

PAPER 2

St. Joseph's Institution
2026 Year 4 Preliminary Examination
2174 Full History Paper 2 Suggested Mark scheme
Section A: Source-Based Case Study

(a Study Source A.
)

What can you learn from this source about the Federation of Malaya proposal?
Explain your answer, using details from the source and your own knowledge. [5]

Level	Descriptor	Marks
1	Describes the cartoon Eg Strikes were organized.	1
2	Identifies sub-messages / Misinterpretation/Not focused on proposal Eg The Malays were against the Federation.	2
3	Inference with evidence Award the higher mark for well-developed answers. I can learn that the proposed Federation of Malaya led to various racial groups being against the scheme/opposed by all races in Malaya. [3m] What is most surprising is that, even the Malays who were supposed to benefit from the Federation were against it. [4m] This is evident from how we see, Chinese, Indian, and Malay strikers and they are carrying a banner with the words "Hartal Se Malaya". [4 mark] This further implies that there was a joint movement against the Federation proposal by all the major races in Malaya.	3-4
4	Contextual Knowledge My contextual knowledge also tells me that the non-Malays were upset by the stricter citizenship laws under the Federation as that meant fewer immigrants could become citizens. The Malays too especially the radicals were angered that the Federation would not grant Malaya independence immediately. Hence the AMCJA-PUTERA alliance organized a nationwide hartal against the Federation proposal.	5

(b) Study Sources B and C.

How far does Source B prove Source C wrong? Explain your answer. [6]

<i>Level</i>	<i>Descriptor</i>
1/1	<i>Provenance unexplained.</i> <i>Eg</i> Sources B and C are both written in response to the Federation Agreement. Source B by a Malay nationalist newspaper and Source C by the PUTERA-AMCJA.
2/2-3	<i>Comparison of Sources B and C in content</i> <i>Eg Difference/Similarity (allow for any relevant difference/similarity that students bring up.)</i> e.g. Source B proves C wrong as both sources are different in showing whether the Federation of Malaya was a good replacement to the Malayan Union. Source B shows that it was a good replacement as will help to preserve the Malays' special rights status and privileges as they were the indigenous people of Malaya. The title of this cartoon "Malaya is Malay's rights" shows that they should be given special rights and privileges. Besides that, a Chinese man wearing a hat challenged the federation proposals and said, "I do not like the Federation. Federation will definitely benefit the Malays." Hence, this clearly shows that Source B agrees that the replacement of Malayan Union to Federation of Malaya was both necessary and a good idea. On the other hand, Source C is a source from PUTERA-AMCJA which says that the Federation was not a good replacement as it would cause division within Malaya. This is evident from, "dividing the Malayan society into unfriendly and conflicting groups". Or Source B proves C is not wrong as both sources are similar in showing that the Federation of Malaya will lead to tensions between the ethnic groups. Source B shows this when it is implied that the non-Malays will be upset by the proposal as it will favour the Malays only. This is evident from, 'I do not like the Federation. Federation will definitely benefit Malays.' Similarly Source C shows that the proposal will lead to tensions between the various ethnic groups in Malaya. This is evident from, 'In fact, one of the worst features of the Federation of Malay Agreement was aimed at dividing the Malayan society into unfriendly and conflicting groups'
3/ 4-5	<i>Reliability of Source B tested through cross referencing.</i> <i>Award the higher mark for well-developed answers.</i>

	L2 + L3 Eg According to Source B , the Federation was a good replacement as it will help to preserve the Malays' special rights status and privileges as they were the indigenous people of Malaya. <u>Source B is reliable and hence can prove Source C is wrong as it is supported by Source F which also states that the Federation proposal was a good replacement because it will preserve the legitimate rights and special position of the Malays. This is evident from, " any attempts to further minimize the legitimate rights and the special position of the Malays will have disastrous results."</u> <u>Or</u> <u>Source B, is reliable and hence can prove Source C is wrong as it is supported by my contextual knowledge which also tells me that the although the British govt wanted to grant equal citizenship to all non-Malays as outlined in the Malayan Union scheme, they found it difficult to undertake such an unpopular decision. They had to act on the demands of the Malays so as to maintain a degree of influence and control over Malaya. Hence the Federation of Malaya was a good replacement as it will give the Malays more privileges/rights.</u>
4/6	Reliability based on purpose/ showing perspectives in the historical narratives. e.g What Source B says does not prove Source C was wrong. Both Sources have different purposes and are thus not very reliable. Source B is a source published by a Malay nationalist newspaper on 6th September 1947. Being a nationalist newspaper, it wanted to convince the Malays that it is important to uphold and protect Malay's special rights. At the same time, the cartoonist was also critical towards the non-Malays, especially the Chinese who challenged the Malay's special rights by opposing the proposed Federation of Malaya. Using Edward Gent or the British as middlemen, the cartoonist hopes that the British would quickly replace the Malayan Union with the proposed Federation of Malaya to ensure that Malays' rights were not compromised. On the other hand, Source C is an extract of the PUTERA-AMCJA People's Constitutional Proposals for Malaya, it wanted to convince the British to retract any decision or idea of replacing the Malayan Union. In the source, it claims that the federation will jeopardize the idea of national consciousness and racial unity as it would only divide the Malayan society into unfriendly and conflicting groups. By doing so, Source C hoped that the British would reconsider their decision and not replace the Malayan Union with the Federation of Malaya.

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	Hence, since both sources have their own valid purposes, Source B does not prove Source C wrong.
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(c) Study Source D.

Why did Macdonald make this speech on 19 October 1947? Explain your answer using details from the source and your own knowledge.
[6]

Level	Descriptor
L1/1	Reason/purpose not shown/Generalized context. E.g. Because MacDonald was the Governor-General of Southeast Asia. Eg Because the hartal was going to take place the next day.
L2/2	Weak inference with no reference made to the hartal /message taken at face value. E.g Because there were political problems within Malaya.
L3/3-4	Valid Message, supported <i>Award 3-4m for valid inference</i> <i>Award the higher mark for a well-developed answer.</i> E.g. MacDonald made this speech to highlight that the impending Hartal and opposition to the Federation of Malaya was not representative of the opinions of the majority in Malaya. (3m) MacDonald wanted to discourage the people of Malaya from supporting the hartal/joining the movement against the Federation of Malaya .(4m)This is evident from, “However small or great the public response to the hartal may be, do not let anyone be misled into supposing that they represent a large and united body of opinion on the Federation”.
L4/5	L3+ with Outcome E.g. so that the <u>AMCJA-Putera alliance would be discredited</u> and the proposals for the Federation would pass without much opposition.
L5/6	L4+ Contextual knowledge Macdonald made this speech because according to my contextual knowledge in October 1947, the AMCJA-PUTERA alliance organised a nationwide hartal against the Federation proposal. With 140 000 workers going on strike, the hartal paralyzed nearly all the towns in Malaya. However, they failed to prevent the British from going ahead with their plans to replace the Malayan Union with the Federation of Malaya,1948.

(d) Study Source E.

How useful is this source to a historian studying the impact of the Federation of Malaya? Explain your answers. [5]

Level	Descriptor
L1/1	Useful based on provenance, unexplained e.g. Source E is useful as it is by the Federation of Trade Unions.
L2/2	Useful, answers focused on impact of the Federation e.g. Source E is useful as it tells me that the Federations of Malaya had a negative impact on Malaya as it affected the unity of the Malaysans. The source states 'Far from being designed to create a united nation out of the various Malayan races, it aims at cleaving the population into two antagonistic groups of Malays versus non-Malays' which created greater tension between the ethnic groups. This shows that the new Constitution established by the British had a negative effect on the harmony of the different ethnic groups.
L3/3-4	L3+ Useful explained through cross-reference e.g. L3 + Source E is reliable and hence <u>useful as it is supported by Source E which also talks about how the Federation would affect the unity of the Malaysans.</u> According to Source E, the Federation would create greater tension between the ethnic groups as the new Constitution established by the British had a negative effect on the harmony of the different ethnic groups. This is evident from, 'Far from being designed to create a united nation out of the various Malayan races, it aims at cleaving the population into two antagonistic groups of Malays versus non-Malays.' or L3 + Source E is reliable and hence <u>useful as it is supported by my contextual knowledge which tells me that the Federation of Malaya had a negative impact as it led to disunity in Malaya. The non-Malays were extremely upset with the Federation as it made it more difficult for them to get citizenship. This caused discontent between them and the Malays because they feel they have been contributing to the economy but their efforts have not been recognized by the denial of citizenship rights to them. This led to them striking against the proposal.</u>
L5/5	Utility based on critical analysis of provenance

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	Source E is reliable and hence useful because it is a statement by trade unions and the representatives from the Chinese Chamber of Commerce who seem very unhappy about the British who in 1947 were making suggestion to propose the Federation which limited the citizenship of the Chinese and Indians. So the Chinese merchants would have been affected and thus were critical of the British administration creating unhappiness among the non-Malay with the Federation of Malaya proposals . They wanted the British colonial government to not pursue the idea of the Federation as it will cause disintegration of unity in the country .
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(e) Study **all** the sources.

‘The Federation was good for Malaya.’ How far do the sources support this view? Explain your answer. [8]

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Level	Descriptor
L1/1	Writes about hypothesis, no valid source use.
L2/2-4	<i>Yes OR No, supported by valid source use</i> <i>Award 2 marks for one Y or N supported by valid source use, and an additional mark for each subsequent valid source use up to a maximum of 4 marks.</i> <u>Support</u> <u>Eg Source A</u> supports the statement that the Federation was good for Malaya because it shows how the terms of the Federation had led to the various racial groups in Malaya working together because they wanted a better society for all in Malaya. There was a common bond created. Hartal had ironically brought the various races together. This is evident from how we see, Chinese, Indian, and Malay strikers walking together and they are carrying a banner with the words “Hartal Se Malaya”. <u>Eg Source B</u> supports the statement that the Federation was good for Malaya because the Federation of Malaya recognized Malays as indigenous people of Malaya and their special rights status. This will appease the Malays as they were recognized as the indigenous people of Malaya. The rights of the Malays were protected. This is evident from how Sir Edward Gent is urging the non-Malays not to challenge the Malays’ special rights as ‘Malaya belongs to the Malays... China belongs to Chinese. India belongs to Indians. You are traders. Whenever you like, you can go back since you have your own countries.’

	<i>Eg Source D</i> supports the statement that the Federation of Malaya was good for Malaya because it would help solve the political stalemate that Malaya was facing towards achieving independence. The Federation of Malaya would prevent delays in achieving independence for Malaya. This is evident from, “If we in Malaya had to wait until the various bodies who are co-operating in tomorrow’s demonstration could all agree on a constitution for the country, we should probably never had any Constitution at all.” <i>Eg Source F</i> supports the statement that the Federation was good for Malaya because it tells me that the Federation of Malaya would <u>preserve the rights and special position of the Malays.</u> The British had to be decisive as there was a rise in Malay nationalism. The Federation of Malaya would ensure political stability in Malaya. This is evident from, ““As I said before, the British Government must choose immediately between Malay support and co-operation... and any attempts to further delay the replacement of the Malayan Union or to minimize the legitimate rights and the special position of the Malays will have disastrous results.” OR <u>Does not support</u> <u>Source B does not support</u> the statement that the Federation was good for Malaya because it would <u>cause a rift between the Malays as the non- Malays who had contributed to the economy would feel that their contributions were not being appreciated by the locals/Malays.</u> This is evident from, “Malaya is Malays rights” and “Federation will definitely benefit Malays.” Their loyalty towards Malaya were also seen to be questionable as they had their own countries or homelands. Source C does not support the statement that the Federation was good for Malaya because it implies that the Federation of Malaya provides <u>unequal treatment</u> and has different citizenship criteria for the different ethnic groups of people in Malaya. This would <u>undermine the interests of the non-Malays,</u> reverting to the divide and rule policy. This is evident from, “In fact, one of the worst features of the Federation of Malaya Agreement was aimed at dividing the Malayan society into unfriendly and conflicting groups – thus giving the British Government enough opportunity to play one community against another.” Source E does not support the statement that the Federation was good for Malaya because the Federations of Malaya <u>affected the unity of the Malaysans.</u> It would create greater tension between the ethnic groups as the new Constitution established by the British had a <u>negative effect on the harmony</u> of the different ethnic groups. This is evident from, ‘Far from being designed to create a united nation out of the various Malayan races, it aims at cleaving the population into two antagonistic groups of Malays versus non-Malays.’
L3/5-8	Yes AND No, supported by valid source use

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Award 5 marks for one Y and one N supported by valid source use, and an additional mark for each subsequent valid source use up to a maximum of 7 marks.

For L2 and L3, award a bonus of up to 2 marks(+1/+1) for use of contextual knowledge to question a source in relation to its reliability, sufficiency etc.

- *5m for up to 2 sources explained*
- *6m for up to 3 sources explained*
- *7m for 4 or more sources explained*
- *8m as bonus when reliability etc. is questioned.*

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Section B: Essays

2.	'Internal weaknesses within Germany were the main reason for Germany's defeat in World War II.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
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Levels	Descriptors	Marks
1	Identifies/Describes reasons	1 – 3
2	Explains Yes Or No (Award 4 marks for an explanation, and an additional mark for additional reasons or supporting details to a maximum of 5 marks.)	4 – 5
3	Explains Yes AND No (Award 6 marks for an explanation of Yes AND No, and additional marks for supporting details or reasons, to a maximum of 8 marks) <u>Yes, internal weaknesses : Germany's poor military leadership</u> [P] Internal weaknesses within Germany such as Germany's poor military leadership caused Germany's defeat in WWII. Germany suffered from poor leadership under Adolf Hitler, who frequently ignored his generals' advice and made several strategic blunders. For example, during the Battle of Britain, Hitler shifted focus from targeting RAF airfields to bombing British cities, allowing the RAF time to recover and eventually win air superiority. Another critical error was Hitler's decision to invade the USSR in 1941, opening up a two-front war that severely overstretched Germany's military. Additionally, the Siege of Stalingrad was a catastrophic loss due to Hitler's refusal to allow a strategic withdrawal, resulting in the encirclement and surrender of over 300,000 German troops. These internal weaknesses within Germany such as Germany's poor military leadership caused Germany's defeat in WWII because <i>tactical errors made by the German forces gave Britain and the Soviet Union time to recover and eventually turn the tide against Germany.</i> Furthermore, these combined weaknesses resulted in Germany being <u>unable to mount effective resistance against the Allied Powers attacks</u> and this critically undermined German ability to sustain their war effort. As a result, Germany continuously had weak defenses which led to their eventual defeat. <u>No, external factors like USA's entry into the war.</u> [P] External Factors like USA's entry into the war was another important reason for German defeat in WW2. With the formal	6 – 8

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Levels	Descriptors	Marks
	entry of US into the war in December 1941, it contributed ground troops, weapons and equipment. US was the largest producer of goods at that time. It was able to convert its factories to military production at a faster rate than the Axis powers. US could also send military personnel in large numbers to aid the Allied military campaigns. When the US war machine reached its peak production, it could turn out over 70,000 tanks and 120,000 aircraft a year. The USA was also the largest industrial producer in the world then. It was able to switch its factories from producing goods for consumers to military equipment. The USA also had large manpower resources. Women played an integral part in boosting the US industrial machine, as they worked in factories to produce weapons, vehicles and military supplies necessary for the war effort. Therefore, USA's entry into the war was another important reason for German defeat in WW2 because the USA's contribution of vast resources and manpower and strategic military tactics enabled the Allies to have an edge and directly weakened the German war effort. Germany could not match the amount and rate of US war production making German defeat only a matter of time. USA was also able to defeat Germany in WWII in Asia because of their military strength. American participation in the planning and execution of Allied military strategies was invaluable in helping the Allies achieve control of the air and the sea. US collaborated with Britain to gain air control. It focused on bombing German important infrastructure. With the Allies' air control, it prevented essential resources from reaching Germany. It also provided greater opportunities & success at strategic bombing especially in the German cities, rail links and the Axis synthetic oil plants & oilfields. For example, Americans were a key part of Operation Overlord – a carefully planned assault on 'Fortress Europe'. This began with the D-Day landings on the coast of Normandy, France on 6 June 1944. Therefore, this gave the Allies a tactical advantage as they were able to attack Germany by land and by air as they pushed through the German defense in Europe and defeated them.	
L4	Award an additional 2 marks (to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons. The total marks to be awarded for the response will be based on marks obtained at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6+2; L3/7+2; L3/8+2) The entry of the USA is the most important reason for Germany's defeat in WWII as USA strengthened the Allied forces to capitalise on Germany's weaknesses and secure decisive	

3.	'The Soviet Union should bear the biggest responsibility for causing the Korean War.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
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Levels	Descriptors	Marks
1	Identifies/Describes reasons	1 – 3
2	Explains Yes Or No (Award 4 marks for an explanation, and an additional mark for additional reasons or supporting details to a maximum of 5 marks.)	4 – 5
3	Explains Yes AND No (Award 6 marks for an explanation of Yes AND No, and additional marks for supporting details or reasons, to a maximum of 8 marks) [P] Yes, the Soviet Union should bear the responsibility for causing the Korean War. The Soviet Union caused the Korean War as it tried to spread its ideology of communism to the entire Korean peninsula. Korea was important to the Soviet Union and the communist bloc in light of the Cold War context as the communist bloc sought to expand its global influence. Furthermore, the Soviet Union provided military supplies such as Soviet tanks, artillery, and fighter planes to North Korea. The Soviet Union was also involved in training the North Korean forces and providing economic support to North Korea. Therefore, Soviet Union should bear responsibility for causing the Korean War because the Soviet Union provided the necessary support for North Korea to invade South Korea. They provided the boost that Kim needed to launch his attack on 25 June 1950. He felt confident and emboldened when he knew that he had the backing of the USSR. [P]No, the USA should bear responsibility for causing the Korean War. The United States caused the Korean War when it tried to prevent the spread of communism to Korea. Korea was important to the United States in light of the Cold War context as the United States sought to prevent Korea from turning communist in light of the communist victory in China. The involvement of the United States in Korea was therefore driven by its determination to apply containment beyond Europe on a global basis. Following the	6 – 8

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Levels	Descriptors	Marks
	invasion of South Korea, the United States and through the United Nations therefore decided to intervene in repelling the invasion by sending in American and United Nations forces to resist the invasion of south Korea. Out of the 300 000 UN troops sent, 260 000 were American troops and they were led by an American General, Douglas MacArthur. Therefore, the United States should bear responsibility for causing the Korean War because they provided the military resources which South Korea did not have to fight in the war. This encouraged Rhee to go on pursuing the war. Furthermore, the USA also excluded South Korea from the Defence Perimeter and did not supply South Korea with any heavy weapons to engage in a war. Therefore, these US actions gave the North Koreans/Stalin the impression that South Korea could not defend themselves nor would the US defend them. This encouraged Kim and Stalin to attack South Korea on the 25th of June 1950.	
	Award an additional 2 marks (to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons. The total marks to be awarded for the response will be based on marks obtained at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6+2; L3/7+2; L3/8+2) Tthe Soviet Union should bear the biggest responsibility for causing the Korean War because had they not given Kim permission to attack the South, the war would not have erupted. Kim had been pressurizing Stalin for a long time to invade the south but Stalin had disagreed initially. It was Stalin's shift in his position on Korea that resulted in the invasion by Kim.	

4.	'The Vietnamese won the First Indochina War against the French mainly because of the military tactics of the Viet Minh.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
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Levels	Descriptors	Marks
1	Identifies/Describes reasons	1 – 3
2	Explains Yes Or No (Award 4 marks for an explanation, and an additional mark for additional reasons or supporting details to a maximum of 5 marks.)	4 – 5
3	Explains Yes AND No (Award 6 marks for an explanation of Yes AND No, and additional marks for supporting details or reasons, to a maximum of 8 marks) <u>Yes.</u> [P] The Vietnamese won the First Indochina War against the French because of the military tactics of the Viet Minh. To build up the Viet Minh forces in terms of training, arms and experience, General Giap adopted the three-stage strategy of revolution from the Chinese Communists. In the first stage, the Viet Minh would avoid open battle with the superior French forces. Instead, it would retreat to the mountains and rural areas to wage guerilla warfare. This would be followed by limited frontal attacks when the Viet Minh forces were stronger. In the final stage, when it had enough military strength, the Viet Minh would launch a general offensive to retake the cities from the French. <i>This contributed to the Vietnamese winning the First Indo-China War as their tactics ensured that they were able to hold their own against the French forces who were numerically superior and making full use of their resources.</i> <u>No.</u> [P] The Vietnamese won the First Indochina War against the French also because of the poor military planning by the French. The French made several strategic errors, such as underestimating the strength and resolve of the Viet Minh forces. They wanted to defeat the Viet Minh through direct confrontation, believing they would have the advantage with their superior equipment in open battle.	6 – 8

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Levels	Descriptors	Marks
	However, this was not effective against the tactics employed by the Viet Minh. An example of poor planning was the Battle of Dien Bien Phu. The French decision to establish a fortified base in a remote valley, which was surrounded by highlands controlled by the Viet Minh, was a major strategic blunder. The Viet Minh were able to lay siege to the base as they mobilised hundreds of thousands of peasants and military equipment up the hills overlooking the valley. The French also faced significant logistical problems, as many of their supplies from French and US planes were captured by Viet Minh forces. Without sufficient supplies, they would not have the necessary resources to defeat the Viet Minh. Hence, poor military planning by the French was a reason the Vietnamese won the First Indochina War against the French because they underestimated the strength of the Viet Minh and went ahead fighting the Viet Minh without adequate preparation, leading to a humiliating defeat in the end.	
	Award an additional 2 marks (to a maximum of 10 marks) for a balanced conclusion based on an explicit consideration of the relative importance of different reasons. The total marks to be awarded for the response will be based on marks obtained at L3 + 2 bonus marks: i.e. L3/6+2; L3/7+2; L3/8+2) The most important reason the Vietnamese won the First Indochina War against the French was mainly because of the military tactics of the Viet Minh because Viet Minh's choice of military engagement, guerilla warfare, eluded and frustrated the French who were used to conventional warfare. This wore down the French and resulted in the latter deploying drastic measures that terrorized the villages, driving many peasants to support Viet Minh. This bolstered the military strength of the Viet Minh forces, allowing them to engage in more frontal attacks on the French and gaining the upper hand.	