



NAN HUA HIGH SCHOOL
Preliminary Examination

CANDIDATE
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HUMANITIES

Paper 1 Social Studies

2260/01

2261/01

2263/01

25 August 2025
1 hour 45 minutes

No Additional materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write in dark blue or black pen.

An answer booklet will be provided with this question paper.

You should follow the instructions on the first cover of the answer booklet.

Please begin your response to each question on a fresh page of the answer booklet.

If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Write the question number in the box provided in the answer book.

The total mark for this paper is **50**.

Section A

Answer **all** questions.

Section B

Answer **both** questions.

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

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 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.

Why did the Land Transport Authority make this statement? Explain your answer. [6]

2 Study Sources B and C.

How different are they? Explain your answer. [6]

3 Study Source D.

How useful is this source as evidence about the support provided by the government to transition to electric vehicles? Explain your answer. [6]

4 Study Sources E and F.

Does Source E prove Source F wrong? Explain your answer. [7]

5 'Sufficient support is provided for the full transition to electric vehicles.'

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

Is a full transition to electric vehicles achievable?**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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

Electric vehicles (EVs) are vehicles powered entirely or partially by electricity, typically using rechargeable batteries instead of internal combustion engines. Unlike conventional vehicles that run on petrol or diesel, EVs produce lower amounts of carbon emissions, making them a cleaner alternative for the environment. Switching to EVs can significantly reduce carbon footprint, improving air quality and helping to slow global warming. However, this transition is not without its challenges. Electric vehicles are generally more expensive than traditional fuel-powered heavy vehicles, which can be a barrier for many consumers and businesses. In addition, EVs require a reliable and accessible charging infrastructure to be practical for daily use, especially over long distances. To accelerate the adoption of EVs, greater support is needed—this includes subsidies or incentives to lower purchase costs and investments in public charging stations.

Study the following sources to find out whether a full transition to electric vehicles is achievable.

Source A: *A statement by Singapore's Land Transport Authority*

The Land Transport Authority (LTA) is pressing on with our vehicle electrification efforts. There are around 52,000 heavy vehicles in Singapore today, which contribute to about 31% of land transport's emissions. With more commercially ready electric heavy vehicle models available in the market, it is now timely to push for the decarbonisation efforts for this segment to support Singapore's overall land transport decarbonisation. To support decarbonisation of heavy vehicles, LTA will introduce the Heavy Vehicle Zero Emissions Scheme (HVZES) and Electric Heavy Vehicle Charger Grant (EHVCG). These initiatives aim to narrow the gap in ownership cost between an electric heavy vehicle (eHV) and an internal combustion engine heavy vehicle, and to support the deployment of eHV chargers in Singapore.

Source B: *A cartoon published in an American newspaper*



"I'll take 600,000."

Source C: *Posted on the website of Norway's EV Association on Norway's EV policy*

The overall signal from the majority of political parties is that it should always be economically beneficial to choose zero and low emission cars over high emission cars. This is obtained with the 'polluter pays' principle in the car tax system. High taxes for high emission cars and lower taxes for low and zero-emission cars. For a long time, taxes on polluting cars have partly financed incentives for zero-emission cars without any loss in revenues. The purchase tax for all new cars with emissions is calculated by a combination of weight, carbon dioxide and oxides of nitrogen emissions. The tax is progressive, making big cars with high emissions very expensive. For the last few years, the purchase tax has been adjusted gradually to have more emphasis on emissions and less on weight.

Source D: *A comment by a user on Reddit, an online forum*

EVs are not very practical for Housing Development Board dwellers. The EV charging lots are usually hogged by inconsiderate grab drivers and taxi drivers, who continue to park for long periods after their cars are done charging. How do I even find the time to charge my car? Either you are a slave to the car and charge it frequently when a lot is available, which usually isn't, or you are a shift worker who gets to charge it during irregular hours. Cost savings from charging are high, but I wonder how much I am really saving in the long run. Companies keep making EVs more and more expensive. The road tax is also ridiculous! What happened to the government's support for EVs? They are not helping EV owners cope with the cost!

Source E: *An article by Channel News Asia, a news channel from Singapore*

The Rakuten Insight survey found that 35 per cent of respondents felt there was a lack of charging stations here. Such sentiment was unsurprising, given that landed properties - the only type of residence where one can install a personal charging station - make up less than 5 per cent of homes here. This effectively means that the vast majority of Singaporeans who drive an EV would have to rely on common charging stations - an experience that can vary depending on each driver's circumstances and usage needs. Compounding the problem is that the growth in charging stations has lagged behind the growth of EVs, going by figures since 2020. In 2024, Singapore had about 15,300 charging points for 26,225 EVs.

Source F: *A statement on Tesla's website. Tesla is an American company that manufactures and sells electric vehicles.*

To accelerate the world's transition to sustainable energy, we are making it as easy as possible for drivers to own and charge an EV. That's why we're opening our fast-charging network to allow more EV drivers to charge at over 15,000 Supercharging stalls across North America. Superchargers make up three out of four fast chargers and have set the standard for EV charging in North America. Increasing access to charging is a pillar of Tesla's mission. Since 2012, we've been building the best charging experience in the world, achieving a 99.95% reliability in delivering a successful charging session. We engineer, manufacture and install Superchargers where drivers need them most. Superchargers were always intended to be made available to other EV drivers.

Section B (Structured-Response Question)

Answer both questions.

Living in a diverse society

Study the extracts carefully, and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

We want to broaden our concept of success. We don't want success to be defined by narrow metrics of academic and material achievements. I want to see a Singapore where everyone Singaporean matters, one where we can strive to be the best possible versions of ourselves.

Extract 2

In some countries, the government finances universal access to a wide range of social services such as education and healthcare.

Extract 3

Singapore is known for its many helping hands approach to helping individuals in need.

6. Extract 1 shows PM Wong's desire to build a Singapore where the concept of success is broadened.

In your opinion, what does Singapore achieve from broadening the concept of success? Explain your answer with reference to **two** benefits for Singapore. [7]

7. Extracts 2 and 3 reflect different approaches to managing socio-economic diversity in a society.

Do you think that the government-financed approach is better than the shared-responsibility approach in managing socio-economic diversity? Explain your answer. [8]

End of Paper

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Copyright Acknowledgements

Source A: https://www.lta.gov.sg/content/ltagov/en/newsroom/2025/3/news-releases/Strengthening_Singapore_EV_ecosystem.html

Source B: <https://www.nationalreview.com/photos/category/cartoons/>

Source C: <https://elbil.no/english/norwegian-ev-policy/>

Source D: https://www.reddit.com/r/askSingapore/comments/1byl34y/electric_vehicle_qn/

Source E: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/today/big-read/electric-vehicles-ev-charger-infrastructure-costs-big-read-4477561>

Source F: https://www.tesla.com/ns_videos/2023-tesla-impact-report.pdf

Extract 1: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/let-s-broaden-definitions-of-success-to-go-beyond-academic-material-achievements-pm-wong>

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