



Victorian Certificate of Education 2013

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH PROCESSING LABEL HERE

STUDENT NUMBER

Figures

Words

Letter

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PHILOSOPHY

Written examination

Friday 15 November 2013

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	4	4	15
B	3	3	15
C	4	4	15
D	3	1	15
			Total 60

- 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 18 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

Answer **all** three questions.

To the Editor,

This election year has of course prompted much soul-searching about what Australia should stand for.

I think it is impossible to deny that humans are, by nature, fundamentally self-interested beings. I therefore feel no shame as a voter in looking to whichever political party promises me maximum profit. Indeed, it is my basic right and responsibility as an individual to pursue as much wealth, power, pleasure and leisure as my decisions in life can bring me.

I believe that any political party that either denies these basic principles of our nature or promotes other priorities is either foolish or untruthful. Much is made of what assistance Australia may be obliged to offer people of other nations. I would argue that it should be the priority of every Australian to pursue the good life for his or her self and family, and no-one else. This is how evolution created a strong human species: through survival of the fittest. Rhinos didn't evolve over thousands of years to have long horns by looking out for their short-horned neighbours! The same principle should be followed to make our country great.

We should look to some of the leaders of our great industries. They may often be motivated by self-interest, but their success has created wealth for us all. Without strong individuals like them, the weak in our society would have no hope. It is the right of such industrial leaders to capitalise on every opportunity, and their only obligation is to keep succeeding.

Yours sincerely,
Ms IM Citizen

Question 1 (5 marks)

- a. How might Aristotle respond to Citizen's view that one should pursue 'as much wealth, power, pleasure and leisure' as possible in order to achieve the good life? 2 marks
