**Fall of Singapore Reading Questions**

Read the article below and answer the following question:

[The Fall of Singapore in WWII - History Skills](https://www.historyskills.com/classroom/year-10/yr-10-fall-of-singapore-reading/)

1. What was the significance of Singapore in the context of the British Empire during World War II?
2. What myth was dispelled by the capture of Singapore by the Japanese?
3. What was the primary strategy called that the British used to deter Japanese attacks on Singapore?
4. What was the main focus of British defenses in Singapore?
5. Why was Singapore considered vulnerable despite the presence of British naval forces?
6. What significant event involving British battleships occurred in December 1941?
7. How did the Japanese forces initiate their invasion of Malaya?
8. Who was the commander of the Japanese forces during the invasion, and what was his nickname?
9. Describe the strategy used by the Japanese forces in advancing through Malaya.
10. What was a major shortcoming of the British military that contributed to their defeat in Malaya?
11. On what date did Japanese troops begin landing on Singapore Island itself?
12. How long did the battle for Singapore last before British forces surrendered?
13. Who was the British commander in Singapore at the time of the surrender?
14. What was the outcome for the soldiers captured by the Japanese after the surrender?
15. How many British, Australian, and Indian troops were estimated to have been captured?
16. What construction project were many of these prisoners forced to work on, and what were the conditions like?
17. What broader impact did the fall of Singapore have on British and Japanese positions in Southeast Asia?
18. What was the duration of the Japanese occupation of Singapore following the surrender?

**Paragraph Writing**

Based upon what you have learnt in the reading, answer the question below in paragraph format (Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence, Concluding Sentence):

*Why was the fall of Singapore a* [*significant*](https://www.historyskills.com/historical-knowledge/significance/) *event in WWII?*