

VCE Algorithmics (HESS) 2017–2019

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. Details of these rules are published annually in the *VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook*.

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

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

The examination will contribute 60 per cent to the study score.

Content

The *VCE Algorithmics (HESS) Study Design 2017–2019* is the document for the development of the examination. All outcomes in Units 3 and 4 will be examined.

All of the key knowledge and skills that underpin the outcomes in Units 3 and 4 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 20 multiple-choice questions worth 1 mark each and will be worth a total of 20 marks.

Section B will consist of short-answer and extended-answer questions, including questions with multiple parts. The number of questions may vary from year to year. Section B will be worth a total of 80 marks.

The examination may include questions that refer to visual and/or written material, including scenarios.

All questions will be compulsory. The total marks for the examination will be 100.

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.

Approved materials and equipment

- Normal stationery requirements (pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers)
- One scientific calculator

Relevant references

The following publications should be referred to in relation to the VCE Algorithmics (HESS) examination:

- *VCE Algorithmics (HESS) Study Design 2017–2019*
- Programming language requirements (published annually)
- *VCAA Bulletin*

Advice

During the 2017–2019 accreditation period for VCE Algorithmics (HESS), 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 and skills from all outcomes in Units 3 and 4.

Examination questions may relate to one or more areas of study. 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 'Algorithmics (HESS) – Exams 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 9 of the sample questions document.

Answers to other questions are not provided.