



South Australian  
Certificate of Education

# Australian and International Politics

## 2019

### Question booklet

**Section A: Australian politics** (Questions 1 to 8) 15 marks

- Answer **one** question from Section A

**Section B: International politics** (Questions 9 to 29) 15 marks

- Answer **one** question from Section B
- Write your answers in the separate script book
- Allow approximately 65 minutes to answer **each** question

### Examination information

#### Materials

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

#### Instructions

- Use black or blue pen
- Attach your SACE registration number label to the separate script book

**Total time:** 130 minutes

**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. Examine the view that the Australian Constitution is outdated and needs to be reformed.
2. 'Only the High Court can make decisions that significantly extend the Commonwealth's power over the states.'

Is this so? Argue your case.

### **Political representation, parliament, and the executive**

3. 'An effective opposition is essential to the functioning of both Houses of Parliament.'  
Critically assess this statement.
4. Evaluate the claim that, between elections, citizens have little direct influence on parliaments.

### **Voting and elections**

5. Critically assess the claim that each voting system gives some political parties an advantage over others.
6. 'The concern for national security determines electoral outcomes.'  
Is this so? Argue your case.

### **Political parties**

7. Evaluate the claim that major parties ignore their traditional ideologies in order to appeal to the 'political centre'.
8. 'Minor parties and independents disrupt rather than improve the political process.'  
Critically assess this statement.

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

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

### Global citizenship

9. Evaluate the claim that a global citizen is best defined as 'a person who has an interest in issues beyond their nation's borders'.
10. 'Primarily, it is geographical isolation that prevents Australians from fulfilling their global citizenship responsibilities.'  
Is this so? Argue your case.
11. Critically assess the claim that good global citizens play active roles across communities.

### Global media

12. Examine the claim that the global media excessively influences political processes.
13. 'The media determines *how* people think and *what* they think about.'  
Critically assess this statement.
14. 'Mainstream media facilitates action; alternative media facilitates awareness.'  
Is this so? Argue your case.

### Australian international relations

15. 'Only America can guarantee the security of our nation.'  
Critically assess this statement.
16. Evaluate the view that Australia can significantly influence multilateral agreements.
17. Examine the claim that Australia's remote location and small population determine how its citizens view the world.

### The United Nations and human rights

18. Evaluate the claim that the United Nations has successfully defended human rights.
19. 'The United Nations continues to unite nations.'  
Critically assess this statement.
20. 'The United Nations significantly transforms women's lives by enforcing their rights.'  
Is this so? Argue your case.

### **The politics of the Asia–Pacific region**

21. ‘The diversity of the Asia–Pacific region prevents its unity.’  
Critically assess this statement.
22. ‘Throughout the Asia–Pacific region, the progress of democracy is in decline.’  
Is this so? Argue your case.
23. Examine the claim that Australia’s role in the Asia–Pacific region should be revised to benefit Australia.

### **The United States of America and world affairs**

24. ‘International respect is the factor that *most* influences America’s position as a global leader.’  
Is this so? Argue your case.
25. ‘American foreign policy has created a better world.’  
Evaluate this statement.
26. Examine the claim that Australia’s relationship with America is mutually beneficial.

### **Comparative political systems**

27. ‘The origin of a political system determines its structure.’  
Critically assess this claim, referring to the political systems of *two* countries.
28. Examine the roles of citizen groups in the political systems of *two* countries.
29. ‘Only the rich benefit from globalisation.’  
Evaluate this statement, referring to the political systems of *two* countries.

