VCE Global Politics
Written examination – November

Examination specifications

Overall conditions
The examination will be sat at a time and date to be set annually by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. VCAA examination rules will apply. Details of these rules are published annually in the VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook.
There will be 15 minutes reading time and two hours writing time.
The examination will be marked by a panel appointed by the VCAA.
The examination will contribute 50 per cent to the Study Score.

Content
The VCE Australian and Global Politics Study Design 2012–2016 is the document for the development of the examination.
All outcomes of Units 3 and 4 of the VCE Australian and Global Politics Study Design 2012–2016 will be examined. All key knowledge and key skills underpinning the outcomes are examinable.

Format
The examination will consist of two sections.
Section A: Short answer, multiple part and extended response questions. Total 60 marks
All questions in Section A will be compulsory.
Section B: Essay questions. Total 20 marks
Students will choose one out of four essay questions.
There will be one essay topic for each area of study.
The total marks allocated for the examination will be 80.
The examination may include questions which refer to stimulus materials such as newspaper articles, pictures or cartoons.
The examination will remain in its current format as a question and answer book.

Criteria
The following criteria will be used to assess the essay.
• Knowledge and understanding of global politics
• Understanding and appropriate use of terms and concepts
• Use of contemporary evidence and examples
• Development of a coherent argument or point of view relevant to the question and, where provided, stimulus material
• Analysis and evaluation of arguments and points of view related to global politics
Advice

During the 2012–2016 accreditation period for the *VCE Australian and Global Politics Study Design*, examinations will be prepared according to the examination specifications above. Each examination will conform to these specifications and will test a representative sample of key knowledge and key skills. The following sample examination provides an indication of the type and range of question teachers and students can expect on the VCE Global Politics examination paper.

Students are reminded that focus needs to be on twenty-first century examples and case studies. The VCAA does not publish answers for sample questions.

The following documents should be referred to in relation to the VCE Global Politics examination.

- *VCE Australian and Global Politics Study Design and Advice to Teachers 2012–2016*
- *VCE Australian and Global Politics Assessment Handbook*
- *VCAA Bulletin VCE, VCAL and VET*
GLOBAL POLITICS

Written examination

Day Date Year

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

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Number of questions</th>
<th>Number of questions to be answered</th>
<th>Number of marks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total 80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 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 16 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.
- Students are reminded that focus needs to be on twenty-first century examples and case studies.
- 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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January 2012
SECTION A

Global actors

Question 1

a. Name the institution of global governance referred to in the image above.

b. i. Outline one objective of the institution of global governance referred to in the image above.
ii. Using the image and your broader knowledge of global politics, discuss how this institution of global governance achieves this objective.


2 + 5 = 7 marks

Question 2
Describe how state sovereignty could be challenged by regional groupings.


3 marks

Question 3
Briefly explain the economic power and influence of one transnational corporation (TNC).


4 marks

SECTION A – continued
TURN OVER
Power in the Asia-Pacific region

In this area of study

• one of the following five states must be used as the focus for responses: Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan or United States of America
• the types and forms of power as used by a specific Asia-Pacific state must be within the region.

Question 4
Define the term ‘idealism’ in the context of global politics.

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

2 marks

Question 5
Describe one element that has shaped the national interest in an Asia-Pacific state that you have studied this year.

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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3 marks

Question 6
Using examples, explain the difference between hard and soft forms of power.

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

4 marks
Question 7
Analyse the extent to which an Asia-Pacific state has achieved one of its national interests since 2000.

6 marks
Ethical issues and debates
The ethical issues for this area of study are
• human rights
• people movement
• development, focusing on poverty and inequality
• arms control and disarmament.

Question 8
Using specific examples, explain the difference between justice and ethics.

5 marks

Question 9
Select one ethical issue that you have studied this year.

Outline two perspectives on this ethical issue.

4 marks
Question 10
Select another ethical issue that you have studied this year. This issue must be different from that selected in Question 9.

________________________________________________________________________

Explain two responses of global actors to this issue.

________________________________________________________________________

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6 marks
Crises and responses

The global crises for this area of study are
• environmental degradation
• intra and interstate conflict
• state and non-state terrorism
• economic instability.

Question 11
Explain what is meant by the term ‘international cooperation’ in the context of global politics.

Question 12
Explain the relationship between one of the following factors and a global crisis that you have studied this year.
• water supply and environmental degradation
• peace-keeping and intra and interstate conflict
• the effectiveness of asymmetrical conflict in achieving a group’s objectives and state and non-state terrorism
• the role of the government as a stabiliser and regulator of last-resort and economic instability

3 marks

6 marks
Question 13
Select another global crisis that you have studied this year. This must be a different crisis from that selected in Question 12.

Compare the effectiveness of responses by two key global actors to this global crisis.

6 marks
Total 60 marks
SECTION B

Instructions
Answer one question in the space provided.

Question 1
‘... the secretary general of Amnesty International and the chief executive officer of Royal Dutch Shell cast far longer shadows on the international stage than do leaders of Moldova, Namibia, or Nauru. The state may not be quite ready to wither away, but it’s not what it used to be.’

PJ Spiro cited in Understanding Global Conflict and Cooperation by Joseph S. Nye, Jr. and David A. Welch

Discuss the power and influence of key global actors in the twenty-first century.

20 marks

OR

Question 2
Evaluate the effectiveness of military and economic power within the Asia-Pacific region in the achievement of one Asia-Pacific state’s objectives since 2000.

One of the following five states must be the focus for responses: Australia, China, Indonesia, Japan or United States of America.

20 marks

OR

Question 3
Discuss the effectiveness of two international laws and/or treaties related to one ethical issue that you have studied this year.

One of the following issues must be used: human rights, people movement, development focusing on poverty and inequality, arms control and disarmament

20 marks

OR

Question 4
Evaluate the causes of one global crisis that you have studied this year.

One of the following global crisis must be used: environmental degradation, intra and interstate conflict, state and non-state terrorism, economic instability

20 marks
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.