**Victorian Certificate of Education
2009**

STUDENT NUMBER

Letter

Figures

Words

NATIONAL POLITICS
Written examination

Thursday 12 November 2009

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

Section	Number of questions	Number of questions to be answered	Number of marks
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

With reference to the Australian system of government, what is meant by the term **convention**?

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2 marks

Question 2

Describe **two** differences between the High Court of Australia and the Supreme Court of the United States of America.

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4 marks

Question 3

Discuss **two** ways in which Congress can limit the power of the President of the United States.

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4 marks

Continuity and change

Question 4
What is meant by the term **malapportionment**?

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2 marks

Question 5
Describe **two** functions of the Australian Electoral Commission.

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4 marks

Question 6
Discuss **two** arguments in support of compulsory voting.

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4 marks

People and policy

Question 7

What is meant by the term **lobbyist**?

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2 marks

Question 8

Describe **two** actions taken by the Opposition in relation to recent federal domestic policy.

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4 marks

Question 9

Discuss **two** international factors that have influenced recent domestic policy making.

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4 marks

Contemporary foreign policy

Question 10
What is meant by the term **multilateralism**?

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2 marks

Question 11
Describe **two** objectives of Australia's foreign aid program.

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4 marks

Question 12
Discuss **two** ways the Prime Minister can influence the formulation of contemporary Australian foreign policy.

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4 marks

Total 40 marks

END OF SECTION A

SECTION B – Extended response questions

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| **Instructions for Section B** |
| Answer **one** of the following two questions in the space provided. |
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Unit 3 – Democracy in the making

Question 1

The Australian and the US political systems have many similarities, but operate differently in practice.
Discuss with reference to one or more key political structures and/or institutions in Australia and the USA.

20 marks

OR

Question 2

Australian political institutions fail to uphold the democratic value of accountability.
Discuss.

20 marks

Working space

Answer either **Question 1** or **Question 2**.
Enter the number of the question you are answering in the box provided.

SECTION B – continued

END OF SECTION B

SECTION C – Extended response questions

Unit 4 – The challenge of power

Question 1

Minor parties and independents in Australia have little influence on the formulation of domestic policy.
Discuss.

20 marks

OR

Question 2

Contemporary Australian foreign policy is formulated to respond equally to external issues and domestic politics.
Discuss.

20 marks

Working space

Answer either **Question 1** or **Question 2**.
Enter the number of the question you are answering in the box provided.

END OF QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Extra space for responses

Clearly number all responses in this space.

A script book is available from the supervisor if you need extra paper to complete your answer. Please ensure you write your **student number** in the space provided on the front cover of the script book. **At the end of the examination, place the script book inside the front cover of this question and answer book.**

Victoria
The Place To Be