



Government  
of South Australia

**SACE** | South Australian  
Board of SA | Certificate of Education

# Australian and International Politics

## 2017

### Question Booklet

- **Section A: Australian Politics** (Questions 1 to 8) 15 marks  
Answer **one** question
- **Section B: International Politics** (Questions 9 to 29) 15 marks  
Answer **one** question
- Write your answers in the separate script book
- Allow approximately 60 minutes to answer **each** question
- Attach your SACE registration number label to the separate script book

### Examination information

#### Materials

- Question Booklet
- 16-page script book
- SACE registration number label

#### Reading time

- 10 minutes
- You may make notes on scribbling paper

#### Writing time

- 2 hours
- Use black or blue pen

**Total marks 30**

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## **SECTION A: AUSTRALIAN POLITICS** (Questions 1 to 8)

Answer **one** essay question from this section.

### **The Australian Constitution and Federalism**

1. 'Review by the High Court is the fairest method of resolving Constitutional disputes.'  
Evaluate this statement.
2. Critically assess the claim that Australian federalism does not meet the needs of contemporary Australia.

### **Political Representation, Parliament, and the Executive**

3. Critically assess the claim that the Senate is an effective house of review.
4. 'There are few opportunities for citizens to play a meaningful part in the Australian political system.'  
Evaluate this statement.

### **Voting and Elections**

5. Compare and contrast the effectiveness of the preferential and proportional voting systems.
6. 'Fear is the factor that most significantly influences electoral outcomes.'  
Critically assess this statement.

### **Political Parties**

7. Critically assess the view that pragmatism, rather than ideology, dominates the policies of the major parties.
8. 'The success of minor parties and independents is reflective of their populist approach to policies and emerging issues.'  
Evaluate this statement.

## **SECTION B: INTERNATIONAL POLITICS** (Questions 9 to 29)

Answer **one** essay question from this section.

### **Global Citizenship**

9. 'Global citizenship is accurately defined as living according to values that are good for the world.'  
Evaluate this statement.
10. Critically assess the claim that Australians are not sufficiently committed to living as responsible global citizens.
11. 'International migration presents the greatest challenge to achieving global citizenship.'  
Is this so? Argue your case.

### **Global Media**

12. 'Global media create, rather than convey, public opinion.'  
Evaluate this claim.
13. 'Privately owned media are not held to account.'  
Is this so? Argue your case.
14. Critically assess the view that alternative media have the power to destabilise governments.

### **Australian International Relations**

15. 'Now, more than ever before, Australia needs the protection provided by its great and powerful friends.'  
Critically assess this statement.
16. Critically assess the view that Australia has benefited significantly from its bilateral agreements.
17. Evaluate the claim that Australian domestic politics determines our response to recent international disputes.

### **The United Nations and Human Rights**

18. Critically assess the claim that the original intentions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights have proven too idealistic.
19. 'The United Nations has prevented the scourge of global war, but done little to prevent regional wars.'  
Evaluate this claim.
20. 'The United Nations is the global champion of gender equality.'  
Critically assess this statement.

### **The Politics of the Asia–Pacific Region**

21. ‘The spread of democracy throughout the Asia–Pacific region has stalled.’  
Critically assess this statement.
22. Evaluate the claim that Australia’s role in the Asia–Pacific region has not changed over time.
23. Critically assess the claim that the likelihood of political unity in the Asia–Pacific region is weakened by the economic and cultural differences between countries in the region.

### **The United States of America and World Affairs**

24. ‘America’s time as a superpower has come to an end.’  
Critically assess this claim.
25. ‘American foreign policy has averted global chaos.’  
Evaluate this claim.
26. Examine the view that Australia should reconsider its alliance with America.

### **Comparative Political Systems**

27. ‘Successful political systems always reflect their origins.’  
Critically assess this claim, referring to the political systems of *two* countries.
28. ‘The evolution of political systems is influenced more by external forces than by internal factors.’  
Examine this claim, referring to the political systems of *two* countries.
29. Referring to the political systems of *two* countries, critically assess the view that globalisation is forcing unwelcome political change.