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|  | **Mock Examination, 2015**  **Question/Answer Booklet** |

**Name:**

POLITICS

Please place your student identification label in this box

### AND LAW

**Stage 3**

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| Student Number: In figures |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

In words

#### Time allowed for this paper

Reading time before commencing work: ten minutes

Working time for paper: three hours

**Materials required/recommended for this paper**

To be provided by the supervisor

This Question/Answer Booklet

***To be provided by the candidate***

Standard items: pens, pencils, eraser, correction fluid, ruler, highlighters

Special items: nil

**Important note to candidates**

No other items may be taken into the examination room. It is your responsibility to ensure that you do not have any unauthorised notes or other items of a non-personal nature in the examination room. If you have any unauthorised material with you, hand it to the supervisor before reading any further.

**Structure of this paper**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Section | Number of questions available | Number of questions to be answered | Suggested working time  (minutes) | Marks available | Percentage of exam |
| Section One:  Short response | 4 | 3 | 45 | 30 | 30 |
| Section Two:  Source analysis | 2 | 1 | 35 | 20 | 20 |
| Section Three Part A Unit 3A:  Extended response | 2 | 1 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Section Three Part B Unit 3B:  Extended response | 2 | 1 | 50 |
|  | | | | | 100 |

**Instructions to candidates**

1. Answer the questions in the space provided.

2. You must be careful to confine your responses to the specific questions asked and to follow any instructions that are specific to a particular question.

3. Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.

* + Planning: If you use the spare pages for planning, indicate this clearly at the top of the page.
  + Continuing an answer: If you need to use the space to continue an answer, indicate in the original answer space where the answer is continued, i.e. give the page number. Fill in the number of the question(s) that you are continuing to answer at the top of the page.

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**Section One: Short response 30% (30 Marks)**

This section has **four (4)** questions. You must answer **three (3)** questions.

Part A: Answer **one (1)** question from a choice of two (2).

Part B: Answer **one (1)** question from a choice of two (2).

The third response can be chosen from **either** of the remaining questions in Part A **or** Part B.

Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.

* + Planning: If you use the spare pages for planning, indicate this clearly at the top of the page.
  + Continuing an answer: If you need to use the space to continue an answer, indicate in the original answer space where the answer is continued, i.e. give the page number. Fill in the number of the question(s) that you are continuing to answer at the top of the page.

Suggested working time for this section is 45 minutes.

**Part A: Unit 3A**

**Question 1 (10 marks)**

(a) What is meant by the term ‘division of powers’ in the Australian political and legal system? (2 marks)

(b) Outline **three** financial powers of the Commonwealth Parliament. (3 marks)

(c) Identify the Opposition Leader of the Commonwealth of Australia and discuss how they can be seen to have fulfilled **two** of their roles. (5 marks)

**Question 2 (10 marks)**

1. Explain the meaning of the term ‘pressure group’ in terms of Australian politics.

(2 marks)

(b) Outline **three** ways a pressure group may attempt to influence the lawmaking process within parliament.

(3 marks)

1. Discuss **two** reasons why federalism in Australia is often described as being ‘coercive’.

(5 marks)

**Part B: Unit 3B**

**Question 3 (10 marks)**

(a)In terms of good governance,what is meant by the term ‘open government’? (2 marks)

(b) Distinguish between ‘an administrative inquiry’ and a ‘Royal Commission’ as methods of executive accountability.

(3 marks)

(c) Discuss **two** ways that the Commonwealth Parliament can be held accountable in Australia. (5 marks)

**Question 4 (10 marks)**

1. With regards to human rights, what is meant by the term ‘international covenant’?

(2 marks)

(b) Outline **two** arguments for and **one** argument against the view that the Australian political and legal system upholds the ideal of ‘popular participation’. (3 marks)

(c) Discuss **two** methods of human rights protection in a country other than Australia.

(5 marks)

**End of section 1**

**Section Two: Source analysis 20% (20 Marks)**

This section has **two (2)** questions. You must answer **one (1)** question. Write your answers in the space provided.

Spare pages are included at the end of this booklet. They can be used for planning your responses and/or as additional space if required to continue an answer.

* + Planning: If you use the spare pages for planning, indicate this clearly at the top of the page.
  + Continuing an answer: If you need to use the space to continue an answer, indicate in the original answer space where the answer is continued, i.e. give the page number. Fill in the number of the question(s) that you are continuing to answer at the top of the page.

Suggested working time for this section is 35 minutes.

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Read **Source 1** and answer all parts of the question that follows.

# Source 1: Unit 3A – The South African Presidency

The Journal of the Helen Suzman Foundation | ISSUE 71 | November 2013

http://hsf.org.za/resource-centre/focus/copy\_of\_focus-71-state-nation/the-state-of-the-south-african-presidency-a-butler.pdf

The office of the president in South Africa is a constitutional and political hybrid. The incumbent, in certain respects at least, outwardly resembles an executive president in a presidential system of government. This, however, is largely an illusion: presidential delusions of grandeur are sharply contained by what remains essentially a parliamentary system.

On the one hand, the presidency is undoubtedly at the apex of the system of government. The incumbent is head of the national executive and he is therefore at the heart of the sometimes grubby business of politics. He chairs cabinet and forms a bridge between the governing party and national public sector institutions.

The president is also the head of state: he is a symbolic national leader who is expected to embody the values of aspirations of his people. He enjoys grand official accommodation at the Union Buildings in Pretoria and at Tuynhuys in Cape Town. The incumbent possesses an array of formal powers. He appoints ministers and influences the appointment of senior officials. He chairs the cabinet, steers some cabinet committees, and appoints the chairs of others. He can dominate foreign policy. And he can adopt any other policy area and make it his own. In addition, he can bypass full cabinet and terrify his ministers with the threat of dismissal. A president also appoints members of public bodies, giving him a huge realm of patronage. And he has access to state intelligence and communications resources.

The president is also (usually) the head of the largest party in parliament. This provides him with a unique opportunity to combine state and party instruments in the exercise of power. Those who cross swords with him do not merely face eviction from government: they risk exclusion from public office and from the prospect of gainful employment in the private sector.

So evident is a president’s power that we tend to overlook the significant institutional and political constraints that bind the nation’s leader. South Africa’s system of government is essentially parliamentary rather than presidential. The President is elected by National Assembly rather than directly by the people and so he does not possess a personal mandate. He is vulnerable to impeachment, or to a vote of no confidence by the majority of the assembly which would trigger a general election. As the fate of former president Thabo Mbeki demonstrates, his leadership of the governing party is a double-edged sword: the state president is subject to “recall”.

The three ‘powers of government’ (legislation, execution, and adjudication) are each assigned to a separate branch: to parliament, to president and cabinet together, and to the courts. This separation of powers, regulated by a supreme constitution, hinders the concentration of too much authority in the presidency. Professional staff are not sufficient to trump those of the public service. Presidents lack the time, knowledge, and resources required to dominate government to the extent permitted by the office. They must rely on the willing compliance of officials and ministers.

Apex – top

Incumbent – someone who holds this position

Realm - area

A possible source can be found using the URL shown below:

<http://hsf.org.za/resource-centre/focus/copy_of_focus-71-state-nation/the-state-of-the-south-african-presidency-a-butler.pdf>

Use the second to sixth paragraphs.

Apex – top

Incumbent – someone who holds this position

Realm - area

**Question 5 (20 marks)**

1. Explain what is meant by the phrase ‘head of state’.

(2 marks)

(b) With reference to the source, identify and explain **two** powers of the South African President. (4 marks)

(c) Discuss **one** **similarity** and **one difference** between the role of the South African President and that played by the Australian Governor General. (6 marks)

1. Identify two powers held by the Prime Minister of Australia and evaluate the current Prime Minister’s (or another recent Prime Minister’s) use of these powers. (8 marks)

Read **Source 2** and answer all parts of the question that follows.

**Source 2: Unit 3B – Lebanese Migrants in NSW (as of 2008)**

In NSW there is a record of Australian Lebanese holding public office. The highest official appointment in NSW, that of Governor, is currently filled by Professor Marie Bashir. Professor Bashir is the granddaughter of pioneer Lebanese immigrants who established themselves in Redfern as wholesalers. Her parents had a retail business in Narrandera, where she grew up.

Lebanese immigrants and their descendants have been involved in politics and civic affairs from early days. Their involvement shows that Lebanese immigrants have a commitment to their new country, despite maintaining links with their homeland. As permanent settlers, they are keen to participate in the civic affairs of a democratic nation.

Reflecting the nature of Lebanese settlement and their role as local business people and respected members of their local communities, several Lebanese immigrants have been elected to rural municipal and shire councils. For instance in recent times Alexander Bookallil, for example, was an Alderman on Cooma Municipal Council from 1942 to 1974 and also a member of the Monaro County Council for twelve years. A column has been erected in his honour in Cooma by the local Monaro Shire to commemorate his civic service.In 1998, Tony Kaltoum Rahme who migrated from the village of Becharrie in 1962 was also a Mayor of Monaro.Michael Yarad was an Alderman on Taree Municipal Council.

**Question 6 20 marks**

(a) Explain what is meant by the term ‘public office’.

(2 marks)

1. With reference to the source, identify and explain **two** examples which prove that

Lebanese migrants have been involved in the political system in Australia. (4 marks)

(c) Discuss **one** setback and **one** achievement of an individual or group in the Australian political and legal system. (6 marks)

(d) Evaluate **two** democratic principles upheld in a country other than Australia. (8 marks)

**End of section 2**

**Section Three: Extended answer 50% (50 Marks)**

This section has **four** **(4)** questions. Answer **one (1)** question from Part A: Unit 3A and answer **one (1)** question from Part B: Unit 3B in the space provided. Number your choice clearly.

Suggested working time for this section is 100 minutes.

**Part A: Unit 3A**

Answer **one (1)** question from a choice of two (2).

**Question 7 (25 marks)**

“The 44th Commonwealth Parliament, is dominated by Cabinet, and we are seeing a decline in the proper functioning of parliament as a result”.

**Evaluate the validity of this claim.**

**or**

**Question 8 (25 marks)**

“Although constitutional change is difficult to achieve in Australia, it is needed more than ever.”

**Evaluate the validity of this claim.**

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**Part B: Unit 3B**

Answer **one** (1) question from a choice of two (2).

**Question 9 (25 marks)**

Explain how and evaluate the extent to which the judiciary is accountable in Australia.

**or**

**Question 10 (25 marks)**

Explain how and evaluate the extent to which human rights are protected in Australia.

**End of questions**

**Additional working space**

**Additional working space**

**Additional working space**

**Additional working space**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Source 1: Was created for the purpose of this exam.

Source 2: https://www.humanrights.gov.au/common-law-rights-human-rights-scrutiny-and-rule-law