HISTORY

**People’s views towards Singapore in the first half of the 20th century**

1. Sense of affiliation towards country of origin

- Push factors: Problems in homeland (overpopulation, lack of jobs, natural disasters, wars, civil unrest)

- Pull factors: Economic attraction of Singapore (Free Immigration Policy, Success of Singapore as a Port, Job and Business)

- Here for work; no incentive to set up family

- Dr. ­Sun Yat Sen led the Chinese nationalist movement 🡪 publicised in newspapers

- Formed revolutionary party *Tong Meng Hui,* the Alliance Society, had many branches in almost all provinces in China, 20 branches and 200 members in Singapore and Malay states

- Rich Chinese merchants Teo Eng Hock, Tan Chor Nam and Lim Nee Soon contributed money to support his revolutionary activities

2. View of British as rulers of Singapore

- race discrimination

- oppression of locals, treating them as second-class compared to British residents

- priority was always trade, did little for the welfare of locals

- British “divide-and-rule” policy

- 20th C. demand for English-speaking people to fill posts in government and businesses increased so the British government changed its attitude by providing grants to English and Malay schools

- Chinese Education was founded by philanthropists or businessman such as Tan Kah Kee 🡪 set up Tao Nan, Ai Tong, etc. founded Chinese High, donated large sums of money to ACS and Raffles College

- Chinese schools often bred anti-British sentiments

**Factors for the Fall of Singapore**

Japanese Strengths

**- Surprise element of strategies**

🡪 Came in from Malaya (North) 🡪 British didn’t anticipate it 🡪 weak defense, only 25 people guarding the causeway link between Johor and SG 🡪 Japanese troops had an easier entry into SG

🡪 Attack of Allied battleships *HMS Repulse, HMS Prince of Wales* at sea on 10 Dec 🡪 Unexpected as never done before, no ship had ever been sunk at sea

🡪 British were not prepared for the attack 🡪 British airfields in Kota Bahru had been destroyed on 8 Dec 🡪 no defence from attack from air 🡪 easily sunk by Jap planes

🡪 Lost control of the sea

🡪 Disabled backup that ships might bring, e.g. troops and weapons

🡪 Jap did not “play by rules” in war, were not afraid to break norms

**- Equipment**

Air forces: Zero fighters were more advanced than British air force 🡪 Jap higher technology 🡪 lighter, faster, more maneuverable

Tanks: Usage of tanks in Malaya forests

🡪 Jap higher tech 🡪 more manuveurable in forested terrain of Malaya 🡪 Faster movement down Malaya to invade SG

🡪 Tanks had been useless in thick forested terrain of Malaya 🡪 British had no tanks in Malaya as they thought tanks were useless in Malaya

**- Intelligence gathering**

Spying: used local spies or operated incognito

Japanese air forces:

🡪 destroyed the only 2 British battleships in the region, disabling backup from sea during war

🡪 destroyed British airfields in Kota Bahru 🡪 obtained control of the air over SG and Malaya 🡪 anticipate and see planes from other Allied SE Asia colonies

Set up headquarters in Sultan of Johor’s palace:

🡪 Believed British would not fire at their friend’s palace 🡪 Jap HQ was safe

🡪 continued with strategic military planning knowing they would not be attacked at HQ

🡪 Jap military officers of highest ranking were kept safe at HQ

Clear view of British defence systems

🡪 Could assess the defence systems of the British

🡪 Send attack troops accordingly to attack weakest areas with least defence

🡪 Attack when defence is lower

🡪 Could attack British military strongholds

🡪 Could assess the attack troops sent toward Jap 🡪 send defense ASAP

View of facilities in Singapore 🡪 Cut off facilities i.e. reservoir and thus water supply, locals had little to no water

🡪 British surrendered more easily bc they were running low on water and thirsty

🡪 British surrendered more easily so locals would not suffer from dehydration

**- Soldiers and Officers**

Jap soldiers had higher morale which helped them to fight longer and harder

🡪 First Asian power to invade Western-occupied colonies 🡪 e.g. Hong Kong, previously a British colony 🡪 sense of pride and thought they could achieve new things 🡪 Boosted morale

🡪 Saw they were advancing and invading quickly 🡪 Believed they stood a high chance of winning 🡪 Boosted morale

🡪 Nationalist, fought hard for the glory of their country

Skills:

🡪 General Yamashita was strict and demanding 🡪 trained troops rigorously 🡪 well-trained and better-prepared

🡪 Jap soldiers were equipped with skills needed to operate machinery such as tanks and cannons 🡪 able to use the more advanced machinery

🡪 Yamashita learnt German attack strategy blitzkrieg 🡪 Newer and more efficient attack strategies used 🡪 overcame disadvantage of not having a large army

British Weaknesses

**- Equipment**

Assumptions

🡪 British army was better equipped, higher tech 🡪 Jap army had zero fighters etc.

🡪 Defence policy of SG based on assumption that British fleet would sail from home waters immediately on the outbreak of war with Japan, put an end to any danger to Singapore 🡪 ongoing war in Europe 🡪 unlikely that British fleet would be able to sail immediately for Singapore when required

Lack of Equipment

🡪 Not enough planes 🡪 lost out to Jap zero fighters 🡪 many British planes destroyed by Jap zero fighters

🡪 Tanks assigned to other countries 🡪 did not have tanks to counter Jap advance through Malaya with tanks

🡪 Only 2 battle crusaders in the region

🡪 Prince of Wales 🡪 Destroyed by the Japanese

🡪 Repulse 🡪 First in history to be destroyed by air forces 🡪 Big blow to the pride of the British

🡪 Ongoing war in Europe 🡪 *Operation Matador* to resist possible landward Japanese attack cancelled on 8 December 1941 due to insufficient aircraft & tanks

🡪 Guns facing sea could be turned to face invasion, but did not have correct ammunition to deal with invading troops

**- Ineffective strategies**

Assumptions

🡪 Jap would attack from sea 🡪 Poorly guarded north side of Singapore 🡪 easier invasion

🡪 Jap couldn’t fly planes

🡪 Jap were well trained in flying zero fighters 🡪 got complete control over the air over Sg 🡪 bombed Sg 🡪 British ran low on resources

🡪 Racial assumptions and stereotypes 🡪 thought Japanese couldn’t see well bc small eyes

🡪 British army thought they were better trained 🡪 did not make extra efforts to further strengthen defense as they were over-confident they could defend

🡪 Overconfident that Sg was impregnable 🡪 Sg strongest fortress in the world

Strategies

🡪 Miscommunication 🡪 soldiers at causeway retreated early

🡪 Ongoing war in Europe 🡪 *Operation Matador* to resist possible landward Japanese attack cancelled on 8 December 1941 due to insufficient aircraft & tanks

**Views about Singapore after the Japanese Occupation**

1. Sense of affiliation towards country of origin

2. Difficult living conditions

* Shortage of food
* Disruption of Water, Electricity and Gas Supplies
* Change of Currency
* Unemployment
* Shortage of Housing
* Poor Health Conditions
* Disruption of Education

3. View of British as rulers of Singapore

British had failed to defend Singapore

Locals wanted self-government

4. Growing need for independence

Locals saw many other colonies gaining independence e.g. Indonesia and Vietnam

In spite of the efforts by the British Military Administration, many were inadequate and ineffective

Rapid population growth, food shortage, unemployment and poor housing continued well into the 1950s

Caused discontent and many became increasingly unhappy with British rule

**Democracy vs. Communism**

**Capitalist Democracy**

* Government is elected by the people fairly (one person one vote)
* Choose who best represents their interests
* If do not serve interests of people, could be voted out
* Rights of the individual
* Everyone is given equal treatment
* Free market economy, demand and supply
* Bourgeoisie and Proletariat (Rich poor divide)
* How much you earn determines the quality of services you get

**Communism**

* Equality for all
* Single party government
* All resources owned by the state
* Profits distributed equally regardless of effort and input
* No extreme rich-poor divide
* All have basic social services (low quality)
* Strict control, totalitarian to achieve total equality

**1948 election and constitutional development**

Voting for British subjects

2% of population in Singapore voted because many were not eligible to vote

🡪 only Singapore-born locals allowed to vote, many eligible did not vote because voting was not compulsory

Singapore Progressive Party (SPP- English-educated upper class) won 3/6 elected seats

6 non-officials in Legislative Council were elected by the people

**Rendel Constitution**

1953- **Rendel Commission** led by George Rendel to provide a comprehensivereview of the Constitution of Singapore as a British crown colony **and to make recommendations for improvements.**

1955- **Rendel Constitution** recommended

* political apprenticeship (gradual self-government)
* transfer more power from colonial government to Legislative Assembly
* increase no. of elected members in Legislative Assembly

**1955 election and constitutional development**

More % of locals became eligible to vote, more parties and more choices

* Areas under local control:
* Education
* Health
* Housing
* Trade

David Marshall as 1st Chief Minister

April 1955 election won by Labour Front

LF formed coalition government with the Alliance Party

British officials did not treat him with proper respect and considered him a figurehead, no full British support because LF was not the party the British had expected to win.

* Restore peace and order 🡪 regular strikes provoked by MCP
* **Hock Lee Bus Riots showed an incapability to handle Communist threats**
* First Merdeka Talks 1956: full self-government, defense, and external affairs

Leading a group to London, Marshall promised to bring independence to Singapore by 1957 and said he would resign if he failed.

Failure of First Merdeka Talks

* British did not support Marshall as they supported SPP not LF
* British felt Marshall’s government was not capable enough to stop the Communist threat
* Marshall’s personality: not willing to compromise with the government about full internal self-government. He felt that his government was not given enough powers as many areas were still under British hands.

Lim Yew Hock as 2nd Chief Minister

1956-1959. Lim Yew Hock (LF) was determined to succeed where Marshall had failed. He did not believe in threatening the British to offer further concessions, as he knew that the British were worried about the Communist threat in Singapore, and thus unwilling to grant more power to the people. Hence, he believed in **cooperating with the British to control the Communists and gain the confidence of the British government.**

* 1956 SCMSSU Riots
* Second Merdeka Talks 1957

In 1957, Lim Yew Hock led another group to London to re-negotiate for internal self-government. He wanted to obtain control over all internal matters of government. However, he was willing to compromise on the issue of internal security as he was aware that the British were still concerned about the Communists. External matters like foreign affairs and defence would remain with the British.

**Riots**

**1954 Anti-NS Riot**

Students from Chung Cheng High School held a demonstration to protest against British proposed National Service.

The Chinese students did not want to join the National Service because they did not want to support a government that **discriminated** them in many ways.

* Chinese schools were given very little budget as compared to English schools. They were also no Chinese-medium tertiary education.
* Chinese-educated students faced economic discrimination because they could only be employed in unskilled or semi-skilled jobs, unlike the English-educated students.

The Chinese students did not wish to defend a colonial government that had abandoned them during World War Two. In addition, as many countries around them had gained independence they felt that **Singapore should stand up and fight against the British government and not support them through the National Service.**

Nationalism/Anti-colonialism

**1955 Hock Lee Bus Riots**

Trade Unionism

Working class struggle against capitalist employers, workers join into unions to fight against employers, with the strike as their weapon

April 1955, the workers from Singapore Bus Workers Union went on strike for better pay and working conditions. In response, the Hock Lee Bus Company dismissed 229 workers. They gathered to protest and it turned into a riot when police were called in.

Though it started with workers striking for better pay and working conditions, the Communists instigated this to cripple the government. By organizing strikes, the economy would be crippled and that would make it easy for them to overthrow the government.

14 May 1955, the Hock Lee Bus strike came to an end, with the sacked workers getting their jobs back and their conditions.

🡪 British did not think Marshall could protect British interests and prevent Singapore from falling into Communist hands

**1956 SCMSSU Riots**

Lim Yew Hock announced that the SCMSSU would be closed down because of its Communist activites, also arrested student leaders and expelled students for taking part in Communist activities.

Students retaliated by protesting and creating disorder. They were joined by the workers & Communists. Lim Yew Hock took swift action to suppress the Communist riots.

**1959 election and constitutional development**

Citizenship Ordinance Law (1957) made it easier for non-Singapore-born locals to become citizens 🡪 more voters

Voting was also made compulsory

* Areas under local control:
* Trade and Industry
* Housing
* Law and Labour
* Finance
* Education
* Health
* Shared: Internal Security

PAP was united, had clear plan for Singapore, Socialist (improvements in education and health) and gained mass support from Chinese-educated and lower-income voters

**Merger**

1955 Merger proposed by David Marshall – rejected

1. **Different economic systems**

Singapore dependent on free trade, Malaya depended on import and export duties for its revenue

1. **Racial imbalance**

UMNO had come to power through Malays, needed to protect privileges of Malays

Singapore had a population of majority Chinese

* Chinese would have more voting power than Malays, loss of Malay privileges
* Chinese political dominance as more Chinese representatives in government

1. **Communist Problem**

* The Communist demonstrations and student riots in the 1950s showed a growing Communist influence in Singapore
* Malaya had painfully reduced Communist threat during the Emergency
* Malaya had no wish to bring the Communist element back into the country, which had just won the struggle against Communist terrorism

***Singapore’s Reasons***

1. **Need for a Common Market**
   * Unemployment was a problem
   * Goods are produced in Singapore but Singapore’s market was not large enough
   * In 1957, Malaya became independent and placed import and export tariffs on goods traded between Singapore and Malaya
   * Malaya had raw materials

Common Market 🡪 goods could be bought and sold freely without being taxed 🡪 increase trade, expand industries, create more jobs

With merger, Singapore would be guaranteed strong economic support from Malaya, as Singapore would be able to handle an important part of Malayan imports and exports

1. **To gain independence**
   * British government was reluctant to grant full independence to Singapore because they feared the communists would take control
   * If Singapore joined Malaya, gaining independence would be feasible because the British would favour the merger
   * PAP seeked independence through unification with Malaya
   * British would grant merger because Malaya could quell Communist threat

***New Considerations for Merger***

1. **Singapore’s Political Situation**
   1. 1950s communist activities were increasing rapidly with the Chinese Middle Schools and trade unions being infiltrated, causing riots and strikes 🡪 led to initial rejection
   2. April 1961, PAP lost an important by-election in Hong Lim Constituency to Ong Eng Guan who was a former PAP candidate
   3. In July 1961, they lost in another by-election in Anson to Worker’s Party candidate, David Marshall
   4. 13 August 1961 communist wing in PAP broke away and formed Barisan Sosialis

* Tunku proposed a merger in **May 1961** because he saw the PAP influence in Singapore weakening and should they lose the support of the people, the Communists would take over Singapore and spread to Malaya
* Malayan government was capable of tackling Communist problem as they had done so before during the Emergency
* Merger would prevent Communist from taking over Singapore as a central government would be able to keep the Communists under control

1. **Population (Race) Issue**
   * Initially Tunku Abdul Rahman did not welcome the idea of a merger of Malaya and Singapore because
     1. there was a large Chinese population and a merger would outnumber the Malay population
     2. they wanted to protect the privileges of the Malays
     3. strong communist influence in Singapore
     4. some Chinese were still loyal to the People’s Republic of China
   * He welcomed the idea of merger when the Sarawak, Sabah and Brunei were to be included in the merger, where the indigenous people in Sarawak and Sabah were to be classified as members of the Malay race.

***The British***

* + Initially wanted Singapore to remain as a crown colony

🡪 keep Singapore as a British naval base to maintain their presence in the region and for defense of SE Asia

🡪 Singapore had only a short experience in democratic government

🡪 Not all people supported the Labour Front government and therefore unsure if LF would remain in office

🡪 Continued Communist trouble in Singapore and uncertainty of whether Singapore could defend itself against internal and external attack

* + Later were not against the merger because they wanted to end their rule and give up Singapore as a colony
    1. Realised it was no longer necessary to have colonies in order to secure economic strength
    2. Colonies were now considered a drain on resources
    3. No longer felt justified in denying sovereignty to colonies who desired it
    4. No longer “fashionable” to own colonies
    5. After WW2, many colonies saw British as weak, fought for independence
  + The inclusion of Singapore, Brunei, Sabah and Sarawak would make a strong stable Federation

**British were unwilling to grant independence** to Singapore yet

* Communist Problem: Malayan Emergency 1948-1960; Communist riots
* Economics: Singapore’s free port
* Security: Utility of military base

Doubts Singapore could survive on its own

* Lack of Unity (Racial differences)
* Wanted to keep Singapore as a British naval base to maintain their presence in the region

**Original Merger Proposals – Rejected**

1. **Racial Imbalance**

UMNO had come into power through the Malays and they needed to protect the privileges of the Malays in Malaya

Singapore had large Chinese population and if it were to join Malaya, Chinese would outnumber Malays 🡪 Chinese more voting power than Malays

1. **Communist influence**

Malaya was wiping out Communist problem during the Malayan Emergency (1948-1960)

1. **Economic reasons**

Singapore was dependent on free trade while Malaya depended on import and export duties for revenue

**Reasons for Merger:**

27 May 1961, Tunku Abdul Rahman proposed a merger between Malaya, Singapore, Sabah, Sarawak and Brunei.

**Malaya:**

1. **Increasing Communist Influence in Singapore**

To keep Communists in Singapore in check

At the Hong Lim by-election in April 1961, a PAP candidate lost to leftist ex-PAP candidate Ong Eng Guan. Tunku was concerned that leftist elements might take control of Singapore at the next elections, becoming a serious threat to Malaya.

Malaya had reduced Communist influence during the Emergency, and a central government would be able to keep the Communists under control.

1. **Balanced Racial Composition**

Predominantly Malay population of Brunei, Sabah and Sarawak would maintain the racial balance between Malays and Chinese.

**Singapore:**

1. **Independence**

British were unwilling to grant full independence to Singapore 🡪 Merger with Malaya being the only way to attain independence

1. **Communist influence**

Having successfully fought the Communists (Malayan Emergency), Malaya’s strong central government would be able to keep the Communists under control

1. **Economic survival**

Merger with Malaya would bring about rapid economic growth through the formation of a Common Market

Common Market- Goods bought and sold without taxes

Singapore able to handle Malayan imports and exports

**Reactions to Merger**

LKY and PAP welcomed merger proposal

🡪 campaign to build support for merger

Leftists in PAP opposed merger as with merger, federal government would arrest them

🡪 communists in PAP attempted to overthrow LKY to reject merger

🡪 split in PAP, leftists formed Barisan Sosialis

🡪 campaigned against merger

**Malaysia Solidarity Consultative Committee**

🡪 promote federation, get views of people, make proposals on how formation of Malaysia could be implemented

🡪 Sabah and Sarawak joined for early independence and development

🡪 Sultan of Brunei in favour, most important political party against merger

**Referendum** (1 Sept 1962) in Singapore to find out the type of merger that people wanted

**Cobbold Commission** (Jan 1962) in Sabah and Sarawak to find out whether the people were in favour of joining Malaysia

**UN Commission** (Sept 1963) endorsed findings of Cobbold Commission

**Landsowne Committee** 🡪 work out new system of government for Sabah & Sarawak

🡪 work out details of Constitution of Malaysia

🡪 safeguard special interests of Sabah & Sarawak

**The Philippines** refused to recognise Malaysia

🡪 claimed that Sabah rightfully belonged to the Philippines

🡪 stated Malaysia was the new colonial power in SEA and had to be defeated

🡪 broke off relations with Malaysia

**Brunei** did not join Malaysia because of disagreements

🡪 problem of contribution of oil revenue to KL

🡪 position of Sultan of Brunei vis-a-viz other sultans

**Brunei Revolt**

🡪 revolted and captured some towns and oilfields

🡪 Azahari declared himself PM of Kalimantan Utara

🡪 troops sent from Singapore to suppress revolt

**Indonesia** opposed merger

🡪 was afraid that prosperous Malaysia would lower morale on Indonesians

🡪 claimed Malaysia was a new colonial power planning to take over Sumatra

🡪 claimed Sabah & Sarawak were forced to join against their wishes

**Konfrontasi** (Indonesia)

🡪 armed raids sent into Sabah and Sarawak

🡪 bombs in Singapore

**Terms of Agreement**

**Borneo Loan** 🡪 originally RM50 million from Sg to develop Sabah & Sarawak

🡪 agreed to lend $150m to be repaid within 15 years

🡪 no interest for first $100m

🡪 50% of labour used in development of Sabah & Sarawak to come from Singapore (jobs)

**Constitutional** 🡪 SG to have control over own education and labour

🡪 Federal Government in control of armed forces and police

🡪 Sg to have own PM

**Citizenship** 🡪 Singapore citizens to remain as citizens but also become Malaysian citizens

🡪 No voting in Malaysian elections and vice versa

🡪 parties on both sides could not take part in elections opposite

**Malay rights** 🡪 Malays in Singapore had no special rights

🡪 Malays given free education up to university

**Common market** 🡪 Goods to be sold and bought freely without taxes

🡪 Set up gradually

**Economics** 🡪 Singapore contribute 40% of revenue to KL

🡪 Pioneer Certificates issued to businesses – no taxes for 5-10 yrs

**Malaysia Day: 16 September 1963**

**Terms of Agreement and Negotiation**

**Common Market**

* Goods could be bought and sold freely without taxes
* Singapore wanted this to increase trade, for industries to grow and more jobs created
* Malaya was reluctant because feared that Singapore goods would compete with theirs
* Malaya wanted to discuss Common Market after the Malaysia Agreement was signed but Singapore refused
* Compromise – gradually establish a common market in Malaysia
* In return, Singapore will contribute 39% of its yearly revenue to Kuala Lumpur
* Through Common Market – new industries were to be issued pioneer certificates whereby, they would not be taxed between 5 to 10 years

**Borneo Loan**

Federal government wanted Singapore to give financial help to develop   
Sabah and Sarawak – M$50 million as gift

* Singapore agreed to a loan
* Final agreement – loan of M$150 million as loan with no interest charged to be paid in 15 years
* Lee Kuan Yew secured the agreement that 50% of the labour used in the development of Sabah and Sarawak would come from Singapore

**Constitutional Matters**

* Singapore was entitled to 24 seats in the Malaysian Federal Parliament but was given 15 seats instead in exchange for Singapore to control its own labour and education policies
* The control was necessary to check on communists who had influence there and the Federal government was too far away
* Kuala Lumpur’s educational policies were pro-Malay and this would not be welcomed by the Chinese

**Citizenship**

* Singapore citizens will retain their citizenship but become nationals of Malaysia
* This implied that they could not vote in the Malaysian elections
* Helped to prevent the large number of Chinese in Singapore from voting in the Malaysian elections
* Vice versa for Malaysian citizens
* However political parties could continue to take part in the elections of both sides but candidates must be citizens of the respective territories

**Malay Rights**

* Special privileges that the Malays enjoyed in Malaya would not be extended to those in Singapore
* PAP, however, agreed to give free education up to university level as well as help that could improve their economic and social position

Malaysia Agreement

* Signed in July 1963
* Brunei did not join
* Formation of Malaysia was not welcomed by Indonesia and Philippines

**Separation**

**Politics**

1963 Elections

* UMNO, MCA and MIC set up branches in Singapore and called themselves Singapore   
  Alliance in May 1961 – pro Federal government
* PAP was persuaded to work together with the SA in the 1963 elections – that is, PAP would not compete where the SA stood for elections. PAP rejected this.
* Tunku Abdul Rahman personally came to Singapore to show support for SA. Alliance leaders (UMNO, MCA and MIC) wanted SA to win so that Kuala Lumpur would have a say in governing Singapore
* SA did not win a single seat
* Even the Singapore branch of UMNO (SUMNO) did not win seats in the predominantly Malay constituencies.

1964 Federal Elections

* PAP sent 17 candidates to take part in the Federal Elections held in April 1964
* Aim was a non-communal politics, but the Alliance saw this as challenging their supremacy
* PAP criticised MCA, claiming that they did not represent the urban Chinese
* Alliance condemned PAP for this and alliance became more united. UMNO came to MCA’s defence
* Final result – PAP won only 1 vote – Devan Nair in Bangsar
* Outcome of this election
  + Some Alliance leaders were unhappy with PAP and became less tolerant
  + UMNO was afraid that PAP may sway the Malay support in Malaysia in the future
  + Better to confine PAP to Singapore

**Social Tension**

**Communal Politics**

* Some UMNO leaders began to play communal politics
* They focused on the Malay poverty in Singapore and Singapore’s resettlement programme as anti-Malay
* Singapore government planned to settle residents from Crawford, Kampong Glam to Rochor but gave $300 and priority for new flats
* Though all races were affected, UMNO played up on the Malays’ sentiments
* Utusan Melayu, Malay daily newspaper played up on this anti-PAP sentiment
* Portrayed the education and housing policies as anti-Malay
* PAP planned a meeting on July 19, 1964 to explain its policies to the Malay organisations, but SUMNO organised an earlier meeting to incite anti-PAP sentiments
* At the PAP meeting, Lee Kuan Yew listened to the Malay grievances and promised to improve their economic and social standing through education and training

**Race Riots**

* 21 July 1964 – celebration of the Prophet Muhammad birthday
* Annual affair, but earlier to this day, leaflets bearing anti-PAP sentiments were distributed
* There was a procession from Padang to Lorong 12, Geylang but near Kallang a clash took place between some Chinese and Malays
* Sparked off the racial riots
* Singapore was placed under curfew till 2 August 1964
* September 1964 another round of race riots – police and security forces were ineffective to put down the rioters
* Singapore had to wait for the Federal government to send its security forces

**Malaysian Solidarity Convention**

* After the riots, the Alliance Party re-organised the Singapore Alliance
* PAP reacted by forming the Malaysian Solidarity Convention and its members were from the non-communal parties from Singapore, Sabah, Sarawak and Malaya
* Aim was to create a Malaysian Malaysia – equality for all races

**Economic Reasons**

**Pioneer Certificates**

* Kuala Lumpur wanted to protect the industries in Malaya
* Kuala Lumpur was reluctant to grant pioneer certificates to new industries in Singapore – so affected Singapore’s industrialization programme

**Common Market**

* Kuala Lumpur was not keen to establish the Common Market
* Singapore goods were taxed highly
* Kuala Lumpur attempted to attract foreign investors through attractive financial packages

**Proposed increase in Singapore’s Contribution**

* Federal government wanted Singapore to increase its contribution from 40% to 60%
* Singapore rejected this proposal because it would cripple Singapore’s economy

**Closing of Bank of China**

* Kuala Lumpur wanted to close the Bank of China because claimed that the funds were sent to the communists who were still fighting in the jungles of Northern Malaya
* But closure of the bank would mean that economic hardship for Singaporeans because Chinese goods were affordable and the bank helped promote trade between Singapore and China

**Separation**

* Seeing no other alternative and to prevent situation from escalating, Tunku proposed separation on 6 August 1965
* His reasons :
  + Further racial conflicts would occur
  + Some members of UMNO wanted Lee Kuan Yew’s arrest
  + Fear of communist was no longer present because many communist leaders were detained
  + Separation was announced.
  + Singapore officially became an independent country on 9 August 1965.

**EOY ANSWERING TECHNIQUES**

**HI Questions**

* No general answers
* Primary sources: first-hand info originating from the time and place of inquiry
* Secondary sources: result of study and investigation of primary sources

**SBQ: Cartoon**

* Types: Bandwagon, Card-stacking, Glittering Generalities, Name-calling, Either/or fallacies, Testimonials
* Themes: Us vs. Enemy, Sense of danger, Self-sacrifice, War-time shortages, Women’s role, Masculine strength
* Techniques: Symbolism, Distortion, Caricatures, Captions, Irony

**SBQ: Inference – Purpose**

* Purpose – 3As (Active verb, Audience, intended Action, message)
* Source message (this source says) (PEEL)
* Context of source production/ Background knowledge

**SBQ: Comparison**

* Compare Content (Establish similarity/difference, PEEL)
* Compare Tone
* Compare Purpose

**SBQ: Reliability**

* Identify issue (in question)
* Inference from source (PEEL)
* Corroboration with other sources/ contextual knowledge (content)
* Purpose of source production (3As, message, tone)
* Support purpose with contextual knowledge regarding provenance

**SBQ: Utility**

* Identify issue (in question)
* Content Inference from source (PEEL)
* Content Limitation – corroborate with other sources/ contextual knowledge
* Context/ Purpose of source production (given the context, purpose is likely to…)

**Structured Essay Question**

* Introduction – state stand, list factors
* Explain Given Factor (PEEL)
* However, Other Factor (PEEL)
* Other Factor (PEEL)
* Conclusion – relative weighing of factors, evaluate based on criteria