

VCE Art

2017–2021

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 1 hour and 30 minutes writing time.

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

The examination will contribute 30 per cent to the study score.

Content

The *VCE Art Study Design 2017–2021* 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, and the section on ‘Cross-study specifications’ in the study design (pages 10–13) are examinable.

Format

The examination will be in the form of a question and answer book.

The examination will consist of three sections.

Section A will consist of three to four short-answer and/or extended-answer questions. Questions will examine theoretical understanding and application of key knowledge and skills in Units 3 and 4. Questions will refer to a range of unseen visual stimulus material. The stimulus material may be presented in colour and will appear in a detachable insert and/or within the question and answer book. A range of art forms will be represented and the art forms may vary from year to year. Section A will be worth a total of 25 marks.

Section B will consist of two to three extended-answer questions that require students to examine, evaluate, analyse and interpret a range of unseen visual and/or written stimulus material from a broad range of sources. Written stimulus material may consist of commentaries and viewpoints; it will be presented within the question and answer book. Visual stimulus material may be presented in colour and will appear in the detachable insert. Section B will be worth a total of 25 marks.

Section C will consist of two extended-answer questions that require responses in the form of an essay and/or extended piece of writing that develops ideas in depth. Questions will require students to explore all outcomes in Units 3 and 4 through discussion of the meanings and messages of artworks studied throughout the year, and the ideas and related issues about the role of art in society. Responses may require discussion of artists and artworks studied throughout the year and informed opinions with reference to artists and artworks, selected viewpoints and relevant aspects of the analytical framework(s) specified in the question. Section C will be worth a total of 25 marks.

All questions will be compulsory. The total marks for the examination will be 75.

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

Criteria

The examination will be assessed against the following criteria:

- understanding and appropriate use of art vocabulary and terminology in the analysis, interpretation and comparison of artworks
- understanding of visual language to discuss and evaluate ideas and concepts in artworks
- understanding of artistic practice to conceptualise, create, present and view artworks
- knowledge of artists, their artistic practice and artworks
- knowledge of a range of relevant resources used to support the research and interpretation of artworks
- ability to substantiate interpretations of artworks with evidence taken from artworks and a range of referenced resources
- comparison of the contexts, characteristics, meanings and messages of artworks produced before 1990 with artworks produced since 1990
- understanding and application of all analytical frameworks (structural, personal, cultural, contemporary) to analyse and interpret the meanings and messages of artworks
- analysis of a range of viewpoints in relation to art ideas and related issues regarding the role of art in society
- ability to use commentaries and viewpoints from a range of resources to examine and evaluate interpretations about art ideas and related issues regarding the role of art in society
- ability to develop a personal point of view about art ideas and related issues regarding the role of art in society
- ability to use artworks and a range of attributed commentaries to support viewpoints about art ideas and related issues regarding the role of art in society

Approved materials and equipment

Pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers

Relevant references

The following publications should be referred to in relation to the VCE Art examination:

- *VCE Art Study Design 2017–2021*
- *VCE Art – Advice for teachers 2017–2021* (includes assessment advice)
- *VCAA Bulletin*

Advice

During the 2017–2021 accreditation period for VCE Art, 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, and the section on ‘Cross-study specifications’ in the study design (pages 10–13).

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 ‘Art – 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.

The VCAA does not provide answers to sample questions.