



Name: _____ () Class: _____ Date: _____

Chapter 9: How did Singapore safeguard its independence after 1965?

SBC Practice 1: Inference, Why Purpose and Comparison

1 (a) Study Source A.

What does the source tell you about the **impact of British withdrawal** from Singapore? Explain your answer. [5]

[Skill: Make Inference – Direct Inference]

Impact: positive / beneficial vs negative / harmful; significant vs limited

(b) Study Source B.

What can you infer from Source B about **National Service**? Explain your answer. [5]

[Skill: Make Inference – Direct Inference]

NS (government policy): Impact of policy → beneficial or not; necessary or not; effective / successful (worked / achieved its goals); supported by the people or not

(c) Study Source C.

Why did the Minister of Defence make the speech? Explain your answer. [5]

[Skill: Infer Purpose] Purpose Statement: **Message + Outcome**

[Message – MUST INFER / CONCLUDE – NOT just paraphrasing or lifting from source]

Present your answer as a REASON

e.g. The Minister made this speech BECAUSE he wanted TO

Other possible ways of asking the question:

e.g. What is the **INTENT / INTENTION** of the author / minister in saying this?

[Still Infer Purpose]

Another possible question:

What is the **message** of the source?

[Infer what the Author is trying to say] [NO NEED to give the OUTCOME]



(d) Study Sources D and E.

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

[Skill: Draw comparison – Give one difference + one similarity]

ATQ!

E.g. D and E are **different** because

D and E are **similar** because...

Give the **difference/ similarity statement first!** Before giving the evidence.

National Service in Singapore in the 1960s-1970s

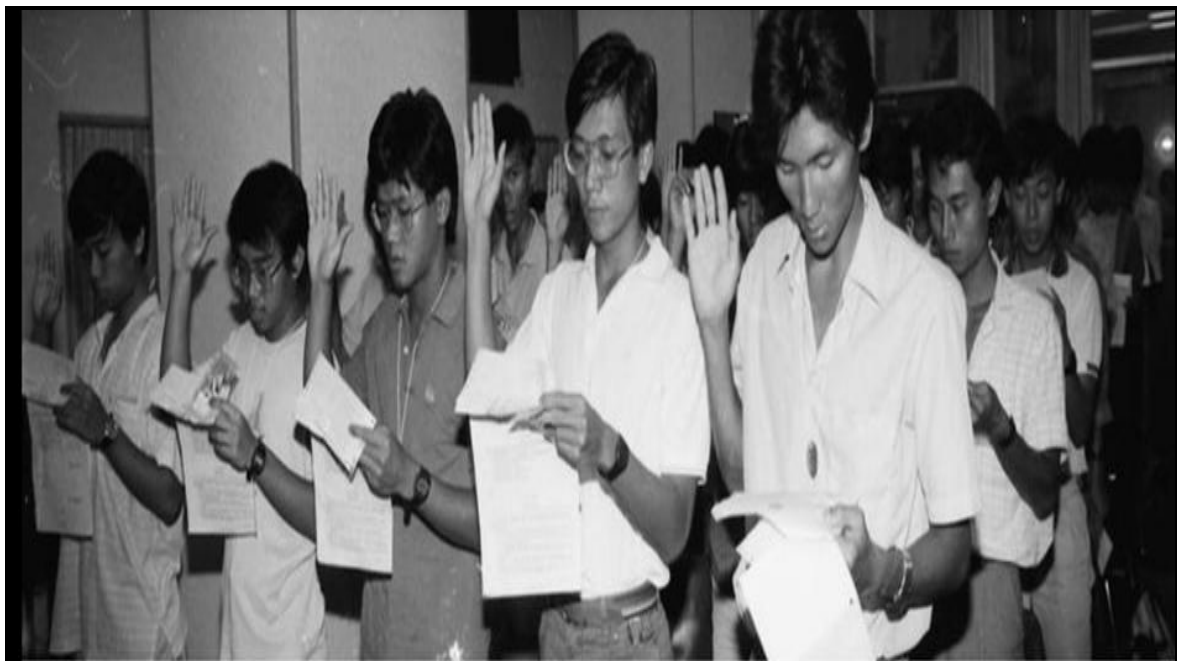
Source A: *Adapted from a statement made by then Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew in a television interview with the British Broadcasting Cooperation (BBC) in January 1968.*

With the withdrawal of the British military, the security of the whole region will be seriously threatened unless some rearrangements are made to ensure continuing security. Without this there is no confidence, and without confidence we will not have industrial expansion. If we cannot assure the *investors of continuing security, all the significant economic aid in the world will be of no use. What we want is security and confidence, and we can do the economic side mainly by ourselves.

**Investor - a person or company who puts in money into a business with the intention of making a profit.*

Source A tells me the impact of the British withdrawal from Singapore was **very serious** as it will weaken our ability to protect and defend ourselves from foreign invasion, especially since we did not have our own military forces. This can be seen from Source A

Source B: *A photograph showing the first batch of national servicemen taking the Oath of Allegiance*, in August 1967.*



**Oath of Allegiance (loyalty) is a promise and personal commitment that a person will perform some action or duty to serve the country*

Source B tells me that National Service was **supported by the people** – seen by the fact that they are pledging their loyalty to defend Singapore



Source C: *An extract from a speech from the Minister of Interior and Defence for Singapore, Dr Goh Keng Swee's to the Members of Parliament in December 1965*

British military protection today has made quite a number of our citizens complacent about the need have our own defence. Singaporeans assume that this protection will be permanent. I regard it as a serious mistake to plan our future survival.

But we were lucky that there were those back then who took the challenge and registered for the National Service Ordinance back in 1954. Why? Because they felt the need to defend this motherland and learned not to rely on others. But now, we need more than ever for a reliable military defence.

Dr Goh made this speech to convince the Members of Parliament of the importance and necessity of strengthening our own military force through National Service, so that parliament will support the proposal to introduce National Service, which will allow for more Singaporeans to take personal responsibility in defending Singapore

Source D: *Adapted from an oral interview with Mr Zulkefle Rahman who enlisted in the National Service in 1967.*

What is going to happen to me and my family? What will the future be? Some of my friends were laughing at me. On the day of enlistment, each and everyone of us looked at each other; clueless. Where are we going to go? What sort of training are we going to have? We have no choice. Either we break the law, or we go in and serve. I had no choice.

Source E: *Adapted from an oral interview with Mr Elbel Singh who enlisted in the National Service in 1967.*

I want to join the full-time army. I think every young individual, every citizen of Singapore should volunteer for National Service. To me, this is my home, only I can protect it. I must be involved in the defence and protection of it. Generally, I could sense fear when we all reported to camp. People were not comfortable with one another. After the oath taking, I suddenly realised that I am going into something which I am not sure I can handle or not.

Sources D and E are different as Source D shows that the citizens were reluctant to join NS then whereas Source E shows that the citizens were willing to join NS. This can be seen from D, "...", which meant ...(explain). This can be seen from E, "...", which meant that ...(explain)...

Write your difference statement AT THE START – ensure there is a common basis for comparison and there is a CLEAR MATCH in your statement



Sources D and E are similar as both showed the NSmen / recruits were worried about the training they will faced during NS and whether they will be able to handle it / cope with it. This can be seen from D, “.....” This can also be seen from E, “....”

Ensure you pick the most relevant evidence to ensure a match in your sim statement



Sec 2 Cht 9 SBC Practice 1

National Service in Singapore (2025 EOY)

1 (a) Study Source A.

What does the source tell you about the impact of the withdrawal of the British military from Singapore? Explain your answer.

[5m]

L1 Answers based on lifting / describing from source

[1]

E.g. Source A tells me that with the withdrawal of the British military, the security of the whole region will be seriously threatened.

L2 Answers based on Valid Inference, Unsupported

[2-3]

Award 2m for one inference

Award 3m for two inferences

E.g. Source A tells me that **the withdrawal of the British military from Singapore can be dangerous as it brings about instability for the Singapore/ region.**

E.g. Source A tells me that **the withdrawal of the British military from Singapore has negative impact on Singapore's economy/ growth as it hindered / limited its economic growth.**

L3 Answers based on Valid Inference, Supported

[4-5]

Award 4m for One weakly supported / explained inference

Award 5m for One well-supported / explained inference

E.g. Source A tells me that **the withdrawal of the British military from Singapore can be dangerous as it brings about instability for the Singapore/ region.** This can be seen from the source "With the withdrawal of the British military, the security of the whole region will be seriously threatened unless some rearrangements are made to ensure continuing security." This means that when the British military withdrew from Singapore, it would cause Singapore to be undefended and open to attacks from others resulting in uncertainty and instability for us.

E.g. Source A tells me that **the withdrawal of the British military from Singapore has negative impact on Singapore's economy / economic growth.** This can be seen from the source "Without this there is no confidence, and without confidence we will not have industrial expansion. If we cannot assure the *investors of continuing security, all the significant economic aid in the world will be of no use." This means that with the withdrawal of British military from Singapore, there would be lack of defence to ensure security for the country and this would discouraged investors from coming to Singapore to do business resulting in a slow economic growth for us.

Accept any other valid inference



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- 1 (b) Study Source B.**
What can you infer from Source B about National Service? Explain your answer. [5m]
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L1 Answers based on lifting / describing from source [1]

I can infer that the first batch of national servicemen taking the Oath of Allegiance in 1967.

L2 Answers based on Invalid Inference (based on NS men) [2]

Award 2m for one inference

E.g I can infer from Source B that men enlisting in National Service are committed, responsible

E.g I can infer from Source B that National Service is strict

L3 Answers based on Valid Inference, Supported [3-5]

Award 3m for One unexplained / lacking evidence inference

Award 4m for One weakly supported / explained inference

Award 5m for One well-supported / explained inference

E.g I can infer from Source B that National Service is important to the Singapore government/ taken seriously by the Singapore government.(3m)

E.g I can infer from Source B that the National service is well supported / accepted / welcomed by people in Singapore (3m)

E.g I can infer from Source B that **National Service is important to the Singapore government / taken seriously by the Singapore government.** Source B is a photograph which shows the first batch of national servicemen taking the oath of allegiance by raising their right palm and reading the oath from the paper in the presence of many in a group. This means that the conscription of National Service was an important occasion as it requires the men to take an oath to show their commitment to uphold their duty to protect and serve the nation.

E.g I can infer from Source B that **the National service is well supported / accepted / welcomed by people in Singapore** Source B is a photograph which shows the first batch of national servicemen taking the oath of allegiance by raising their right palm and reading the oath from the paper in the presence of many in a group. This means that the people of Singapore were supportive of National Service when it was first implemented as they participated in the oath taking.

Accept other possible valid message



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- 1 (c) Study Source C.**
Why did the Minister of Defence make the speech? Explain your answer. [5m]
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L1 Answers based on lifting / describing from source [1]

E.g The Minister of Defence made the speech to talk about the National Service Bill on 13 March 1967.

E.g The Minister of Defence made the speech because he wanted to propose the National Service Bill.

L2 Answers based on context

E.g The Minister of Defence made the speech to change the mindset of those who opposed National Service. [2]

L2 Answers based on Valid Message [2-3]

Award 2m for valid message, unsupported / weakly supported

Award 3m for valid message, well-supported / well-explained

E.g The Minister of Defence made the speech because he wanted the local politicians in PAP / Singaporeans to support the government's introduction of National Service into Singapore. This can be seen from "If we do not build up our defence, we will become completely vulnerable to any power who wish to attack or control us. (2m)

E.g Minister of Defence made the speech because he wanted to convince local politicians in PAP / Singaporeans that the government's introduction of National Service is necessary / important / critical to Singapore's safety / security. This can be seen from "With a strong defence, we will be able to discourage others from attacking us. This will contribute to peace and stability in the region." (3m)

Accept other possible valid message

L3 Answers based on Valid Purpose [4-5]

Award 4m for valid purpose, unsupported / weakly supported

Award 5m for valid purpose, well-supported / well-explained

E.g **The Minister of Defence made the speech because he wanted to convince the Members of Parliament / other leaders / Singaporeans that the government's introduction of National Service is necessary / important / critical to Singapore's safety / security so that they will support the National Service Bill to ensure Singapore's peace and stability.** This can be seen from "If we do not build up our defence, we will become completely vulnerable to any power who wish to attack or control us. With a strong defence, we will be able to discourage others from attacking us. This will contribute to peace and stability in the region." This means that if National Service is introduced, Singapore would be protected to attacks from others, allowing Singapore to experience peace and order, therefore it is important for the local politicians in PAP and Singaporeans to support the National Service Bill.

Accept any other possible valid message



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- 1 (d) Study Sources D and E.**
How different are these sources? Explain your answer. [6m]
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L1 Similarity / Difference, based on Provenance [1]

E.g. Both sources are similar as they talk about those who enlisted in the National Service in 1967.

L2 Difference, based on False Match [2]

E.g. Sources D and E are different as Source D shows that the author was reluctant to join the National Service but Source E does not. (**Focus on emotional state of authors - Anxious vs excited, Confused / Enthusiastic**)

L3 Similarity / Difference, based on Content [3-4]

Award 3m for unsupported / weakly supported answers
Award 4m for well-supported / well-explained answers

L4 Similarity / Difference, based on Content [5-6]

Award 5m for unsupported / weakly supported answers
Award 6m for well-supported / well-explained answers

E.g. **Sources D and E are similar as both showed that the authors were uncertain / had concerns about their experiences during National Service.** This can be seen from Source D "On the day of enlistment, each and everyone of us looked at each other; clueless. Where are we going to go? What sort of training are we going to have? This can also be seen from Source E "Generally, I could sense fear when we all reported to camp. People were not comfortable with one another. After the oath taking, I suddenly realised that I am going into something which I am not sure I can handle or not." This means that the authors were anxious about their experiences during National Service as they were unsure if they could adapt to the training.

E.g. **Source D and Source E are different in terms of their willingness to join National Service. The author in Source D was unwilling to join National Service whereas the author in Source E was more willing to join National Service.** This can be seen from Source D "What is going to happen to me and my family? What will the future be? Either we break the law, or we go in and serve. I had no choice." This means that he was unwilling to join National Service because he was worried about many issues and he felt forced to join National Service as he did not want to break the law. However, Source E stated "I want to join the full-time army. I think every young individual, every citizen of Singapore should volunteer for National Service. To me, this is my home, only I can protect it. I must be involved in the defence and protection of it." This shows that the author in Source E is aware of the importance of National Service and is willing to do his part to protect the country by joining National Service.

Accept any other possible similarity and / or difference