



South Australian
Certificate of Education

Australian and International Politics

2018

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 begin writing during this time

Writing time

- 2 hours
- Use black or blue pen

Total marks 30



SACE
BOARD
OF SOUTH
AUSTRALIA

SECTION A: AUSTRALIAN POLITICS (Questions 1 to 8)

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

The Australian Constitution and federalism

1. 'The "citizenship crisis" in parliament shows that the Australian Constitution is not functioning.'
Do you agree with this statement? Argue your case.
2. Evaluate the claim that federalism continues to serve Australia well.

Political representation, parliament, and the executive

3. Evaluate the view that bicameral systems ensure fair and just outcomes.
4. 'In a system of responsible government, a hung parliament exemplifies democratic principles.'
Critically assess this statement.

Voting and elections

5. Evaluate the view that, in elections, 'compulsory preferential' voting is democratic best practice.
6. 'Voter concern about the economy determines electoral outcomes.'
Critically assess this statement.

Political parties

7. Evaluate the claim that, in terms of ideology and policy, the major parties differ greatly.
8. 'Minor parties and independents hold the major parties to account.'
Critically assess this claim.

SECTION B: INTERNATIONAL POLITICS (Questions 9 to 29)

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

Global citizenship

9. 'As our views on diversity change, so too must our views on global citizenship.'
Do you agree with this statement? Argue your case.
10. Evaluate the view that, on balance, Australia is a good global citizen.
11. Critically assess the claim that global citizenship begins with individual activism.

Global media

12. 'Social media is challenging the power of mainstream media magnates.'
Critically assess this statement.
13. Evaluate the claim that only public broadcasters act responsibly.
14. 'Only the alternative media can give voice to the voiceless.'
Is this so? Argue your case.

Australian international relations

15. 'Australia does not benefit from multilateral agreements.'
Is this so? Argue your case.
16. 'Australia is a rising star on the international stage.'
Critically assess this statement.
17. Evaluate the view that Australia should not be involved in international disputes.

The United Nations and human rights

18. Evaluate the claim that the United Nations has honourable intentions but performs poorly.
19. 'The United Nations has made the world a more peaceful place.'
Critically assess this statement.
20. 'As a protector of minorities, the United Nations is imperfect yet indispensable.'
Evaluate this statement.

The politics of the Asia–Pacific region

21. Examine the role of *one or more* countries in helping to unify the Asia–Pacific region.
22. ‘The progress of democracy in the Asia–Pacific region has been successful.’
Is this so? Argue your case.
23. Evaluate the claim that Australia’s engagement with the Asia–Pacific region brings many benefits.

The United States of America and world affairs

24. ‘America continues to be the global hegemon.’
Critically assess this statement.
25. ‘American foreign policy is driven mainly by concern for human rights.’
Do you agree with this statement? Argue your case.
26. Evaluate the claim that Australia benefits from America’s continued leadership in world affairs.

Comparative political systems

27. ‘Over time, political systems are characterised by change rather than by continuity.’
Analyse this claim, referring to the political systems of *two* countries.
28. Referring to the political systems of *two* countries, evaluate the claim that globalisation challenges the power of national governments.
29. ‘Citizens wield minimal power in political systems.’
Evaluate this statement, comparing and contrasting the political systems of *two* countries.