VCE General Mathematics 2023–2027

Written examinations 1 and 2 – End of year

Examination specifications

Overall conditions

There will be two end-of-year examinations for VCE General Mathematics – examination 1 and examination 2.

The examinations 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.

There will be 15 minutes of reading time and 1 hour and 30 minutes of writing time for each examination.

For both examinations, students are permitted to bring into the examination room an approved technology with numerical, graphical, symbolic, financial and statistical functionality, as specified in the *VCAA Bulletin* and the VCE Exams Navigator. One bound reference (which may be annotated) may also be brought into the examination room for both examinations. This may be a textbook, a securely bound lecture pad, an exercise book or a permanently bound student-constructed set of notes without foldouts. Specifications for the bound reference are published annually in the VCE Exams Navigator.

A formula sheet will be provided with both examinations.

The examinations will be assessed by a panel appointed by the VCAA.

The examinations will each contribute 30 per cent to the study score.

Content

The *VCE Mathematics Study Design 2023–2027* ('Units 3 and 4: General Mathematics') is the document for the development of the examinations. All outcomes in 'Units 3 and 4: General Mathematics' will be examined.

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

Examination 1 will cover all areas of study. The examination will be designed to assess students' knowledge of mathematical concepts, models and techniques, and their ability to reason, interpret and apply this knowledge in a range of contexts.

Examination 2 will cover all areas of study. The examination will be designed to assess students' ability to select and apply mathematical facts, concepts, models and techniques to solve extended application problems in a range of contexts.

Format

Examination 1

The examination will be in the form of a multiple-choice question book.

The examination will be divided into four content areas: data analysis, recursion and financial modelling, matrices, and networks and decision mathematics.

The examination will consist of 40 multiple-choice questions worth 1 mark each. Of these 40 questions, 16 will be allocated to data analysis, 8 will be allocated to recursion and financial modelling, 8 will be allocated to matrices, and 8 will be allocated to networks and decision mathematics.

All questions will be compulsory. The total marks for the examination will be 40.

A formula sheet will be provided with the examination. The formula sheet will be the same for examinations 1 and 2.

Answers are to be recorded on the answer sheet provided for multiple-choice questions.

Examination 2

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

The examination will be divided into four content areas: data analysis, recursion and financial modelling, matrices, and networks and decision mathematics.

The examination will consist of short-answer and extended-answer questions, including multi-stage questions. 24 marks will be allocated to data analysis, 12 marks will be allocated to recursion and financial modelling, 12 marks will be allocated to matrices, and 12 marks will be allocated to networks and decision mathematics.

All questions will be compulsory. The total marks for the examination will be 60.

A formula sheet will be provided with the examination. The formula sheet will be the same for examinations 1 and 2.

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

Approved materials and equipment

The list below applies to both examinations 1 and 2:

- basic stationery requirements (pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers)
- an approved technology with numerical, graphical, symbolic, financial and statistical functionality
- one scientific calculator
- one bound reference

Relevant references

The following resources should be referred to in relation to the VCE General Mathematics examination:

- *VCE Mathematics Study Design 2023–2027* ('Units 3 and 4: General Mathematics')
- General Mathematics – Support material
- VCE Exams Navigator (published annually)
- *VCAA Bulletin*

Advice

During the 2023–2027 accreditation period for VCE General Mathematics, 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.

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

Separate documents containing sample examinations have been published on the VCE General Mathematics 'Examination specifications, past examinations and examination reports' page on the VCAA website.

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

Answers to multiple-choice questions are provided at the end of examination 1.

Answers to other questions are not provided.