

**TEMASEK JUNIOR COLLEGE**  
**2022 JC2 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION**  
**Higher 1**



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**GENERAL PAPER**

**8807/01**

Paper 1

**23 August 2022**

**1 hour 30 minutes**

No Additional Materials are required.

**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 answer 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.

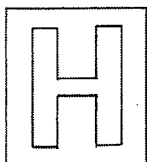
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This document consists of **2** printed pages.

Answer **one** question.

Answers should be between 500 and 800 words in length.

- 1 Assess the value of the arts in promoting social change.
- 2 'Work is good for health.' To what extent is this true of your society?
- 3 To what extent should the beauty industry be regulated?
- 4 'The highly educated should be the most valued in society.' Do you agree?
- 5 How far do you agree that the media is failing the public today?
- 6 'The world is demanding too much of young people.' Discuss.
- 7 To what extent has technology made it easier for people to make money?
- 8 'The best government is that which governs least.' Comment.
- 9 Discuss the claim that the world today is increasingly difficult for the poor.
- 10 'Online gaming is nothing but a waste of time.' Discuss.
- 11 How useful are trends as a guide for the future?
- 12 'Adversity is a good teacher.' How true is this of your society?



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**GENERAL PAPER**

**8807/02**

Paper 2 Insert

**23 August 2022**

**1 hour 30 minutes**

No Additional Materials are required.

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

This insert contains the passage for Paper 2.

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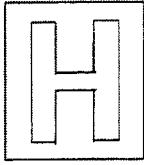
This document consists of 3 printed pages and 1 blank page.

*Caroline Baum discusses ageism in society.*

- 1 You see them in most aged-care facilities, seated on pastel-coloured lounges, being babysat by a TV they are mostly not watching. Some are asleep, some are sedated, some are cognitively impaired. Seeing them like this, it is hard to remember they were once young, vital and independent. What is harder is thinking that it might one day be you. 5
- 2 "The staff call them the Os and the Qs," says a seasoned nursing home visitor, describing residents with their mouths hanging open and those with their tongues hanging out. The staff mean no disrespect, but reducing someone to a letter of the alphabet is just one effect of the unconscious dehumanising that happens often in the treatment of the elderly. Some older people take extreme measures to avoid this kind of lingering scenario: joining Exit International or taking steps to enable them to end their lives at a time of their choosing. Guilt and shame – often tempered with unspoken relief – colour many children's lives when their parents go into aged care. Contrary to popular perception, it is an option chosen by a relatively small percentage of the population, although this is likely to grow as we all live longer. 10  
15
- 3 So why have we failed to do better by our elderly needing care? Why do we put them in conditions that leave many of them bored, lonely and poorly fed in a way we would never tolerate for ourselves? One underlying cause could be deeply entrenched ageism. It often begins with the language we use. Even the term 'the elderly' is problematic. 'The' implies a homogenous group, when nothing could be further from the case. If we diminish our regard for the senior members of our society verbally, we are likely to do the same when it comes to the way we frame policy – removing their dignity and sense of agency in condescending generalisations that assume vulnerability and dependence instead of resilience and independence. No prejudice is rational, but with ageism, we have internalised it. It will require active consciousness-raising to correct that, just as the women's movement did. 20  
25
- 4 One of the reasons ageism is so embedded in our culture and hard to eradicate may be because it expresses decades of accumulated and deep-seated fear. Consumerism urges us all to 'fight' ageing as if it were a battle we could win, even though we know in our hearts that it is a lie. Mantras like '70 is the new 50' emphasise the need to be vigorous and vital for as long as possible, yet offer no alternative scenarios for those with degenerative diseases, loss of cognition or suffering from loneliness. For those who can afford it, the latter phase of life is marketed as a 'lifestyle' promising coastal, gated communities where well-groomed residents play bridge and endless rounds of golf with new chums. But we want those who cannot afford it parked out of sight. 30  
35
- 5 We reset our expectations of what constitutes meaningful living, satisfied with the thought that their basic needs for safety and personal hygiene are being met. We try not to think too long or hard about how they spend their days. We further disassociate ourselves from their needs, delegating their fate to aged care workers and nursing homes (rebranded as residential care facilities to sound more upbeat). 40
- 6 When the former Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said that those employed in aged care should aspire to better jobs, was he echoing a widely held sentiment? Is the ugly truth that prejudice underpins our complicity in accepting the low status of aged-care staff as one of those inevitable inequities of 21st century capitalism in a country more concerned with tax cuts than social justice? If we held the elderly in higher esteem, would we fight harder for their rights and those of their carers? 45

- 7 That said, we tend to romanticise other cultures as valuing the elderly more than we do, but if we look closely at the evidence, it presents us with scenarios we find confronting. For example, the Inuits value older people highly. So much so that they put them out to die in the snow – at their own request. Ageism has been found to be all-pervasive across Eastern as well as Western cultures, including Confucian-based Asian cultures where respect for elders and filial piety are social norms. It is possible that ageism is one of the main features of global ageing among modern, capitalist nations in which individualistic views dominate traditional collectivist views. 50
- 8 I am encouraged by increased interest in initiatives such as intergenerational housing and friendship networks in Europe and the US. Because younger people have grown up in a more mixed world, they know that diversity is here to stay and that this is a good thing. It is a much smaller request for them to include age in the quest for social justice for all. Furthermore, the #MeToo movement has also helped. It has been a catalyst for universal equality. In that sense, activism feeds activism. Even Hollywood is getting better. We are seeing more active and positive portrayals of older people. Films like 'The Intern', starring Robert De Niro as a 70-year-old widower returning to work at an online fashion company, addressed important issues. The workplace is where ageism awareness is definitely on the rise. While there are genuine challenges to mixed-age workforces regarding retraining and seniority, all the research shows that such workforces are the most effective. 55  
60  
65
- 9 In the UK, there has been a backlash against the elderly, who are being blamed by some members of the younger generation for Brexit. To counter more long-term unconscious bias against the elderly, a change in perspective is needed. Unlike other prejudices such as racism and sexism, which are manifestations of fear of the other, ageism is unique in targeting our future selves. Each time we see an older person, we need to imagine them as our future self, and rather than recoil from their wrinkles or infirmities, applaud their resilience. We need to re-humanise older people. 70
- 10 We need to recognise ageism in ourselves and come together with others to effect social change. The rewards are real. I hear regularly from people who have begun to reject age shame that they feel instantly relieved and empowered. We need to enlist young people in this battle too. They are the ones who are going to create and live in the culture of the future. 75





**TEMASEK JUNIOR COLLEGE**  
**2022 JC2 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION**  
**Higher 1**



CANDIDATE  
NAME

CG

SUBJECT  
TUTOR'S NAME

**GENERAL PAPER**

**8807/02**

Paper 2

**23 August 2022**

**1 hour 30 minutes**

Candidates answer on the Question Paper.

Additional Materials: Insert

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your name, CG and tutor's name 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 passage 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 and 1 blank page.

Read the passage in the insert and then answer **all** the questions. Note that up to fifteen marks will be given for the quality and accuracy of your use of English throughout this Paper.

For  
Examiner's  
Use

**NOTE:** When a question asks for an answer **IN YOUR OWN WORDS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE** and you select the appropriate material from the passage for your answer, you must still use your own words to express it. Little credit can be given to answers which only copy words or phrases from the passage.

1 Suggest **two** reasons why the author uses 'you' in the first paragraph.

.....  
.....  
.....  
..... [2]

2 According to the author, what are the effects of the 'dehumanising' (line 9) that occurs in the treatment of the elderly? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....  
.....  
.....  
..... [2]

3 Explain what is paradoxical about the children's feelings 'when their parents go into aged care' (line 13). **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....  
.....  
.....  
..... [2]



For  
Examiner's  
Use

4 From paragraph 8, give **three** reasons why the author is optimistic that ageism can be effectively tackled. **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
..... [3]

5 In paragraph 9, what are **three** proposals the author makes to counter the 'long-term unconscious bias' (line 68–69) towards the elderly? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

.....  
.....  
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.....  
.....  
..... [3]

6 In the final paragraph, what suggestions does the author give for how people can fight ageism? **Use your own words as far as possible.**

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[Turn over

7 Suggest **two** reasons why the author ends the passage with the final sentence.

*For  
Examiner's  
Use*

.....  
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..... [2]





7

For  
Examiner's  
Use

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing, spanning most of the page width.

[10]



**2022 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION  
GENERAL PAPER  
Paper 2 Suggested Answers**

**1. Suggest two reasons why the author uses 'you' in the first paragraph. [2]**

From the passage	Suggested rephrase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>You</u> see them in most age-care facilities, seated on pastel-coloured lounges, being babysat by a TV they are mostly not watching (l.1-2)</li> <li>• Seeing them like this, it is hard to remember they were once young, <b>vital and independent</b>. What is harder is thinking that it might one day be <u>you</u> (l.3-5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The author wants to show that the sad state to which the elderly have been reduced to is a common sight that the reader has seen/ encountered to draw the reader's attention to the plight of the elderly. [1]</li> <li>• The author also wants to make the reader consider/ face the possibility that the reader may eventually become frail/ weak/ reliant/ non-functioning. [1]</li> </ul>

**2. According to the author, what are the effects of the 'dehumanising' (line 9) that occurs in the treatment of the elderly? Use your own words as far as possible. [2]**

From the passage	Suggested rephrase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>reducing someone to a letter of the alphabet</b> is just one effect of the unconscious dehumanising that happens often in the <b>treatment</b> of the elderly. (l.7-10)</li> <li>• Some older people <b>take extreme measures to avoid this kind of lingering scenario</b>: joining Exit International or taking steps to enable them to <b>end their lives at a time of their choosing</b>. (l.10-12)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The elderly are regarded as worthless/ useless/ insignificant/ devalued as human beings [1]</li> <li>• and in order not to meet the same fate, some elderly people opt to commit suicide/ take drastic steps to kill themselves. [1]</li> </ul>

3. Explain what is paradoxical about the children's feelings 'when their parents go into aged care' (line 13). Use your own words as far as possible. [2]

From the passage	Suggested rephrase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guilt and shame – often tempered with unspoken relief – colour many children's lives when their parents go into aged care. (l.12–13)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While the children feel bad/ embarrassed about sending their parents to aged care/ for not personally taking care of their parents, [1]</li> <li>it is paradoxical that they also feel less distressed about caring for their parents/ glad that the burden/ difficulty of caring for their parents is reduced. [1]</li> </ul> <p><i>Answers must show the tension between guilt and shame and relief.</i></p>

4. From paragraph 8, give three reasons why the author is optimistic that ageism can be effectively tackled. Use your own words as far as possible. [3]

From the passage	Suggested rephrase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Because younger people have <b>grown up</b> in a more <b>mixed world</b>, they know <b>diversity is here to stay</b> (l.56–57)</li> <li>... the <b>#MeToo</b> movement has also <b>helped</b>. It has been a <b>catalyst for universal equality</b>. In that sense, <b>activism feeds activism</b>". (l.59–60)</li> <li>Even Hollywood is getting better; we are seeing more <b>active and positive portrayals</b> of older people. (l.60–61)</li> <li>The workplace is where <b>ageism awareness is definitely on the rise</b>. (l.63–64)</li> <li>While there are genuine challenges to <b>mixed-age workforces</b> to do with <b>retraining and seniority</b>, all the research shows that they are the most <b>effective</b> (l.64–66)</li> </ul>	<p>The author is optimistic because</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[A] as young people are more accustomed/ used to/ more accepting of differences, they will be less likely to discriminate against the elderly. [1]</li> <li>[B] Movements against other forms of discrimination/ that support fair treatment for all have resulted in/ pushed the campaign/ crusade against ageism/ discrimination of the elderly. [1]</li> <li>[C] The movie industry is stepping up efforts to depict the elderly in a respectful/ good light/ as able individuals.</li> <li>[D] People are now more conscious/ mindful of ageism in the workplace. [1]</li> <li>[E] Workplaces show the greatest productivity/ are most efficient/ optimal/ function best when older and younger employees work together. [1]</li> </ul> <p><i>(Any 3 points)</i></p>



5. In paragraph 9, what are three proposals the author makes to counter the 'long-term unconscious bias' (line 68–69) towards the elderly? Use your own words as far as possible. [3]

From the passage	Suggested rephrase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each time we see an older person, we need to <b>imagine them as our future self</b> (l.71–72)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[A] We should treat the elderly in the same way that we wish to be treated when we become old/ we need to realise that we will eventually become like the elderly/ age. [1]</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>rather than <b>recoil from their wrinkles or infirmities</b> (l.72)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[B] Instead of being disgusted/ horrified by the ageing physical features/ frailties/ weaknesses of the elderly, [1]</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>applaud their resilience</b> (l.72–73 )</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[C] we should commend/ celebrate/ their tenacity/ grit/ perseverance/ fortitude/ determination/. [1]</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We need to <b>re-humanise</b> older people (l.73)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[D] We should also treat the elderly in a more kindly/ humane/ civilised fashion. [1]</li> </ul>
<i>(Any 3 points)</i>	

6. In the final paragraph, what suggestions does the author give for how people can fight ageism? Use your own words as far as possible. [3]

From the passage	Suggested rephrase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We need to <b>recognise ageism in ourselves</b> and (l.74)</li> </ul>	<p>To fight ageism,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[A] people should acknowledge their own ageist attitudes [1] and</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>come together with others to effect social change... to reject age shame</b> (l.74–76)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[B] work with/ unite with others to resist/ fight against ageist attitudes/ behaviour. [1]</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We need to <b>enlist</b> young people in this <b>battle</b> too. (l.76–77)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[C] We can also rally young people to advocate/ campaign/ fight against/ oppose discriminatory attitudes/ behaviour against the elderly. [1]</li> </ul>

**7. Suggest two reasons why the author ends the passage with the final sentence. [2]**

From the passage	Suggested rephrase
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They are the ones who are going to <b>create and live in the culture</b> of the future. (l.77–78)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The final sentence reiterates the author's argument of the need to change/ improve society to eliminate ageist attitudes. [1] <b>OR</b> The final sentence reiterates the need to forge a better society/ re-direct/ change the ethos of society to treat the elderly with respect. [1]</li> <li>The author wants to issue a call for action to the young to forge a future which eliminates ageist attitudes/ behaviour.</li> <li>The final sentence brings the reader back to the first paragraph where the reader is asked to envision the future where he may suffer the indignity of old age/ one day become old and infirm. [1]</li> <li>The final sentence allows the reader to envisage a more optimistic/ hopeful future where the elderly are not discriminated against. [1]</li> </ul> <p><i>(Any 2 points; accept any sensible reason)</i></p>

8. Using material from paragraphs 3–5 (lines 16–40), summarise what the author has to say about why the elderly are not well-taken care of.

Write your summary in no more than 120 words, not counting the opening words which are printed below. Use your own words as far as possible. [8]

*The elderly are not well-taken care of because ...*

From the passage		Suggested rephrase
• we put them in conditions that leave many of them bored (l.16–17)	A1	• we place them in unstimulating environments/ environments that cause them to become jaded/ uninterested,
• lonely (l.17)	A2	• isolated/ alienated/ alone and
• poorly fed (l.17)	A3	• under-nourished.
• One underlying cause could be deeply entrenched ageism (l.18)	A4	• Strongly held/ Long-held discriminatory beliefs/ attitudes against the elderly
• the language we use (l.19) ... we diminish our regard for the senior members of our society verbally (l.20–21)	A5	• cause people to speak to/ about the elderly disparagingly/ disrespectfully.
• we frame policy – removing their dignity and (l.22)	A6	• We implement policies which take away the self-respect/ self-esteem and
• sense of agency (l.22–23)	A7	• independence/ control/ individuality/ freedom of the elderly.
• 'The' implies a homogenous group when nothing could be further from the case. (l.20)	A8	• We think that the elderly are all the same/ we do not see the elderly as individuals.
• condescending generalisations (l.23)	A9	• These disrespectful labels/ stereotypes of the elderly
• that assume vulnerability (l.23)	A10	• focus on their helplessness/ defencelessness
• and dependence (l.23)	A11	• and reliance on others/ neediness,
• instead of resilience (l. 24)	A12	• rather than their grit/ tenacity/ perseverance/ ability to bounce back from setbacks
• and independence (l.24)	A13	• and their self-reliance/ self-sufficiency/ agency.
• ...but with ageism, we have internalised it. (l.24–25)	A14	• We have accepted/ acknowledged ageism/ made ageism part of our mindset.
• One of the reasons ageism is so embedded in our culture (l.27)	B1	• Ageism is firmly entrenched/ ingrained in our way of life/ lifestyles/ social norms
• and hard to eradicate (l. 27)	B2	• and is difficult to eliminate/ completely do away with

From the passage		Suggested rephrase
• may be because it expresses ... <b>deep-seated</b> fear (l.28)	<b>B3</b>	• as it reflects/ is a manifestation of the deep-rooted/ profound/ entrenched fear
• <b>decades of accumulated</b> (l.28)	<b>B4</b>	• built up over the years/ time.
• Consumerism urges us all to <b>'fight' ageing</b> as if it were a battle we could win (l.28–29)	<b>B5</b>	• We are pressured/ forced/ pushed/ encouraged to resist looking/ growing old
• even though we know in our hearts that is a lie. (l.29–30)	<b>B6</b>	• despite being unable to do so/ even though growing old is inescapable/ inevitable/ unpreventable.
• Mantras ... <b>emphasise the need to be vigorous and vital for as long as possible</b> , (l.30–31)	<b>B7</b>	• Society also stresses the importance of being energetic/ dynamic/ vibrant/ active,
• yet offer <b>no alternative scenarios</b> for those with <b>degenerative diseases, loss of cognition or suffering from loneliness</b> . (l.31–32)	<b>B8</b>	• and does not make provision for the elderly with old age/ age-related problems/ illnesses.
• where well-groomed residents play bridge and endless rounds of golf with new chums. <b>But we want those who cannot afford it parked out of sight</b> . (l. 34–35)	<b>B9</b>	• The elderly poor are marginalised/ not accepted/ rejected/ disregarded by society/ excluded from community life/ ignored/ brushed aside.
• We further <b>disassociate ourselves</b> from their needs, (l.38–39)	<b>C1</b>	• We distance ourselves from providing for the elderly
• <b>delegating their fate to aged care workers and nursing homes</b> (l.39)	<b>C2</b>	• and leave them in the care of others/ third parties
• We <b>reset our expectations</b> of what constitutes meaningful living (l.36)	<b>C3</b>	• We lower our standards of what a fulfilling existence is made up of and
• satisfied with the thought that their <b>basic needs for safety and personal hygiene are being met</b> (l.36–37)	<b>C4</b>	• reassure/ convince ourselves it is sufficient/ enough/ all right to provide the elderly with the bare minimum/ the essentials // to not cater to their higher-order needs/ intangible needs.
• We <b>try not to think too long or hard</b> about how they spend their days. (l. 37–38)	<b>C5</b>	• We avoid acknowledging that they are leading unfulfilling lives/ a lesser life.

(28 points)

**Mark scheme**

1 point	1 mark	5–6 points	4 marks	11–12 points	7 marks
2 points	2 marks	7–8 points	5 marks	≥ 13 points	8 marks
3–4 points	3 marks	9–10 points	6 marks		

9. **Caroline Baum makes significant criticisms of how society regards old age and the elderly. How far do you agree or disagree with the author's observations, relating your arguments to your own experience and that of your society?**  
[10]

### QUESTION ANALYSIS AND SUGGESTED APPROACH

#### **Makes significant criticisms of how society regards old age and the elderly**

- These criticisms include failure on the part of the government, businesses, the general public and families alike to meet the various needs (i.e., physical, social, emotional, mental) of the elderly. This also extends to the various stakeholders in society regarding old age and the elderly poorly, neglecting their interests and discriminating against them.

#### **How far do you agree or disagree with the author's observations**

- Students should clearly state the degree of agreement, using appropriate qualifiers.
- Students should identify the author's observations and the reasons she gives for her views.

#### **relating your arguments to your own experiences and that of your society**

- The society must be identified at the start of the answer.
- All aspects of the AQ answer must relate to the society identified.
- The answer must be contextualised in the society identified, right from the start.
- Residents of the society identified should NOT be referred to vaguely as 'people'; instead, specific nationalities such as 'Singaporeans', 'Malaysians', 'Chinese' (or other relevant nationalities) should be used throughout the answer.
- Answers should not vaguely describe what is happening in the society identified. Instead, answers should offer:
  - clear reasons and evaluation to support *how far the student agrees or disagrees* with the author's opinions in relation to that society.
  - some consideration/ evaluation on the causes that motivate people to think about old age in a certain way and care for/not care for the elderly, etc.
  - reasons why the situation in that society may have changed/ intensified/ abated in recent times: people's changing mindsets/ revisions in legislations, etc.

### SUGGESTED APPROACH

- R:** The extent to which you agree with the author's observations as they pertain to your own experiences and that of your society.
- OB1–5:** Observations made by the author pertaining to how society regards old age and the elderly (with relevant quotes from the passage). The chosen observations should be clearly stated with paragraph/ line reference at the start of each body paragraph.
- EX, EV:** Explaining, developing and evaluating arguments with reference to yourself and your own society, making the link clear to OB and R.
- EG:** Supporting ideas with relevant examples from the society identified, and making the link from the examples to OB, EX, EV and R.

**INTRODUCTION**

- In Singapore, the proportion of individuals aged 65 years and above will increase to about 23.8 per cent in 2030 as Singapore joins the ranks of other super-aged societies like Japan and Italy.
- An ageing population exerts a strain on society, and this has led to some Singaporeans harbouring ageist mindsets and discriminating against the elderly.
- However, by and large, our unwavering faith in upholding traditionally Asian values such as filial piety and communitarianism have continued to ensure that most Singaporeans are respectful towards the elderly and are stepping up to take care of them through various means outlined in the country's 'Many Helping Hands' approach. Therefore, I am more inclined to disagree with Baum's criticisms of how society regards old age and the elderly as her views are not very representative of the vast majority of Singaporeans.

**OBSERVATION 1**

Baum claims that ageism 'often begins with the language we use' (line 19), especially when we 'diminish our regard for senior members of our society verbally' (line 21).

**OBSERVATION 2**

Another criticism that Baum makes is on the way policy is framed. Instead of fostering 'resilience and independence' (line 24), she believes that policies assume that the elderly are 'vulnerable' (line 23).

**OBSERVATION 3**

Baum is critical of our society which urges us all to 'fight' ageing (line 29) and be 'vigorous and vital' (line 31) while not offering 'alternative scenarios' (line 31) for the elderly suffering from 'degenerative diseases, loss of cognition or suffering from loneliness' (lines 32).

**OBSERVATION 4**

One of the significant criticisms that Baum puts forth is that people further 'disassociate themselves' (line 38) from the needs of the elderly, 'delegating their fate to aged care workers and nursing homes' (lines 39).

**OBSERVATION 5**

Baum is critical of how we 'reset our expectations of what constitutes meaningful living' (line 36) and comfort ourselves with the thought that the elderly's basic needs for safety and personal hygiene are being met.

**CONCLUSION**

- In conclusion, even though there are instances where ageism may seem to be prevalent in Singapore, the majority of the population, across all levels, care about the elderly in many different ways and treat them with respect. Moreover, given that the government has put in place so many measures to ensure that senior Singaporeans remain active and healthy for as long as they live, Baum's criticisms of society's poor regard for old age and the elderly would be unfair in the light of my society, Singapore. Therefore, I would mostly disagree with Baum as her views are largely not representative of Singapore.