

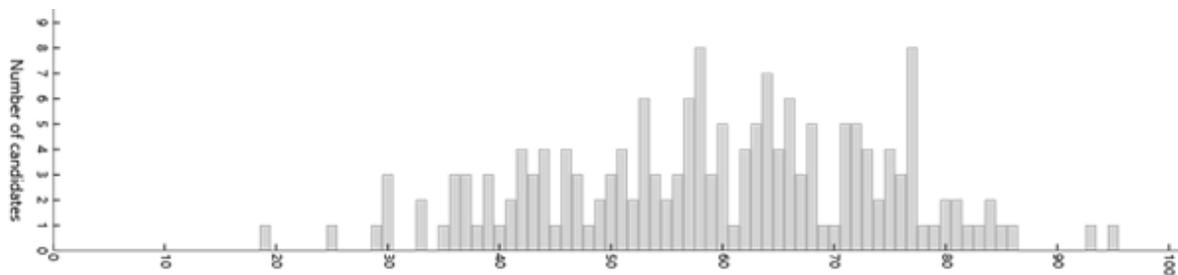


## Summary report of the 2020 ATAR course examination: Food Science and Technology

Year	Number who sat	Number of absentees
2020	171	3
2019	202	3
2018	245	2
2017	217	4

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

### Examination score distribution–Written



### Summary

Attempted by 171 candidates      Mean 59.23%      Max 94.77%      Min 18.72%

Section means were:

Section One: Multiple-choice	Mean 78.09%		
Attempted by 171 candidates	Mean 11.71(/15)	Max 15.00	Min 4.00
Section Two: Short answer	Mean 61.49%		
Attempted by 171 candidates	Mean 33.82(/55)	Max 50.15	Min 12.94
Section Three: Extended answer	Mean 45.64%		
Attempted by 171 candidates	Mean 13.69(/30)	Max 29.62	Min 0.00

### General comments

Thirty-one fewer candidates sat the examination than in 2019. The spread of marks ranged from 18.72 to 94.77%. It would appear that candidates had time to complete the paper and felt confident in their ability to respond as there were fewer instances of questions not being attempted than in past examinations; however, the responses provided did not always attract marks.

Candidates demonstrated a clear understanding of the course content but need to expand their responses to include more detail in order to fully explain or describe concepts and obtain full marks. Candidates demonstrated a sound knowledge of phytochemicals, vitamins, the influences on food consumption patterns and the functional properties of food.

Candidates continue to write lengthy, irrelevant introductions to their responses, including rewriting the questions, neither of which attract marks. Responses need to be structured to separate question parts. The use of dot points or new lines would help with this. When additional pages are used for responses the question or question part must be clearly and correctly labelled. The use of incorrect terminology remains an issue, fluffy was a term

commonly used to describe aeration, foam or fermentation. Stating that a food is healthy without adding a reason is not a sufficient response to attract marks.

*Advice for candidates*

- Use the correct terminology of the course in your responses.
- Identify clearly question parts by using dot points, highlights or new lines for each part.

*Advice for teachers*

- Use the correct terminology in lessons.
- Use sample examination questions to show how to structure responses.

**Comments on specific sections and questions**

**Section One: Multiple-choice (15 Marks)**

There were 15 questions and the mean was 11.71 (78%). All candidates attempted all questions. Questions 6 and 10 were the easiest with means of 0.98 and 0.97. Questions 11 and 13 were the most difficult with means of 0.64 and 0.54. Marks ranged between 4 and 15.

**Section Two: Short answer (68 Marks)**

There were eight compulsory questions. The section mean was 61.49% with marks ranging from 12.94 to 50.15 out of 68. All candidates attempted all questions. Candidates need to include additional information to explain or describe the statements they make.

**Section Three: Extended answer (40 Marks)**

Candidates were required to respond to two questions from a choice of three. Questions 24 and 26 were the most popular choices, selected by 122 and 135 candidates. Only 79 selected question 25. Candidates achieved fewer marks in this section of the paper than in the short answer section. The section mean was 13.69 marks out of 30 (45.64%).