

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2025

SECONDARY FOUR

CANDIDATE
NAME

CLASS

INDEX
NUMBER

HUMANITIES

Paper 1 Social Studies

2260/01

2261/01

2262/01

25 August 2025
1 hour 45 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name, class and index number on your question paper and all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer **all** questions.

Section B

Answer **both** questions.

Before the start of the examination, detach the cover sheet and staple it on top of the writing paper provided.

Write all answers in this answer booklet and check that all writing sheets are properly fastened.
The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

REBUILT PAGE — NOT THE SCHOOL'S ORIGINAL

This page is not the school's. Pages 2 and 3 are missing from the copy this booklet was made from. The five questions below are reproduced word for word from the school's own mark scheme; the section heading is taken from the cover. The theme heading and the rubric that sat between them are not recorded anywhere in the source and have been left out rather than invented.

SECTION A (Source-Based Case Study)

Answer all questions.

1 Study Source A.

Do you think the author supports the integration of AI into our daily lives?
Explain your answer using details from the cartoon. [5]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How different are these two sources? Explain your answer. [6]

3 Study Source D.

How useful is Source D as evidence about the use of Artificial Intelligence in the music industry? Explain your answer. [7]

4 Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer. [7]

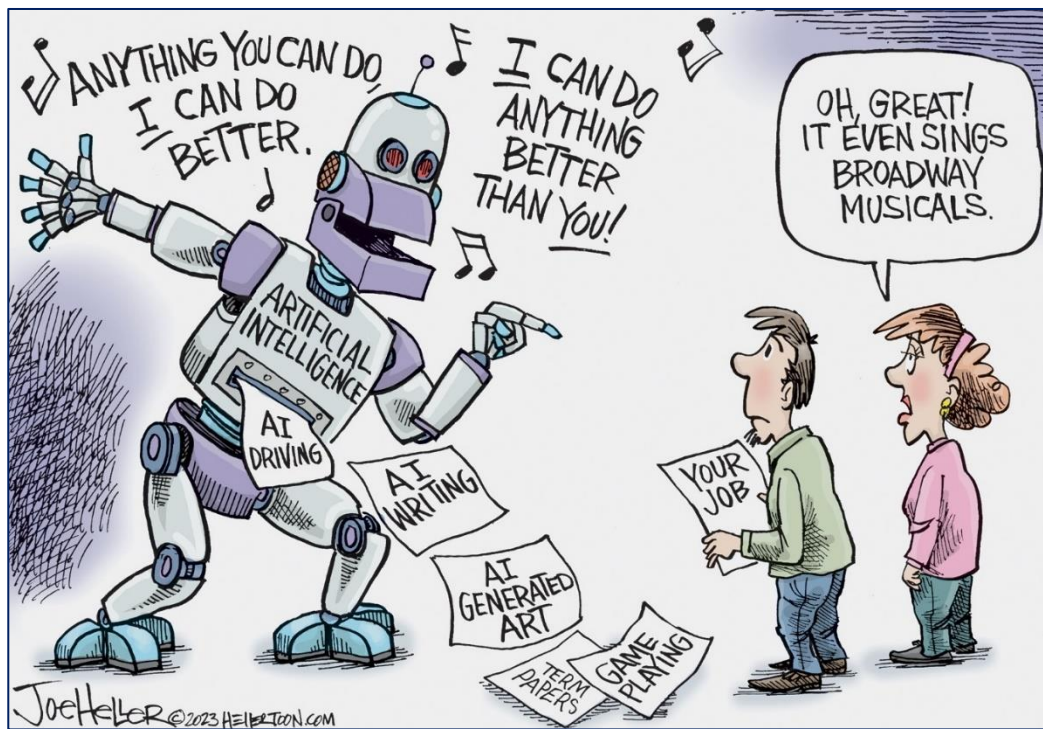
5 'The introduction of AI is beneficial for individuals.'

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

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This page is not the school's. The original page 3 carried the case study's title question and its Background Information. Neither is recorded anywhere in the source, so neither can be put back. The page is kept so that the sources that follow still begin on the booklet's page 4, as the questions and the cover assume.

Source A: An online cartoon, published April 2023.



Source B: *A 2023 interview with Associate Professor Ben Leong, Director of Singapore's AI Centre for Educational Technologies (AICET). He also serves as the Chief Data Officer (Technical) at AI Singapore.*

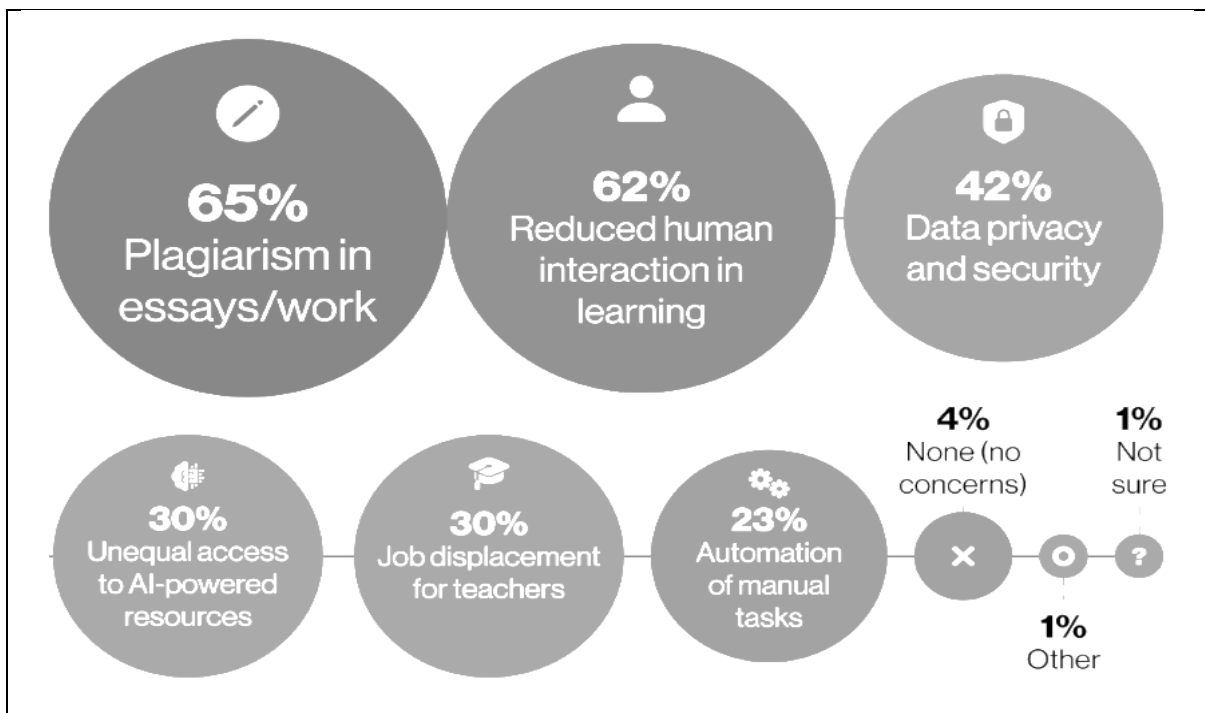
The launch of AI chatbot ChatGPT in November 2022 took the world by storm. In the United States, public schools in New York City and Seattle have already banned access to ChatGPT, citing concerns that the tool could negatively affect student learning and encourage plagiarism.

On the other hand, teachers in Singapore have started integrating ChatGPT responses into lessons, asking students to evaluate the chatbot's answers to strengthen their critical thinking and writing skills. While the programme today can provide preliminary inputs and feedback, teachers will still need to review the AI's responses before it is ready for the students.

AI is also being trialled in exam grading. Grading exam scripts is traditionally tedious and prone to human error, as teachers manually tally scores for each question. Today, AICET's SoftMark programme allows teachers to scan exam scripts, mark them digitally on a tablet, and AI automatically tabulates scores. This saves time and ensures greater accuracy.

AICET was established on 18 Dec 2020, by the Smart Nation and Digital Government Office (SNDGO) and Ministry of Education (MOE).

Source C: *Results of a survey by Forbes, a global media company, showing the teachers' views on the use of AI in schools, published in 2023.*



Source D: *A fan club President's comment about MAVE, an AI K-pop group, posted in 2024, on an international music discussion forum.*

I think MAVE is fantastic, and I would invest if given the chance. I love their music, vision, and how they've embraced the virtual space. It's great that the artists behind MAVE can use their talents and still live normal lives – free from invasive scrutiny, toxic fandoms, and career risks tied to personal relationships.

When PSY introduced K-pop globally with *Gangnam Style*, it wasn't to break into the West – it just worked because the music was vibrant and original. But today, the industry feels more focused on appearances and one-sided fan relationships than on music.

Virtual idols like MAVE could mark a return to what made K-pop great: the music. With fewer personal intrusions, artists can focus on creativity, collaborate freely, and avoid the industry's darker side. That gives me hope that K-pop can evolve for the better, with AI opening new, healthier possibilities for artists and fans alike.

Source E: *From a speech by Senior Minister of State for Digital Development and Information, Mr Tan Kiat How, at DBS “Live Fulfilled” employee carnival in July 2022.*

The government is taking active steps to help companies, workers, and citizens harness the potential of AI. It is investing in infrastructure and building an ecosystem that supports AI adoption. To assist small businesses, programmes like *SMEs Go Digital* provide funding to help them adopt advanced digital tools. Cybersecurity is also a key focus, with support offered to both large and small businesses to defend against online threats.

Beyond businesses, workers are also being trained to use AI effectively. I believe AI will not replace human workers entirely, as it cannot perform all tasks. For instance, while AI can generate code, it still needs humans to decide what the code should do and ensure its accuracy. Although job roles may change, I am confident that in Singapore, where manpower is limited, there will always be employment opportunities.

Source F: *An account by Jacky Tan, a freelance marketing consultant-turned-cook in Singapore, shared in 2023.*

For over 15 years, I helped mainly small-and-medium-sized businesses raise their profiles through marketing campaigns. But everything changed when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Consumers weren't spending, goods weren't moving, and marketing quickly dropped to the bottom of everyone's priority list.

After the pandemic ended, I thought things would bounce back. But a new disruption came almost overnight: generative artificial intelligence. Tools like ChatGPT began to flood the market, and suddenly, prospective clients were convinced they could do their own copywriting and marketing content with AI. That's when things got really difficult. Clients either rejected my proposals or used as a bargaining chip to push for lower prices. Some would even “threaten” me – saying if I didn't accept their offer, they'd just use AI to do the work instead.

I gave in a few times, but it always left me frustrated. The pay was so low, it didn't justify the hours or effort I was putting in.

SECTION B: Structured Response Questions

Answer **both** questions.

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1



The picture shows lab-grown meat sold to the public. As of 2022, Singapore has lured around 30 companies working on alternative food.

Extract 2

Singapore's approach towards social support has evolved over the years, as the government continues to do more to support disadvantaged and vulnerable groups.

Extract 3

Making a difference in the community doesn't have to be complicated or time-consuming. By taking simple, practical steps, such as volunteering, we can contribute to creating a better, more connected, and supportive environment for everyone.

- 6** Extract 1 shows Singapore cultivating alternative food sources, such as lab-grown or plant-based meat.

In your opinion, why has the government introduced such alternative food sources? Explain your answer using **two** reasons. [7]

- 7** Extracts 2 and 3 show how government and citizens help to address needs in society.

Do you think the government has a more important role in addressing societal needs than the citizens? Explain your answer. [8]

End of paper

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Copyright Acknowledgements

Source A: <https://politicalcartoons.com/cartoon/273867/artificial-intelligence>
Source B: <https://govinsider.asia/intl-en/article/3-ways-Singapore-is-trialling-AI-in-education>
Source C: <https://www.aiprm.com/en-au/ai-in-education-statistics/>
Source D: https://www.reddit.com/r/kpopthoughts/comments/10mbjqc/mave_and_virtual_idols_a_discussion_on_the_good/
Source E: <https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/singapore/no-one-be-left-behind-singapores-ai-push-says-tan-kiat-how>
Source F: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/today/big-read/generative-ai-disrupt-jobs-prepare-5027576>
Extract 1: https://www.dailysabah.com/life/food/even-after-green-light-lab-grown-meat-yet-to-take-off-in-singapore?gallery_image=undefined#big