2020 VCE Portuguese written examination report

General comments

Most students responded well to all sections of the 2020 VCE Portuguese written examination. They demonstrated the ability to understand general and specific aspects of texts, and to obtain and analyse information and ideas from audio and written texts on a range of topics. They provided responses in accordance with the requirements printed on the examination answer booklet.

Specific information

This report provides sample answers, or an indication of what answers may have included. Unless otherwise stated, these are not intended to be exemplary or complete responses.

Section 1: Listening and responding

Part A

Question 1a.

Correct responses were:

* application form
* photocopy of their Citizen card
* photocopy of Year 12 certificate
* photocopy of their passport if they are residing/living in another country.

Question 1b.

Correct responses were:

* must be over 18
* must be of Portuguese descent/ancestry.

Question 2

Correct responses were:

* by providing/using the latest digital and technological trends
* by prioritising the constant offer of courses for updating and recycling knowledge
* by providing a mentor to guide them in the development of their professional careers/mentoring and professional training programs
* by promoting collaboration and constant communication between young people and their leaders
* by promoting an integrated and fun work environment/ social gatherings.

Question 3a.

The correct response was:

* His trip to Brazil where he was interested in and delighted with modernist architecture ( both elements were required to be awarded the mark)

Question 3b.

Correct response was:

* in Belo Horizonte in the Art Museum of Pampulha (responses with incorrect spelling of the proper nouns were not penalised, as long as it was clear students had understood the sounds and recorded them phonetically).

Question 3c.

* MAC / Museum of Contemporary Art
* Niemeyer Way (cultural complex) / large open collection of the architect

Part B

Question 4a.

Correct responses were:

* *Os almoços maravilhosos com comida típica*
* *Festivais de música portuguesa*
* Wonderful lunches with typical food
* Portuguese music festivals/concerts

Question 4b.

Correct responses were:

* *Aconselha-os a nunca desistirem do português e dos aspectos difíceis da vida.*
* *Continuarem praticando português.*
* He advises them never to give up on Portuguese and on other hard aspects of life.
* Continue practising Portuguese.

Question 5

Correct responses were:

* *É uma pessoa comunicativa e gosta de ter contacto com o público*
* *O fato de a mãe ser brasileira,*
* *O pai éportuguês,*
* *Tem amigos timorenses e vizinhos moçambicanos,*
* *Sente-se à vontade com qualquer sotaque de países de língua portuguesa.*
* He is a communicative person, and he likes to have contact with the public.
* The fact that his mother is Brazilian.
* His father is Portuguese.
* He has Timorese friends and Mozambican neighbours.
* Feels comfortable with the accent of any Portuguese-speaking country.

Question 6

A high-scoring response may have included the information below:

*Aspectos positivos:*

* *Grande variedade de atividades*
* *Pode vestir-se do que quiser*
* *Possibilidade de fazer amigos/ arranjar um/a namorado/a*
* *Dançar e cantar ou ver e ouvir danças e canções*
* *Acontece em vários locais.*

*Aspectos negativos:*

* *É caro e é difícil comprar bilhetes.*

Positive aspects:

* Great variety of activities
* Can dress up as you like
* Possibility of making friends / finding a boy or girl friend
* Participating in dancing or singing or see and listen to dances and songs
* Takes place in lots of locations.

Negative aspects:

* Expensive and difficult to buy tickets.

Section 2: Reading and responding

Part A

Question 7a.

Correct responses were:

* man’s tendency towards mechanisation
* creates waste and compromises the environment
* overpopulation / increase of population requires a growing production of food
* arable land cannot grow at the same rate as the population, so agriculture needs to be intensified (use of fertilisers and pesticides).

Question 8a.

Correct responses were:

* for official events such as the celebrations for the 10th anniversary of the Restoration of Independence of Timor-Leste
* for tribute ceremonies to celebrate changes in various stages of an individual’s life.

Question 8b.

Correct responses were:

* Traditional fabric used for clothing
* Handmade by women on wooden looms
* Made with dyed cotton thread / different colours
* Traditional patterns and motifs with geometric design.

Part B

Question 9

The task was for the student to write an email to their parents in Australia, using information in the stimulus text to explain why they are making a pathway choice that their parents do not agree with. Students who performed well in this section included appropriate features of a personal email and used language structures and vocabulary appropriate for persuading someone else of their viewpoint.

A high-scoring response may have included the following points:

* Show the advantages of choosing to study such as:
* The technical course offers a short-term investment and guarantee of an immediate job.
* The university course offers a better paid job and the chance to continue studying for the Masters or Doctorate with the support of a scholarship
* • Show the inconveniences of choosing to study such as:
* The technical course does not offer a job as well paid as the university career
* University course requires a long-term investment with higher intellectual requirements
* • Show the advantages of choosing a gap year:
* Be able to help
* Launch yourself into the new venture, learn a language
* Get a permanent job
* • Show the inconveniences of choosing a gap year:
* No remuneration for voluntary work
* Costs of an exchange
* Study hard to get a public employment

Section 3: Writing in Portuguese

Students are reminded to use the reading time to carefully select a question best suited to their interest level as well as ability. The originality and quality of content in this writing piece is important, as is the ability to demonstrate an effective style of writing and text type.

Choosing what may at first appear to be the most straightforward or easy question is not always the best choice. Rather, it is wise to choose a question that has scope for an original response that includes relevant content and ideas.

Question 10

The task was to evaluate the impact of fake news on public opinion and the sociopolitical consequences that fake news creates. The audience was readers of a school newspaper.

Question 11

The task was to inform a young person of similar age in Angola about the life, attitudes and hopes of a teenager in Australia. High-scoring responses successfully presented this information as an informal letter to their future exchange partner.

Question 12

The task was to write an article for a magazine, informing the readers about an imaginary Portuguese-speaking artist. High-scoring responses included a description of two specific episodes in the artist’s life that could be called peculiar and provided additional relevant information about the artist’s life from birth to the present day.