



Western Australian Certificate of Education Examination, 2015

Question/Answer Booklet

POLITICS AND LAW Stage 3

Please place your student identification label in this box

Student Number: In figures

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In words

Time allowed for this paper

Reading time before commencing work: ten minutes
Working time for paper: three hours

Materials required/recommended for this paper

To be provided by the supervisor

This Question/Answer Booklet

Number of additional answer booklets used (if applicable):

To be provided by the candidate

Standard items: pens (blue/black preferred), pencils (including coloured), sharpener, correction fluid/tape, eraser, ruler, highlighters

Special items: nil

Important note to candidates

No other items may be taken into the examination room. It is **your** responsibility to ensure that you do not have any unauthorised notes or other items of a non-personal nature in the examination room. If you have any unauthorised material with you, hand it to the supervisor **before** reading any further.

Structure of this paper

Section	Number of questions available	Number of questions to be answered	Suggested working time (minutes)	Marks available	Percentage of exam
Section One: Short response	4	3	45	30	30
Section Two: Source analysis	2	1	35	20	20
Section Three: Extended response Part A: Unit 3A	2	1	50	50	50
Extended response Part B: Unit 3B	2	1	50		
				Total	100

Instructions to candidates

- The rules for the conduct of Western Australian external examinations are detailed in the *Year 12 Information Handbook 2015*. Sitting this examination implies that you agree to abide by these rules.
- Write your answers in this Question/Answer Booklet.
- You must be careful to confine your responses to the specific questions asked and to follow any instructions that are specific to a particular question.
- Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.
 - Planning: If you use the spare pages for planning, indicate this clearly at the top of the page.
 - Continuing an answer: If you need to use the space to continue an answer, indicate in the original answer space where the answer is continued, i.e. give the page number. Fill in the number of the question that you are continuing to answer at the top of the page.

See next page

Section One: Short response**30% (30 Marks)**

This section has **four (4)** questions. You must answer **three (3)** questions.

Part A: Answer **one (1)** question from a choice of **two (2)**.

Part B: Answer **one (1)** question from a choice of **two (2)**.

The third response can be chosen from **either** of the remaining questions in Part A **or** Part B.

Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.

- Planning: If you use the spare pages for planning, indicate this clearly at the top of the page.
- Continuing an answer: If you need to use the space to continue an answer, indicate in the original answer space where the answer is continued, i.e. give the page number. Fill in the number of the question that you are continuing to answer at the top of the page.

Suggested working time: 45 minutes.

Part A: Unit 3A

Question 1

(10 marks)

(a) What is meant by 'division of powers'?

(2 marks)

(b) Outline **three** examples of 'cooperative federalism' in Australia.

(3 marks)

Question 2

(10 marks)

(a) What is meant by a 'major' party in Australian politics?

(2 marks)

(b) Outline **three** ways in which the Opposition can influence the lawmaking process in the Commonwealth Parliament.

(3 marks)

Question 4

(10 marks)

(a) What is meant by 'open government'?

(2 marks)

(b) Outline **three** elements of the 'rule of law'.

(3 marks)

Section Two: Source analysis**20% (20 Marks)**

This section has **two (2)** questions. You must answer **one (1)** question. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.

- Planning: If you use the spare pages for planning, indicate this clearly at the top of the page.
- Continuing an answer: If you need to use the space to continue an answer, indicate in the original answer space where the answer is continued, i.e. give the page number. Fill in the number of the question that you are continuing to answer at the top of the page.

Suggested working time: 35 minutes.

Read **Source 1** and answer **all** the question parts that follow.

Source 1: Unit 3A

The following is an edited extract written by Sir Paul Hasluck (Governor-General 1969–1974), cited in Solomon, D. *Pillars of Power* (2007) Sydney NSW: Federation Press. Chapter 4, p.60.

He (the Governor-General) does not reject advice outright but seeks to ensure that advice is well founded, carefully considered, and consistent with stable government ...

Various steps are open to him. He can ask questions. He can seek full information. He can call for additional advice on any doubtful issue. In a matter of major importance he may suggest to the Prime Minister that an augmented¹ meeting of Executive Council be held to consider all aspects of a question or, perhaps better still, suggest that the matter be discussed in Cabinet ... so that the recommendation to Executive Council is certain to be the agreed view of his Executive Councillors.

He can himself question a conclusion, seek to know the reasons for it, draw attention to relevant considerations to ensure that they are taken into account ... but he himself ... needs to be careful not to be an advocate of any partisan cause. In doing this he has two dominant interests – one is the stability of government ... and regard for the total and non-partisan overall interests of the people and the nation.

¹augmented – enlarged in size

Read **Source 2** and answer **all** the question parts that follow.

Source 2: Unit 3B

The following is an edited extract from an online article titled '*The Expulsion or Suspension of Federal MPs*', written by Professor Anne Twomey of the University of Sydney in 2012.

Ordinarily, if a Member is suspended it is for disorderly conduct which disrupts the free exercise of the performance by a House of its functions and therefore meets the description of an 'offence against a House'. Under the Standing Orders the Speaker will name a member and then a vote is held to suspend the Member. On the first occasion, the suspension is for 24 hours. On a second occasion within the same calendar year, the suspension is for three consecutive sitting days. For a third suspension within that year, it is for seven consecutive sitting days. (The periods are different in the Senate.) ...

Sections 44 and 45 of the Constitution provide that if a Member of Parliament is convicted of an offence 'punishable under the law of the Commonwealth or of a State by imprisonment for one year or longer', then his or her seat in Parliament becomes vacant. First the Member must be 'convicted'. Secondly, the offence in question must have a maximum penalty of imprisonment for 12 months or more. ...

Other grounds for a Member losing his or her seat include: becoming a citizen of a foreign power, becoming a bankrupt, holding a paid government office (other than that of Minister, Speaker, etc.), having a pecuniary¹ interest in a contract with the Public Service and taking payments to act in the Parliament on behalf of any person or State ...

¹pecuniary – relating to money

Section Three: Extended response**50% (50 Marks)**

This section has **four (4)** questions. Answer **one (1)** question from Part A: Unit 3A and answer **one (1)** question from Part B: Unit 3B. Write your answers in the spaces provided following Question 10.

Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.

- Planning: If you use the spare pages for planning, indicate this clearly at the top of the page.
- Continuing an answer: If you need to use the space to continue an answer, indicate in the original answer space where the answer is continued, i.e. give the page number. Fill in the number of the question that you are continuing to answer at the top of the page.

Suggested working time: 100 minutes.

Part A: Unit 3A

Answer **one (1)** question from a choice of **two (2)**.

Question 7**(25 marks)**

‘The Commonwealth Constitution has undergone some formal changes through referenda since Federation, but there is still a need for further reform.’

Evaluate this claim with reference to **one** current reform proposal.

or

Question 8**(25 marks)**

‘The Commonwealth Parliament no longer fulfils its key functions.’

Evaluate this claim with reference to at least **three** functions.

Part B: Unit 3B

Answer **one (1)** question from a choice of **two (2)**.

Question 9**(25 marks)**

Assess the extent to which rights are protected in Australia and in **one** other country, making reference to constitutional protection and **one** other method of protection, such as statute law or common law.

or

Question 10**(25 marks)**

Assess the extent to which executive power in Australia has undermined democratic principles in terms of representation, popular participation and judicial independence.

End of questions

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Section Two

- Source 1** Extract adapted from: Hasluck, P. (2007). In D. Solomon, *Pillars of power: Australia's institutions* (p. 60). Sydney: The Federation Press.
- Source 2** Extract adapted from: Twomey, A. (2012, May 14). *The Expulsion or Suspension of Federal MPs* [Blog post]. Retrieved February 21, 2015, from http://blogs.usyd.edu.au/cru/2012/05/the_expulsion_or_suspension_of.html

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