

# VCE Australian Politics 2018–2022

## Written examination – End of year

### Examination specifications

#### Overall conditions

The examination will be sat at a time and date to be set annually by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). VCAA examination rules will apply. Details of these rules are published annually in the *VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook*.

There will be 15 minutes reading time and 2 hours writing time.

The examination will be marked by a panel appointed by the VCAA.

The examination will contribute 50 per cent to the study score.

#### Content

The *VCE Australian and Global Politics Study Design 2018–2022* ('Units 3 and 4: Australian Politics') is the document for the development of the examination. All outcomes in Units 3 and 4 will be examined.

All of the key knowledge and key skills that underpin the outcomes in Units 3 and 4 are examinable.

#### Format

The examination will be in the form of a question and answer book.

The examination will consist of two sections.

**Section A** will consist of short-answer and extended-answer questions, including questions with multiple parts. Questions may relate to one or more areas of study. All questions in Section A will be compulsory. Section A will be worth a total of 60 marks.

**Section B** will consist of four essay questions – one for each area of study – worth 20 marks each. Students must attempt **one** of these essay questions. Section B will be worth 20 marks.

The examination may include questions that refer to visual and/or written material.

The total marks for the examination will be 80.

Answers are to be recorded in the spaces provided in the question and answer book.

## Criteria

The essay in Section B will be assessed against the following criteria:

- development of a coherent and relevant argument that addresses the specific demands of the essay question
- demonstration of political knowledge that is accurate and appropriate for the essay question
- accurate use of key political terms and concepts
- use of contemporary examples and case studies to support explanations, points of view and arguments

## Approved materials and equipment

Pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers

## Relevant references

The following publications should be referred to in relation to the VCE Australian Politics examination:

- *VCE Australian and Global Politics Study Design 2018–2022* ('Units 3 and 4: Australian Politics')
- *VCE Australian and Global Politics – Advice for teachers 2018–2022* (includes assessment advice)
- *VCAA Bulletin*

## Advice

During the 2018–2022 accreditation period for VCE Australian Politics, examinations will be prepared according to the examination specifications above. Each examination will conform to these specifications and will test a representative sample of the key knowledge and key skills from all outcomes in Units 3 and 4.

The weighting of examination questions will reflect approximately the weighting of the outcomes in the study design.

Students should use command/task words, other instructional information within questions and corresponding mark allocations to guide their responses.

A separate document containing a sample examination has been published on the 'Australian Politics – Exams and Examination Reports' page on the VCAA website.

The sample examination provides an indication of the format of the examination, and the types of questions teachers and students can expect until the current accreditation period is over.

The VCAA does not provide answers to sample examinations.