

Name: _____ ()

Class: _____

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION ORDINARY LEVEL

Humanities (Social Studies)

2260/01

2261/01

2264/01

25 August 2025

1 hour 45 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, register number, and class on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use highlighters, glue, correction fluid or correction tape.

Answer **all** questions on writing paper.

Start Section B on a new sheet of paper.

Hand in 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.

This document consists of **8** printed pages and **2** blank pages.



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SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

Answer **all** questions.

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

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 topic 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 Sources B and C.

How different are these two sources? Explain your answer. [7]

3 Study Source D.

How useful is this source in telling you about the police managing law and order?
Explain your answer. [6]

4 Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source E, is Source F unexpected? Explain your answer. [7]

5 'People trust the police in maintaining law and order in a country.'

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

How effective is the police in managing law and order?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

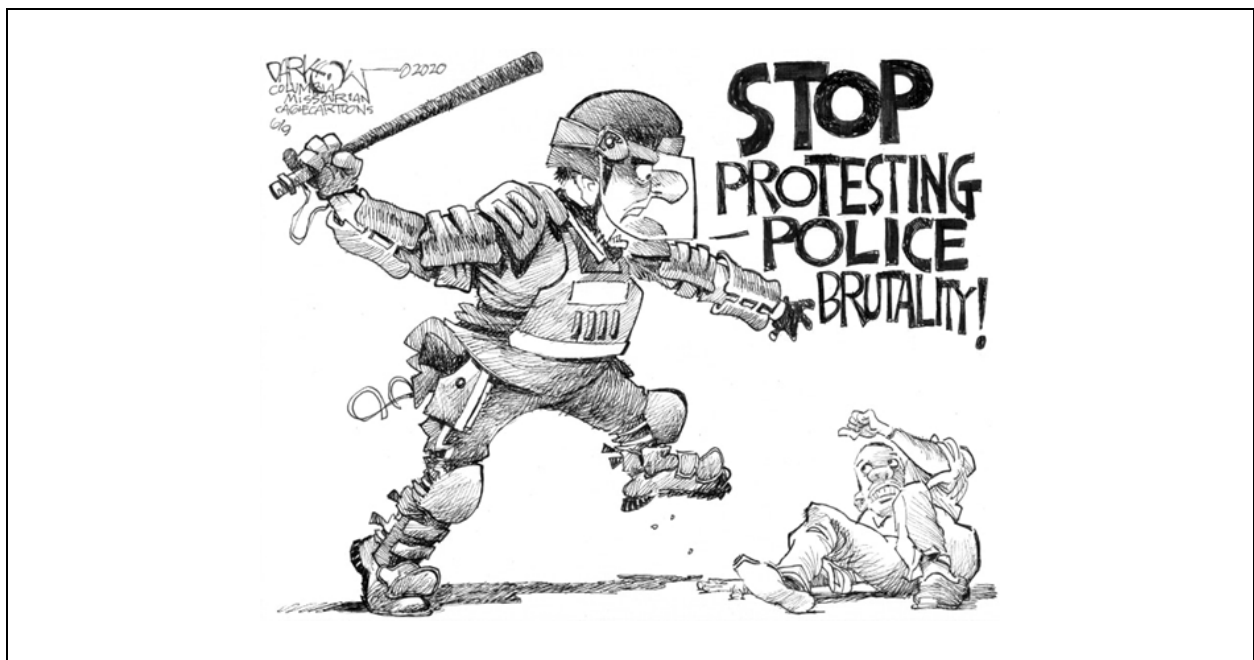
Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

The police serve as the primary law enforcement body within a community. They maintain public order, prevent and investigate crimes, enforce laws and protect citizens. These functions allow societies to be safe, support economic growth and protect people's freedoms. Governments need a positive portrayal of the police as it builds public trust, cooperation and support for law enforcement. Police institutions often receive government financial and operational support, but public confidence may lag depending on local issues.

Despite their crucial role, public trust can be undermined when the police abuse their power. Certain groups of people may also feel targeted or unprotected. Additionally, the police may not always be held accountable for their misconduct or get away with incompetent practices. When people do not trust their police, this can affect cooperation with governing authorities and the country's ability to address crimes proactively. In some countries, the police may also face dangerous situations they are ill-equipped to handle or institutional challenges that affect their capacity to serve the public well.

Study the following sources and consider how effective the police are in managing law and order.

Source A: *A cartoon depicting U.S. police during a peaceful protest*



Source B: *Comments by Usman Hamid, Executive Director, Amnesty International
Indonesia after a stampede at a football Stadium in East Java, Indonesia*

We extend our deepest condolences to the victims' families. No one should lose their lives at a football match. Police officers used tear gas in a confined space, without proper warning, ignoring safety guidelines and endangering lives. This catastrophic decision led to unnecessary loss of life and irreversible harm to the community.

Police policies on less-lethal weapons like tear gas urgently need review to prevent future tragedies. Such harsh actions by authorities cannot go unanswered. The police themselves have stated that the 130 deaths occurred after police use of tear gas on the crowd resulted in a stampede at the stadium exits. The safety of football fans must always be the top priority. We call on authorities to conduct a swift, thorough, and independent investigation into the use of tear gas at the stadium and ensure that those who are found to have committed violations face the proper consequences.

Source C: *An article on the Indonesian national newspaper about an anti-corruption
force set up by the President of Indonesia*

Indonesia has set up The Corruption Eradication Commission which has established credibility through its consistent and independent crackdown on high-level corruption. Unlike many government bodies affected by inefficiency and interference, this agency investigates and prosecutes high ranking police officials and politicians without bias. Public opinion consistently ranks it among Indonesia's most trusted institutions, as seen in strong support and protests against attempts to weaken the agency. This stems from the agency's proven willingness to hold even the police responsible for their actions, giving Indonesians the rare hope for genuine justice and transparency.

Source D: *A report on Gulf News, a newspaper in Abu Dhabi. The Global Excellence Award is given out by a European organisation that recognises excellence in business practices*

Abu Dhabi Police General Headquarters has become the first police institution globally to receive the Global Excellence Award. The recognition marks a significant accomplishment for its law enforcement sector, underscoring its commitment to excellence and innovation in policing. Abu Dhabi Police's success not only enhances the global reputation as a safe and secure city but also reinforces its commitment to community engagement and effective law enforcement practices tailored to societal needs.

Abu Dhabi Police leverages technology across various domains, including crime investigation, traffic management, and public safety. They utilise advanced systems like the "Falcon Eye" for surveillance, Artificial Intelligence-powered tools for traffic enforcement, and virtual reality for training. These technologies enhance their ability to respond to incidents, enforce laws, and improve overall safety for residents and visitors.

Source E: *An opinion piece on assault on police officers in American small towns, published in The Washington Post*

Between 2021 and 2023, more officers were killed than in any three-year period in the past 20 years. Assaults on officers rose, too, with the steepest spikes in places with fewer than 50,000 residents. What's driving this? The pandemic, remote work and rising housing costs pushed millions of people from city blocks to suburban towns and country roads. But they didn't leave big city problems behind.

Officers in many small, booming towns now must handle crises they're not equipped for. Police departments, especially in small towns, are struggling to stay staffed. Since 2020, resignations shot up 82% as retirements nearly tripled in forces with fewer than 50 officers. To stay afloat, departments lowered hiring standards, rushed training and leaned heavily on overtime. One legacy of such changes is a fatigued, underprepared force handling high stakes calls with little backup.

Source F: *An article on Close Up Foundation, a non-profit American organisation*

The President of the Foundation says, "We're asking cops to do too much in this country. This is why the police must be defunded. Reduce how much control they have, reduce the number of responsibilities we ask of the police, decrease police budgets to match the reduced size of the police force, and use the diverted funds to invest in programs and staff who are trained to address other social issues. It means police would have a more limited, primarily peacekeeping role."

Opponents of the idea believe it is unwise to call for reducing the size and budgets of police forces as such a policy could encourage more crime. A citizen shared, "If we defund the police, those most affected will be the poor and the marginalized. Wealthy neighborhoods will hire private security, and poorer neighborhoods will have to fend for themselves. When the police are on the ground, they can actively work and engage the citizens through partnership programmes and community meetings.

SECTION B (Structured-Response Questions)

Answer **both** questions.

Living in a Diverse Society

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

This is an illustration celebrating Singapore's hawker culture, highlighting its UNESCO recognition with vibrant food stalls and communal dining scenes.



Extract 2

Misconceptions can be linked to nationality, race, ethnicity, religion or socio-economic status. They are incorrect judgements and wrong assumptions about others.

Extract 3

Competition of resources can be in the areas of housing, transportation and employment. Singaporeans increasingly worry about their standards of living and social mobility.

6. Extract 1 shows Singapore's hawker culture having earned the UNESCO recognition.

In your opinion, why must Singapore preserve its local identity? Explain your answer with reference to **two** reasons. [7]

7. Extracts 2 and 3 highlight the challenges of living in a diverse society.

Do you think misconceptions of foreigners is a greater challenge than an increase in competition for resources? Explain your answer. [8]

END OF PAPER

References:

Source A: <https://theweek.com/cartoons/918990/editorial-cartoon-police-brutality-george-floyd-protests>

Source B: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/10/indonesia-football-stampede-deaths/>

Source C: <https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2019/09/27/why-fix-kpk-when-it-not-broken.html>

Source D: <https://www.wam.ae/en/article/b3ts1od-abu-dhabi-police-become-world%E2%80%99s-first-policing>

Source E: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2025/06/16/police-violence-rural-towns/>

Source F: <https://www.closeup.org/what-do-defund-the-police-and-police-abolition-mean-and-what-do-they-not-mean/>

Extract 1: <https://batamnewsasia.com/2024/12/20/how-singapores-hawker-culture-earned-unesco-recognition/>

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