NATIONAL POLITICS

Written examination

Tuesday 8 November 2011
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

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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Number of questions</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<td><strong>Total 80</strong></td>
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- 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
- 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.

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SECTION A – Short answer questions

Instructions for Section A
Answer all questions in the spaces provided.

Units 3 and 4
Washington to Canberra

Question 1
What is meant by the term federal system of government?

Question 2
Describe two key differences between the US House of Representatives and the Australian House of Representatives.

2 marks

4 marks
Question 3
Discuss two ways in which the US electoral system upholds democratic values.

4 marks
Continuity and change

Question 4
What is meant by the term minority government?

Question 5
Describe two recent changes to the operation of the Australian Parliament.

Question 6
Discuss two ways in which the Australian electoral system does not fulfil democratic values.
People and policy

Question 7
What is meant by the term independent member of parliament?

Question 8
Describe two methods used by interest groups to influence the formulation of domestic policy.

Question 9
Discuss two ways in which the media has influenced recent domestic policy making.
Contemporary foreign policy

Question 10
What is meant by the term national security?

2 marks

Question 11
Describe two ways in which the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) can influence Australian foreign policy.

4 marks

Question 12
Discuss two regional issues which have affected recent Australian foreign policy.

4 marks
SECTION B – Extended response questions

Instructions for Section B
Answer one of the following two questions in the space provided.

Unit 3 – Democracy in the making

Question 1
‘The political powers of the US President are greater than those of the Australian Prime Minister.’
To what extent do you agree?

OR

Question 2
‘The Australian political system operates very well, and does not need to be changed.’
Discuss this statement with reference to one or more key political institutions.

20 marks
Answer either Question 1 or Question 2.
Enter the number of the question you are answering in the box provided.
Section C – Extended response questions

Instructions for Section C
Answer one of the following two questions in the space provided.

Unit 4 – The challenge of power

Question 1
‘Domestic policy making is a difficult and an uncertain process.’
Discuss this statement with reference to one or more contemporary domestic policy issues.

OR

Question 2
‘The key objective of Australian foreign policy should be good global citizenship rather than trade and economic interests.’
To what extent do you agree?

20 marks
Answer either Question 1 or Question 2.
Enter the number of the question you are answering in the box provided.
Extra space for responses

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