

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 convention in relation to the Australian Constitution?

2 marks

b. Briefly describe three exclusive powers of the Commonwealth Government.

3 marks

Question 2

Parliament and the Executive

a. What is meant by the term conscience vote?

2 marks

b. Briefly describe three roles of the Australian federal cabinet.

3 marks

Question 3

Voting and elections

a. What is meant by the term electoral redistribution?

2 marks

b. Briefly describe three key differences between the preferential and proportional voting systems as used in Australian federal elections.

3 marks

Question 4

Political parties and pressure groups

a. What is meant by the term faction as applied to a political party?

2 marks

b. Briefly describe three ways that minor parties contribute to the democratic process.

3 marks

Question 5

Australian foreign policy

a. What is meant by the term regional security?

2 marks

b. Briefly describe three ways that Australia meets its obligations as a global citizen.

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 gives too much power to the High Court and the Governor General.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Question 2

‘The division of powers as set out in the Australian Constitution is the main reason for conflict between Commonwealth and state governments.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Parliament and the Executive**Question 3**

‘The House of Representatives and the Senate are only a rubber stamp for cabinet decisions.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Question 4

‘Backbenchers have little influence in the federal parliament, the electorate and the party room.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Voting and elections**Question 5**

‘The Australian federal electoral system delivers both majority rule and the opportunity for minority interests to be represented.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Question 6

‘Leadership and economic performance are the most important factors that influenced the result of a recent (in the last 10 years) federal election.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Political parties and pressure groups**Question 7**

‘At the federal level, the major differences between the Australian Labor Party and the Liberal Party are in key policies and leadership.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Question 8

‘Not all pressure groups have equal access to government.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Australian foreign policy**Question 9**

‘Foreign policy is formulated by the government, with little influence from public opinion and the opposition.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

OR

Question 10

‘Australia lacks an independent foreign policy as a consequence of its relationship with the United States.’

To what extent do you agree?

40 marks

TURN OVER

Rough work only

Rough work only

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