

Victorian Certificate of Education 2017

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

Letter

STUDENT NUMBER

LEGAL STUDIES

Written examination

Wednesday 15 November 2017

Reading time: 2.00 pm to 2.15 pm (15 minutes) Writing time: 2.15 pm to 4.15 pm (2 hours)

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

| Number questic | 5 5 1 | Number of marks |
|-------------------|-------|--------------------|
| 10 | 10 | 70 |

- 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 correction fluid/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.
- You should make use of stimulus material where it is included. However, it is not intended that this material will provide you with all the information to fully answer the question.
- 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.

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Instructions

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

Question 1 (12 marks)

Simon Fortune, 40, was charged with kidnapping. His trial was heard in the County Court of Victoria, and he was found guilty and sentenced. Simon intends to appeal.

a. Describe **one** sanction that may have been imposed on Simon.

b. Identify the court that would hear Simon's appeal and outline its criminal appellate jurisdiction.

3 marks

2 marks

| c. | Other than appeals, explain one reason why a court hierarchy is beneficial in this case. | 3 marks |
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| d. | Describe two features of Simon's trial if the trial were to be heard using the inquisitorial | |
| | system. | 4 marks |
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Question 2 (3 marks)

Explain one way in which a residual power may become a concurrent power.

Question 3 (4 marks)

'Following criticisms of judicial decisions, a law has been passed that will allow members of parliament to hear and determine court disputes.'

Would this law be valid? Justify your answer.

Question 4 (4 marks)

Explain the relationship between the Victorian Parliament and the Victorian Law Reform Commission (VLRC).

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Question 5 (4 marks)

Describe the circumstances in which a court's interpretation of a statute will become a persuasive precedent.



Question 6 (5 marks)

'The only reason that judges are effective law-makers is because they do not have to worry about being re-elected.'

Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.

Question 7 (16 marks)

Sam purchased high-heeled shoes from Snazzy Heels. She was walking home from work and the heel on the left shoe broke. Sam fell backwards and suffered significant spinal injuries. She wants to sue Snazzy Heels and the local designer for over \$1 million for past and future medical expenses, pain and suffering, humiliation, and past and future loss of income. Sam has been advised that either a court or the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) could resolve this dispute.

| Will there be a committal hearing in this case? Why or why not? | 2 mar |
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| Could Sam's case be heard before a jury? Justify your answer. | 3 mar |
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| c. | Identify one remedy that Sam may be awarded and discuss the extent to which this remedy |
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| | could achieve one of its purposes in this case. |

5 marks

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Question 8 (6 marks)

The following scenario contains errors: 'At times a state law can be in conflict with a Commonwealth law. In a recent case, the Supreme Court of Victoria (Trial Division) interpreted the Commonwealth Constitution. The Supreme Court decided in conciliation that a Victorian law that is inconsistent with a Commonwealth law prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.'

Identify the three errors in the scenario above and provide the correct outcome or process that should have occurred for each error.

Error 1 and correct outcome/process _____ Error 2 and correct outcome/process Error 3 and correct outcome/process ____

Question 9 (6 marks)

The Commonwealth Constitution protects Australians through express rights.

Evaluate the extent of this protection.

Question 10 (10 marks)

'The Victorian Parliament represents all Victorian people and everyone in Victoria has access to our legal system.'

Discuss the extent to which you agree with this statement.

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END OF QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

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Extra space for responses

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An answer book is available from the supervisor if you need extra paper to complete an answer. Please ensure you write your **student number** in the space provided on the front cover of the answer book. **At the end of the examination, place the answer book inside the front cover of this question and answer book.**

