



NANYANG JUNIOR COLLEGE

Year 2 Preliminary Examination

H1 GEOGRAPHY

8834/01

17 Sept 2025

3 hours

Additional Materials:

Insert

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, index number and name on the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.

You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE ON ANY BARCODES.

Answer Question 1 in **Section A**.

Answer **both** questions in **Section B**.

Answer **two** questions in **Section C**.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

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

Section A

Cluster 2 Fieldwork

Responding to Climate Change in Punggol, Singapore

- 1 A group of four 18-year-old students in Singapore conducted a fieldwork investigation to examine how local communities in Punggol respond to climate change through climate-adaptive initiatives organised for residents.

The students proposed the following hypothesis:

“The presence of community climate initiatives in Punggol has enhanced residents’ awareness of and participation in sustainable practices as part of their response to climate change.”

To support their investigation, the students gathered secondary data from online sources and the Punggol Town Council on community initiatives that promote sustainable living and environmentally friendly practices. Based on preliminary research and observed community activity, they selected four sites for detailed study:

- a. **Punggol Waterway Park** – Tree planting (50 trees) and organic mulching by NurtureStars Punggol.
- b. **One Punggol** – *Make/IT* space at Punggol Regional Library offering upcycling workshops (e.g., sewing, crafting).
- c. **Oasis Terraces** – Community participation in rooftop gardening.
- d. **City Sprouts @ Punggol** – Residents exploring a pop-up urban farming stall that promotes sustainable living.

The students conducted surveys with 25 respondents using random sampling at Punggol MRT during a weekday in June. The responses were then tabulated and presented in a results table.

Resource 1 shows a map of Punggol highlighting the four sites investigated. Resources 2A to 2D provide photographs of the four sites and their associated sustainable practices. Resource 3 is the questionnaire survey used to collect fieldwork data. Resource 4 presents the tabulated results of the survey questions.

(a) With reference to Resource 1, explain why the investigation is appropriate. [3]

Award 1 mark for each explanation of why the investigation is appropriate, to a maximum of 3 marks.

Award a maximum of 1 additional mark for further development of each explanation, where applicable.

- Suitable → The site is easily accessible via Punggol MRT. [1] The investigation is also of a suitable scale – it is practical for four students to survey 25 residents during a weekday in June. [1]

- Capable of Research → The four sites (Punggol Waterway Park, One Punggol, Oasis Terraces, City Sprouts) represent a diversity of climate-adaptive initiatives, including tree planting, upcycling, rooftop gardening, and urban farming. [1] This variety allows students to investigate if such initiatives have been useful in increasing awareness and participation [additional 1 mark].
- Clearly defined → independent variable: presence of community climate initiatives at the four sites; dependent variable: residents' awareness and participation in sustainable practices which is measurable through survey responses. [1]

(b) Explain three benefits of using surveys as a tool for data collection. [6]

Award 1 mark for each explanation of the benefits of using surveys as a tool for data collection.

Award a maximum of 1 additional mark for further development of each explanation, where applicable.

- 1) Efficient and systematic – Surveys allow a relatively large number of respondents to be sampled in a short period of time, making data collection more time-efficient compared to interviews. [1] Surveys also specify which areas the investigation requires attention, as questions target only what the investigation needs. [additional 1 mark]
- 2) Captures perceptions and attitudes – Surveys can collect respondents' views on awareness, motivation, and challenges towards climate initiatives, which may not be visible through observation alone [1]. They also allow similar questions to be asked to different respondents to capture variability in responses [additional 1 mark].
- 3) Quantifiable and comparable data – Responses can be easily coded and tabulated (as in Resource 4) [1], enabling patterns and trends (e.g., level of awareness, motivations) to be easily analysed, compared, and represented graphically [additional 1 mark].

(c) With reference to Resource 3, explain the strengths and weaknesses of the survey design. [6]

Award 1 mark for each explanation of the strengths and weaknesses of the survey design. Award a maximum of 1 additional mark for further development of each explanation, where applicable.

Award a maximum of 3 marks for either strengths or weaknesses

Strengths

- The survey used in Resource 3 covers a range of relevant questions (Q2–Q6) on awareness, participation, motivation, and challenges, directly linked to the hypothesis. [1]
- Clear demographic segmentation (Age groups) as the inclusion of age categories allows analysis of how awareness, participation, and motivations vary across different age cohorts, enabling comparative insights. [1] It makes findings more meaningful by identifying which age groups are more engaged in climate initiatives. [additional 1 mark]

- Use of closed-ended questions with pre-set options (e.g., “Very aware / Somewhat aware”) makes responses easier to quantify and analyse.[1]
- Questions are short and straightforward, making them suitable for a random street survey with limited respondent time.[1]
- The number of questions (6 only) makes it doable for respondents who need not spend too much time on the answers, which may otherwise compromise the quality of the answers [1].

Weaknesses

- No question to determine if the respondent is a resident of Punggol as they are the target group. [1]
- The age group in Q1 is not evenly distributed, with those under 18, 18-30 (only 13 years) as compared to 31-50 and 51-70 which has 19 years each. [1]
- The level of awareness in Q2 is vague, with different persons having different standards to what is “*somewhat aware*” and “*not sure*”. This can create inaccuracy in data collection. [1]
- Qn. 3 is a doubled barreled question as it asked respondent if they have participated in/heard of before the various adaptative initiatives but only allows for one answer. [1] This leads to confusion, unreliable data and frustration for the respondent. [additional 1 mark]
- No option for “None of the above” is provided in Q3, which reduces clarity for respondents who have not participated in or heard of any of the listed initiatives. [1]
- Q5 motivations may not fully capture all possible drivers (e.g., health benefits, financial incentives). [1]

(d) Using a suitable data representation method, present the results to Question 5 from the survey shown in Resource 4, and justify your choice. [5]

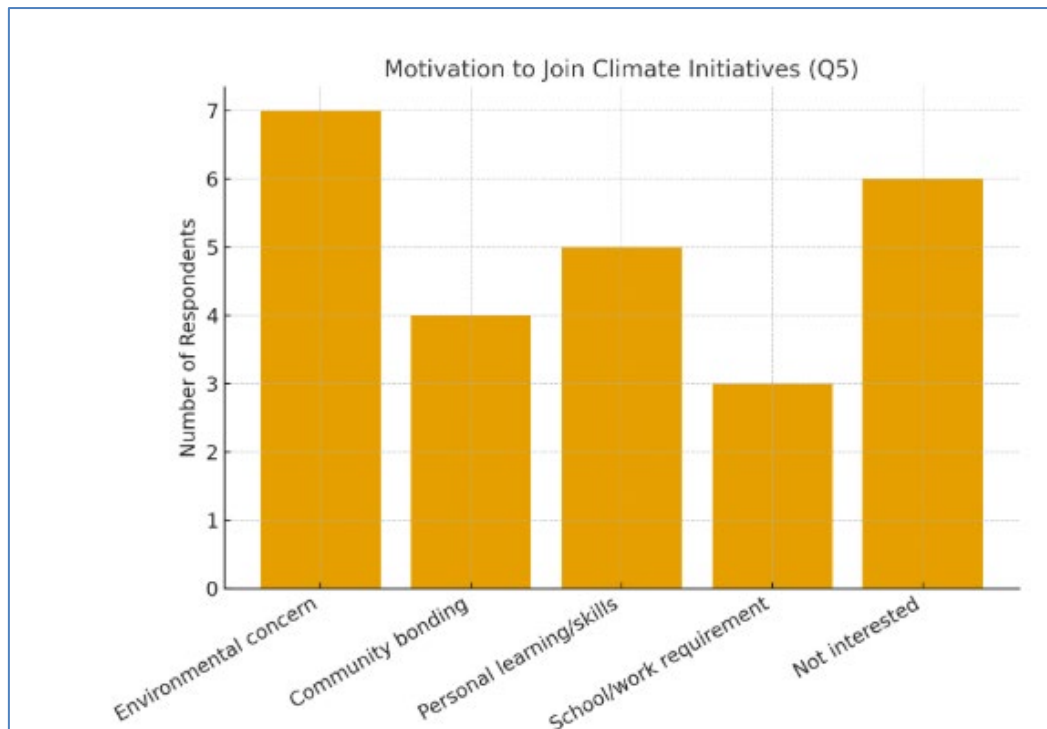
Award a maximum of 3 marks for the suitable data representation method.
Award a maximum of 2 marks for the justification of choice.

Suggested method:

A bar chart with categories on the x-axis (e.g., Environmental concern, Community bonding, Personal learning/skills, School/work requirement, Not interested) and frequency of respondents on the y-axis.

Justification: max. of 2 marks

- A bar chart clearly compares discrete categories of motivation compared to a table. [1] The differences in response numbers (ranging from 3 to 7) are easy to interpret visually. [additional 1 mark]
- Compared to a pie chart, the bar chart avoids clutter from too many categories and highlights contrasts more effectively. [1]



- (e) With reference to all the resources, evaluate the validity of the students' conclusion that residents in Punggol are not participating actively in climate actions because they are not aware of climate-adaptive initiatives in the area. [10]**

Possible Approaches:

Candidates could evaluate the investigation by reviewing the methods used to collect data and the data collected in Resource 4.

For data collection methods, candidates could review the survey method in which it was carried out to assess the impact on accuracy and reliability of data collected. Evaluation of these methods could include looking at the sample size, whether the samples selected are representative of the Punggol residents, strengths and weaknesses of the chosen method, etc.

For the data collected in Resource 4, candidates could consider the clarity of the terms used in the questionnaire survey and how these could give rise to differing interpretations by the residents. Candidates could consider how such differing interpretations could affect the conclusions that could be drawn from the analysis of these data.

Candidates could also evaluate their conclusion based on evidence shown in Resources 2A to 2D on the opportunities available for residents to participate in the various initiatives and be agents of change.

Levels marked using Generic Level Descriptors for H1 fieldwork evaluative questions

The students' conclusion is partially valid, as the survey evidence does suggest limited awareness among residents. However, the claim overlooks other barriers to participation that are evident from the data and resources provided.

Evidence that validates the lack of awareness as the reason for not participating actively in climate actions (supports conclusion)

- Resource 4 (Q2) shows that while 12 respondents were “somewhat aware”, 5 were “not sure” and 2 were “not aware at all”. This indicates that nearly 30% of respondents had little or no awareness of climate initiatives.
- Resource 4 (Q3) highlights that actual knowledge of specific initiatives was low: only 8 had heard of or participated in tree planting, 2 in upcycling workshops, 3 in rooftop gardening, and 1 in City Sprouts. This may suggest weak publicity for many initiatives which affect awareness.
- Resource 1 shows that while the four sites are distributed across Punggol, residents’ unawareness limits their effectiveness as accessible spaces for participation and change. [1]

Evidence that invalidates the lack of awareness as the reason for not participating actively in climate actions (challenges conclusion)

Evidence from Survey results (Resource 4)

- Q6 indicates the biggest barrier was not awareness, but lack of time (12 respondents). Only 5 chose “lack of awareness”. This strongly suggests practical constraints outweigh informational gaps.
- Q6 “Not interested” (4 respondents) and “inconvenient timing/location” (3 respondents) further highlight lifestyle and attitudinal factors beyond awareness.
- Q5 shows that while 7 respondents were motivated by environmental concern, 6 were simply “not interested”, reflecting apathy rather than ignorance of climate initiatives.

Evidence from Site resources (2A–2D)

- Resource 2A (tree planting and mulching at Punggol Waterway Park) and 2C (rooftop gardening at Oasis Terraces) highlight opportunities for community involvement in tangible, visible projects. These activities that were reported in the Straits Times (Resource 2A) and Facebook (Resource 2C) would have created some degree of awareness for the residents.
- The resources 2A-2D demonstrate that initiatives are diverse and located in central community spaces accessible to the public. The lack of participation therefore cannot be fully explained by lack of awareness alone.

Method of data collection

- While the survey addressed awareness, motivations, and challenges, its small sample size (25 respondents) and weekday bias limit representativeness. It may under-represent elderly residents, working adults or families who could be more active in rooftop gardening or farming. Thus, the conclusion rests on limited and possibly skewed data.

Overall judgement

The conclusion that residents do not participate because of lack of awareness is too narrow. The conclusion has some validity because awareness levels are not uniformly high and participation in initiatives is low. However, it is not fully valid — participation is shaped by multiple factors including time, convenience, personal interest, and motivation.

A more accurate conclusion would be that *residents' participation is constrained by a combination of limited awareness and competing personal priorities.*

Section B

Cluster 1 Sustainable Future and Climate Change

Answer **both** questions

- 2** Resource 5 shows the number of people living in slums between 2000 to 2018. Resource 6 shows a photograph of a slum in Nairobi, Kenya. Resource 7 shows an infographic of SDG 11 on Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe and resilient and sustainable. Resource 8 shows a photograph of a slum settlement in Africa before and after an in-situ upgrading project

- (a)** Describe the spatial distribution of people living in slums between 2000 to 2018 as shown in Resource 5. [3]

Award 1 mark for each description of the spatial distribution of people living in slums between 2000 to 2018, to a maximum of 3 marks.

Award a maximum of 1 additional mark for further development of each description, where applicable.

- Overall trend: The global number of people in slums increased steadily towards 1.1 billion by 2018. [1]
- Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa being the dominant regions while Latin America and Northern Africa and Western Asia remained relatively smaller contributors. [1 mark]
- Highest concentration: Eastern and South-Eastern Asia consistently had the largest share, peaking around 2010 and remaining the single largest contributor by 2018. [1]
- Lowest concentration: Northern Africa and Western Asia recorded the smallest numbers throughout the period, followed by Latin America and the Caribbean. [1]
- Sub-Saharan shows the steepest increase (67%) while Latin America and the Caribbean shows the slowest growth (10%). [1]

- (b)** Explain the spatial pattern of slum distribution shown in Resource 5. [5]

Award 1 mark for each explanation of the spatial pattern of slum distribution, to a maximum of 5 marks.

Award a maximum of 1 additional mark for further development of each explanation, where applicable.

- Overall, the spatial pattern reflects differences in urbanisation stage, governance capacity, and economic resources, which determined whether housing demand could be met formally or informally. [1]
- Between 2000 and 2018, slum populations were concentrated in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa because of rapid urbanisation and high rates of rural-urban migration.

[1] In Central and Southern Asia and Eastern/South-Eastern Asia, cities such as Mumbai, Dhaka and Manila attracted large migrant flows, but weak urban planning and limited affordable housing forced many into slums. [additional 1 m]

- Sub-Saharan Africa saw the fastest growth due to high natural increase, poverty, and inadequate infrastructure investment, leading to expanding informal settlements. [1]
- By contrast, Latin America and the Caribbean had smaller growth because of earlier urbanisation as well as the slowing down of rate of natural increase. [1] Extensive upgrading programmes in cities like Medellín have reduced the number of people living in slums due to transport innovation such as the installation of metro cable (aerial cable cars) in Medellín which connects hillside slums to the city centre, reducing travel time and isolation. [1]
- Northern Africa and Western Asia recorded the lowest slum populations, explained by greater government intervention in housing provision and higher levels of economic development compared to other regions. [1]

(c) Describe **two** visible features in Resource 6 that show the area has the characteristics of a slum. [4]

Award 1 mark for each description of the visible feature that show the area has characteristics of a slum, to a maximum of 4 marks.

Award a maximum of 1 additional mark for further development of each description, where applicable.

Award a maximum of 2 marks for description of one visible feature only.

- Feature 1: Poor housing quality [1] The houses are built with rusted corrugated iron roofs and mud or weak walls, showing poor durability and inadequate protection from weather. This reflects the lack of formal housing infrastructure typical of slums. [additional 1 mark].
- Feature 2: Lack of sanitation and waste management. [1] A large pile of uncollected rubbish is visible in the middle of the settlement, indicating poor or absent waste disposal services, which is a key characteristic of slums and leads to health risks. [additional 1 mark]
- Feature 3: Overcrowding and limited space. [1] The houses are densely packed together with little spacing, leaving narrow or no pathways. This reflects high population density, a common feature of slum areas. [additional 1 mark]

(d) With reference to Resources 6 and 7, explain how slums hinder progress towards SDG 11 through their social and environmental impacts. [6]

Award 1 mark for each explanation of how slums hinder progress towards SDG 11 through their social and environmental impacts, to a maximum of 6 marks.

Award a maximum of 1 additional mark for further development of each explanation.

Award a maximum of 3 marks for explanation of either social or environmental impacts.

Social impacts

- Poor housing quality and overcrowding: Seen in Resource 6 where slum dwellings are poorly built with rusted metal sheets and mud walls, which are unsafe and

overcrowded. [1] This hinders SDG 11's aim of ensuring safe housing by exposing residents to health risks, fire hazards, and lack of privacy. [additional 1m]

- **Limited access to basic services:** The visible absence of proper sanitation and waste disposal in Resource 6 highlights how slum residents face poor living conditions. [1] This obstructs SDG 11's target of inclusive and sustainable settlements, as such communities lack equal access to essential urban services such as toilets and waste collection services compared to other parts of the city. [additional 1m]

Environmental impacts

- **Poor waste management:** Resource 6 shows large piles of uncollected rubbish, indicating inadequate waste collection and disposal systems. [1] This leads to air, land and water pollution, spread of disease, and environmental degradation, which undermines SDG 11's goal of creating sustainable urban environments. [additional 1m]
 - **Unsanitary and degraded environment:** The dense housing and unmanaged waste contribute to water and soil contamination, harming local ecosystems. [1] Contaminated water bodies cannot support healthy ecosystems, making it harder for cities to provide safe water and manage urban resilience, directly conflicting with SDG 11 on reducing environmental impact. [additional 1m]
- (e) Using Resource 8, explain how in-situ upgrading contributes to achieving sustainable urban development in slum areas. [4]

Award 1 mark for an explanation of how in-situ upgrading contributes to achieving sustainable urban development in slum areas, to a maximum of 4 marks.

Award 1 additional mark for further development of how in-situ upgrading contributes to achieving sustainable urban development in slum areas, where applicable.

Award a maximum of 2 marks for explanation of how in-situ upgrading contributes to achieving sustainable urban development in slum areas of either economic, social or environmental dimension only.

- **Economic:** The upgrading project created better infrastructure such as paved walkways and drainage. [1] This improvement in accessibility helps attract small businesses and encourages economic activity such as the setting up of cottage industries by allowing residents to engage more in the local economy. [additional 1m]
- **Social:** The transformation from muddy, unsafe paths to clean and accessible spaces improves community well-being and safety. [1] Children can play in secure environments, and residents benefit from healthier living conditions, reducing the social inequalities faced in slums. [additional 1m]
- **Environmental:** A new drainage system supports the environmental pillar of Sustainable Urban Development by preventing waterlogging and reducing the risk of flooding during heavy rainfall. [1] By improving stormwater management, it also protects local ecosystems and reduce disease outbreaks caused by stagnant water. [additional 1m]

- 3 Resource 9 shows contributors to Global Sea Level Rise between 2003 and 2014. Resource 10 is a map showing the degree of vulnerability of cities to climate change in 2018. Resource 11 shows imports and exports of energy products in Singapore between 2018 to 2023.

(a) With reference to Resource 9, describe the trends in global mean sea level and its contributing factors between 2003 and 2014. [3]

Award 1 mark for each description of the trends in global mean sea level and its contributing factors between 2003 and 2014, to a maximum of 3 marks.

Award a maximum of one additional mark for further development of each description, where applicable.

Award a maximum of 2 marks if the description is either global mean sea level or its contributing factors.

- The global mean sea level increased steadily from 2003 to 2014, rising by about 35 mm. [1] There were 3 short-term dips — around 2007–2008, 2010–2011 and 2013–2014. [additional 1 mark]
- Ocean thermal expansion (dark blue) consistently contributed to sea level rise, with a gradual and steady increase throughout the period. [1]
- Land ice melt and water storage (light blue) began contributing more significantly from 2007 onward and overtook ocean thermal expansion as the dominant contributor to sea level rise from 2013. [1]

(b) Explain the trends of the **two** main contributors to sea level rise between 2003 and 2014. [5]

Award 1 mark for each explanation of the trends of the two main contributors to sea level rise between 2003 and 2014.

Award a maximum of 1 additional mark for further development of each explanation.

Award a maximum of 3 marks for explanation of either ocean thermal expansion or land ice melt and water storage.

- Both ocean thermal expansion and land ice melt with water storage are contributors to sea level rise primarily driven by global warming. [1]
- Ocean thermal expansion occurs because rising global temperatures heat the ocean, causing water to expand in volume. [1] This expansion was gradual and steady throughout the period, reflecting oceans' higher heat capacity that allows them to store large amounts of thermal energy with only slight temperature increases. [additional 1m]
- Land ice melt and water storage increased more slowly at first but sped up after 2008, as rising air temperatures caused more glaciers and ice sheets to melt. [1]
- By 2013, land ice melt and water storage overtook thermal expansion as the dominant contributor reflecting how the accelerating rate of global warming is speeding up land ice melt. [1] This creates a positive feedback loop: as ice melts, it reduces the Earth's surface reflectivity (albedo), meaning more solar energy is

absorbed by darker ocean or land surfaces, which in turn raises temperatures further and accelerates additional ice melt. [additional 1 m]

- (c) With reference to Resource 10, describe the relationship between average annual % change in population growth (2018–2035) and climate change vulnerability across different regions. [4]

Award 1 mark for each description of the relationship between average annual % change in population growth (2018–2035) and climate change vulnerability across different regions, to a maximum of 4 marks.

Award a maximum of one additional mark for further development of each description, where applicable.

- Positive relationship where countries with higher average annual % change in population growth tend to experience higher vulnerability to climate change OR Negative relationship where countries with higher average annual % change in population growth tend to experience lower climate change vulnerability index. [1] Many African countries (in red) show high average annual % change in population (above 3%) and extreme climate vulnerability. [additional 1m]
- In contrast, European countries (in purple) tend to have low average annual % change in population (around 1% to -1%) and low climate vulnerability, indicating greater resilience. [1]
- Asian countries (in orange) are spread across a wider range with several nations with moderate average annual % change in population growth (2–3%) and medium to high climate vulnerability. [1]
- Oceania and the Americas show more scattered patterns, but some island nations in Oceania (black) face low average annual % change in population growth (1-1.5%) and medium to high vulnerability. [1]

- (d) With reference to Resource 10, explain how future population growth influences climate change vulnerability across different regions. [6]

Award 1 mark for each explanation of how future population growth influences climate change vulnerability across different regions, to a maximum of 6 marks.

Award a maximum of 1 additional mark for further development of each explanation, where applicable.

- Rapid population growth increases pressure on already limited resources (e.g., water, food, housing), weakens infrastructure, and stretches government capacity, making it harder to prepare for or recover from climate events. [1]
- Africa and Asia: Many of these countries are highly dependent on climate-sensitive sectors like agriculture reflecting exposure to droughts, floods, and rising sea levels alongside large populations. [1] These lower income countries also have fewer financial and technical means to adapt, reinforcing this link between population growth and vulnerability. [1] OR While Middle-income nations may have some resources to invest in adaptation (e.g., coastal protection, early warning systems), but uneven governance and rapid urbanisation increase exposure. [1m]

- Europe: European countries generally show low or even negative population growth with low vulnerability risk, suggesting stronger infrastructure, better governance, and more resources. [1] With higher income, they have greater capacity for mitigation (e.g., renewable energy transitions) and adaptation (e.g., green infrastructure, advanced healthcare systems). [additional 1m] OR Most have service-dominated sectors which makes them less climate-sensitive compared to agriculture. [additional 1m]
 - Small Island Developing States (SIDS): Many small island states (especially in Oceania) have moderate growth but medium to high vulnerability, as seen in countries like Kiribati and Tuvalu, which face existential threats from sea-level rise despite small populations. [1]. Despite modest populations, their low-lying atolls (often <2m above sea level) make them acutely exposed to sea-level rise, saltwater intrusion, and coastal erosion. This threatens entire nations, not just specific communities. [additional 1 mark] OR These countries have a high dependence on marine resources and subsistence farming, both of which are sensitive to climate variability, saltwater intrusion, and extreme weather events. [additional 1 mark]
- (e) With reference to Resource 11, suggest measures that could help Singapore reduce its dependence on imported fossil fuels and shift towards low-carbon energy sources. [4]

Award 1 mark for each suggestion that could help Singapore reduce its dependence on imported fossil fuels and shift towards low-carbon energy sources, to a maximum of 4 marks.

Award a maximum of 1 additional mark for further development of each suggestion, where applicable.

- Apply a carbon tax or implementing an emissions trading scheme would make fossil fuel imports more expensive relative to renewable options. [1] This price signal encourages industries and consumers to switch to cleaner energy while generating revenue that can fund renewable energy projects. [additional 1m]
- Invest in large-scale renewable infrastructure within Singapore or overseas — such as offshore wind farms, floating solar systems, and biomass plants—reduces dependence on imported petroleum products and crude oil. [1] Integrating these sources into the national grid ensures a stable supply while cutting carbon emissions. [additional 1m]
- Improve Energy Storage and Grid Upgrades to handle intermittent renewable generation. [1] Governments can invest in battery storage systems as these technologies allow renewable energy to be stored during peak production and used when demand is high, reducing the need for fossil fuel backup power. [additional 1m]
- Provide grants, tax credits, or low-interest loans for households and businesses to install renewable systems (e.g., rooftop solar) and adopt energy-efficient appliances that can reduce fossil fuel consumption. [1]
- Provide incentives for electric vehicles can also lower petroleum demand in transport. [1]

- Require government operations, public transport, and infrastructure projects use a fixed percentage of renewable energy so as to create stable demand for clean power. [1] This demand encourages private investment in low-carbon projects, accelerating the decline in fossil fuel imports. [additional 1m]

Section C

Answer **two** questions

- 4 'A circular economy approach can address the challenges of managing non-hazardous solid waste.' Evaluate this statement. [13]**

Candidates could approach the question by making a judgement on whether adopting a circular economy approach is the key to addressing the challenges of managing non-hazardous solid waste through a consideration of how strategies such as reusing, recycling, product take-back schemes and taxation can contribute to reducing waste generation. Candidates can also evaluate the limitations of the circular economy, recognising that not all materials can be reused or recycled effectively due to level of technology in countries at different levels of development, and thus disposal methods such as landfills or waste-to-energy facilities remain necessary. Candidates can also evaluate if having an integrated approach to waste management such as improved collection systems, reduction initiatives, and disposal practices is more key to achieving sustainable waste management in cities then just relying on waste reduction.

Candidates could approach the question by making a judgement on whether adopting a circular economy approach such as reusing, recycling, product take-back schemes and taxation is the key to addressing the challenges of managing non-hazardous solid waste through a consideration of two or more case studies. Candidates could analyse the contextual factors such as government policies, the level of technology and resources available, and the receptivity of the local population that make it effective in one area but not in another.

- 5 'Strategies to improve the lives of women in cities have been successful.' Evaluate on this statement. [13]**

Candidates could approach the question of whether strategies to improve the lives of women in cities have been successful by considering how far such strategies have addressed challenges to women's economic, social, and psychological well-being. Interventions may include policy reforms, urban design changes, improved public transport, housing schemes, healthcare access, employment initiatives, and community-based programmes. Candidates could analyse how these strategies vary spatially have delivered successes in certain contexts, such as subsidised childcare enabling greater workforce participation in developed cities, but remained inadequate in others, for instance where such childcare is underfunded or inaccessible in lower-income cities.

Candidates could also approach the question by making a judgement on whether strategies to improve the lives of women in cities have achieved greater success in some contexts than in others, using two or more case studies. Candidates could

evaluate whether women's challenges - relating to economic security, social inclusion, or psychological well-being - have been effectively addressed, or whether significant gaps persist. Candidates might also consider contextual factors such as level of development, cultural or religious setting, political will of authorities, and availability of resources, which influence outcomes. These factors may enable strategies to deliver meaningful improvements in one urban setting while constraining their impact in another, leading to an overall conclusion that strategies have achieved only mixed success in improving the lives of women in cities.

6 Evaluate the extent to which the socio-economic costs of climate change outweigh its environmental impacts. [13]

Candidates could approach the question by making a judgement on whether the socio-economic costs of climate change outweigh its environmental impacts through a consideration of the various types of socio-economic costs vis-à-vis environmental impacts. Candidates could also evaluate the spatial and temporal extent of the impacts, recognizing that socio-economic costs are often more immediate, measurable, and politically sensitive while environmental impacts may be less tangible but long-lasting and harder to reverse. Candidates could also evaluate how the level of development of a country influences which costs are perceived as more significant. For instance, high-income countries with diversified economies may prioritise socio-economic costs such as insurance payouts or infrastructure repair, whereas low-income countries with limited adaptive capacity are more vulnerable to both socio-economic disruption (e.g. agriculture losses) and severe environmental damage.

Candidates could also approach the question by making a judgement on whether the socio-economic costs of climate change outweigh its environmental impacts through a consideration of two or more case studies where both sets of impacts are present. Candidates could analyse how small island states experience heavy socio-economic costs such as infrastructure damage, relocation expenses, and losses in tourism revenue, while simultaneously facing environmental impacts like coral bleaching and coastal erosion, which are long-lasting but less immediately quantifiable. In contrast, in developed nations, socio-economic costs often appear as large-scale insurance payouts and disruptions to energy systems, while environmental costs include the degradation of natural ecosystems and biodiversity loss. Candidates could further evaluate how contextual factors such as the reliance on specific sectors of the economy, the resources available for adaptation, and the vulnerability and resilience of communities shape the relative significance of socio-economic versus environmental costs in each case.