



Victorian Certificate of Education 2008

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

STUDENT NUMBER

Figures

Words

Letter

--

SOCIOLOGY

Written examination

Wednesday 5 November 2008

Reading time: 3.00 pm to 3.15 pm (15 minutes)

Writing time: 3.15 pm to 5.15 pm (2 hours)

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

<i>Section</i>	<i>Number of questions</i>	<i>Number of questions to be answered</i>	<i>Number of marks</i>
A	2	2	20
B	1	1	20
C	1	1	20
D	1	1	20
			Total 80

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or white out liquid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

Materials supplied

- Question and answer book of 20 pages.
- Additional space is available at the end of the book if you need extra paper to complete an answer.

Instructions

- Write your **student number** in the space provided above on this page.
- All written responses must be in English.

Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.

SECTION B**Instructions for Section B**

Examine the representation and answer the following questions.

Apology to Australia's Indigenous Peoples (extract). Delivered in Commonwealth Parliament on 13 February 2008

“Today we honour the Indigenous peoples of this land, the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

We reflect on their past mistreatment.

We reflect in particular on the mistreatment of those who were Stolen Generations – this blemished chapter in our nation's history.

The time has now come for the nation to turn a new page in Australia's history by righting the wrongs of the past and so moving forward with confidence to the future.

We apologise for the laws and policies of successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians.

We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, their communities and their country.

For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.

To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters, for the breaking up of families and communities, we say sorry.

And for the indignity and degradation thus inflicted on a proud people and a proud culture, we say sorry.

We the Parliament of Australia respectfully request that this apology be received in the spirit in which it is offered as part of the healing of the nation.

For the future we take heart; resolving that this new page in the history of our great continent can now be written.

We today take this first step by acknowledging the past and laying claim to a future that embraces all Australians.

A future where this Parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again.

A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.

A future where we embrace the possibility of new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches have failed.

A future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility.

A future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities and with an equal stake in shaping the next chapter in the history of this great country, Australia.”

c. Discuss one of the contemporary problems referred to in the representation.

4 marks

SECTION C

Instructions for Section C

Section C comprises 2 representations, one below and one on page 12. Examine the representations and answer the following questions.

Citizenship test ‘spooks’ many would-be Aussies

Number of applicants falls by half

By JEWEL
TOPSFIELD
CANBERRA

SOME migrants were too frightened to apply to become Australians because they feared they would be deported if they failed the controversial citizenship test, Immigration Minister Chris Evans has admitted.

Senator Evans yesterday ruled out scrapping the test, but said an independent committee would examine the impact on citizenship applications, after statistics revealed they had plummeted since the introduction of the test on October 1. Just 16,024 migrants applied to be citizens between January and March, compared with 38,850 at the same time last year.

Senator Evans said while the introduction of the test had been controversial, with concerns it was politically motivated, the Federal Government believed it could play a

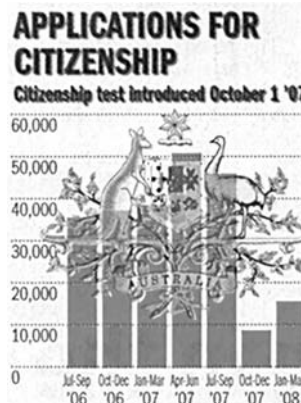
constructive role in the pathway to citizenship.

“We want people to become citizens,” Senator Evans said. But he acknowledged there was concern about whether the test was fair on migrant groups, despite almost 95% of candidates eventually passing it.

He said the seven-member committee would examine whether the 42-page booklet — from which the citizenship test questions are drawn — was too “impenetrable” for newly arrived migrants.

The dense booklet, which was overseen by former prime minister John Howard, describes the uses of the stump-jump plough, the emergence of the Heidelberg school of art, the location of Phar Lap’s heart and depicts Australia’s first governor, Captain Arthur Phillip, as “firm but humane”.

“There was debate about whether the book was at the appropriate level of English. It was



supposed to be basic and apparently during the course of the previous government’s rewriting of it, it crept up to what is considered by many to be a native English standard,” Senator Evans said. “There were concerns from people like Petro Georgiou and others about whether it was fair on some of the migrant groups, given their English language skills.”

Senator Evans said the committee would be able to review the entire booklet — including the sports section, which describes Sir Donald Bradman as the “greatest cricket batsman of all time”.

In January, Senator Evans was slapped

down by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, after he suggested Bradman was irrelevant to a test on citizenship, especially to many refugees and in particular, women. Asked yesterday whether the Don could be dropped from the booklet, the committee chairman, former diplomat Richard Woolcott, said he could not pre-empt the findings of the review.

The committee, which will report back to the minister mid-year, includes former Olympian Rechelle Hawkes, SBS director Paula Masselos, refugee advocate Juliana Nkrumah, Australia Day council chief executive Warren Pearson, former Chief of Navy Vice Admiral Chris Ritchie and legal expert Kim Rubenstein.

Senator Evans said while the test would definitely be retained, and would continue to be in English, the committee would look at whether the questions should be made public, as is the case in the US and Canada.

Question 4

a. Identify **two** concerns that are raised in the newspaper article about the citizenship test.

2 marks

b. Identify **one** 'responsibility' **and one** 'privilege' of citizenship in Australia.

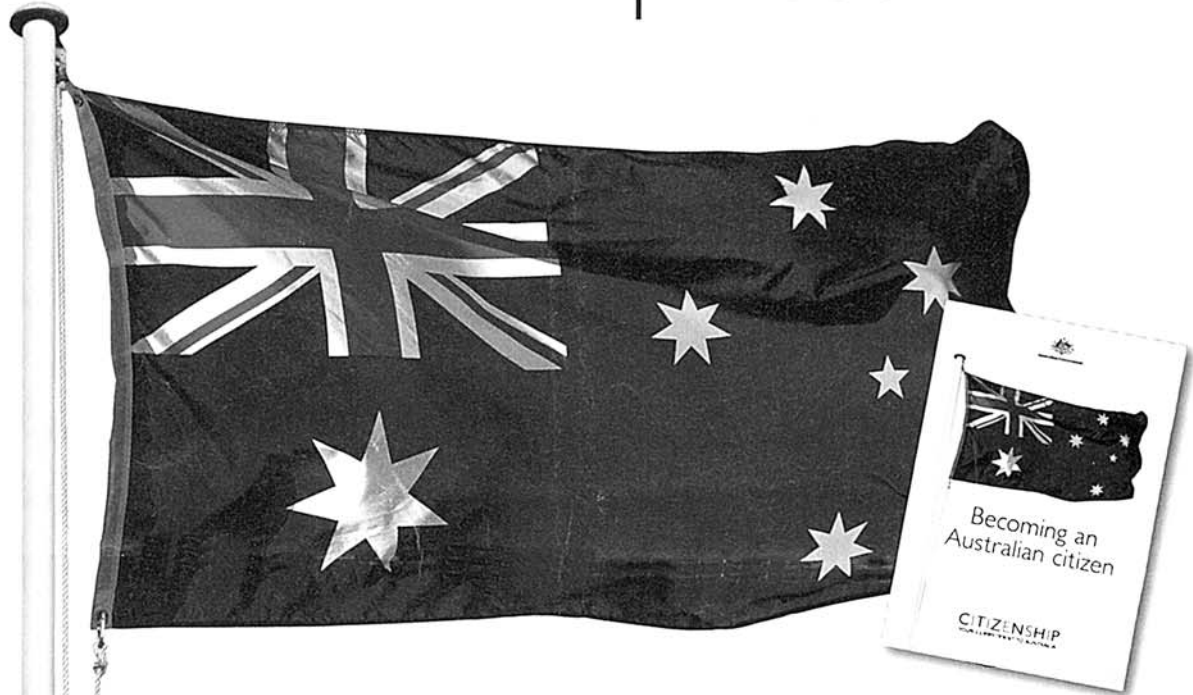
2 marks

Advertisement



Australian Government

Australia's introducing a Citizenship Test



If you apply to become an Australian citizen, you will have to take the new Citizenship Test*

The test is a way of making sure that people becoming citizens know about Australia and understand the responsibilities and privileges of committing to our way of life.

The test is about things that many of us take for granted like democracy, mutual respect and equality of opportunity, and the values we share like free speech and 'a fair go'.

It also covers our history, our traditions and some of our national customs and symbols.

Learning more about our country, and understanding our values, will help people take part in Australian life, make a contribution and become part of our diverse community.

The free resource book 'Becoming an Australian Citizen' contains everything you need to know to prepare for the test.

You can find out more about becoming an Australian citizen at australia.gov.au/citizenship or by calling the Citizenship Information Line on 131 880.

*Some people may not be required to sit the test, including people aged under 18 years or 60 years and over or people with a permanent physical or mental incapacity.

CITIZENSHIP
YOUR COMMITMENT TO AUSTRALIA

Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra

DISC/M/05

Government advertisement for Citizenship Test, published nationally 2007

