

Art

Written examination – November

Introduction

The examination criteria and description were published in the *VCAA Art Assessment Handbook 2004*.

The examination paper will consist of two sections: Section A and Section B. Both sections are compulsory. The number of questions may vary from 4 to 8 in the examination paper.

Teachers may refer to past examination papers for examples of questions. Previous Assessment Reports on the written examination may also contain helpful advice.

The following sample material provides an indication of the type and range of questions teachers and students can expect on the Art examination paper in November 2004. It is not intended to form the basis of a sample examination paper.

Teachers should refer to the Examination section of the *VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook 2004*, *VCAA Art Assessment Handbook* and to the *VCAA Bulletin* for further advice during the year.

2004 examination structure

Students will answer a series of questions based on Outcome 2 in Units 3 and 4. Each outcome will be of approximately equal weighting on the examination paper.

The sample questions require responses of varying lengths. The marks in this sample material are provided as an indication of the length and detail of the response expected. The marks allocated to individual questions will vary from year to year. Each question will be followed by lined spaces which will provide a guide to the amount of written response anticipated. Further guidance will be provided by the number of marks allocated to each question, which will be clearly stated below each question.

The mark allocation for Section A and B will be approximately equal on the examination paper.

Section A

There will be 2–4 questions on a range of written and/or visual stimulus material which will be reproduced in the examination paper.

Stimulus materials will be based on a series of previously unseen artworks and commentaries and will not require any prior knowledge of their content.

The associated questions will require students to apply their understanding of the key knowledge and skills in answering the examination questions. The stimulus material will be reproduced on the final examination paper in black and white or, where appropriate, partial or full colour. The type of stimulus material provided may vary from year to year.

Some of the questions may provide scope for choice between varying options for response. One or two paragraph responses will be required depending on the question.

The restricted length of the answers, combined with the previously unseen nature of the artworks and commentaries, means that these questions in the examination will not require responses of great breadth and depth of analysis. Greater breadth and depth of analysis is however expected in those questions not linked to the written and visual material. The intention of the questions linked to visual and written material will be to assess outcomes of Units 3 and 4 at a more fundamental level of visual literacy and the ability to make essential connections and interpretations about artworks. One of the advantages of this visually oriented approach is that it will enable the assessment of Outcome 2 of Units 3 and 4 in ways which do not favour expression skills over art understandings. Hence the inclusion in the examination of visual material and commentaries which can be analysed and interpreted.

Visual material

The artworks will be selected from a broad range of periods, cultures and media. In any given year at least four artworks produced prior to 1970 will be reproduced on the examination paper.

Written material

Written material will take the form of commentaries. They will be selected from a broad range of written and transcript material. These could include published commentaries in newspapers, periodicals, journals, Internet sites, exhibition catalogues or monographs by art critics/historians. Commentaries might also be composed by the examination panel or adapted from existing examples in order to reflect the kinds of responses to artists and artworks found in the publications cited above and other transcript commentaries, such as lectures, museum guides and wall text, radio, video and film documentaries. Artworks and commentaries may also be selected from contemporary art exhibitions and reviews. It is not intended that in any given year all art forms and kinds of commentaries will be represented.

The specific recognition of artworks and commentaries will not be given any weighting in the marking of the examination paper. The examination will be consistent with the Art study design in requiring students to use the visual and written stimulus material provided as a means of demonstrating their skills in interpreting art and in commenting on the ideas and issues which it raises.

Section B

Students will be required to write one extended response. Extended responses can include essays or writing that develop ideas in an expanded form. In addition one or more short response question may also be set. Some of the questions may provide scope for choice between varying options for response.

Section B questions will provide students with an opportunity to interpret, discuss and debate the meanings and messages conveyed by the artists and artworks which they have studied during the course of the year.

The artists and artworks selected for discussion will be drawn from the minimum numbers of 4–6 artists and 12 artworks established in the Art study design requirements for Units 3 and 4 (pp 20, 25 and 26) and studied during the course of the year. The questions will require the use of examples in the context of a focused and relevant response to the issues and ideas raised by the topic.

Sample questions

Previous examination papers

All questions on the 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 Art examination papers may be used as models for examination questions for 2004–2007. **Please note that where the curriculum content in Outcome 2 in Units 3 and 4 has been revised the wording in some past questions may no longer be appropriate.** The 2000–2003 examination papers can be downloaded from www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/vce/studies/art/artpastexams.html

Additional information and questions

The curriculum content in Outcome 2 in Units 3 and 4 has been revised. Note that all questions reflect the wording in the newly revised Art study design.

Section A question types

1. The question below is modelled on question 1 on the 2003 examination paper. The question would be accompanied by the reproduction of four artworks on the examination paper.

The question reads

Compare any two of the artworks illustrated in terms of the following formal elements.

- line
- space

(You may write on the same artworks for both formal elements or select a different pair of artworks for each formal element.)

3 + 3 = 6 marks

2. The question below is modelled on question 2 on the 2003 examination paper. The question would be accompanied by the reproduction of one artwork from each of the following art forms and/or media for this question on the examination paper.

- drawing and/or printmaking
- ceramics
- painting
- photography
- film and/or video
- design and/or fashion and/or costume design, textiles and fibre
- sculpture
- performance art and/or installation art and/or conceptual art and /or digital and new media art

The question reads

EITHER

- a. Discuss one of the artworks illustrated using any two of the following interpretive frameworks.
- formal interpretation framework (visual analysis and/or style and/or technique)
 - cultural
 - gender
 - political
 - post modernism
 - psychoanalysis
 - symbolism

Specify artwork _____

Specify interpretive framework 1 _____

Specify interpretive framework 2 _____

OR

- b. Discuss two different artworks illustrated using any one of the following interpretive frameworks.
- formal interpretation framework (visual analysis and/or style and/or technique)
 - cultural
 - gender
 - political
 - post modernism
 - psychoanalysis
 - symbolism

Specify interpretive framework _____

Specify artwork 1 _____

Specify artwork 2 _____

Variations on this question may include

- a listing of all the additional interpretive frameworks on the examination paper. That is, the ‘formal interpretation framework’ may not necessarily be included in this question every year that this type of question is set
- the application of the ‘formal interpretation framework’ with reference to one or all of the following: visual analysis, style and technique. That is, the ‘additional interpretive frameworks’ may not necessarily be included in this question every year that this type of question is set.

3. Question 3 on the 2003 examination paper and the equivalent question in earlier papers after 2000 provide an appropriate model for a question type based on visual material and commentaries.

4. Note that the question type below did not appear on the Art examination papers between 2000 and 2003. The question would be accompanied by the reproduction of artworks on the examination paper.

The question reads

Discuss any two of the artworks illustrated in terms of the formal element of line.

4 + 4 = 8 marks

5. Note that the question type below did not appear on the Art examination papers between 2000 and 2003. The question would be accompanied by the reproduction of artworks on the examination paper.

The question reads

Discuss any two of the artworks illustrated in terms of the following formal elements.

- line
- space

(Write on a different artwork for each formal element.)

5 + 5 = 10 marks

Section B question types

6. The question below is modelled on question 4 on the 2003 examination paper.

Discuss at least one artwork produced before 1970 and at least one artwork produced since 1970 that you have studied this year in terms of

- the ‘formal interpretation’ framework: visual analysis and/or style and/or technique

and

- one or more of the following interpretive frameworks: cultural, gender, historical context, political, postmodernism, psychoanalysis and symbolism.

12 + 13 = 25 marks

7. The question below is modelled on question 5 on the 2002 examination paper.

Discuss personal points of view that you have developed about the meanings and messages of artworks produced by at least two artists you have studied this year.

In your response refer to

- the ideas, issues and/or arguments expressed in commentaries on the artworks
- your use of at least two interpretive frameworks to interpret the artworks.

10 + 10 = 20 marks

8. Note that the question type below did not appear on the Art examination papers between 2000 and 2003. Visually analyse one of the artworks produced before 1970 that you have studied this year in terms of two formal elements such as line, shape, texture, colour, movement, surface composition, depiction of space, modelling and tonal structure.

4 + 4 = 8 marks

9. Note that the question type below did not appear on the Art examination papers between 2000 and 2003. Discuss two or more viewpoints about one of the artworks you studied this year.

5 + 5 = 10 marks

10. Note that the question type below did not appear on the Art examination papers between 2000 and 2003. Discuss how two artworks you have studied this year can be interpreted in different ways using two or more interpretive frameworks.

15 marks