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PROCESSING LABEL HERE

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Write your **student number** in the boxes above.

Letter

Philosophy

Question and Answer Book

VCE Examination – Tuesday 11 November 2025

- Reading time is **15 minutes**: 11.45 am to 12 noon
- Writing time is **2 hours**: 12 noon to 2.00 pm

Materials supplied

- Question and Answer Book of 24 pages

Instructions

- Use the additional space at the end of this book if you need extra space to complete an answer.

Students are **not** permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.

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Section A (4 questions, 40 marks) _____	2–11
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Question 3 (10 marks)

The following extract is from an interview with Violet CoCo by The Philosophy Club. CoCo is an environmental activist and a member of Extinction Rebellion, a global movement that agitates for government action on climate change. The group organises acts of nonviolent civil disobedience – a form of protest where laws or the instructions of authorities are deliberately disobeyed – to draw attention to social issues. CoCo has been arrested several times because of her protests.

[...]

Violet CoCo: ... part of what drives me is the very feeling of insecurity, of worrying about my own and others' safety ... My focus is on the climate and ecological emergency: the most daunting problems that confront our society, our biosphere, and our planet. We now face an existential threat. The sixth mass extinction is underway, and threatens to extinguish 98% of life on earth. Human behaviour is responsible for this.

The Philosophy Club: Could you tell our readers about your projects and your community?

Violet CoCo: I'm an activist in Extinction Rebellion, a global movement of mass civil resistance to the systems of government and industry that are currently putting the habitability of our planet at risk.

[...]

... I came to the conclusion that my highest duty ... was to contribute to the greater good. This gave me the freedom to choose to focus on working with Extinction Rebellion, rather than pursuing more individualistic goals.

[...]

... As [British natural history broadcaster] Sir David Attenborough says, 'We cannot be radical enough' ... I'm persuaded by both moral and practical arguments that we now have an obligation to engage in nonviolent civil disobedience. This means creating a deliberate disruption to daily life in order to highlight hidden injustices ...



Photographer Julian Meehan (© Julian Meehan; reproduced with permission)

Violet CoCo (centre) engaging in nonviolent civil disobedience by blocking a road in central Melbourne.

Section B

Instructions

- Write an essay in response to **one** of the following questions in the space provided on pages 13–18.
 - Write your response in English.
 - The question in Section B is worth 20 marks, to be assessed holistically according to the assessment criteria set out on page 21.
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Question 1 (20 marks)

Do controversial opinions cause more harm than good in society?

Discuss this question using viewpoints and arguments from **two** thinkers studied in Unit 4, using a case study you have studied this year as your central example.

OR

Question 2 (20 marks)

'We have to be able to trust that we can believe other people and that they will believe us.'

Discuss this statement using viewpoints and arguments from **two** thinkers studied in Unit 4, using a case study you have studied this year as your central example.

OR

Question 3 (20 marks)

'I cannot believe something I have not had the opportunity to experience directly.'

Discuss this statement using viewpoints and arguments from **two** thinkers studied in Unit 4, using a case study you have studied this year as your central example.

Assessment criteria

Section A

Each of the four 10-mark questions in Section A will be assessed against the following criteria:

- understanding of philosophical concepts, arguments, viewpoints and/or perspectives, as expressed within the extract / set texts and as relevant to the demands of the question
- understanding of connections, similarities and differences between arguments, viewpoints or perspectives, as expressed within the extract / set texts and as relevant to the demands of the question
- evaluation and/or critical comparison of relevant arguments, viewpoints or perspectives, and/or the formulation of a justified philosophical position that addresses the demands of the question
- plausibility, coherence and development of a reasoned and supported response that addresses the specific demands of the question
- use of clear and precise language appropriate to philosophy

Section B

The 20-mark essay response in Section B will be assessed against the following criteria:

- knowledge and understanding of philosophical concepts, viewpoints, arguments and perspectives, as expressed in the set texts and relevant to the topic
 - evaluation and critical comparison of arguments, viewpoints or perspectives as relevant, and formulation of a justified philosophical position in response to the topic
 - knowledge and use of a relevant case study
 - plausibility, coherence and development of a reasoned and supported discussion that addresses the specific demands of the topic and integrates relevant material
 - use of clear and precise language appropriate to philosophy
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