



# How to EVALUATE



GENERAL PAPER

# Challenging Assumptions

- One way to show evaluation is to challenge any pre-existing assumptions that you may have made earlier in your essay.
  - E.g. 'The youth in Singapore tend to take a very pragmatic approach towards studies and life in general, hence they choose to neglect the arts scene here in Singapore.'
- Here, there are **several assumptions** that were made
  1. Generalised that majority of youth neglect the arts scene → Is it really the majority? Perhaps there are exceptions.
  2. All youth take a pragmatic approach towards life → There are many groups of youth who are not at all pragmatic and do what they are passionate about.
  3. 'Choose to' neglect the arts scene → In reality, some may not have a choice.

# LONG TERM vs SHORT TERM

- Study any possible long-term or short-term implications in which either the question may have made or your argument has made.
  - E.g. *'Technology has brought more harm than good to the automobile industry. To what extent is this true?'*
- Evaluate the current **short-term situation** in society vs how technology may continue to evolve in the **long-run**.
  - Tesla has exploited Artificial Intelligence to not only completely change the car industry but also bring cash benefits to many in the short run. In the long-run, there may be increased implications on human jobs. However, in the short-run, it has still brought about greater benefit...

# STAKEHOLDERS

- Make use of the wide spectrum of players involved in the question-at-hand.
- If the question is targeting a specific group of people, e.g. the elderly, you can bring in other stakeholders to show tension between societal groups.
  - The Government [Helps to issue pension funds, etc.]
  - The Youth [Disrespectful of elderly]
  - The Working class [Not enough time to look after elders]
- Use a different stakeholder group to argue why the motion stands in your favour or against in the body paragraph itself.

# JUSTIFY YOUR EVALUATION

- All in all, you have to make sure your evaluation is justified and reasonable.
- All forms of evaluation should either support for/against the argument and act more as a reason for your reader to consider the potential challenges to your argument yet not be bought over completely by it.
- Use your evaluation to fight for your points and protect it, while showing the reader that you have considered all sides to the argument you had laid out.



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