VCE Legal Studies 2018–2023

Performance Descriptors

| **VCE LEGAL STUDIES**  **SCHOOL-ASSESSED COURSEWORK** | | | | | |
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| **Performance Descriptors** | | | | | |
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| ***Unit 4***  ***Outcome 1***  ***Discuss the significance of High Court cases involving the interpretation of the Australian Constitution and evaluate the ways in which the Australian Constitution acts as a check on parliament in law-making*** | **DESCRIPTOR: typical performance in each range** | | | | |
| **Very low** | **Low** | **Medium** | **High** | **Very high** |
| Very limited comparison of the constitutional law-making powers of the state and Commonwealth parliaments, supported with examples. | Some comparison of the constitutional law-making powers of the state and Commonwealth parliaments, supported with examples. | Appropriate and relevant comparison of the constitutional law-making powers of the state and Commonwealth parliaments, supported with accurate examples. | Detailed comparison of the constitutional law-making powers of the state and Commonwealth parliaments, supported with accurate examples. | Comprehensive comparison of the constitutional law-making powers of the state and Commonwealth parliaments, supported with accurate examples. |
| Very limited discussion of the significance of the Australian Constitution section 109 and of High Court cases interpreting the Constitution. | Some discussion of the significance of the Australian Constitution section 109 and of High Court cases interpreting the Constitution. | Sound discussion of the significance of the Australian Constitution section 109 and of High Court cases interpreting the Constitution. | Detailed discussion of the significance of the Australian Constitution section 109 and of High Court cases interpreting the Constitution. | Sophisticated discussion of the significance of the Australian Constitution section 109 and of High Court cases interpreting the Constitution. |
| Limited discussion of a High Court case which impacted the division of law-making powers. | Some discussion of a High Court case which impacted the division of law-making powers. | Sound discussion of the significance of a High Court case which has impacted on the division of law-making powers. | Detailed discussion of the significance of a High Court case which has impacted on the division of law-making powers. | Sophisticated discussion of the significance of a High Court case which has impacted on the division of law-making powers. |
| Limited discussion of the ways in which the Australian Constitution acts as a check on parliament in law-making | Some evaluation of the ways in which the Australian Constitution acts as a check on parliament in law-making. | Sound evaluation of the ways in which the Australian Constitution acts as a check on parliament in law-making. | Careful evaluation of the ways in which the Australian Constitution acts as a check on parliament in law-making | Critical evaluation of the ways in which the Australian Constitution acts as a check on parliament in law-making |
| Limited explanation of the ability of the Australian people to protect or change the Australian Constitution. | Some analysis of the ability of the Australian people to protect or change the Australian Constitution. | Sound analysis of the ability of the Australian people to protect or change the Australian Constitution. | Detailed analysis of the ability of the Australian people to protect or change the Australian Constitution. | Insightful analysis of the ability of the Australian people to protect or change the Australian Constitution. |
| Limited discussion of the impact of international declarations and treaties on the interpretation of the external affairs power. | Some discussion of the impact of international declarations and treaties on the interpretation of the external affairs power. | Sound discussion of the impact of international declarations and treaties on the interpretation of the external affairs power. | Detailed discussion of the impact of international declarations and treaties on the interpretation of the external affairs power. | Sophisticated discussion of the impact of international declarations and treaties on the interpretation of the external affairs power. |

KEY to marking scale based on the Outcome contributing 40 marks

| Very Low 1–8 | Low 9–16 | Medium 17–24 | High 25–32 | Very High 33–40 |
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