Who?) can have open conversations about sensitive topics like discrimination, terrorism, and world conflicts such as the Israel–Palestine conflict or ISIS recruitment (How?). They can also discuss the dangers of extremist propaganda and conspiracy theories that spread on platforms like YouTube or Telegram (How?). These conversations can take place during family meals or bonding activities (When?), and families can use real news articles or documentaries as discussion starters (How?).
Explanation	This helps youths clarify misconceptions early (EX 1) and understand that extremist narratives are harmful (EX 2). When parents talk openly about such issues, it builds trust (EX 3), making youths more likely to seek advice instead of turning to online sources (EX 4). Families can also spot changes in behaviour, such as withdrawal or obsession with extremist videos, and intervene promptly (EX 5).
Link	Therefore, families serve as the first line of defence by shaping youths' values and protecting them from extremist ideas.

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Point	Another strategy is that community and religious organisations (Who?) can organise outreach programmes (What?) to give youths a sense of belonging and a positive identity (Why?).
Examples	For instance, mosques, churches, temples, and community centres (Who?) can host youth dialogues on topics like racial harmony, interfaith understanding, and responding to online hate speech (How?). These can be held in safe spaces such as community hubs or religious halls (Where?) on weekends or holidays (When?). Trained mentors and religious leaders (Who?) can use role-playing activities, storytelling, or social media campaigns to show youths how extremist groups manipulate emotions online and how to respond positively (How?). They can also involve youths in volunteer projects such as helping migrant workers or elderly residents, giving them purpose and belonging in healthy ways (How?).
Explanation	Such programmes connect youths with role models who guide them in handling real-world issues (EX 1). They also allow youths to form supportive peer groups (EX 2) and feel recognised and valued by their community (EX 3). When youths feel meaning and belonging through positive channels, they are less likely to turn to extremist groups for identity (EX 4).
Link	Thus, community and religious organisations play a vital role in protecting youths from self-radicalisation by offering guidance, belonging, and positive alternatives.

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ALMOST THERE! Question 4:

In your opinion, what can be done to improve Singaporean teenagers' awareness of current affairs? Explain your answer with reference to two ways.

Point	One strategy is that schools in Singapore (Who?) can integrate regular current affairs discussions into lessons (What?) to help students stay informed and think critically about issues (Why?).
Examples	For example, teachers (Who?) can use news articles on local issues like Singapore's Budget announcements or global topics such as climate change or US–China trade tensions (How?). These can be presented by students during assembly or Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) lessons (When?). After the presentations, teachers can facilitate class discussions where students analyse how such issues affect Singapore and their own lives. Schools can also hold current affairs quizzes or debates to make learning interactive (How?).
Explanation	Such activities regularly expose teenagers to important news (EX 1), build their habit of keeping up with current affairs (EX 2), and deepen their understanding through peer discussions (EX 3). They also train students to evaluate different perspectives (EX 4), which helps them form their own opinions instead of passively consuming information (EX 5).
Link	Therefore, schools play an important role in raising teenagers' awareness of current affairs by integrating them into their learning environment.

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Point	Another strategy is that government agencies (Who?) can collaborate with popular social media influencers (What?) to spread awareness of current affairs in ways that are engaging and relatable for Singaporean teenagers (Why?).
Examples	For example, in 2018 (When?) the Ministry of Finance (MOF) (Who?) engaged more than 50 social media influencers (Who?) on Instagram (Where?) to explain the Budget to their followers (How?). These influencers posted stories and photos about how Budget measures, such as GST vouchers or subsidies, would directly affect their daily lives (How?). They also included links encouraging their followers to visit the official Budget website (How?). Other agencies can adopt similar strategies (Who?) for critical national updates, such as public health campaigns during COVID-19, environmental sustainability policies, or defence and security updates (How?). By leveraging TikTok and YouTube (Where?), influencers can create bite-sized videos, memes, or Q&A sessions that make complex policies simple and engaging (How?).
Explanation	This works because teenagers already spend large amounts of time on platforms like TikTok and Instagram (EX 1), so bringing news to these spaces ensures greater reach (EX 2). Influencers are also seen as relatable and trustworthy figures (EX 3), which makes teenagers more willing to engage with their content compared to official government channels (EX 4). Furthermore, when influencers break down policies into everyday terms or use humour and visuals (EX 5), teenagers can more easily understand and remember how current affairs affect their lives (EX 6).
Link	Thus, collaborating with influencers makes current affairs more accessible and appealing, improving teenagers' awareness of key national and global issues.

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LAST QUESTION! Question 5:

In your opinion, how can ordinary Singaporeans show their care and concern for the migrant domestic helpers? Explain your answer with two suggestions.

Point	One way ordinary Singaporeans (Who?) can show care and concern for migrant domestic helpers is by using social media platforms (What?) to raise awareness of their contributions and welfare needs (Why?).
Examples	For instance, Singaporeans (Who?) can post appreciation messages, short videos, or infographics (How?) on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and Facebook (Where?) that highlight the long hours and sacrifices made by domestic helpers in caring for families (How?). Campaigns could also feature hashtags that encourage more people to share positive stories about their helpers (How?), especially during festive seasons or national events (When?). Such online initiatives could mirror past efforts like SGUnited's campaigns during COVID-19, but with a focus on migrant domestic workers (How?).
Explanation	This increases public awareness (EX 1) and helps Singaporeans view helpers as essential partners in the country's households and economy (EX 2). Positive recognition also reduces negative stereotypes (EX 3) and creates a culture of respect and appreciation (EX 4). When helpers feel valued and respected, they are more motivated and less anxious about their treatment in Singapore (EX 5).
Link	Therefore, by using social media effectively, ordinary Singaporeans can shift mindsets and build a more inclusive and caring society for domestic helpers.

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Point	Another way ordinary Singaporeans (Who?) can show care and concern for migrant domestic helpers is by volunteering their own time (What?) to support programmes run by NGOs and charities that assist helpers (Why?).
Examples	For instance, Singaporeans (Who?) can sign up with organisations such as HOME or the Migrant Workers' Centre (Where?) to help run welfare events, organise recreational outings, or teach skills workshops (How?). Volunteers could conduct classes on practical skills like digital literacy, social media use, or financial management, which many helpers find challenging in Singapore's fast-paced smart nation environment (How?). These sessions can be held on helpers' rest days, usually Sundays (When?), at community centres or NGO offices (Where?).
Explanation	Such volunteering gives helpers opportunities to upskill and integrate more comfortably into Singapore society (EX 1). At the same time, personal interactions with ordinary Singaporeans foster empathy (EX 2), making helpers feel recognised and appreciated (EX 3). This sense of value boosts their motivation and well-being (EX 4) while deepening social bonds between Singaporeans and their helpers (EX 5).
Link	Thus, when ordinary Singaporeans take the initiative to volunteer directly with charities supporting helpers, they can meaningfully show care and appreciation.

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Now that you've been exposed to five different Strategies questions, here's a summarised (non-exhaustive) bank of the possible Strategies you could consider for your SRQ6 response!

Who?	What? Why?
Government	• Launch national-level platforms, campaigns, or policies to raise awareness / promote positive behaviours to reach a wide audience effectively and signal national importance. • Collaborate with popular influencers / media outlets to communicate messages in relatable, engaging ways to connect with youths or hard-to-reach groups where they already spend time (i.e. social media). • Provide funding, grants, or subsidies to support programmes or groups working on the issue and thus ensure sustainability and encourage innovation. • Introduce laws or regulations to shape behaviour and set clear standards and thus protect society and ensure compliance on sensitive issues.
Schools	• Integrate programmes, discussions, or curricula linked to the issue to expose youths early, build awareness, and nurture values/skills in a structured setting. • Facilitate student-led projects or partnerships with external organisations to give students hands-on experience, build empathy, and foster a sense of responsibility. • Organise co-curricular events, performances, or competitions around the issue to make awareness engaging and interactive. • Invite external speakers or role models to share real-world perspectives and hence inspire students and show relevance beyond textbooks.
Community Groups	• Organise outreach programmes, dialogues, or events to provide safe spaces for discussion, build belonging, and guide values at a community level. • Host regular activities or initiatives (e.g. recreational, cultural, welfare-related) to encourage bonding, peer support, and sustained engagement with the community. • Run volunteer or mentorship schemes to match youth/adults with positive role models, building guidance and support networks. • Leverage community media channels (newsletters, podcasts, local social media groups) to spread targeted messages in ways that feel close to home.

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Families	• Hold open conversations and guide youths at home to build trust, clarify misconceptions, and act as the first line of support. • Model positive behaviours and values to shape mindsets and habits through everyday influence. • Monitor and guide digital use (e.g. online content, screen time, critical evaluation of media) to prevent harmful influence and encourage responsible habits.
Individuals	• Use social media platforms to raise awareness or advocate positive attitudes to influence peers, spread recognition, and shift public mindsets. • Volunteer time or resources to support affected groups directly to foster empathy, build social bonds, and provide practical support. • Practise inclusivity in daily life (e.g. respectful language, inviting others into social spaces) to reduce stigma and promote cohesion. • Support campaigns and initiatives actively (e.g. attending events, donating, signing pledges) to show solidarity and amplify collective impact.

Ending Note: Though there's no guarantee that Strategies will be the scope for your SRQ6, there are still transferrable skills that you can apply to all other types of SRQs!

1. **Perspective-taking:** Consider a societal issue from the POV of various stakeholders on different scales (e.g. government, community, schools, family, individuals etc.)
2. **Establishing clear causal links:** Explain in great detail, outcome-by-outcome, and attempt to close ALL logic gaps in your response. Imagine you're teaching a kid using your SRQ response and if your kid still has doubts or queries, it means that you have logic gaps that you need to close! An alternative thought process which may work for you is to continuously ask yourself "Why?" and "So what?" Why does this make sense? Why does this work? So what if this happens? What's the next outcome? What's the ultimate outcome? etc.