Annex B

Translating Syllabus into Powerful Knowledge (PK) Framework

The identification of topics below serves as an example of how the existing history syllabus may be translated into a powerful knowledge framework. These should be considered within a methodological exemplification (as shown in Annex 1) of how the teaching of historical concepts (and the PK-related "modes of knowing") can be integrated within an IBL structure.

	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
Name	Introduction	Knowledge Focus	Critical Reasoning	Answering Inquiry
Description	To help students develop a clear timeline and/or understanding of the event, and introduce students to (or refresh students' understanding of) knowledge relevant to the topic of discussion. The knowledge may fall into one of four areas: - Content knowledge - Conceptual knowledge - Epistemic knowledge - Ontological knowledge	To help students develop an understanding of the key knowledge area that will anchor the inquiry.	To challenge students to interrogate historical sources and evidence, and to draw conclusions relevant to the inquiry question.	To have students construct and communicate new understandings and/or knowledge of the past.

Example 1: Lower Secondary History Syllabus

Unit	Topic	Content Knowledge	Conceptual Knowledge	Epistemic Knowledge	Ontological Knowledge[1]
1	**From Temasek to Singapore (1299 to Early 1800s)**	Rise of early Singapore (Temasek) as a port-of-call in the 1300s - Geographical advantages - External circumstances	- Trade - Geopolitics	- Cause and consequence o Multiple causes	- What is the nature of modern Singapore society's relationship with our pre-colonial history?

		Decline of early Singapore since the 1400s
		- Founding of Melaka
		- Melaka under the Portuguese and Dutch
		- Establishment of the Johor Sultanate
			- Port cities	- Accounts
				- Change and continuity
				  o Progress and decline
				- Cause and consequence
				  o Multiple causes
					- What is Singapore's position in and relationship with the Malay World?
					- How are Singapore's rise and fall cycles related to Singapore's current economic success?

		Singapore's establishment as a trading port under British control in the early 1800s	- Colonialism - Imperialism	- Cause and consequence o Agency	- How did global forces and developments influence Singapore?

2	**Singapore's Development as a Port City under the British (1819-1942)**	Singapore's development as a port city
		- Impact of British rule on the development of Singapore
		- Role of communities in the development of Singapore
			- Intervention
			- Direct Rule
			- Indirect rule
			- Exploitation
			- Extractive economy
				- Accounts
				  o Differing interpretations
				- Historical perspectives
				  o Taking perspectives
				  o Avoiding presentism
					- How did British colonization reshape Singapore and continue to influence present-day societal and state structures?

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[1] What constitutes ontological knowledge can vary based on the profile of students and educators in the classroom.

		- Development of trade and industries in Singapore		- Evidence o Understanding the context and worldview of source authors o Interpretation as an inference	- Did British colonization benefit or harm Singaporean society in the long run?
		Outbreak of World War II and the Fall of Singapore - Reasons for the Fall of Singapore - Japanese and British military strategies	- Military strategy - World War	- Accounts o Differing interpretations - Cause and consequence o Multiple causes o Agency o Unintended consequences	- Why is it important to defend one's sovereignty and independence?
3	**Singapore's Struggle for Independence (1942-1965)**	People's experiences during the Japanese Occupation - Repression and resistance - Economic hardships and resilience	- War - Military occupation - Collaboration - Resistance	- Historical perspectives o Empathy o Understanding context	- Why is it important to defend one's sovereignty and independence? - What experiences shaped and influenced how Singaporeans viewed independence and decolonisation after World War II?
		Progress towards Self-Government - Impact of post-war global and regional developments in Singapore	- Anti-colonialism - Decolonisation - Republicanism	- Change and continuity o Turning points o Progress and decline - Cause and consequence o Agency	- How did post-war events shape Singapore's present-day politics and government structures?

		- British plans and their impact on post-war Singapore		o Varying influence of causes	
		Merger and Separation - Reasons for and opposition to proposed merger with Malaya (1963) - Reasons for Singapore's separation from Malaysia (1965)	- Sovereignty - Historical perspectives (avoiding presentism) - Cause and consequence (history does not unfold inevitably)	- Historical perspectives o Empathy o Understanding the worldviews of historical actors	- Why is Singapore not part of Malaysia despite close historical and cultural ties?
4	**Surviving as an Independent Nation-State (1965-late 1970s)**	Safeguarding the sovereignty of Singapore - Developments that threatened Singapore's security - Establishing a national defence force - Strengthening diplomatic relations with the world	- Sovereignty - Interstate conflict - Cause and consequence (socio-economic, political and cultural conditions which shaped societies)	- Historical perspectives o Understanding world views of historical actors	- Why does Singapore place significant emphasis on building good relationships with other countries and maintaining a military?
		Transformation of people's lives - Uncertainty over Singapore's survival as a nation - Meeting the needs of the people - Impact of policies on people's lives	- Nation-building - Economic development	- Cause and consequence o Events are not inevitable	- What influenced or shaped Singapore's present day social compact, governmental policies, and by extension life in present-day Singapore?

Example 2: Upper Secondary History Syllabus

Unit	Topic	Content Knowledge	Conceptual Knowledge	Epistemic Knowledge	Ontological Knowledge

1	**Aftermath of World War I**	Aims and Terms of the Paris Peace Conference and its immediate impact on Europe in the 1920s
		- Treaty of Versailles and its immediate impact on Germany
		- Redrawing of national boundaries and the creation of new nation-states
		- Attempts at collective security in the 1920s
			- Collective security
			- Self-determination
			- Balance of power
				- Cause and consequence
				  o Agency
				- Historical perspectives
				  o Empathy
					- What shaped the modern-day world system?
					- How did World War I impact European politics?

2	**Rise of Authoritarian Regimes**	Case Study of Nazi Germany
		- Circumstances leading to the rise and establishment of authoritarian rule in Germany
		- Consolidation of Nazi rule in Germany
			- Nationalism
			- Communism
			- Democracy
			- Authoritarianism
				- Cause and consequences
				  o Agency
				  o Multiple causes
				  o Events are not inevitable
				- Historical perspectives
				  o Empathy
				  o Avoiding presentism
					- How does authoritarianism take root in a society?
					- Might present-day societies slip into authoritarianism?
					- Why do present-day European societies hold values such as human dignity, freedom, and democracy?

		Case Study of Militarist Japan - Circumstances leading to the rise and establishment of	- Nationalism - Communism - Democracy	- Cause and consequences o Agency	- How does militarism take root in a society?

		authoritarian regime in Japan - Increased influence of the militarists from the 1930s	- Authoritarianism - Militarism	o Multiple causes o Events are not inevitable - Historical perspectives o Empathy o Avoiding presentism	- Might present-day societies slip into militarism? - Why is present-day Japan a pacifist state?
3	**War in Europe and the Asia-Pacific**	Key developments leading to the outbreak of World War II in Europe - Ineffectiveness of the League of Nations in the 1930s - Germany's aggressive foreign policy - Policy of appeasement	- Appeasement - Alliances - Expansionism - Revisionism - Recidivism - Militarism	- Accounts - Cause and consequences o Agency o Multiple causes o Events are not inevitable - Change and continuity o Periodization o Turning point(s)	- How do international systems fail? - Why is collective security important to the security of individual nations?
		Key developments leading to the outbreak of World War II in the Asia-Pacific - Ineffectiveness of the League of Nations in the 1930s - Worsening of US-Japan relations - Japan's expansionist foreign policy	- Appeasement - Expansionism - Revisionism - Recidivism - Militarism	- Accounts - Cause and consequences o Agency o Multiple causes o Events are not inevitable - Change and continuity o Periodization o Turning point(s)	- Why do nations choose to go to war? - Does the modern integration (or disintegration) of national economies help to avoid conflict?
		Reasons for the end of World War II - Strength of the Allies	- World War - Conflict - Attrition	- Cause and consequences o Agency	- How did the manner in which World War II ended influence the

					o Multiple causes o Events are not inevitable - Change and continuity o Periodization o Turning point(s)	present-day world system?
4		**The Cold War**	Origins and development of the Cold War in Europe - End of World War II and its impact on Europe - Growing mistrust between the USA and the USSR - Intensification of superpower rivalry	- Cold War - Communism - Capitalism - Democracy - Bipolarity - Superpower rivalry - Containment	- Chronology - Cause and consequence o Multiple causes o Underlying conditions o Agency o Unintended consequences - Accounts o Competing accounts	- How did the Cold War shape the late-20th-century world and influence present-day global institutions? - How did the Cold War influence global conditions during the period of Singapore's early nationhood?
			Extension of the Cold War outside Europe: Korean War - Post-World War II developments in Korea - Emergence of communist China - Outbreak of the Korean War - Korean Armistice Agreement and the immediate aftermath	- Cold War - Civil war - Proxy war	- Cause and consequence o Multiple causes o Agency - Historical perspectives o Empathy o Avoiding presentism	- How did the Cold War affect the extra-European world, e.g., Asia? - What is the long-term impact of the Cold War on Korea?
			Extension of the Cold War outside Europe: Vietnam War - Key developments in North and South Vietnam in the 1950s	- Cold War - Civil war - Proxy war - Decolonisation	- Cause and consequence o Multiple causes o Agency	- How did the Cold War affect the extra-European world, e.g., Asia?

				o Unintended consequences - Historical perspectives o Empathy o Understanding context	- What is the long-term impact of the Cold War on Vietnam and Southeast Asia?
		- Escalation of tensions between North and South Vietnam from 1954 - The end of the Vietnam War and the immediate aftermath			
		End of the Cold War - Overview of the different phases of thawing and rising tensions between the USA and the USSR - Decline of the USSR and the end of the Cold War	- Cold War - Bipolarity - Arms Race - Diplomacy - Reform	- Cause and consequence o Multiple causes o Short- and long-term causes - Historical perspectives o Empathy o Understanding the context and worldviews of actors	- How did the end of the Cold War reshape and influence the present-day international landscape?