



Units 3 and 4 Legal Studies

Practice Exam Question and Answer Booklet

Duration: 15 minutes reading time, 2 hours writing time

Structure of book:

	Number of questions	Number of questions to be answered	Number of marks
	15	15	70
		Total	70

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

Materials supplied:

- This question and answer booklet of 14 pages.

Instructions:

- You must complete all questions of the examination.
- Write all your answers in the spaces provided in this booklet.

Short-answer questions

Instructions

Answer all questions in the spaces provided.

Question 1

Outline the structure of the Commonwealth Parliament.

1 mark

Question 2

A bill must pass through a number of stages in parliament before it becomes law. One of these is proclamation. Outline this stage.

1 mark

Question 3

Pre-trial procedures and sanctions are a crucial aspect of criminal procedure.

- a. Define bail.

2 marks

- b. Identify the sanction likely to be imposed by a court after a conviction for murder.

1 mark

- c. Explain one purpose of one sanction which could be imposed in the Magistrate's Court.

1 mark

Total: 4 marks

Question 4

Outline two restrictions on the Commonwealth Parliament.

2 marks

Question 5

Explain the role of the Victorian Law Reform Commission.

2 marks

Question 6

Distinguish between specific damages and general damages.

2 marks

Question 7

The division of powers under the Australian Constitution lists a number of specific powers in which the Commonwealth Parliament can make laws. Using examples, distinguish between concurrent and exclusive powers.

3 marks

Question 8

Explain two reasons for a court hierarchy.

4 marks

Question 9

Explain the impact that a successful referendum can have on the division of legislative power. In your response, refer to one example and outline two factors that may have contributed to the success of your chosen referendum.

5 marks

Question 11

Describe one reform and one alternative which have been made or could be made to the jury system in Victoria. For each, outline how a more effective legal system did or could result.

6 marks

Question 12

Some key elements of an effective legal system is the entitlement to a fair and unbiased hearing, effective access to mechanisms of dispute resolution, and the timely resolution of disputes. Explain two problems or difficulties faced by individuals in gaining access to the law that impact on the achievement of the above elements.

6 marks

- b. Later in the article, Justice Lucat goes on to suggest changes in the court system. Discuss two recent changes or proposed changes to pre-trial and trial procedures that may enhance the effectiveness of the legal system.

4 marks

Total: 10 marks

