VICTORIAN CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY

Victorian Certificate of Education
Year

HISTORY: AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

Written examination

SAMPLE

Day Date

Reading time: *. to *.** (15 minutes)**
Writing time: *. to *.** (2 hours)**

SOURCES BOOK

Instructions

A question and answer book is provided with this sources book.

Refer to the sources in this book for each question in Section A, as indicated in the question and answer book.

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

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From custodianship to the Anthropocene (60 000 BCE – 2010)

Sources 1–4 relate to Question 1.

Source 1

A perspective on the development of the Port Phillip District/Victoria up to 1849

> Some twelve years ago, the land on which a city now stands was a wilderness—a wilderness inhabited by innumerable tribes of savages; and where, also, the sportive[1] kangaroo, emu, and wild dog appeared in such numbers as to oppose a barrier to the inroads of civilization. What a change has taken place since that period! What has not been achieved in this once barbarous[2] region by England's indomitable[3] and noble spirit of enterprise!

Source: JB Clutterbuck, 'Port Phillip in 1849', in *The Illustrated London News*, 26 January 1850, p. 53

[1]**sportive** – good for hunting or sport
[2]**barbarous** – primitive and uncivilised
[3]**indomitable** – determined

Source 2

A perspective of William Howitt, first published in 1855

> We have begun to destroy the beauty of this creek. It will no longer run clear between its banks, covered with wattles and tea-trees, and amongst its shallow parts overgrown with foreign-looking shrubs, flags, and cypress-grass. A little while, and its whole course will exhibit nothing but nakedness, and heaps of gravel and mud. We diggers are horribly destructive of the picturesque[1].

Source: W Howitt, *Land, Labour, and Gold or, Two Years in Victoria with Visits to Sydney and Van Diemen's Land*, volumes I and II, facsimile edition, Sydney University Press, 1972, p. 205

[1]**picturesque** – beautiful scenery

Source 3

An interpretation of the outcomes of the Franklin Dam campaign in 1983

> With the Labor Party's election success [in the 1983 federal election], the environment movement had achieved an outstanding victory. It had mobilised thousands of Australians in a major campaign; it had won the support of the Labor Party for federal action against a recalcitrant[1] state government intent on ignoring its responsibilities for proper management of a World Heritage area … Just as significantly, it introduced young activists to the movement and many of these would go on to become key environmental campaigners around the country. The Franklin campaign represented the coming of age of the environment movement.

Source: D Hutton and L Connors, *A History of the Australian Environment Movement*, Cambridge University Press, Port Melbourne, 1999, p. 163

[1]**recalcitrant** – uncooperative and reluctant

Source 4

A protest sticker against the Ranger Uranium Mine at Jabiluka in the Northern Territory, 1997



Source: Northern Territory Environment Centre collection,
National Museum of Australia;
Jabiluka protest image by Kathleen McCann

Creating a nation (1834–2008)

Sources 5–7 relate to Question 2.

Source 5

An 1855 painting of Thomas Woolner and his wife and child leaving England for Melbourne in 1852



Source: FM Brown, *The Last of England*, 1855, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery; The Artchives/Alamy Stock Photo

Source 6

An interpretation of Chinese migration to the goldfields by historian Geoffrey Blainey

> Other ships arrived, crammed with Chinese. In 1855 more than thirty of these ships reached Melbourne, and the Cantonese[1] peasants went on foot to the goldfields … The Chinese were too different, in dress and eating habits, language and rituals and religion, to be welcomed by most diggers. When in 1858 they numbered more than 40,000, or close to one in ten of Victoria's population, the common fear was that the inrush could not be stopped.
>
> Victoria had imposed a tax on incoming Chinese, who then opened a back door by walking overland … across the plains from South Australia where at first no landing tax was collected … One by one the other colonies imposed taxes on Chinese, with Western Australia going the furthest in 1886 by virtually banning Chinese from working on new fields.

Source: G Blainey, *A Shorter History of Australia*, Random House Australia, Milsons Point, 2000, p. 71

[1]**Cantonese** – people from the Guangdong (Canton) province of southern China

Source 7

An extract from a speech by John Howard, Prime Minister of Australia (1996–2007), delivered in Launceston, Tasmania, one week before the federal election of 2001

> We've had quite a debate in this country over the last few months on the question of illegal immigration. I hold very strongly to the view that this country has an obligation as part of the international community to conduct a generous refugee program and we have done so to our credit now for some decades. We are one of only nine countries in the world that has a resettlement program and we take more refugees on a per capita basis than any country in the world except Canada. But my friends we will decide who comes to this country and the circumstances in which they come and we'll decide that applying humane equitable principles and international refugee assessment. What is involved in this debate about asylum seekers is the proposition that some people have, namely if people can quite literally present themselves at Australia's borders and demand entry no matter what the background or no matter what the circumstances are. And don't any of you imagine that the Labor Party has been as avowedly[1] in support of the position we now take as they currently claim.

Source: J Howard, 'Transcript of the Prime Minister the Hon. John Howard MP address at the launch of "A Stronger Tasmania"…', speech, PM Transcripts: Transcripts from the Prime Ministers of Australia, 2 November 2001, <https://pmtranscripts.pmc.gov.au/release/transcript-12332>; licensed from the Commonwealth of Australia under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence

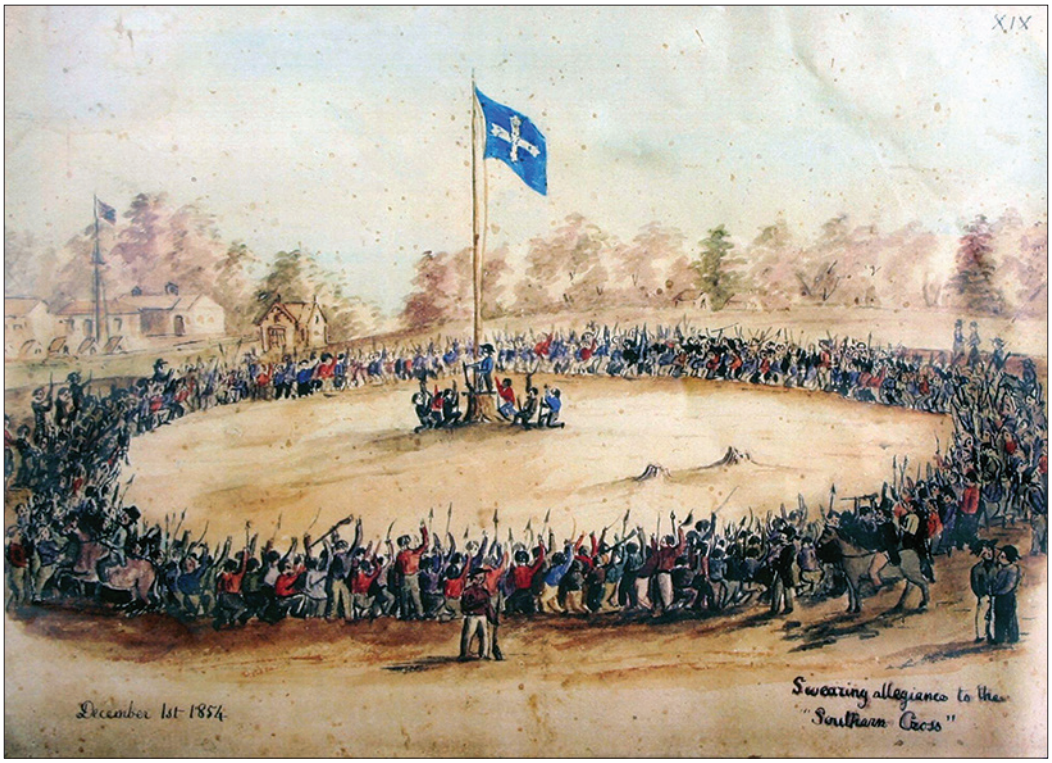
[1]**avowedly** – strongly

Power and resistance (1788–1998)

Sources 8–11 relate to Question 3.

Source 8

A watercolour painted by a Canadian digger, Charles Doudiet, shortly after the Eureka Rebellion



Source: C Doudiet, *Swearing Allegiance to the Southern Cross*, 1854; Lakeview Images/Alamy Stock Photo

Source 9

Historian Benjamin T Jones considered the constitutional implications of the Eureka Stockade.

> The Battle of Ballarat [the Eureka Stockade] was not only a mere argument about gold licences but also a much broader struggle for the perceived rights of free Victorians and the kind of society they wished to create and preserve … The flow of history and ideas would place Eureka as the final kick against the goads[1] of the penal[2] mentality that some colonial governors and British politicians still held. The battle was lost militarily, but it was won in the courts, in the minds and hearts of Australians, and in the responsible government that was granted the following year.

Source: BT Jones, *Republicanism and Responsible Government: The Shaping of Democracy in Australia and Canada*, McGill-Queen's University Press, Montreal, 2014, p. 192

[1]**goads** – provocations, insults

[2]**penal** – relating to the prison system

Source 10

An extract from Henry Lawson's poem 'Freedom on the Wallaby', a response to the class warfare that emerged during the shearing strikes of the early 1890s in Queensland

Australia's a big country
An' Freedom's humping bluey[1],
An' Freedom's on the wallaby[2]
Oh don't you hear 'er cooey[3].
She's just begun to boomerang,
She'll knock the tyrants silly,
She's goin' to light another fire
And boil another billy[4].
…
Our parent's toiled to make a home,
Hard grubbing' 'twas an' clearin',
They wasn't crowded much with lords
When they was pioneerin'.
But now that we have made the land
A garden full of promise,
Old Greed must crook 'is dirty hand
An come ter take it from us.

So we must fly a rebel flag[5]
As others did before us,
And we must sing a rebel song
And join in rebel chorus.
We'll make the tyrants feel the sting
O' those that they would throttle[6];
They needn't say the fault is ours
If blood should stain the wattle.

Source: H Lawson, 'Freedom on the Wallaby', *The Worker*, vol. 2, no. 24, Brisbane, 16 May 1891, p. 8

[1]**humping bluey** – carrying one's bundle
[2]**on the wallaby** – on the move
[3]**cooey** – high-pitch call used to attract attention
[4]**billy** – container used to boil water
[5]**rebel flag** – the Southern Cross flag of Eureka
[6]**throttle** – squeeze the life out of a person, a process or an institution

Source 11

A Women's Electoral Lobby pamphlet distributed during the 1972 federal election

> Women are discriminated against at work, at school, and in the home. Married women suffer many anomalies[1] in tax benefits, medical and welfare payments. Single women are discriminated against through credit, home loans and insurance.
>
> All women suffer from laws which deny them the right to control their biological destinies by adequate sex education, inexpensive contraception and elective abortion – THESE THINGS MUST CHANGE.

Source: P Grimshaw, 'Only the Chains have Changed', in V Burgmann and J Lee (eds), *Staining the Wattle: A People's History of Australia since 1788*, McPhee Gribble Publishers and Penguin Books Australia, 1988, pp. 68 and 69

[1]**anomalies** – differences from the norm

War and upheaval (1909–1992)

Sources 12–14 relate to Question 4.

Source 12

An extract from an election speech given in Colac on 31 July 1914 by Andrew Fisher, leader of the Opposition (Australian Labor Party)

> Turn your eyes to the European situation, and give the kindest feelings towards the mother country at this time. I sincerely hope that international arbitration[1] will avail[2] before Europe is convulsed[3] in the greatest war of any time. All, I am sure, will regret the critical position existing at the present time, and pray that a disastrous war may be averted. But should the worst happen after everything has been done that honour will permit, Australians will stand beside our own to help and defend her to our last man and our last shilling.

Source: A Fisher, quoted in *The Argus*, 1 August 1914, p. 20

[1]**arbitration** – process for settling a dispute

[2]**avail** – be successful

[3]**convulsed** – thrown into violent upheaval

Source 13

Historians Katie Holmes and Sarah Pinto on gender and sexuality in World War II

> It was another war that brought women's wages closer to men's, and opened up new areas of employment. World War 2 had a profound impact on the understandings and daily experiences of gender and sexuality in Australia. Images of militarised manhood again called men to join up. As men left their jobs, women were called upon to step into them. The mobilisation of women into the auxiliary services and war industries is in stark contrast to their experience during World War 1. Now women could be welders and truck drivers, farmers and mechanics, secretaries and munitions workers. 'Total war' meant that even married women with children were expected to work, although childcare provision was lacking.

Source: K Holmes and S Pinto, 'Gender and Sexuality', in A Bashford and S Macintyre (eds), *The Cambridge History of Australia: Volume 2: The Commonwealth of Australia*, Cambridge University Press, Port Melbourne, 2013, p. 317

Source 14

A photograph of a ‘Save Our Sons’ float during a May Day procession in Brisbane in 1967



Source: G Garner, *Anti-conscription float during May Day procession, Brisbane, 1967*, photograph; University of Queensland, Grahame Garner Collection, F3400, folder 11, item 8; licensed CC-BY

END OF SOURCES BOOK