



								Letter
Figures								
Words								

Name _____

VCE LEGAL STUDIES ³/₄

2013

Practice examination No. 1

Reading time: 15 minutes
Writing time: 2 hours

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

<i>Number of questions</i>	<i>Number of questions to be answered</i>	<i>Number of Marks</i>
13	13	70

- Students are permitted to bring into the assessment room: pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the assessment room: blank sheets of paper and/or white out liquid/tape.

Materials supplied

- Question and answer book of 20 pages.
- Additional space is available at the end of the book if you need extra paper to complete an answer

Instructions

- Write **your name and teacher's name** in the spaces provided above.
- All written responses must be in English.

Note to teachers/students: The 2013 examination will consist of 70 marks of questions, to be answered in 120 minutes. This examination's ratio of marks to time is aiming to be reflective of the updated examination structure.

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

Question 1

John supports democracy, but thinks that the public are too uneducated to be trusted with the vote.

Outline the principle of representative government and identify why it is important for the functioning of the democratic parliamentary system.

2 marks

Question 2

Rather than dividing one level of courts by area of law, Victoria has a vertical hierarchy.

a. Why could a system of appeals not operate effectively in a flat hierarchy of courts? Explain.

2 marks

b. Outline the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court (Court of Appeal).

Question 4

The adversary system leaves a great deal of control in the hands of the parties. Comment on the extent to which you believe this is a strength of the system.

3 marks

Question 5

It has been argued that introducing the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal ('VCAT') increases confusion in society, in terms of which avenue an injured party should use when they have a complaint.

- a. VCAT hearings can be conducted using either arbitration or judicial determination. Compare the two approaches as methods of dispute resolution.

3 marks

b. Evaluate the extent to which one right is effectively protected by the Australian Constitution.

3 marks

Question 8

Denis Napthine, the Victorian Premier, wants the Commonwealth Parliament to take control of legislation over public transport, but is unsure how this can be done without formal change to the Constitution. Outline to him how his ability to refer power may solve the problem, and explain the impact this would be likely to have on the balance of power between state and federal parliaments.

2 + 2 = 4 marks

Question 11

Around the dinner table one night you discover that much of the material put out for recycling is actually sent to landfill and decide that state parliament needs to take action on recycling standards in the different suburbs. Your mother asks how you plan to influence this change, suggesting you start a petition, organise a protest or alert the media.

Critically examine which method would be the best option for you to choose.

10 marks

END OF QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOKLET

Extra space for responses

