



VCE English Language

2013

Practice paper

Total reading time: 15 minutes

Total writing time: 2 hours

QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK

Structure of book

Section	Number of questions	Number of questions to be answered	Number of marks
A	7	7	15
B	1	1	30
C	3	1	30
			Total 75

- Students are permitted to bring into the examination room: pens, highlighters, erasers, rulers and an English and/or bilingual dictionary.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring into the examination room: blank sheets of paper and /or white out liquid/tape.
- No calculator is allowed in this examination.

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. Questions 1 - 7 refer to 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 the topics of Unit 4, 'Language variation and identity'.

Section A is worth 15 marks.

Text 1**Question 1**

What are the social purposes of this conversation?

1 mark

Question 2

Analyse how the topic is managed; provide examples to illustrate your answer.

2 marks

Question 3

Discuss the effect of the jargon of horse dentistry on the interaction between R and G.

Provide examples to illustrate your analysis.

2 marks

Section A continues

Question 4

Identify examples of parallelism in the transcript. Explain the effect of this feature.

2 marks

Question 5

Identify and explain the effect of the dominant syntactic feature in this conversation.

2 marks

Question 6

Comment on the prosodic features of the conversation and explain how they reflect the relationship between R and G.

3 marks

**Section A- continues
TURN OVER**

Question 7

Discuss the register of this text, providing examples from at least two subsystems.

3 marks

End of Section A

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. Question 8 refers to 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 the topics of Unit 4, 'Language variation and identity'.

Text 2**Question 8**

Write an analytical commentary on the language features of the excerpt from **Henry Lawson's A Double Buggy at Lahey's Creek**

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

Refer to at least **two** subsystems in your analysis.

30 marks

Working space

Section B – continued

TURN OVER

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 the topics of Unit 4, 'Language variation and identity'
- refer to the stimulus material provided

Section C is worth 30 marks

Select **one** of the three 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 9

Stimulus

a) There is a particular 'code' of language used in Australian schools. It is the role of teachers to provide students with access to Standard Australian English for success in study, work and life.

b) Standard Australian English is the English that you produce when you avoid all the things that your teachers will mark as wrong, wrong, wrong.

Sue Butler, Australian Style Vol 17, No. 1

c) 'The final stage in the development of the Australian language was the discarding of the external English standard of language, as exemplified by received Pronunciation and the class-based judgement of vocabulary, and the embracing of the Australian accent and vocabulary as standards in their own right.'

Bruce Moore, "Speaking Our Language", p.xii

'The ability to communicate in Standard Australian English is fundamentally important in contemporary Australia.' Do you agree?

OR

Question 10

Stimulus

a) Though numerous features of Internet communication have the propensity to drive language prescriptivists mad with rage, ... people adapt language to meet new needs, new situations, and new modalities. This is the heart of language evolution. As new digital communication tools become available, genres of communicative practice will develop...

from <http://www.thefreelibrary.com/Language+and+the+Internet.-a0115103447>

b) The attempt to pin down the meaning [of Standard Australian English] will reveal that 'standard' is code for a prestige form of Australian English which is accepted in certain social situations. Sue Butler, Australian Style Vol 17, No. 1

c) ... the friend texted back and said "No probs, catch up soon, PI". And that's how her message finished: with a "PI". What's that? Please Indicate? Politically Incorrect? Puerile Interjection? It was frustrating because normally I'm a bit of a TSHP (Text-Savvy Hipster-Dude). I know "2" stands for "to" (and also "too", it's very versatile). I know "i" stands for "I" (saves heaps of time not switching to caps)...

from <http://www.theage.com.au/comment/pi-equals-what-mystery-has-me-rolling-on-the-floor-not-laughing-20130726-2qqca.html#ixzz2aCMzKQfH>

How is the evolution of language forcing users in Australia to adapt?

SECTION C continued

OR

Question 11

Stimulus

a) From a dictionary of medical jargon*ancef* - a cephalosporin antibiotic*anemia* - chronically low *haematocrit**aneurysm* - a balloonlike swelling in the wall of an artery*angina pectoris* - a severe acute attack of cardiac pain*angioplasty* - plastic surgery of blood vessels during which a balloon is passed into the artery and inflated to enlarge it and increase blood flow*anhidrosis* - the abnormal absence of sweat*anterior* - word used to describe the front surface of an organ, muscle, etc*antivert* - a drug prescribed for nausea and dizziness*aortic calcification* - hardening of the aorta, the main artery coming out of the left ventricle of the heart, usually from cholesterol deposits or some other organic substance*aortic coarctation* - a dangerous narrowing of the aorta*aortic dissection* - a tear in the aortahttp://www.ruf.rice.edu/~kemmer/Words04/usage/jargon_medical.html**b) letter from a US fighter pilot in Vietnam, to his parents**

11-Sept.-69

Dear Mom and Dad,

Getting short, Mom, coming home pretty soon. Going to quit flying soon, too much for me now. I went in front of a board for sp/5 will know soon if i made it. I have now 20 oak leaf clusters and some more paper for you. I have flown 1500 hours now, and in those hours I could tell you a lifetime story. I have been put in for a medal again, but this time I have seen far beyond of what ever you will see. That is why I'm going to quit flying. I dream of Valerie's hand touching mine telling me to come home; but I wake up, and it's some sergeant telling me I have to fly. Today I am 21, far away but coming home older.

Love,

Larry

from <http://vietvet.org/MJlastle.htm>**c) from the LOLcat Bible translation page****Oh hai thare**

So you want to speak lolcat? It isn't very easy and you may end up with some kitty scratches in the end. The purpose of this page is to offer help on proper lolcat syntax and grammar. Don't worry if you don't get it at first. It takes some practice but in the end you'll end up with proper lolcat that is both cute and funny.

This isn't fully written though. I shall be doing that soon. For now, if you really want a crash course go to icanhascheezburger and read the comments there. These are the experts. Yes, really.

from http://www.lolcatbible.com/index.php?title=Main_Page**'Membership of groups is reflected in the ways individuals use language.' Discuss.****SECTION C** continued
TURN OVER

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

SECTION C – continued

SECTION C – continued
TURN OVER

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

These criteria are from the 2012 English Language examination produced by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). The VCAA produces the only official, up to date versions of VCAA publications. Readers should consult the VCAA website <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au> for VCAA publications and the latest course information, including information in the Bulletins and Notices to Schools.

END OF QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOK