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#9 "Exam setters"

Mrs Ang, Mrs Kumar and Mrs Smith were chatting outside the school gate while waiting to pick up their children



Myth

The panel who is responsible for the development of the national examination papers are not familiar with the school curriculum and the questions set are deliberately set at a more difficult level.

Fact

SEAB has rigorous processes in place for the development of national examination papers.

The panel that develops the papers comprises experienced school teachers and specialists from the MOE, and SEAB (and Cambridge Assessment International Education for GCE-level exams). The panel members are well-versed with the syllabuses and are knowledgeable about what candidates of different abilities can do. In setting the papers, the panel ensures that each paper adheres to a test blueprint, that the questions are clear and aligned with the syllabuses and learning outcomes, and that standards are maintained across years.

The questions assess topics that are taught in the syllabuses and there is an appropriate balance of easy, average and more challenging questions to cater to candidates of different abilities. All answers that demonstrate candidates' ability will be given credit.