

**Talent Academy 2023
Preparation Notes and Checklist for Year 1 Visual Arts Applicants
DSA-Secondary Non-MOE (Grade 6 Applicants)**

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TALENT ACADEMY 2023

(A) Checklist

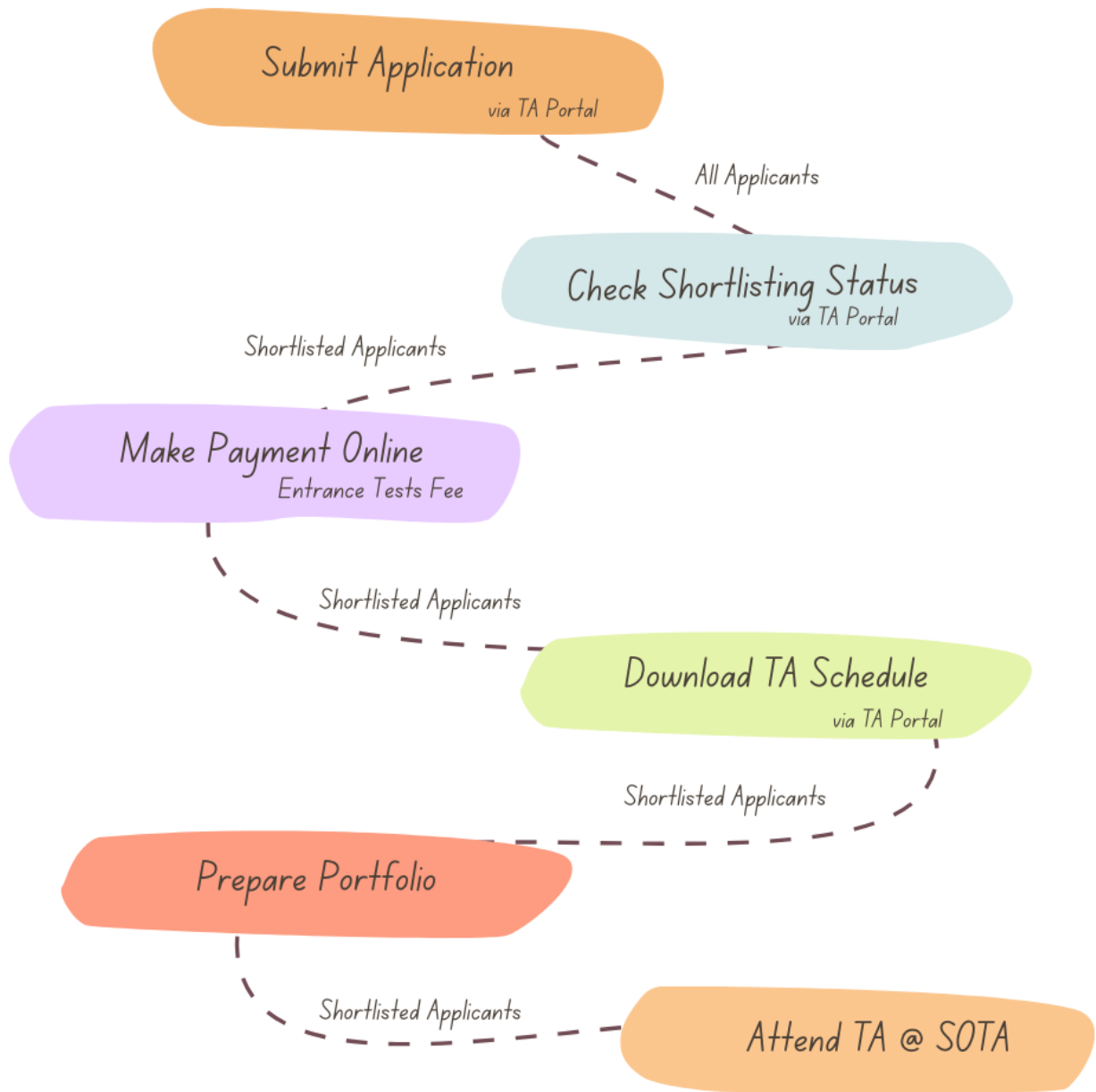
(A.1) for Submission of Supporting Documents to be uploaded via the TA Portal

- It takes about 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete the entire application for **ONE** (1) artform, provided that the portfolio submission and all supporting documents have been prepared in advance.
- Submit your applications early, as the TA Portal may experience slower connectivity due to high traffic towards the close of the application period.
- There will be no extension of deadline for submission of application. Incomplete applications will be disqualified. Appeals for late submissions will not be considered.

S/N	Category	Document Title						
1.	DSA-Sec (Primary 6 applicants)	<p>(1) Applicant's Identification Document</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Singaporeans</td> <td>Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Singapore Permanent Residents</td> <td>Passport and Re-Entry Permit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Foreigners residing in Singapore</td> <td>Passport and Dependant or Student Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>(2) 1 Recent Passport-Sized Colour Photograph</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be taken against plain white background. • Do not upload a full-length photograph. <p>(3) Academic Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary 5 End-of-Year results. <p>(4) Mother Tongue Language In-Lieu Letter issued by MOE (if applicable)</p> <p>(5) Mother Tongue Language Exemption Letter issued by MOE (if applicable)</p> <p>Instructions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upload items (1) and (2) directly in the online application form via the TA Portal. • Save documents for Items (3), (4) if applicable and (5) if applicable into 1 folder. • Upload folder to Google Drive. Ensure that the privacy setting is set to 'Anyone with the link'. Paste the shared link on the TA Portal in the 'Paste the Link Here' field. 	Singaporeans	Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate	Singapore Permanent Residents	Passport and Re-Entry Permit	Foreigners residing in Singapore	Passport and Dependant or Student Pass
Singaporeans	Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate							
Singapore Permanent Residents	Passport and Re-Entry Permit							
Foreigners residing in Singapore	Passport and Dependant or Student Pass							
2.	DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) (Grade 6/Home-schooled applicants)	<p>(1) Applicant's Identification Document</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Singaporeans</td> <td>Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Singapore Permanent Residents</td> <td>Passport and Re-Entry Permit</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Foreigners residing in Singapore</td> <td>Passport and Dependant or Student Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>(2) 1 Recent Passport-Sized Colour Photograph</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be taken against plain white background. • Do not upload a full-length photograph. <p>(3) Academic Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 5 End-of-Year results. • Any Latest Results, if any. • All original transcripts not in English must be accompanied with a translated document. <p>Instructions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upload items (1) and (2) directly in the online application form via the TA Portal. • Upload Item (3) to Google Drive. Ensure that the privacy setting is set to 'Anyone with the link'. Paste the shared link on the TA Portal in the 'Paste the Link Here' field. 	Singaporeans	Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate	Singapore Permanent Residents	Passport and Re-Entry Permit	Foreigners residing in Singapore	Passport and Dependant or Student Pass
Singaporeans	Birth Certificate or Citizenship Certificate							
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Foreigners residing in Singapore	Passport and Dependant or Student Pass							

(A.2) Important Milestones for VA Applicants

Visual Arts



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(B) Preparation Notes for Art Task Submission in Visual Arts (for all applicants)

SOTA offers students specializing in Visual Arts the opportunity to develop deep knowledge and understanding in the techniques, processes, theory, and history of visual arts. Students will develop analytical and critical abilities as they learn to investigate, annotate, and document their ideas and processes, in art making.

You may apply for Visual Arts if you demonstrate talent or potential in areas of 2-dimensional (2D) work, such as drawing and painting or design; 3-dimensional (3D) work, such as sculpture and ceramics; or electronic- or lens-based work, such as media arts or photography.

(B.1) What to Submit for Visual Arts Art Task

2 Items to Submit	Description
Art Task in A3 Size (29.7cm x 42.0cm)	<p>Applicants are to produce an original pencil drawing of the following subject:</p> <p><u>My Breakfast</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The drawing should demonstrate observational skills and technical control in pencil drawing (e.g., shading, line work and tonal value). The drawing must include the subject matter only. There should be only 1 – 3 items related to the subject matter. Other items or backgrounds not related to the subject matter in the drawing will not be assessed. The applicant is advised not to crop the subject matter and to draw the entire object/s related to the subject matter. Please use only graphite pencils and white A3 drawing paper (29.7cm x 42.0cm). DO NOT use other medium, e.g., colour pencils, pen, charcoal. The drawing should be executed from 10 March 2023 onwards. DO NOT submit work completed before 10 March 2023. There is no time limit, but it is recommended that the applicant does not spend more than 3 hours on this task. <p>IMPORTANT: Shortlisted applicants are to bring the original physical work in hardcopy for the TA. You will not be able to proceed with the TA if you are unable to produce the original physical work in hardcopy.</p>
Annex A	Complete the Annex A: Declaration of Authenticity for Art Task Form
How to Submit	<p><u>Instructions for Uploading:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photograph or scan the artwork in high resolution and save as .pdf. File size should not exceed 10MB. Save the image of the artwork and the completed Annex A into 1 folder. Name the folder as '<applicant's name_date of completion of the art task>'. Upload the folder to Google Drive. Privacy Setting: ensure that it is set to 'Anyone with the link'. Paste the shared link of the folder on the TA Portal in the 'Uploaded to External Site URL' field. Only the Art Task submission will be assessed. Portfolio or other artworks submitted at this stage will not be assessed.
Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting documents, portfolios, and photographs submitted for shortlisting will be retained for the school's records. Certificates, achievement records, testimonials, recommendation letters are <u>not</u> required.

ANNEX A

**TALENT ACADEMY 2023
VISUAL ARTS
DSA-SEC / DSA-SEC (NON-MOE) APPLICANTS**

DECLARATION OF AUTHENTICITY OF ART TASK FORM

Instructions

- a. To be completed by the applicant’s parent or legal guardian
- b. **Complete and sign** the Declaration of Authenticity
- c. **Upload** the artwork for the art task and Declaration of Authenticity to Google Drive
- d. **Privacy Setting**: ensure that it is set to ‘Anyone with the link’
- e. **Paste** the shared link on the TA Portal in the ‘Uploaded to External Site URL’ field

Applicant’s Full Name: (As per birth certificate /Re-Entry Permit/Passport /Student Pass)	
Title of Artwork (optional):	

I hereby declare that the Art Task* submitted for my child/ward’s application via the TA Portal was 100% drawn and completed by my child/ward from 10 March 2023 to the date of submission.

I understand that my child/ward will NOT be eligible for TA shortlisting or audition or admission to SOTA should the above be falsely declared.

* as described on page 4 of the [Preparation Notes and Checklist for Visual Arts](#) DSA-Sec and DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) applicants.

Parent’s/Guardian’s Full Name: _____

Signature/Date: _____

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(C) Entrance Tests – Information for DSA-Sec (Non-MOE) applicants

1. Entrance Tests for all Shortlisted Applicants will take place in person at SOTA on 20 June 2023.
2. No rescheduling of the test is allowed.
3. Tests cannot be conducted remotely or online.

You may consider purchasing the local Primary 6 or PSLE assessment books for the following subjects to familiarize yourself with the topics and exercises.

Only shortlisted applicants are required to take the tests. More information will be shared with shortlisted candidates then.

Test	Information
English Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 45 minutes to complete the test• Choose 1 topic out of the 5 topics given• Write an essay on the topic you have chosen• The essay should be between 200 and 300 words
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You will be given 5 minutes to read the instructions carefully, and 1 hour to complete the test• No calculator or Graphic Display Calculator is allowed• Candidates must complete 13 problem-solving questions that carry a total of 60 marks• The topics that will be covered are as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Whole Numbers, Fractions and Decimals○ Measurement○ Data Analysis○ Geometry○ Distance, Speed and Time○ Ratio and Percentage○ Algebra

(D) Audition Details for Shortlisted Applicants

(D.1) What You Will Experience During the TA

You will be required to participate and complete the following compulsory activities at SOTA:

1. Panel Interview and Online Questionnaires (no preparations required).
2. Entrance Tests for English and Mathematics (20 June).
3. Arts Auditions:
 - a. Creative Activity (20 June)
 - b. Portfolio Interview (between 21 June to 23 June)

(D.2) How to Prepare for Visual Arts Audition

Activity	Description
Creative Activity (20 June)	<p>What to Prepare and Bring You must bring the Art Task submitted for the TA application (Compulsory).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You will be assessed for:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Compositionb. Imaginationc. Manipulation of medium
Portfolio Interview 1. Art Portfolio 2. Sketchbook (Optional) 3. Annex B 4. (Page 11)	<p>What to Prepare and Bring</p> <p>1) Art Portfolio (Compulsory) 10 final artworks completed within 2021 – 2023. You are encouraged to include at least 3 artworks produced in your current school. You may include artworks done in a variety of mediums, such as drawing, painting, mediaworks, design works, jewellery pieces and ceramics.</p> <p><u>Selecting the Artworks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key qualities that the interview panel will look for include: a keen sense of observation, imagination, inspiration, and self-motivation.• You should include in your portfolio, where possible:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. 5 artworks based on <u>observation</u>. These should show your ability to observe and achieve realism and details. The images should not be direct copies of copyrighted works, e.g., popular characters from cartoons, comics, or manga.b. 5 artworks based on <u>imagination</u>. These should demonstrate your ability to imagine and create original works from your sketches. These need not be in detail but could have ideas incorporated from other works, e.g., a creative combination of observed objects.c. In the above you could include some artworks that reveal where you derive your inspiration from. Others may demonstrate a range of your technical skills. The mediums could be 2D, such as drawing and painting; 3D, such as sculpture and ceramics; or electronic- or lens-based, such as photography and video. <p><u>Instructions:</u> <u>Each artwork should be clearly labeled with:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your Full Name• Your TA Index Number (you would have received the TA index number upon successful submission of your TA application via the TA Portal. E.g., DSASEC/2024/VA123)• Title of artwork• Dimensions of artwork in centimeters (e.g., height, width, and depth)• Date of completion and/or duration of execution• An indication on whether the artwork was done in your current school• A short description of each artwork

	<p>2) Sketchbook (Optional)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 sketchbook created in 2021 – 2023. • Sketches may include documentation of processes, trials, or experiments with mediums. • Sketches may be a compilation of quick drawings and/or reflections in a file or book format. <p><u>Instructions:</u></p> <p><u>The sketchbook should be clearly labelled with:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your Full Name • Your TA Index Number (you would have received the TA index number upon successful submission of your TA application via the TA Portal. E.g., DSASEC/2024/VA123) • Title of each image and/or sketchbook (if any) • Date of completion and/or duration of execution • An indication on whether the sketchbook was completed in your current school <p>3) Annex B (Compulsory)</p> <p>Complete and submit <u>Annex B: Declaration Of Authenticity Of Portfolio For Shortlisted Candidates</u> (page 11).</p>
Preparation	<p><u>What to Expect and How to Prepare for the Audition</u></p> <p>You will be assessed for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imagination • Idea exploration • Technical ability • Engagement • Communication <p>You should be prepared to share with the panelists about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your Art Task submitted during the application stage, which you must bring on the day for Visual Arts Talent Academy. • Your art portfolio. • The extent and diversity of your explorations and experimentation in the visual form. • Your responses towards the selected topic/theme and reflection on the different approaches taken. • Involvement in visual arts-related projects or activities you may have undertaken in school or during your own time. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Do put thought into the selection of works for your portfolio as the TA Panel will not view artworks beyond the stated number during the Portfolio Interview session. b. The TA Panel will only consider artworks presented during the Portfolio Interview session.

(C.3) What to Bring

TA Schedule 1 (see Page 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A copy of your TA Schedule.• Student Concession Card (if you're studying in Singapore) or a copy of your Passport (residing overseas).• Art Task submitted for the TA application.• Wear comfortable clothing. Bring a sweater/jacket as you will be in air-conditioned venues. No shorts/short skirts, singlets, sandals or slippers are allowed.
TA Schedule 2 (see Page 10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A copy of your TA Schedule.• Student Concession Card (if you're studying in Singapore) or a copy of your Passport (residing overseas).• Art Portfolio (Compulsory), Sketchbook (Optional), Completed Annex B: Declaration Of Authenticity Of Portfolio For Shortlisted Candidates (Compulsory).• Wear comfortable clothing. Bring a sweater/jacket as you will be in air-conditioned venues. No shorts/short skirts, singlets, sandals or slippers are allowed.
Notes	<p>Food</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The canteen will be operating from 21 June – 23 June.• At least 1 halal stall and 1 drink stall will be operating (vegetarian stall not opened).• You may bring packed food and drink. <p>Movement & Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A group of SOTA students will be accompanying you throughout your day in SOTA.• You will also be with a group of other candidates and assigned a buddy.• Always remain with your group and buddy and look out for each other.• Always inform one of the SOTA students if you need to use the restroom or if you have left any items at the previous venue. Most importantly, have fun and make friends. <p>Release from SOTA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates who have completed all scheduled activities for the day will return to the assembly hall.• You will need to WhatsApp or text message your parents/relatives to arrange for a pickup place (level 2 or nearby places around SOTA). <p>Candidates with Mobile Phone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You will only be released once your parent/guardian have replied to your message and confirmed a pickup place/meeting spot.• Show the WhatsApp/text message and present your TA Schedule to the SOTA staff at the counter.• The SOTA staff attending to you will stamp and date your release time on your TA Schedule.• Make your way to the level 5 gantry to exit the school. You will be asked to show your TA schedule by the security officer at the gantry for proof of stamp and release time.• You are strictly not allowed to use your mobile phone for the entire duration of the TA. <p>Candidates without Mobile Phone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inform the SOTA staff at the counter and provide them with your parent's or guardian's contact details. A text message will be sent to them at the following number '93852286'.• You will be released once we have received a confirmation text from your parent/guardian.• Present your TA Schedule to the staff.• The SOTA staff attending to you will stamp and date your release time on your TA Schedule.• Make your way to the level 5 gantry to exit the school. You will be asked to show your TA schedule by the security officer at the gantry for proof of stamp and release time. <p>The mobile number 93852286 will only be available from 20 June to 23 June. The number is not connected to a mobile phone and will only be able to receive text messages (no WhatsApp). Any calls or messages made/sent to this number before or after these dates will not be received.</p>

(C.4) How to Read Your TA Schedule

Below is a sample of the downloaded TA Schedule.

Talent Academy 2023 Schedule	
Name :	
Index No :	
TA Schedule 1	TA Schedule 2
Date	Date
Reporting Time	Reporting Time
Release Time	Release Time
Warm-Up Time (Music performance only)	Group
Solo Performance Time (Music performance only)	Panel
TA Schedule 3 (Not Applicable)	TA Schedule 4 (Not Applicable)
Date	Date
Reporting Time	Reporting Time
Release Time	Release Time
Warm-Up Time (Music performance only)	Group
Solo Performance Time (Music performance only)	Panel

A. How to Read Your Schedule

TA Schedule 1

- Dance: Group activities, performance and interview. Wear your dance attire.
- Literary Arts: Group activities, portfolio presentation and interview. Bring your portfolio.
- Music (Creating): Group activities and interview.
- Music (Performance): Group activities, solo performance and interview. Bring your instrument.
- Theatre: Group activities, monologue presentation and interview.
- Visual Arts: Group activity. Bring the original artwork of the art task submitted. Online Questionnaires. No preparations required.

TA Schedule 2

- Dance, Literary Arts, Music, Theatre: Panel interview and Online Questionnaires. No preparation required.
- Visual Arts: Portfolio presentation and interview. Bring your portfolio. Panel interview. No preparation required.

B. What to Bring for verification of candidates

- Candidates studying in Singapore – Student Concession card (school issued ezlink card).
- Candidates studying overseas – a copy of your passport.

C. Things to Note

- Refer to the [TA Notes](#) for more information on what to prepare and bring.
- Check the 'Announcement' page via the TA Portal for more information about your TA.

D. Reporting Venue

- Level 2 (Ground Floor) in front of the escalator.

ANNEX B

VISUAL ARTS – DECLARATION OF AUTHENTICITY OF PORTFOLIO FOR SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES

Instructions

- a. To be completed by the applicant’s parent or legal guardian
- b. **Complete and sign** the Declaration of Authenticity
- c. **Print** the Declaration of Authenticity and bring along to submit to the Panel at your audition

Applicant’s Full Name: (As per birth certificate /Re-Entry Permit/Passport /Student Pass)	
Date:	

I hereby declare that the following submitted for my child/ward’s application via the Talent Academy audition was 100% created by my child/ward from 2021 to the date of submission. I understand that my child/ward will NOT be considered for or eligible for admission to SOTA should the above be falsely declared.

Art Portfolio (Compulsory)* Sketchbook (Optional)**

*** as described on pages 7 & 8.

Parent’s/Guardian’s Full Name:	
Signature & Date:	

Annex C

Guide to uploading and compressing videos and/or documents for submission via the TA Portal

1. How do I upload videos and files to Google drive?

You may refer to the [Google Support page](#) for assistance

Direct Link:

<https://support.google.com/drive/answer/2424368?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en>

Google Search Engine

In google search engine, type the following keywords: How to upload files or folders to google drive

2. How do I upload videos to YouTube?

You may refer to the [YouTube Support page](#) for assistance

Direct Link:

https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57407?hl=en&ref_topic=7505892

Google Search Engine

In google search engine, type the following keywords: How to upload video to YouTube

3. How do I convert, compress or merge documents to PDF?

There are many free online websites you can use. Below are a few suggestions. Please note that SOTA is not affiliated to any of these sites. The links below will bring you to an external website not hosted by SOTA.

Convert word document to pdf document

- a. www.freepdfconvert.com
- b. <https://smallpdf.com/word-to-pdf>

Compress / Resize pdf documents

- a. http://www.ilovepdf.com/compress_pdf

Merge individual pdf documents into 1 document

- b. http://www.ilovepdf.com/merge_pdf