



Victorian Certificate of Education 2011

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

STUDENT NUMBER

Figures

Words

Letter

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NATIONAL POLITICS

Written examination

Tuesday 8 November 2011

Reading time: 3.00 pm to 3.15 pm (15 minutes)

Writing time: 3.15 pm to 5.15 pm (2 hours)

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of questions</i>	<i>Number of questions to be answered</i>	<i>Number of marks</i>
A	12	12	40
B	2	1	20
C	2	1	20
			Total 80

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or white out liquid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

Materials supplied

- Question and answer book of 20 pages.
- Additional space is available at the end of the book if you need extra paper to complete an answer.

Instructions

- Write your **student number** in the space provided above on this page.
- All written responses must be in English.

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

SECTION A – Short answer questions

Instructions for Section A
Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Units 3 and 4

Washington to Canberra

Question 1

What is meant by the term **federal system of government**?

2 marks

Question 2

Describe **two** key differences between the US House of Representatives and the Australian House of Representatives.

4 marks

Question 3

Discuss **two** ways in which the US electoral system upholds democratic values.

4 marks

Continuity and change

Question 4

What is meant by the term **minority government**?

2 marks

Question 5

Describe **two** recent changes to the operation of the Australian Parliament.

4 marks

Question 6

Discuss **two** ways in which the Australian electoral system does not fulfil democratic values.

4 marks

People and policy

Question 7

What is meant by the term **independent member of parliament**?

2 marks

Question 8

Describe **two** methods used by interest groups to influence the formulation of domestic policy.

4 marks

Question 9

Discuss **two** ways in which the media has influenced recent domestic policy making.

4 marks

SECTION A – continued
TURN OVER

Contemporary foreign policy

Question 10

What is meant by the term **national security**?

2 marks

Question 11

Describe **two** ways in which the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) can influence Australian foreign policy.

4 marks

Question 12

Discuss **two** regional issues which have affected recent Australian foreign policy.

4 marks

END OF SECTION A

SECTION B – Extended response questions**Instructions for Section B**

Answer **one** of the following two questions in the space provided.

Unit 3 – Democracy in the making**Question 1**

‘The political powers of the US President are greater than those of the Australian Prime Minister.’

To what extent do you agree?

OR

Question 2

‘The Australian political system operates very well, and does not need to be changed.’

Discuss this statement with reference to one or more key political institutions.

20 marks

SECTION C – Extended response questions**Instructions for Section C**

Answer **one** of the following two questions in the space provided.

Unit 4 – The challenge of power**Question 1**

‘Domestic policy making is a difficult and an uncertain process.’

Discuss this statement with reference to one or more contemporary domestic policy issues.

OR

Question 2

‘The key objective of Australian foreign policy should be good global citizenship rather than trade and economic interests.’

To what extent do you agree?

20 marks

