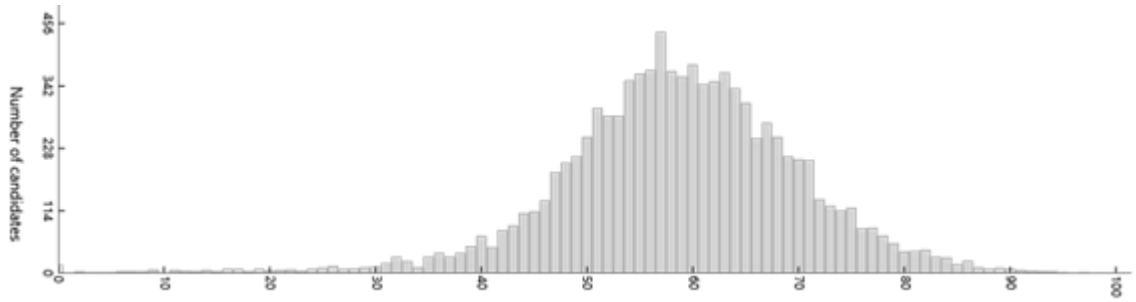
Summary report of the 2024 ATAR course examination report: English

Year	Number who sat	Number of absentees
2024	9542	101
2023	9114	125
2022	9088	164
2021	9955	152

The number of candidates sitting and the number attempting each section of the examination can differ because of non-attempts across sections of the examination.

Examination score distribution



Summary

Attempted by 9529 candidates	Mean 58.37%	Max 97.00%	Min 0.00%
Section means were:			
Section One: Comprehending	Mean 56.18%		
Attempted by 9495 candidates	Mean 16.86(/30)	Max 30.00	Min 0.00
Section Two: Responding	Mean 60.99%		
Attempted by 9474 candidates	Mean 24.39(/40)	Max 40.00	Min 0.00
Section Three: Composing	Mean 57.07%		
Attempted by 9502 candidates	Mean 17.12(/30)	Max 30.00	Min 0.00

General comments

The 2024 paper was designed to be fair, youth focused and to allow opportunities for candidates to demonstrate their understandings of texts and concepts. There were few non-attempts by candidates this year suggesting the paper was accessible and that most candidates were well-prepared. Candidates found both texts in Section One accessible and made interpretations of the texts at various levels. Section Two saw the inclusion of questions based on Unit 3 examinable content that requires text comparison. Fewer candidates chose these questions. In Section Three, some candidates presented answers that were completely unrelated to the question.

Advice for candidates

- Read texts carefully and plan answers in Section One in order to comprehend before you begin writing. The suggested working time of 60 minutes allows you to re-read, plan and think before you answer. Aim to show comprehension of the whole text rather than limit your discussion to one or two parts of it.
- Learn the vocabulary of the course, and metalanguage, to allow precise analysis and specific discussion.

- Every word in every question needs to be addressed in your answer.
- You will engage with many texts in your study of English. The Responding section of the examination requires you to know one or two texts in enough detail that you can provide textual evidence to support your points.
- Deviating from the question or writing overly long unfocused answers will not be rewarded.
- Learn the features and structure of introductions to frame your answers effectively.
- Preparing whole answers may seem beneficial as study practice; however, the questions in the examination will be new to you. Clear, sustained engagement with the question is the path to success.
- Crafting answers in Section Three requires as much planning and thought as in Sections One and Two. Preparing stories or persuasive speeches on topics will not help you address specific questions. Instead, practise the features and styles of your chosen forms of writing, rather than information about topics you hope to write on. Always consider the context, audience, and purpose in your answer.

Advice for teachers

- Differentiate between context and setting for students. This is particularly important when students are studying a contemporary text which represents an historical period, for example *Jojo Rabbit*.
- Assist students in differentiating between attitudes and values.

Comments on specific sections and questions

Section One: Comprehending (30 Marks)

The two discrete texts and questions functioned well in allowing candidates to demonstrate reading comprehension. There were several candidates who made a false start to their answer, sometimes writing a whole page before crossing it out and starting again.

Section Two: Responding (40 Marks)

There was an even distribution of answers across the questions that did not require text comparison, suggesting they were considered more accessible. Candidates used a variety of texts and text types to address question requirements that could be answered successfully in four or five pages. Overly long and uncontrolled answers were not rewarded.

Section Three: Composing (30 Marks)

The composing questions were designed to be specific and closed, and to encourage candidates not to write on dark topics. Originality was rewarded in this section. Candidates who tried to force prepared answers to fit a question rarely found success.