



EUNOIA JUNIOR COLLEGE  
JC2 Preliminary Examination 2024  
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level  
Higher 1

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**GENERAL PAPER**

Paper 1

**8881/01****26 August 2024****1 Hour 30 Minutes**

No Additional Materials are required.

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

An answer booklet will be provided with this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer **one** question.

Note that up to **20** marks out of **50** will be awarded for your use of language.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

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This document consists of **2** printed pages.

[Turn over

**2**

Answer **one** question.

Answers should be between 500 and 800 words in length.

- 1 'Activism is becoming more frequent, but less effective.' Discuss.
- 2 Is the seeking of knowledge aided or hindered by modern technology?
- 3 To what extent is it justifiable for the state to control what an individual eats or drinks?
- 4 'Heritage and traditions create more problems than benefits.' How far is this true of your society?
- 5 How important is it for everyone to appreciate the Arts today?
- 6 'Profit should be the sole concern of businesses.' Do you agree?
- 7 To what extent does your society foster resilience?
- 8 Examine the claim that political leaders should pursue peace at all costs.



EUNOIA JUNIOR COLLEGE  
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Higher 1

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**GENERAL PAPER****8881/02**

Paper 2

**28 August 2024**

INSERT

**1 hour 30 minutes**

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

This Insert contains the passages for comprehension.

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This document consists of 4 printed pages.

**[Turn over**

**Passage 1.** *Maura Kelly questions the value of modern-day travel.*

- 1 If anything makes me feel like a stranger in modern life, it is a resolution I made after turning thirty: I will travel only when exceptional circumstances arise. When I did fly frequently, in my twenties, it was not because I was seeking 'enjoyment' or to 'escape'. What I wanted was education and experience: some sense of the peoples and cultures of different places. However, I was instead disappointed by how familiar many cities were, with ubiquitous coffeehouse chains like Starbucks, and the same collection of fast fashion outlets. 5
- 2 This is not to say that travel is devoid of benefits. Indeed, travelling to places remote enough (like a rainforest in Belize or the exotic Amazon) would affect one powerfully. Looking up at trees that seem to reach straight through the clouds to the heavens would not only make one feel the transcendent majesty of nature but also one's own insignificance in a universe vast in space and time. Yet, it is also common for travellers who visit places as exotic as the Amazon to be troubled by guilt, as if simply by being in these pristine places, they would have played a role in degrading them. As David Foster Wallace puts it in his book, *Consider the Lobster*: "To be a mass tourist is to spoil the very unspoiledness you are there to experience." 10 15
- 3 Another often cited reason for travelling is to gain knowledge. However, travelling no longer seems like a very efficient method of education as one can learn far more through regular trips to the library. For example, a single audiobook, *The Meaning of Life*, can offer a philosophy course that enables one to learn about texts as diverse as *The Bhagavad-Gita*, and the *Meditations* of Marcus Aurelius; about spiritual leaders like the Dalai Lama and the Native American medicine man Lame Deer; and about belief systems like Confucianism, and Jainism. No single destination can offer this (at the comfort of our living room, no less). While learning from books may be less visceral than seeing the ruins of Greece or the temples of Sri Lanka, it is no less worthwhile. 20 25
- 4 Indeed, the modern obsession with travelling is ludicrous. In a month, in just the United States alone, companies cancelled 49,000 flights and delayed 30,000, affecting 30 million travellers who racked up \$2.5 billion in related expenses — presumably for hotel rooms, cabs and emergency phone sessions with counsellors in order to maintain their basic sanity. There is nothing calming about travelling. Travellers place themselves in a dystopian metropolis that is the airport: the sprawl, noise pollution, automobile traffic, stop-and-frisk policies, and infuriating bureaucratic nonsense. 30
- 5 Ultimately, the rage for travelling (along with consumerism and workaholism) serves as a distraction that muffles the inner voices asking important yet challenging questions: *Who am I? Why do I feel so lonely? Am I living an authentic life that is in keeping with my values?* Perhaps, there is merit in quelling our wanderlust. As Ralph Waldo Emerson aptly puts it, "Our minds travel when our bodies are forced to stay at home." 35 40

**Passage 2.** *Meena Singhal considers the value of modern-day travel.*

- 1 Most people today want to travel as a respite from the monotony of daily life. Yet, many put it off, dismissing it as an indulgent expense; convinced that money spent on airplanes, accommodation, and tours could be better spent elsewhere, like paying off a home loan. On the contrary, travelling has countless rewards and can be life changing in so many incredible ways. 5
- 2 For most people, travelling helps them feel refreshed as they are removed from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. It also improves physical well-being. Travel means being physically active because one is walking, hiking, paddle boarding, or swimming so that in itself lowers blood pressure and builds stamina. Besides, travel can also help to detoxify negative thoughts, which consequently helps to boost productivity. 10
- 3 Another important benefit of travel is how it facilitates appreciation of cultural diversity. Learning about other cultures during our travels encourages us to be more open-minded as we come to respect other ways of being. It also helps dispel negative stereotypes and personal biases against different groups of people, especially when we experience the kindness extended to us (by strangers, no less) in times of need. 15
- 4 Travelling also allows us to learn beyond the walls of a classroom. While there is value in formal education, we can learn so much more about history, geography, sociology, economics, and language through firsthand experience. Books can convey information and theories, but travel brings to life what we read in books.
- 5 Lastly, one of the most significant advantages of travel is its profound impact on personal growth. This can happen when travellers find themselves in uncharted circumstances. Whether they are robbed in a dimly lit street or injured on an unfortunate hike, learning to deal with these travel misadventures makes them more confident about handling stressful situations in unfamiliar environments. Travel misadventures therefore increase our mental resilience, inspiring us to grow wiser. 25
- 6 There is no better time than the present to make our travel dreams a reality. The question we now need to ask is not where we want to go next, but what do we hope to change about our lives, and then travel to make that happen.

[Turn over

**Passage 3.** *Samuel Cornell and Amy Peden discuss a concerning trend of modern-day travel.*

- 1 In the age of selfies, the act of taking photographs of yourself has become a daily ritual. Driven by social media algorithms, many of us now flock to natural places for the best selfie background. Unfortunately, our quest for the perfect shot has begun to harm the very nature we aim to appreciate.
- 2 For many modern-day travellers, traditional safety measures are not enough. At Moran Falls in Queensland's Lamington National Park, a famous view across the gorge had been obscured by vegetation (an attempt by authorities to reshape nature to make better scenery and keep visitors safer). This led some visitors to jump the fence at the viewing platform and stand directly on top of a tall cliff for the perfect selfie. Their pursuit of travel aesthetics has caused injuries, even fatalities. But travellers continue to engage in such preposterous risk-taking. To them, it is a worthwhile endeavour if it means garnering admiration on social media. 5 10
- 3 Even if travellers do not resort to such risky photography, accommodating increased interest while conserving nature remains a thorny challenge. This is because all travellers need to do is pin their location or geotag these natural hotspots. It will invite a horde of tourists that trample on plants and disturb wildlife, causing long-term damage to delicate ecosystems. 15
- 4 What we need now are responsible selfie and tourism campaigns on social media that help to manage the spurt of interest while keeping people and nature safe.

*Copyright Acknowledgement:*

Reading Passages © Adapted from Maura Kelly; *Stay Home: Travel Is Overrated*; 09 March 2014; <https://time.com/14283/stay-home-travel-is-overrated/>  
 © Adapted from Meena Singhal; *The Transformational Power of Travel*; 07 October 2019; <https://community.thriveglobal.com/the-transformational-power-of-travel/>  
 © Adapted from Samuel Cornell & Amy Peden; *Trampling plants, damaging rock art, risking your life: taking selfies in nature has a cost*; 23 August 2023; <https://theconversation.com/trampling-plants-damaging-rock-art-risking-your-life-taking-selfies-in-nature-has-a-cost-211901>



EUNOIA JUNIOR COLLEGE  
 JC2 Preliminary Examination 2024  
 General Certificate of Education Advanced Level  
 Higher 1

CANDIDATE  
 NAME

CIVICS  
 GROUP

## GENERAL PAPER

Paper 2

**8881/02**

**28 August 2024**

**1 hour 30 minutes**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.  
 Additional Materials: Insert

### READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name and civics group on all the work you hand in.  
 Write in dark blue or black pen.  
 Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **all** questions.

The Insert contains the passages for comprehension.

Note that up to **15** marks out of **50** will be awarded for your use of language.

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

For Examiner's Use	
Content	/ 35
Language	/ 15
Total	/ 50

This document consists of 7 printed pages, 1 blank page and 1 Insert.

[Turn over

Answer all questions.

For  
Examiner's  
Comments

Your answers should be:

- written in **your own words as far as possible**. Where you select the appropriate material from the passage for your answer, you must still use your own words to express it.
- written in **continuous prose**.

**From Passage 1**

1 Why does the author describe herself as a 'stranger in modern life' (line 1)?

.....

.....

.....

.....

..... [2]

2 Explain the author's use of the word 'enough' in line 9.

.....

..... [1]

3 Using paragraph 3, identify **three** reasons why learning from books is more beneficial than travelling.

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.....

..... [3]







**From all the passages**

*For  
Examiner's  
Comments*

- 7 Passage 1 states that 'simply by being in these pristine places, they would have played a role in degrading them' (lines 13–14).

Identify **one** specific idea from Passage 3 which can be used to support this statement. Justify your answer.

.....

.....

.....

.....[2]

- 8 Passage 2 states that travel inspires us to 'grow wiser' (line 25).

Identify **one** specific idea from Passage 3 which can be used to undermine this statement. Justify your answer.

.....

.....

.....

.....[2]





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**2024 EJC JC2 GP Prelim Examiner's Report**

**Suggested Answer Scheme**

1. Why does the author describe herself as a 'stranger in modern life' (line 1)? [2]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
<p>If anything makes me feel like a <b>stranger</b> in <b>modern life</b>, it is a resolution I made after turning thirty: I will travel only <u>when exceptional circumstances arise</u>.</p>	<p>What makes her a stranger (resolution)</p> <p>(a) While <b>most people today</b> would <u>travel freely/often/all the time</u>, she is <b>different...</b></p> <p>Why is this resolution 'strange'</p> <p>(b) ...as she solely travels <u>when necessary</u> / as she is <u>averse to constant travel</u>.</p> <p><i>1m each for (a) and (b)</i></p>

2. Explain the author's use of the word 'enough' in line 9. [1]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
<p>Indeed, travelling to places <u>remote enough</u> (like a rainforest in Belize or the exotic Amazon) would affect one <b>powerfully</b>. Looking up at trees that seem to reach straight through the clouds to the heavens would not only make one <b>feel</b> the <b>transcendent majesty</b> of nature but also one's own <b>insignificance</b> in a universe vast in space and time.</p>	<p>Benefit (Outcome)</p> <p>(a) According to the author, to experience the <b>significant/strong psychological benefits</b> of travel,</p> <p>Location (Context)</p> <p>(b1) we need to be <b>sufficiently removed</b> from our typical lives/ from urban society.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>(b2) we need to go to natural places of <b>extreme seclusion/isolation</b>.</p> <p><i>Both (a) and (b) needed for 1m</i></p>

	<p>For (a), must be about psychological benefits – 'transcendent majesty' (inferred)  For (b), degree of seclusion needs to be present to be awarded the point</p>
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3. Using paragraph 3, identify **three** reasons why learning from books is more beneficial than travelling. [3]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
<p>However, travelling no longer seems like a very <b>efficient</b> method of education as <u>one can learn far more</u> through regular trips to the library. For example, <u>a single audiobook</u>, <i>The Meaning of Life</i>, can offer a philosophy course that enables one to learn about texts as <b>diverse</b> as <i>The Bhagavad-Gita</i>, and the <i>Meditations</i> of Marcus Aurelius; about spiritual leaders like the Dalai Lama and the Native American medicine man Lame Deer; and about belief systems like Confucianism, and Jainism. <u>No single destination can offer this</u> (at the <b>comfort</b> of our living room, no less).</p>	<p>Efficient (inferred) (Quantity+Speed) <b>OR</b> (Ease + Speed)</p> <p>(a) Books enable us to acquire a lot <b>more knowledge</b> in a <b>shorter</b> amount of time as compared to travelling, which requires a great amount of time.</p> <p>Diversity of knowledge</p> <p>(b) A <u>single book</u> can provide the reader with a <b>variety of knowledge</b> that cannot be obtained from a <u>single location</u> when travelling.</p> <p>Familiarity/Comfort</p> <p>(c) Books allow us to learn in a <b>familiar/relaxing</b> environment, while travelling requires going to foreign places which could be stressful.</p> <p><i>1m for each point</i></p>



4. In paragraph 4, how does the author support her assertion that the 'modern obsession with travelling is ludicrous'? [3]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
In a month, in just the United States alone, <u>companies</u> <b>cancelled 49,000 flights</b> and <b>delayed 30,000, affecting 30 million travellers...</b>	(a) The author provided <u>examples of massive disruptions</u> caused by <u>corporations</u> and
...who racked up <b>\$2.5 billion</b> in related <b>expenses</b> — presumably for hotel rooms, cabs and emergency phone sessions with counsellors in order to maintain their <b>basic sanity</b> .	(b) the <b>significant financial and mental costs</b> incurred by <u>travellers</u> as a result  <i>Note: Both types of costs are needed for completeness of answer</i>
There is <b>nothing calming</b> about travelling. Travellers <b>place themselves</b> in a <b>dystopian</b> metropolis that is the airport: the sprawl, noise pollution, automobile traffic, stop-and-frisk policies, and infuriating bureaucratic nonsense.	(c) <u>Travellers</u> also <b>subject</b> themselves to a <b>stressful</b> situation when they are trying to have a <b>relaxing</b> time.  <i>Note: Contrast of intent vs reality needs to be highlighted - the idea of 'place themselves in' has to be present.</i>

5. Why has the author written 'along with consumerism and workaholism' in brackets (line 35)? [2]

From the passage	Suggested Answer
The rage of travelling ( <b>along with</b> consumerism and workaholism) serves as a <b>distraction</b> that <b>muffles the inner voices</b> asking <b>important yet challenging</b> questions: <i>Who am I? Why do I feel so lonely? Am I living an authentic life that is in keeping with my values?</i>	Function  (a1) The author uses brackets to provide <u>additional features</u> of the modern world that are <b>similar</b> to travelling.  OR  (a2) The author indicates that these are <u>additional diversions / activities</u> to the rage for travelling.  Context (inferred)  (b1) Like travelling, we engage in consumerism and workaholism to <b>escape/ignore</b> the <b>perennial issues</b> of life.  OR

	<p>(b2) In doing so, the author highlights <u>how much</u> people in the modern world are <u>trying to escape/avoid</u> the <u>perennial issues</u> of life</p> <p>1m each for (a) and (b)  <b>No marks awarded if the function (a) is missing or wrong</b>  <i>Any pairing of points would be accepted. No credit given for lifting 'important yet challenging'.</i></p>
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6 Summarise what the author has to say about the value of modern-day travel. Write your summary in **no more than 120 words** [8]

	Main idea	From the passage	Suggested paraphrasing
a.	People travel to take a break from the boredom of daily life.	Most people today want to travel as a <b>respite</b> from the <u>monotony of daily life</u> . (line 1)	Travel benefits people who need to <b>take a break</b> from the <u>mundane routine of everyday life</u> / their <u>usual routine</u> .  <i>Note: do not accept answers without the context. To obtain Point A, answers need to show understanding that this respite is from the <b>monotony</b> of life to differentiate from Point C.</i>
b.	Travel offers inestimable rewards.	On the contrary, travelling has <b>countless rewards</b> ... (line 4)	It offers <b>immeasurable / numerous / inestimable benefits</b> .  <i>BOD: many</i>
c.	Travel helps to uplift the mood of people due to the busyness of daily life.	For most people, travelling helps them feel <b>refreshed</b> as <u>they are removed from the hustle and bustle of everyday life</u> . (lines 6-7)	It allows us to feel <b>rejuvenated</b> as we <u>escape/ take a pause from the busyness of daily routines</u> .  <i>Note: do not accept answers without the context. To obtain Point C, answers need to show understanding this refreshing is from being away from the <b>busyness</b> of life to differentiate from Point A.</i>

d.	Travel helps people to become healthier. (physical health)	It also <b>improves physical well-being</b> . Travel means being <u>physically active</u> because one is walking, hiking, paddle boarding, or swimming so that in itself lowers blood pressure and builds stamina. (lines 7-9)	It helps us to be <b>healthier</b> through <u>the exercise we get when travelling</u> .  <i>Note: The context of physical activities must be there. Do not accept the point if students just say travel makes them healthier.</i>
e.	Travel helps people to be more positive in thinking	Besides, travel can also help to <b>detoxify negative thoughts</b> ... (line 10)	Travel increases our <b>optimism/ purge unpleasant thoughts</b> ...  <i>Note: 'negativity' here refers to thoughts about oneself</i>  <i>Note: Points E &amp; F are considered direct and indirect benefits of travel.</i>
f.	Travel helps people become more productive.	...which <b>consequently</b> helps to <b>boost productivity</b> . (line 10)	...which <b>then</b> helps to <b>increase our efficiency</b> .
g.	Travel helps people have a deeper respect for other cultures.	Another important benefit of travel is how it facilitates <b>appreciation of cultural diversity</b> . (line 11)	Travelling helps us to develop <b>respect for cultural differences</b> .
h.	Travel helps us to be receptive to new ideas.	<b>Learning</b> about other cultures during our travels encourages us to be <b>more open-minded</b> as we come to <u>respect other ways of being</u> . (line 12-13)	In <b>coming to know</b> more about other cultures, we grow <b>more accepting and understanding of how others live their lives</b> .  <i>Note: Accept any paraphrasing of 'open-mindedness'</i>
i.	Travel removes discrimination of others especially if we received help from people who do not know us.	It also helps <b>dispel negative stereotypes and personal biases</b> against <u>different groups of people, especially when we experience the kindness extended to us (by strangers, no less) in times of need</u> . (lines 13-15)	Travelling <b>removes discriminatory thoughts</b> of others <u>especially if we have experienced help from people unknown to us during troubles</u> .  <i>Note: 'negativity' here refers to thoughts towards others. Do not accept answers without the context of receiving help from strangers.</i>
j.	Travel provides us with authentic knowledge	Travelling also allows us to learn beyond the walls of a	(Inferred)

	that cannot be learned from the classroom.	classroom. While there is value in formal education, we can learn so much more about history, geography, sociology, economics, and language through <b>firsthand</b> experience. Books can convey information and theories, but travel <b>brings to life</b> what we read in books. (lines 16-19)	Travel is beneficial as it provides us with <b>authentic knowledge</b> .
k.	Travel can deeply impact the development of a person's character.	Lastly, one of the most significant advantages of travel is its <b>profound impact on personal growth</b> . (lines 20-21)	Travel <b>develops</b> our <u>character/ personality / values immensely</u>
l.	Travel helps us learn to handle unforeseen circumstances in an assured manner.	... learning to deal with these <u>travel misadventures</u> makes them <u>more confident</u> about handling <u>stressful situations in unfamiliar environments</u> . (lines 23-24)	When we <u>encounter unforeseen circumstances</u> during travels, it allows us to be <u>more assured</u> of ourselves in <u>managing challenging circumstances</u> .
m.	Through such circumstances, we learn to be tougher...	<u>Travel misadventures</u> therefore <b>increase our mental resilience</b> ... (line 24-25)	Such incidents help us be <b>psychologically tougher</b> ...
n.	Travel misadventures help us to be more astute	... inspiring us to <b>grow wiser</b> . (line 25)	and <b>shrewder</b> .
o.	Travel helps us find a different path in life.	... and can be <b>life changing</b> in so many incredible ways. (lines 4-5)  OR  The question we now need to ask is not where we want to go next, but <u>what do we hope to change about our lives</u> , and then travel to make that happen. (lines 26-28)	<i>(Inferred)</i>  Travelling also allows us to <b>alter our lives/ forge a different path in life</b> .  <i>Note: This contrasts with Point K where it is about personal growth, while Point O is about making changes to our life's journey.</i>

15 points

<b>Points</b>	1-2	3-4	5	6-7	8	9	10	≥11
<b>Marks</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

**From all the passages**

7. Passage 1 states that 'simply by being in these pristine places, they would have played a role in degrading them' (lines 13–14).

Identify **one** specific idea from Passage 3 which can be used to support this statement. Justify your answer. [2]

From Passage 3	Paraphrased idea	Justification
<p>Unfortunately, <u>our quest for the perfect shot</u> has begun to <b>harm</b> the very <u>nature</u> we aim to appreciate. (lines 3-4)</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>This is because all travellers need to do is <u>pin their location or geotag these natural hotspots</u>. It will invite a horde of tourists that trample on plants and disturb wildlife, <b>causing long-term damage</b> to delicate <u>ecosystems</u>. (lines 14-17)</p>	<p>(a1) <u>Our search for a picturesque photo spot</u> is enough to <b>destroy</b> the very <u>environment</u> we admire.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>(a2) The mere <u>act of sharing our location with others</u> is enough to cause <b>lasting destruction</b> to the <u>environment</u>.</p>	<p>(b) This supports the idea in Passage 1 as it emphasises how one can <b>easily/indirectly</b> contribute to the destruction of green spaces.</p> <p><i>Note: accept 'environment' / 'locations' / 'nature spots'</i></p> <p><i>Note: Justification should explain why it does not take much for travellers to unintentionally destroy the environment.</i></p>

8. Passage 2 states that travel inspires us to 'grow wiser' (line 25).

Identify **one** specific idea from Passage 3 which can be used to undermine this statement. Justify your answer. [2]

From Passage 3	Paraphrased idea	Justification
<p>Their pursuit of travel aesthetics has caused injuries, even fatalities. But travellers <b>continue</b> to engage in such preposterous <b>risk-taking</b>. To them, it is a worthwhile endeavour if it means <b>garnering admiration</b> on social media. (lines 10-12)</p>	<p>(a) The idea from Passage 3 is that travellers <b>wittingly jeopardise their safety</b> just to fulfil their ridiculous craving for <b>adulation</b>.</p> <p><i>Note: Response must capture the idea of travel misadventures / sustaining injury while travelling.</i></p>	<p>(b1) This undermines the statement as travel misadventures <b>do not lead to personal development</b>. <u>Instead, it only facilitates</u> fulfilling a <b>superficial desire/vapid goal/gaining vain glory</b>.</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>This undermines the statement as travel misadventures <b>do not make us smarter</b>. <u>Instead</u>, they make us more <b>foolish</b>.</p> <p><i>Note: Justification should show the contrast between deep vs. superficial impact (i.e., the contrast between Passages 2 and 3 must be shown to explain the level of ridiculousness)</i></p>

		<p>(b2) Getting hurt when travelling will not make us wiser <u>if we intentionally / deliberately</u> put ourselves in those harmful situations.</p> <p><i>Note: Justification should state the <u>condition</u> that must exist for the causation in P2 to hold true.</i></p> <p>(b3) This undermines the statement as it shows that <u>not all people travel for the right reasons</u>. Some travel just to <u>show off</u> rather than to learn.</p>
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### 9. Application Question

The reading passages cover a range of views about modern-day travel.

How far do you agree that modern-day travel should be encouraged?

Support your answer with reference to:

- the ideas and opinions from **at least** one of the reading passages
- examples drawn from your own experience and that of your society.

(a) **Requirements.** Students should:

- Explain the extent to which individuals and their society can be encouraged to travel today.
- Support their views with reasoned arguments.
- Show understanding of the ideas and attitudes in the passages.
- Explain the extent of their agreement with them.

(b) **Explanation.** Students should show understanding of some of the following issues:

- What could some of the reasons why modern-day travel should be encouraged for Singaporeans or Singapore?
- Does modern-day travel matter to Singapore or Singaporeans?
- Are the concerns of modern-day travel applicable to Singapore or Singaporeans?
- What could be some mitigation strategies Singapore or Singaporeans can use to minimise the concerns of modern-day travel?

Students may also link other relevant arguments such as:

- With all the technological tools at our disposal, is modern-day travel necessary?
- For conceptual understanding, students can discuss the similarities and/or differences in how modern-day travel can impact Singaporeans compared to societies [connections].

(c) **Evaluation.** Students should:

- Question/show reasons in the evaluating whether modern-day travel should be encouraged.
- Give examples from their own and their society's experience in support of their view.
- Examples regarding encouraging modern-day travel can also be provided as a comparison and evaluation of its potential benefits or harm to Singapore.
- Put forward original ideas why modern-day travel should be encouraged for Singaporeans.

Possible TRs	Possible application to SG
<p>However, I was instead disappointed by how familiar many cities were, with ubiquitous coffeehouse chains like Starbucks, and the same collection of fast fashion outlets. (Passage 1, lines 5-7)</p> <p><i>EX: The author pointed out that people travel to experience new surroundings. Yet, the reality is that many modern cities are similar to each other in culture and consumption patterns and are not that different from the travellers' own countries.</i></p>	<p><i>Students can evaluate if Singapore is indeed so like other countries that they cannot find any difference with other nations, thus negating the need to travel.</i></p> <p>Kelly argued that the obsession with modern-day travel is ludicrous. And one of the reasons she pointed out was that when tourists visit other cities, they found these cities to be similar with their home countries as they could find similar shops and cultural behaviour. This is certainly applicable to a cosmopolitan society like Singapore where we are heavily influenced by foreign cultures and practices due to our relatively open society. Our country's interconnectedness with other parts of the world from trade and the heavy use of modern telecommunication technologies mean that Singapore often has the same kind of shops that can be found in many different parts of the world. Furthermore, it is also true that Singaporeans in general exhibit the same consumption and behavioural patterns as many other modern cities because Singaporeans are aware of the latest global trends and consumption patterns. While it can be argued that cities have their unique cultures and history, many Singaporeans who travel to these countries do not necessarily seek them out as these locations may be found in off-beaten locations. Even if there are opportunities to experience these foreign cultures through cultural shows for tourists, such shows are often watered down versions of actual cultural practices, made suitable for tourists' consumption. If there are no significant differences between what Singaporeans can already experience here versus what they can experience in other countries, perhaps Kelly was right to suggest that the obsession to travel was indeed ludicrous.</p> <p><a href="https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/tourism-travel-package-tours-prices-natas-fair-2022-japan-2877066">https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/tourism-travel-package-tours-prices-natas-fair-2022-japan-2877066</a></p>
<p>However, travelling no longer seems like a very efficient method of education as one can learn far more through regular trips to the library. (Passage 1, lines 17-19)</p> <p><i>EX: The author believes that rather than travelling to learn more about foreign places, it is easier and more comfortable to learn from</i></p>	<p><i>Students can evaluate the impact of learning from books vs the learning from seeing the places for us when we travel, given that technology today has progressed to the point that we can visit these places without having to leave home.</i></p> <p>Kelly opined that travelling today is not a very efficient method of learning about foreign places as she believed that we learn about other places from books. And the impact and significance of learning from books are comparable to physical travel. Singapore is fortunate enough that our government has the resources to invest heavily in education. Hence, our students today do have the opportunity to learn more about other countries through our curriculum. Furthermore, the easy access to the latest technologies like</p>



<p><i>books. The knowledge gleaned from books is just as impactful as seeing the places for us in reality.</i></p>	<p>Augmented Reality (AR) or Virtual Reality (VR) offered by commercial companies like Apple with their Vision Pro offer Singaporeans unparalleled opportunities to visit other exotic locations virtually from the safety and comfort of our own homes. While there is certainly appeal in visiting places physically and seeing these places, the recent pandemic has shown Singaporeans that we need not travel physically to experience these places as many famous tourist locations in Singapore like Botanic Gardens are offering virtual tour experiences. The affordances that technology gives us and our strong emphasis on education have allowed many Singaporeans to enjoy the pleasures of travel and the learning opportunities without the costs and hassle of actual travel. Hence, Kelly's opinion on the efficiency of travel to learn more about the world does seem applicable to Singapore.</p> <p><a href="https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/bringing-singapore-to-foreigners-through-virtual-tours-and-experiences-amid-covid-19">https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/bringing-singapore-to-foreigners-through-virtual-tours-and-experiences-amid-covid-19</a></p> <p><a href="https://beta.nparks.gov.sg/visit/activities/nature-walks-tours/virtual-tours">https://beta.nparks.gov.sg/visit/activities/nature-walks-tours/virtual-tours</a></p>
<p>For most people, travelling helps them feel refreshed as they are removed from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. (Passage 2, lines 6-7)</p> <p><i>EX: Singhal suggested that travelling can help rejuvenate people physically and mentally as it allowed people to take a break from the rigours of daily lives.</i></p>	<p><i>Students can evaluate the impact of travel in helping Singaporeans to relax and rejuvenate and compare travel versus other forms of relaxation that may be more accessible and affordable.</i></p> <p>Singhal suggested that travel can be a form of relaxation and helps to rejuvenate most people physically and mentally. There is some truth to this assertion as travel can be relaxing as it takes us out of the busyness of life here. Singaporeans in general work the longest hours compared to the region. It is not surprising that Singaporeans travel to escape the busyness of work and life. Indeed, since the end of the pandemic, Singaporeans have taken to 'revenge travelling', where Singaporeans are travelling more frequently and spending more on travels to make up for the lost travelling opportunities during the pandemic. However, the reality is that even when travelling, Singaporeans are seldom disconnected from work. Due to the heavy use of personal mobile devices, Singaporeans are still connected to work even if they are not physically in the offices. Hence, Singhal's belief that travelling is relaxing is perhaps ignoring the reality that Singaporeans are seldom disconnected. Furthermore, the pandemic has shown us that there are affordable and healthier ways to rejuvenate and relax that do not require spending money on travelling. Outdoor activities like hiking and cycling, or even sedentary activities like baking and handicraft have become more popular as Singaporeans found ways to rejuvenate themselves at home without</p>

	<p>having to travel. While it is certainly appealing to travel for relaxation, unless Singaporeans can truly disconnect from work, Singhal's belief might not fully benefit Singaporeans.</p> <p><a href="https://sbr.com.sg/hr-education/in-focus/singapore-named-most-overworked-country-in-apac">https://sbr.com.sg/hr-education/in-focus/singapore-named-most-overworked-country-in-apac</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.straitstimes.com/business/invest/young-and-savvy-the-high-price-of-revenge-travel-longer-trips-costlier-adventures">https://www.straitstimes.com/business/invest/young-and-savvy-the-high-price-of-revenge-travel-longer-trips-costlier-adventures</a></p>
<p>Another important benefit of travel is how it facilitates appreciation of cultural diversity. Learning about other cultures during our travels encourages us to be more open-minded as we come to respect other ways of being. (Passage 2, lines 11-13)</p> <p><i>EX: Singhal believes that travel helps people to learn more about other cultures and appreciate them. This happens because we are taken out of our familiar surroundings, and we are forced to experience beliefs and practices that are unknown.</i></p>	<p><i>Students can evaluate if travel truly helps Singaporeans to appreciate other cultures as travel takes Singaporeans out of their familiar surroundings.</i></p> <p>Singhal believed that travel could help people to appreciate other people's cultures as it forces people into unfamiliar surroundings. The new experiences force people to be receptive to new practices and beliefs. Travel could also help people to be less discriminatory especially if they received acts of kindness from strangers during their travels when tourists encountered difficulties. Singhal's belief, while not wrong, is certainly optimistic. For the majority of Singaporeans, travel is done via carefully orchestrated tours where guides will bring them to the various major tourist locations and shopping spots. This is partly due to the affluence of Singaporeans who can pay for such tours. Their expectations are that these tours must be hassle-free and as comfortable as possible. It is highly unlikely that Singaporean travellers would have extended periods of time interacting with the locals to learn about their cultures. In fact, Singaporean tourists in general expect the locals in the places they visit to be able to speak their language and provide a high level of service for Singaporeans as they would normally expect in Singapore. It is highly unlikely that Singaporeans are willing to step out of their comfort zones, as Singhal would want to believe. Hence, any positive benefits of travel when it comes to appreciating other cultures will be lost on Singaporeans.</p> <p><a href="https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/singapore-tourists-have-higher-language-expectations-on-retail-hotel-staff-than-regional">https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/singapore-tourists-have-higher-language-expectations-on-retail-hotel-staff-than-regional</a></p>
<p>For many modern-day travellers, traditional safety measures are not enough... But travellers continue to engage in such</p>	<p><i>Students can evaluate if Singaporeans display irresponsible behaviours while travelling to garner social media attention.</i></p> <p>The authors of Passage 3 believed that the desire to garner more attention on social media caused tourists to engage in</p>

preposterous risk-taking. To them, it is a worthwhile endeavour if it means garnering admiration on social media. (Passage 3, lines 5-12)

*EX: The authors believe that the desire for recognition on social media has fuelled risky behaviour among tourists to garner likes.*

dangerous behaviour to get the perfect photo. This is certainly true in many countries today as many popular tourist spots around the world are considering fines to deter such behaviour. When it comes to Singapore, their view is partly applicable to Singaporean tourists. By and large, most Singaporeans are law-abiding when overseas due to our social and education systems that stress the importance of following the law. Also, with the popularity of social media, Singaporeans are mostly well-aware of the fact that their bad behaviour overseas can be immortalised on social media quickly which can lead to serious consequences for them when they return home. However, while many Singaporeans may not engage in risky behaviour for mere social media popularity, the threat of social media infamy has not deterred some. We saw this in recent examples where many tourists including Singaporeans participating in a Tik Tok trend mimicking the movements of an online game at Angkor Wat, a sacred UNESCO heritage site. Such actions show disrespect to local cultures and religion, and potentially causing irreparable damage to a heritage site. Furthermore, Singaporean tourists are often captured on social media behaving badly in Johor Baru. These incidents do highlight that some Singaporeans do behave irresponsibly overseas despite the threat of being exposed on social media. Thankfully, such Singaporeans remain the minority. As such, the authors' view of tourists' risky behaviour may not fully apply to Singapore.

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