

VCE Sociology

2018–2022

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 50 per cent to the study score.

Content

The *VCE Sociology Study Design 2018–2022* 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 key 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 short-answer and extended-answer questions, including questions with multiple parts. Questions may be drawn from any area of study and may refer to visual and/or written material. Section A will be worth a total of 40 marks.

Section B will consist of four extended-answer questions – one for each area of study – worth 10 marks each. Section B will be worth a total of 40 marks.

All questions will be compulsory. The total marks for the examination will be 80.

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

Criteria

The extended-answer questions in Section B will be assessed against the following criteria, as appropriate:

- explanation and application of sociological concepts, theories and methods
- knowledge and/or analysis and/or evaluation of sociological experience, perspectives and change
- use and/or evaluation of a range of relevant evidence/sources
- synthesis of evidence to draw conclusions

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 Sociology examination:

- *VCE Sociology Study Design 2018–2022*
- *VCE Sociology – Advice for teachers 2018–2022* (includes assessment advice)
- *VCAA Bulletin*

Advice

During the 2018–2022 accreditation period for VCE Sociology, 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 key skills from all outcomes in Units 3 and 4.

The community that students choose to write on in response to examination questions relating to Unit 4, Area of study 1 – Community must not refer to any Australian Indigenous community studied in Unit 3, Area of study 1 – Australian Indigenous culture or the specific ethnic group studied in Unit 3, Area of study 2 – Ethnicity.

Students should use command/task words, other instructional information within questions and corresponding mark allocations to guide their responses.

A separate document containing a sample examination has been published on the 'Sociology – Exams and Examination Reports' page on the VCAA website.

The sample examination provides an indication of the format of the examination, and the types of questions teachers and students can expect until the current accreditation period is over.

The VCAA does not provide answers to sample examinations.

Members of Australian Indigenous communities are advised that the sample examination may contain the names and images of deceased people. Certain words, terms or descriptions may be culturally sensitive and may be considered inappropriate today, but may have reflected that author's/creator's attitude or that of the period in which the words, terms or descriptions were produced.