

SECTION A – Short-answer questions

Instructions for Section A

Answer **four** questions from this section.

Parts **a.**, **b.** and **c.** of each question chosen must be answered.

Question 1

The Australian Constitution

a. What is meant by the term concurrent powers?

2 marks

b. Briefly describe three successful referendum proposals.

3 marks

Question 2

Parliament and the Executive

a. What is meant by the term backbencher?

2 marks

b. Briefly describe three functions of the Senate.

3 marks

Question 3

Voting and elections

a. What is meant by the term safe seat?

2 marks

b. Briefly describe three key characteristics of the proportional voting system used to elect the Australian Senate.

3 marks

Question 4

Political parties and pressure groups

a. What is meant by the term lobbyist?

2 marks

b. Briefly describe three functions performed by pressure groups.

3 marks

Question 5

Australian foreign policy

a. What is meant by the term free trade?

2 marks

b. Briefly describe three functions of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

3 marks

SECTION B – Essay questions**Instructions for Section B**

Answer **one** question from this section.

Begin your answer on page 15 of this question and answer book.

The Australian Constitution**Question 1**

‘The Australian Constitution encourages conflict between State and Federal Governments.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Question 2

‘The major weakness of the Australian Constitution is that it fails to mention key political institutions such as Cabinet and the Prime Minister.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Parliament and the Executive**Question 3**

‘A strong opposition is crucial to the effective functioning of the Federal Parliament.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Question 4

‘The main factor determining the power of Australian prime ministers is their leadership style.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Voting and elections**Question 5**

‘The Australian federal electoral system delivers democratic outcomes.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Question 6

‘In the last ten years, economic issues have been the key influence on voter behaviour in Australian federal elections.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Political parties and pressure groups**Question 7**

‘There are significant differences between the Australian Labor Party and the Liberal Party at the federal level in terms of philosophy, policies and leadership.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Question 8

‘Interest groups use a variety of tactics to influence government policy; most of these tactics are ineffective.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Australian foreign policy**Question 9**

‘Australian foreign policy is formulated in response to international issues and events.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Question 10

‘The promotion of economic interests dominates Australian foreign policy.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

TURN OVER

Rough work only

Rough work only

Rough work only

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