

Preparatory Course For Singapore-Cambridge GCE (Advanced Level)

Module Synopses

GENERAL PAPER

General Paper aims to enable students to develop language proficiency and skills such as critical reading, clear and effective communication, and the ability to evaluate arguments and opinions. Students will be encouraged to take a global perspective, while keeping in view shared historical and social experiences both within Singapore and in the region.

Examinations: Students sit for two written papers. Essay (Paper 1): Students are required to write one 500 – 800 word essay.

Comprehension (Paper 2): One or two passages of continuous prose will be set. Questions cover understanding (including literal comprehension and inference), vocabulary, summary and application.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics provides a foundation in mathematics for students who intend to enrol in university courses such as business, economics and social sciences. Students will develop mathematical thinking and problem solving skills. The course covers *Functions and Graphs, Calculus, Probability and Statistics*. A major focus of the syllabus will be the understanding and application of basic concepts and techniques of statistics. This will equip students with the skills to analyse and interpret data, and make informed decisions.

Assumed knowledge:

H1 Mathematics - GCE 'O' level Mathematics

H2 Mathematics - GCE 'O' level Mathematics and GCE 'O' level Additional Mathematics

Pre-requisite:

H1 Mathematics - Minimum grade C for GCE 'O' Level Mathematics OR equivalent

H2 Mathematics - Sat for GCE 'O' Level Additional Mathematics OR equivalent

Examinations:

H1 Mathematics students sit for Paper 1. H2 Mathematics students sit for Paper 1 and Paper 2.

MANAGEMENT OF BUSINESS

Management of Business is centred on themes of people in organisations (i.e. who they are), the functions they perform (i.e. what they do), and the procedures and tools that facilitate them in decision-making (i.e. how they do). It emphasises the need for businesses to remain responsive to changes in the external environment. Students study key topics on people in organisations, marketing, production, business finance and information for decision making. These topics encompass a wide range of management concepts to tools and techniques for effective functioning of businesses. Students will develop skills in analysing and solving business problems besides skills in interpretation of information and effective communication.

Examinations: This subject is at H2 level. Students sit for two written papers. Paper 1 comprising short answer structured questions and a case study and Paper 2 comprising data response and essay questions.

ECONOMICS

Economics provides a thematic approach to the understanding of economics. The themes comprise of: *The Central Economic Problem; Markets & The National & International Economy*. Students are required to demonstrate their understanding and ability to apply the tools of economic reasoning to explain, analyse and evaluate economic situations and policy decisions. The concepts, principles and issues are taught in the context of the Singapore economy, the regional economy and international economy.

Examinations: Students sit for two written papers. Written papers, comprising case study and essay questions.

LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

Literature in English consists of a compulsory paper, *Reading Literature* (Paper 1), which is offered by both H1 and H2 students, and an elective paper. The elective paper can be a period-based or topic-based paper. Students can choose an elective paper from two period-based and two topic-based elective papers set every year. Period-based papers focus on a distinct period of literary significance (e.g. *The English Renaissance*) while topic-based papers focus on issues that span a range of periods and writers (e.g. *The Mind and Self in Literature*). For the elective paper, students will offer three texts from a range of writers and genres.

Examinations: H2 Literature students sit for two papers. Both are open book. H1 Literature students sit for Paper 1. *Reading Literature* (Paper 1) Elective Paper. It comprises essay and passage-based questions.

HISTORY

History is a contemporary study of regional and international developments in the twentieth century. An understanding of issues and events in the twentieth century offers students valuable insights into the complexities of regional and international relations. H2 History enables students to appreciate Singapore's role in the region and the larger international community. Through a thematic comparative and issues-based approach, students are able to identify patterns, recognise change and continuity, and understand the historical forces that have shaped our present.

Examinations: H2 History students sit for two written papers. Candidates are required to answer the compulsory source based study in Section A and three essay questions in Section B for each paper. H1 History students sit for Paper 1.

Paper 1: International History, 1945–2000 (3 hours)

Themes: The Cold War and How it Shaped the World, The Development of the Global Economy and Conflict and Cooperation

Paper 2: History of Southeast Asia, c.1900–1997 (3 hours)

Themes: How Independence was Achieved, Challenges to Independent Southeast Asian States and Regional Conflicts and Cooperation

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LINGUISTICS

Students will learn about nature of the English language and how language varies according to user and use. Through application of linguistic tools of analysis, they will examine the English language in its contexts of audience, purpose, subject matter, genre and modes of communication. They will understand how through discourse, meaning is constructed, manipulated and challenged, and develop a critical awareness of how language is used to encode identity, relationships and ideology.

Pre-requisite: Minimum B in GCE 'O' Level English and/or pass in GCE 'O' Level Literature OR equivalent.

Examinations: This subject is at H2 level. Students sit for two written papers.

Paper 1: Analysing Language Use (3 hours) Paper 2: Investigating Language Use in Society (3 hours)