

H.S.I. CHALLENGE 2023 TASK BRIEF

This year's Historical Scene Investigation (H.S.I.) Challenge focuses on the period between 1945 and 1965, in which the students can explore the lives of Singaporeans and events that played a significant role in shaping the lives of the people leading up to Singapore's independence in a video and written reflection.

TEAM REGISTRATION AND ELIGIBILITY

- The competition is open to all lower secondary students.
- Each school can send a maximum of 2 teams comprising 4 members each.
- For the top 10 finalist teams, only the higher scoring team from each school can qualify.

H.S.I. CHALLENGE 2023 TIMELINE

The timeline of the contest is shown below:

Date	Event
28 July	Briefing for participating schools via Zoom
Week of 31 July	Briefing slides and recording shared with teachers via email and uploaded on S.U.R.E. website
Week of 7 August	Task brief will be shared with teachers via email and uploaded to S.U.R.E. website
22 September, 12.00pm	Closing date for submission
31 October	Award ceremony at National Library Building <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An e-mail invitation will be sent to the top 10 teams in mid-October

TASK BRIEF

Submission Requirements

(i) Video submission

Present your investigation findings through a video with focus on explaining the historical significance of an event that had a profound impact on Singapore's population between 1945 and 1965. The maximum length of the video should be no more than 3 minutes.

(ii) Written submission

The written submission will complement your video and explain your research findings and sources.

- Format: Microsoft Word document
- Maximum number of words (excluding source citations): 500 words

You should have the following in your video or written submission:

- a. **Introduction:** Provide background information on the event that you deem historically significant.

- b. **Historical sources:** Select a minimum of 5 sources, of which 3 should be primary sources, and write about how these provide insights into the historical significance of an event and its impact on the lives of the people during the road to Singapore's independence.
- c. **Findings:** Present your group's findings on the aspect(s) of the event that you deem historically significant. This includes historical context, analysis of sources, explanation of ideas and application of the historical concept of significance.
- d. **Reflections:** What challenges did your group encounter working on this project? How did you overcome them? What would you improve about the way you conducted your research in the future?
- e. **References:** Reference the sources used in the research process by providing information on where the source was acquired from. This may include the author, date of creation, and title.

Definitions of key terms:

Historical significance: This concept requires us to consider an event to remember. However, since history is so vast, we cannot possibly remember everything. To explore significance, examine why is a particular event important? To whom is it significant? And how might their perspective differ from our own?

Using Primary Sources: Historians use evidence from sources to support their statements and conclusions. This is a key part of crafting believable and trustworthy narratives (or accounts). Does the author provide references to primary sources? Can I find primary source evidence to fact-check their claims? How does the availability of primary sources shape what we remember and what we decide is historically significant?

Primary Sources and Secondary Sources: Primary sources were either created during the time period being studied or were created at a later date by a participant in the event being studied (as in the case of memoirs). They reflect the individual viewpoint of a participant or observer. Primary sources enable the researcher to get as close as possible to what actually happened during an historical event or time period.

In contrast, a secondary source is a work that interprets or analyzes historical events or phenomenon. It is generally at least one step removed from the event is often based on primary sources. Examples include scholarly or popular books and articles, reference books, and textbooks.

1945 to 1965: The project should focus on an historical event that fall within the stipulated time frame between the surrender of the Japanese on 12 September 1945 and the country's independence on 9 August 1965. Teams may choose to make brief references to material that falls outside the timeframe, but the focus of the project should be on materials within the timeframe.

You may use the following questions to guide your research:

- What is the nature of the event you are focusing on?
 - Political, Economic, Social
 - Internal/external threats
 - Culture
- How is the event you selected historically significant? Consider using [Christine Counsell's 5 "R" framework](#) to evaluate significance:
 - *Remembered*: the event was important at some stage of Singapore's history within the collective memory of Singaporeans.
 - *Resulting in change*: it had consequences for Singapore's future.
 - *Revealing*: it reveals some other aspects of Singapore's past.
 - *Remarkable*: the event was remarked upon by Singaporeans at the time and/or since. Could also be unusual, beyond the realm of normal life, unexpected.
 - *Resonant*: Singaporeans like to make analogies with it; it is possible to connect with Singaporeans' experiences, beliefs or situations across time and space.
- Who are the people involved in and impacted by the event you selected?

AWARD CATEGORIES AND PRIZES

- First Prize - \$1,000 vouchers, trophy plaque and Young Historians Award
- Second Prize - \$600 vouchers, trophy plaque and Young Historians Award
- Third Prize - \$400 vouchers, trophy plaque and Young Historians Award

All teams will receive certificates of award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) based on their score.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Your submission will be judged based on the following criteria:

- a. **Content** (40%)
 - Information is accurate and includes explanation.
 - Content is clearly and concisely presented with a logical progression of ideas and supported by evidence.
 - Sound and appropriate application of the historical significance as mentioned above in the analysis of the selected event.
- b. **Evidence** (30%)
 - Range of evidence used to support conclusion.
 - Selection of relevant evidence to support conclusion.
 - Demonstrates source analysis and evaluation skills (e.g. contextualizing the source)
- c. **Video** (20%)
 - Video is engaging in terms of clarity, content and creativity.

d. **Citation** (10%)

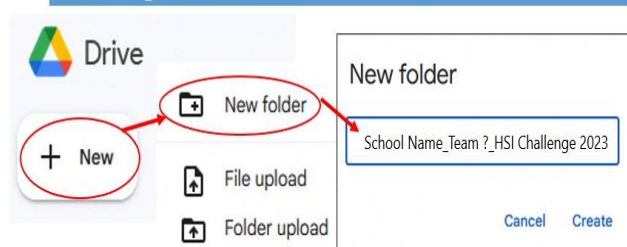
- Proper referencing of the sources used in the research process by providing information on where the source was acquired from as in the written report.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

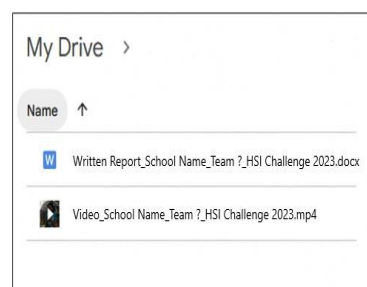
The closing date for submission of entries is **Friday, 22 September 2023, 12 noon.**

- Video and written report are to be submitted via Google Drive link.
- Place both the video and written report (Word doc) into the same Google Drive folder.
- Set the folder's sharing option to 'Anyone with the link' when submitting to sure@nlb.gov.sg
- Subject of email submission: [School Name] HSI Challenge 2023 Submission

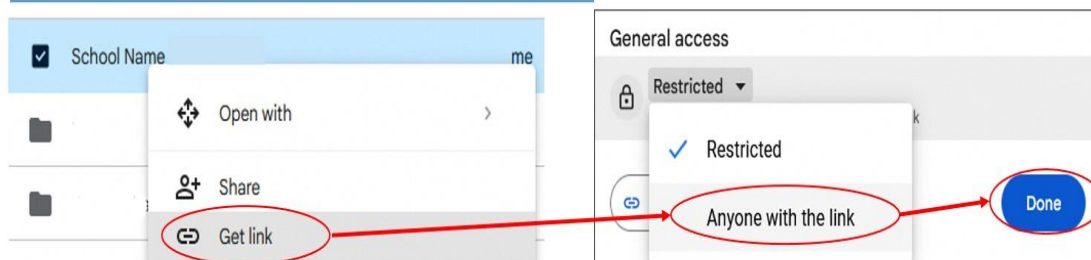
1 Create a new folder 'School Name_Team ?_HSI Challenge 2023'



2 Upload your entries (video and written report), and any other related files



3 Right click the main folder to 'Get link', and switch from 'Restricted' to 'Anyone with the link'. Click 'Done'



4 Copy link and e-mail to sure@nlb.gov.sg



RULES AND REGULATIONS

- The video entry must not have been used for other competitions or broadcast through any public media prior to this competition. It should not be concurrently submitted for other competitions.
- The video can contain live-action or animation or a mixture of both.
- The video can be produced using any tools such as digital cameras and smart devices, in a format that can be uploaded on YouTube and social media platforms.
- Videos must be in mp4 format.
- All videos submitted should be up to 3 minutes only, excluding credits.
- Credits to be provided at the end of the video will be excluded from the length of the video, and should include the following:
 - a) Title of the video
 - b) Name of school
 - c) Names of team members
 - d) The phrase "HSI Challenge 2023"
- The organizer reserves the right to edit the videos before uploading them on YouTube or any other websites as deemed fit.

CONTACTS

For enquiries about the contest, please contact the S.U.R.E. team at sure@nlb.gov.sg

ANNEX

A) Online Resources by National Library and National Archives of Singapore

The following resources by National Library and National Archives are recommended for the teams' historical research process:

1	NewspaperSG An online archive of Singapore newspapers. You can search the digital archive of newspapers published since 1831; or find information on over 200 newspaper titles in the National Library's microfilm collection.	Link	Video link
2	Archives Online Allows users to seamlessly search information across NAS' various databases and view selected photographs, maps and plans, listen to oral history interviews and watch snippets of audio-visual recordings.	Link	Video link
3	Infopedia An electronic encyclopedia on Singapore published by NLB. It holds a collection of articles on Singapore and covers a wide range of topics, including but not limited to historical events, arts, culture, economy, government and key personalities.	Link	Video link
4	BiblioAsia A free quarterly publication produced by NLB, featuring articles on the history, culture and heritage of Singapore within the larger Asian context, and has a strong focus on the collections and services of the National Library.	Link	Video link 1:54 mark
5	Spatial Discovery Explore and search maps-related information across the National Archives of Singapore's Maps & Building Plans database and National Library's Rare Maps collection. At present, there are over 3,500 high resolution geo-referenced maps in Spatial Discovery.	Link	Video link 4:25 mark

B) Free online video-editing tool (optional)

Kapwing ([link](#)) is a free browser-based video-editing tool that allows users to upload their media and create/edit their videos without having to install any programmes.

- One student in the team can use his/her Google account to register for free on Kapwing, and then edit the team's video.
- Tutorial video of how to upload, edit and export on Kapwing ([link](#)).

C) Videos of top 10 teams for HSI Challenge 2022

View the videos created by the top 10 teams from HSI Challenge 2022 at this [link](#) for reference.

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