

SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

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 which 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 is the message of the source? Explain your answer.

[5]

- 2 Study Source B.

Why do you think this source was published? Explain your answer.

[6]

- 3 Study Sources C and D.

Does Source D prove that Source C is wrong? Explain your answer.
[7]

- 4 Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer.

[7]

- 5 An increasingly diverse society is bad for building a cohesive national identity.

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

[10]

Are governments building national identity effectively in an increasingly diverse world?

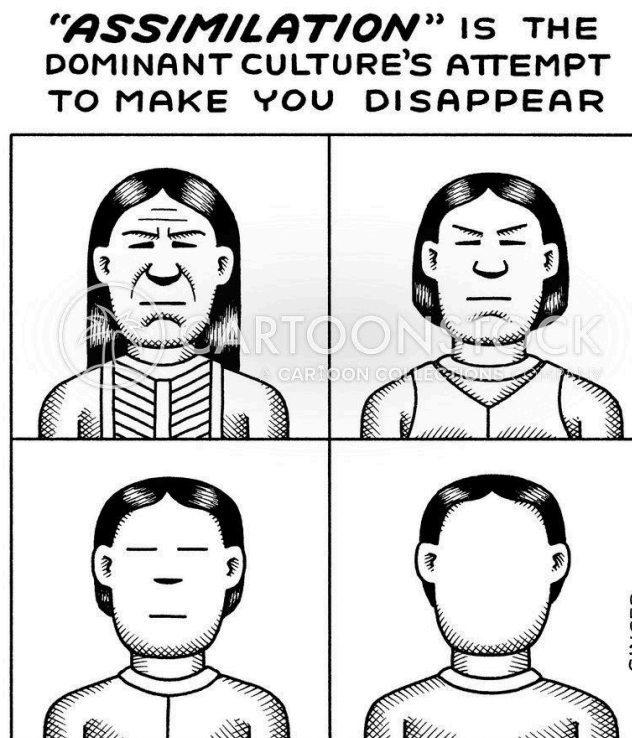
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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

Living in a diverse society can lead to both positive and negative experiences for individuals, while also shaping broader societal outcomes. Building a strong national identity becomes even more complex when policy design may hinder the formation of a unified national identity. France's assimilation policies illustrate this challenge well: immigrants are expected to adopt the beliefs and practices of the majority culture, often with little room for preserving their own identities. This approach can foster a sense of alienation among immigrant communities. In addition, external influences and global events continue to make integration even more challenging. In such diverse societies, fostering connections that transcend race, religion, and socio-economic status is a delicate and challenging task for governments worldwide. The presence of differing values and beliefs can threaten national unity, potentially leading to division and adverse consequences. Political parties and government actions are crucial in either fostering or obstructing the development of a cohesive national identity.

Study the following sources to find out if governments have been building national identity effectively in an increasingly diverse world.

Source A: A cartoon on France's assimilation policy in managing socio-cultural diversity.



Source B: *Insights by Brussels Signal, a group that challenges prevailing ideas and policies positioning itself as a counter voice in addressing Europe's complex challenges in response to the France riots in 2023.* [Turn over]

France's riots have sparked debate about the integration of communities from North and Sub-Saharan Africa into French society.

Immigration has evolved and changed over the past century in France. Acceptance took place based on these migrant groups adopting French values and the country's way of life. But these immigrant groups were neither given the tools nor the opportunity to assimilate, and they come from a background where French power is treated with hostility. Assimilation verges on the impossible for them. Instead, tensions continue to rise.

While the riots have now subsided, the situation in the city is a ticking time bomb. Despite promises of alleviating social tensions and divisions in French society, little has been achieved. The dilemma France faces is that policies aimed at pushing assimilation are likely to be seen as racist, especially nowadays. But ignoring the tensions will only lead to them stewing even more.

Source C: *An article on Canada patriotism by Associate Professor, Faculty of Humanities, McMaster University on 17 April 2025.*

As the U.S. institutes increasingly racist, xenophobic and authoritarian policies, this moment may be just the warning Canadians need to imagine a more just and grounded country.

Canada has grown significantly more diverse in recent years. Yet popular narratives of "Canadianness" can be narrow and out of step with the experiences of diverse segments of the population. Some scholars point out that the idea of Canada as a "hockey nation" is sometimes contested by communities marginalised by the sport's ties to white male dominance.

Youths in the country have increasingly challenged and questioned who Canadians are? To move forward, Canada must build a collective story rooted in truth and one that confronts contemporary inequities and reflects the rich diversity of its people. Only then can we begin to imagine a future Canada worth rallying behind.

Source D: *Survey findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between 17 and 20 June 2025, on behalf of Global News on the topic of national identity. For this survey, a sample of 1,000 Canadians aged 18+ was interviewed online. Ipsos is a global market research and polling company.*

CANADIANS PRIORITIZE FOCUSING ON NATIONAL PRIDE OVER COLONIAL HISTORY

As we approach Canada Day, which of the following statements best reflects your view?

Proud of what Canada has accomplished	57%	43%	Concerned that the foundation of Canada is weak
Want to see Canada follow proper processes before moving ahead with national-building projects	58%	42%	Want to see Canada make progress as fast as possible because current processes are excessive
Canada can have the strongest economy in the G7	53%	47%	Canada will never have the strongest economy in the G7
Think we should focus on Canadian pride	67%	33%	Believe Canada must reckon more honestly with its colonial past

Source E: *A New Year message by Singapore's then Prime Minister, Mr Lee Hsien Loong, published*

2025 Preliminary Examinations/CCHMS/ Secondary 4/ Humanities (Social Studies)

In an era of rapid external and internal change, Singapore must work ever harder to keep its society together, and strengthen its sense of shared identity and nationhood, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said in his annual New Year message.

in December 2023.

Source F: *An article published in May 2024 based on interviews with then Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong about national identity in an increasingly diverse society.*

The Singaporean identity is stronger than it was 20 years ago, as the nation has weathered many storms that helped foster better understanding and respect among people, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said.

Mr. Lee was responding to a question from CNA about the strength of the Singaporean identity, following several such sensitive issues that came to the fore during his term as Prime Minister.

Mr. Lee then said that as a multiracial and multicultural society, it is unavoidable that racism permeates all levels of society. Although this occurs less in Singapore than in most other countries, Mr. Lee affirmed that the government would keep working to move things in the right direction.

"To make (racism) completely disappear, I think, would be very difficult. I think that we will improve, we will do more... to nudge this in the right direction."

SECTION B (Structured Response Questions)

[Turn over

Answer **both** questions.

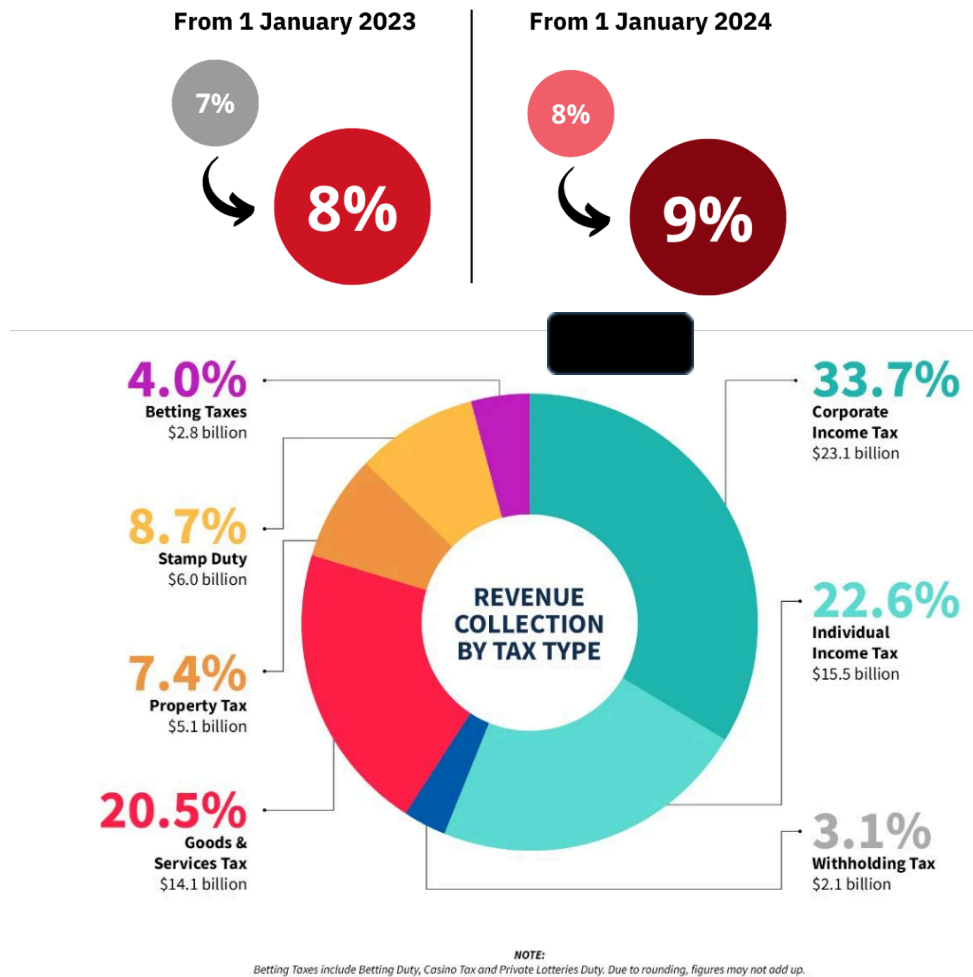
Exploring citizenship and governance

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

Singapore GST rate increase

As announced by the Minister of Finance in Budget 2022



Extract 2

Governments play an important role in addressing the needs of society by providing resources and expertise on specific social issues. For example, in Singapore, the National Council of Social Service (NCSS) was established to help address the needs of Social Service Agencies.

Extract 3

Individuals can play a part in addressing the needs of society by volunteering their time, money and skills to help a cause that they feel passionate towards. Homage is an example of an individual's initiative.

- 6 Extract 1 shows the Singapore's government tax revenue for 2022 which was the same year of announcement of the Good and Service Tax (GST) hike from 7% to 9%.

In your opinion, what are some reasons behind the Singapore's government's decision to raise the GST? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons. [7]

- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 reflect on the role of the government and role of individuals in addressing the needs of society.

Do you think the role of the government is more important than the role of individuals in addressing the needs of society? Explain your answer.

[8]

BLANK PAGE

[Turn over

Copyright Acknowledgements:

Source A © <https://www.cartoonstock.com/cartoon?searchID=EC383507>

Source B © <https://brusselssignal.eu/2023/07/why-is-france-so-bad-at-assimilating-migrants/>.

Source C © <https://theconversation.com/rising-canadian-patriotism-is-a-chance-to-rethink-who-gets-to-belong-here-252482>

Source D © <https://www.ipsos.com/en-ca/canadian-pride-rise>

Source E © <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/work-harder-to-keep-society-united-and-strengthen-shared-identity-says-pm-lee>

Source F © <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/pm-lee-sensitive-issues-global-crisis-racism-4324026>