

VCE Psychology 2023–2027

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.

There will be 15 minutes of reading time and 2 hours and 30 minutes of writing time.

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

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

Content

The *VCE Psychology Study Design 2023–2027* is the document for the development of the examination. All outcomes in Units 3 and 4 will be examined.

All of the key knowledge that underpins the outcomes in Units 3 and 4, and the key science skills found on pages 12 and 13 of the 'Cross-study specifications' in the study design 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 40 multiple-choice questions worth 1 mark each and will be worth a total of 40 marks.

Section B will consist of short-answer and extended-answer questions, including questions with multiple parts. One of the extended-answer questions will be worth 10 marks and will not have multiple parts. The number of questions in Section B may vary from year to year. Section B will be worth a total of 80 marks.

The examination may include questions that refer to stimulus material, including scenarios, data, media texts and/or scientific investigations.

All questions will be compulsory. The total marks for the examination will be 120.

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

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

Assessment criteria

The extended-answer question in Section B that is worth 10 marks and that does not have multiple parts will be assessed against the following criteria:

- identification and explanation of appropriate psychological terminology in novel and unfamiliar contexts
- analysis and discussion of relevant psychological information, ideas and/or concepts and the connections between them
- analysis and evaluation of data, and/or scientific methodologies and methods, and/or models, and/or theories
- construction of evidence-based arguments and/or drawing of conclusions and/or discussion of implications and findings

Approved materials and equipment

Pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers

Relevant references

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

- *VCE Psychology Study Design 2023–2027*
- Psychology – Support materials
- *VCAA Bulletin*

Advice

During the 2023–2027 accreditation period for VCE Psychology, 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 from all outcomes in Units 3 and 4, and the key science skills found on pages 12 and 13 of the 'Cross-study specifications' in the study design.

Examination questions may relate to one or more outcomes and may integrate key knowledge and key science skills. 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 sample questions has been published on the VCE Psychology '[Examination specifications, past examinations and examination reports](#)' page on the VCAA website.

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

Answers to multiple-choice questions are provided on page 25 of the sample questions document.

Answers to other questions are not provided.