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 33 pages.
- A script book is available from the supervisor if required.

Instructions

- Write your student number in the space provided above on this page and on the front cover of any script book used.
- All written responses must be in English.

At the end of the examination

- If a script book is used, place it inside the front cover of this question and answer book.

Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other electronic communication devices into the examination room.
SECTION A – Short-answer questions

Instructions for Section A
Answer four questions from this section.
Parts a., b. and c. of each question chosen must be answered.

Question 1
The Australian Constitution
a. What is meant by the term exclusive powers?

b. Briefly provide three reasons why referendums are usually unsuccessful.

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2 marks

3 marks
c. Evaluate the argument that Australia should remain a constitutional monarchy.

5 marks
Total 10 marks
Question 2
Parliament and the Executive

a. What is meant by the term parliamentary privilege?

   [Blank space for answer]

   [Blank space for answer]

   [Blank space for answer]

   2 marks

b. Briefly describe three parliamentary roles of ministers.

   [Blank space for answer]

   [Blank space for answer]

   [Blank space for answer]

   [Blank space for answer]

   [Blank space for answer]

   3 marks
c. Evaluate the argument that parliamentary committees achieve little.

5 marks
Total 10 marks
Question 3

Voting and elections

a. What is meant by the term marginal seat?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2 marks

b. Briefly provide three reasons why voters may identify with and support a particular political party.

________________________________________________________________________

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3 marks
c. Evaluate the argument that proportional representation should be used to elect the House of Representatives.

5 marks
Total 10 marks
Question 4

Political parties and pressure groups

a. What is meant by the term party discipline?

b. Briefly describe three tactics that a pressure group can use to further its aims.
c. Evaluate the argument that strong leadership is essential for political parties.
Question 5

Australian foreign policy

a. What is meant by the term bilateral relationship?

b. Briefly describe three roles of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
c. Evaluate the argument that ANZUS is still the most important security relationship in Australian foreign policy.

5 marks

Total 10 marks
SECTION B – Essay questions

Instructions for Section B
Answer one question from this section.
Begin your answer on page 15 of this question and answer book.

The Australian Constitution

Question 1
‘Since 1901, the Commonwealth Government has increased its dominance over the States in a variety of ways. As a result, Commonwealth–State relations have worsened.’
To what extent do you agree? 40 marks

OR

Question 2
‘The Australian Constitution remains largely unaltered and therefore is in need of significant change.’
To what extent do you agree? 40 marks

OR

Parliament and the Executive

Question 3
‘There are a number of factors which prevent the House of Representatives and the Senate from performing their roles effectively.’
To what extent do you agree? 40 marks

OR

Question 4
‘The Australian Prime Minister has considerable power, however there are a number of ways in which this power can be constrained.’
To what extent do you agree? 40 marks

OR
Voting and elections

Question 5
‘The two voting systems used at Federal elections ensure that key democratic values are upheld.’
To what extent do you agree? 40 marks

OR

Question 6
Discuss the factors that influenced the result of a recent (in the last ten years) Federal election. 40 marks

OR

Political parties and pressure groups

Question 7
‘Minor parties play an influential role in parliament and elections.’
To what extent do you agree? 40 marks

OR

Question 8
‘Pressure groups have a positive and negative impact on democratic processes in Australia.’
To what extent do you agree? 40 marks

OR

Australian foreign policy

Question 9
‘The Prime Minister is, compared with other factors, the most significant influence on the formulation of Australian foreign policy.’
To what extent do you agree? 40 marks

OR

Question 10
‘National security and the promotion of economic interests have dominated Australian foreign policy at the expense of Australia’s reputation as a good global citizen.’
To what extent do you agree? 40 marks
Rough work only
Students should answer Section B on the following pages
A script book is available from the supervisor if you require extra paper to complete your answer.

Essay question number

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Rough work only
Rough work only
Rough work only
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Rough work only
Rough work only
Rough work only
Rough work only
Rough work only
A script book is available from the supervisor if you require extra paper to complete your answer. Please ensure that 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.