STUDENT NUMBER:

BOOBOOK EDUCATION

VCE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

2017 Units 3&4 Practice Paper 1

Total Reading Time: 15 minutes

Total Writing Time: 2 hours

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Section	*Number of Questions*	*Number of Questions to be Answered*	*Marks*
A	5	5	15
B	1	1	30
C	3	1	30
			Total 75

Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, highlighters, erasers, rulers.

Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and/or white out liquid/tape or a dictionary.

No calculator is allowed in this examination.

Materials Supplied

Question and answer book of 24 pages with Assessment Criteria on page 24, and a separate 4 page insert for Sections A and B.

Instructions

Detach the insert from the centre of this book during reading time.

Write your student number in the box at the top of this page.

All written responses must be in English.

Students are NOT permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any other unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.

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SECTION A — Short Answer Questions

Instructions for Section A

Refer to the insert from the centre of this book while answering this section.

Section A requires answers to questions about Text 1. Answer **all** questions in this section.

In your response you are expected to

- demonstrate your ability to use relevant descriptive and metalinguistic tools
- demonstrate your familiarity with the topics of Unit 3, 'Language Variation and Social Purpose' and Unit 4, 'Language Variation and Identity'.

Section A is worth 15 marks.

Text 1

Question 1

What are the social purposes of text 1? Provide examples with line numbers.

3 marks

Question 2

Discuss the effect of the format of the text.

2 marks

SECTION A – continued

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Question 3

Identify two different modal verbs in Text 1 and explain their function.

2 marks

Question 4

Identify two of the following language features in Text 1 and explain their functions.

i. passive clause construction with agent
ii. two different comparatives
iii. clefting

4 marks

SECTION A – continued

TURN OVER

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Question 5

Analyse how lexical choices establish one of the semantic fields in Text 1. Provide 3 examples.

4 marks

END OF SECTION A

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SECTION B — Analytical Commentary

Instructions for Section B

Refer to the insert from the centre of this book while answering this section.

Section B requires an analytical commentary on Text 2.

In your response you are expected to

- demonstrate your ability to use relevant descriptive and metalinguistic tools
- demonstrate familiarity with the topics of Unit 3, 'Language Variation and Social Purpose' and Unit 4, 'Language Variation and Identity'.

Section B is worth 30 marks.

Question 6

Write an analytical commentary about Text 2**.**

In your response you should comment on the:

- contextual factors affecting/surrounding the text
- social purpose and register of the text
- stylistic and discourse features of the text

30 marks

Working Space

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SECTION B – continued

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SECTION B – continued

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SECTION B – continued

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SECTION B – continued

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END OF SECTION B

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SECTION C – Essay

Instructions for Section C
Section C requires a sustained expository response to **one** question.
In your response you are expected to

- demonstrate your ability to use relevant descriptive and metalinguistic tools
- demonstrate familiarity with the topics of Unit 3, 'Language Variation and Social Purpose' and Unit 4, 'Language Variation and Identity'
- refer to the stimulus material provided

Section C is worth 30 marks.

Select **one** of the two following topics. Refer to AT LEAST two subsystems of language in your essay and provide examples from current discussions about language that you have studied in class.

Question 7

Stimulus

a) According to a new analysis from Boomerang, an email productivity app, different email sign-offs yield different response rates. And woe to the unappreciative emailers among us. The analysis found that the best way to end an email is with gratitude. Specifically, results showed that the most effective email sign-off is "thanks in advance".

Shana Lebowitz, The Age, 7.2.17

b)

Social media vocabulary

c) Facebook's recent data shows there are now 17 million active Australians on Facebook. Therefore approximately 70% of the total Australian population is an active Facebook user. This is a huge number. Approximately:

- 7 in 10 Australians use Facebook
- 1 in 2 Australians use YouTube
- 1 in 5 Australians use Instagram
- 1 in 6 Australians use Snapchat

Statistics compiled by SocialMediaNews.com.au for June 2017. Stats and research provided by the Vivid Social Social Media Agency. Figures correct as of 30/06/17.

d) Social networking sites and virtual worlds are forms of social media whose model relies on people making lots of disclosures about themselves. Indeed researchers observe that social networking sites encourage people to disclose information about themselves and ask more personal questions, much more than face-to-face conversations

Simon Pervan, The Conversation, 2.6.17

'The changes to language use as a result of social media will not last.'

Do you agree?

SECTION C – continued

Question 8

Stimulus

a) A candidate for local Council elections was ridiculed in the press for egregious spelling and punctuation errors in his election campaign flyer. The candidate said he left school at Year 9, and in his work and leisure time he had seldom been required to write much. "I'm self-employed. What work I do is not reliant on my literary skills; most of my skills are interpersonal or financial." He said he believed people were becoming reliant on technology to fix their spelling errors, but the mistakes in the council election material were "just a reflection on what's happening within society".

Adapted from various news reports, 2016

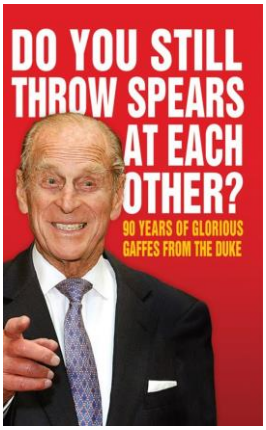
b) What IS being good at small talk? Is it the ability to keep a light conversation going for as long as possible without ever touching on any matters of substance, or is it being able to move from small talk to big talk very swiftly? You and the person you're small talking with might not have the same expectations or objectives. The information you're exchanging might not be particularly meaningful, but the fact you are exchanging it is. And, if it works, the small talk is the launchpad for a deeper conversation. Or, at least a more lively conversation.

Helen Zaltman, The Allusionist, 26.6.16

c) It's not just important for professionals to have a good knowledge of the vocabulary used in their specific field. In order to communicate effectively a broad vocabulary that is understood by the general population is needed as it allows us to better demonstrate what we know and understand to others. And if we can demonstrate our understanding and expertise of something through our written and spoken communication the prospective client is more likely to choose us to do the job.

Michael Grothaus, Fastcompany, 25.7.17

d)



Britain's Prince Phillip is well-known for the gaffes he makes when going off-script.

Correct language is simply a choice between written and planned or spoken and spontaneous discourse. Do you agree?

SECTION C – continued

TURN OVER

Question 9

Stimulus

a) What is it that makes [Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland's First Minister] so impressive? Above all, I'd say, it's her ability to operate effectively in a range of what linguists call 'registers', ways of speaking or writing that both reflect and help to define the nature of the situation. She isn't a one-note political speaker: she knows how to vary her style and tone to suit the purposes of the moment (and she's good at judging what the moment calls for). She can project gravitas using the traditional tools of formal rhetoric, and take down just about anyone in competitive debate; but she can also convey the sincerity and warmth we now demand from our political leaders.

Debuk, Language, a feminist guide blog. 29.6.16

b) [The business expert] says it's not just important for professionals to have a good knowledge of the vocabulary used in their specific field. In order to communicate effectively a broad vocabulary that is understood by the general population is needed as it allows us to better demonstrate what we know and understand to others. And if we can demonstrate our understanding and expertise of something through our written and spoken communication the prospective client is more likely to choose us to do the job.

Michel Grothaus, Fastcompany, 25.7.17

c)

"Who can figure out the true meaning of 'covfefe' ??? Enjoy!" Donald Trump's tweet.

Enjoy doesn't seems quite right: it's not exactly reassuring to know that the man with the nuclear codes can't execute a tweet accurately. But we're on this ride so we might as well get what entertainment we can from it.

David Shariatmidari, The Guardian, 31.5.17

d) Denby Weller ("Time to ban 'mansplain' from the feminist vocabulary", 1/1) suggests that "If you want people to change, you have to speak a language they can bear to listen to". As a feminist from an earlier era I agree. However, the "vocab" she uses, such as "you went real low to get there", "this ... form of communication ain't working", "the world kinda depends on it", "Go get 'em sister", and "Feminism ain't over yet" is hardly one that would get her feminist message across to a present-day chief executive or board chairman who might have the power to effect change.

Elaine Roberts, The Age, 9.1.17

"You can't judge me on what I say and write, or how I express myself."

Discuss.

SECTION C – continued

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Write the number of the question you are answering in the box.

SECTION C- continued

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SECTION C – continued

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EXAMINATION CRITERIA

- Use metalanguage to describe and analyse structures, features and functions of language in a range of contexts
- Explain and analyse linguistic features of written and spoken English in a range of registers
- Understand and analyse relationships between language and identities in society
- Identify and analyse differing attitudes to varieties of Australian English
- Draw on contemporary discussions and debate about language
- Write clearly organised responses with controlled and effective use of language appropriate to the task

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END OF QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

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