

Print exam correction:
Insert Book, Page 5, Text 2,
in Line 25, 'Morawa' has been
changed to 'Murrawah'.

SUPERVISOR TO ATTACH
PROCESSING LABEL HERE

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Write your **student number** in the boxes above.

Letter

English Language

Question and Answer Book

VCE Examination – Wednesday 29 October 2025

- Reading time is **15 minutes**: 3.00 pm to 3.15 pm
- Writing time is **2 hours**: 3.15 pm to 5.15 pm

Materials supplied

- Question and Answer Book of 28 pages
- Detachable Insert for Sections A and B in the centrefold

Instructions

- Detach the Insert from the centre of this book during reading time.
- Write your responses in English.

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

Contents	pages
Section A (4 questions, 15 marks) _____	2–5
Section B (1 question, 30 marks) _____	6–12
Section C (1 of 3 questions, 30 marks) _____	13–25
Assessment criteria _____	27

Section A

Instructions

- All questions in Section A relate to Text 1 in the Insert.
 - Answer all questions in this section.
 - In your response, you are expected to:
 - demonstrate your ability to use relevant, descriptive and appropriate metalanguage
 - demonstrate familiarity with the topics of Unit 3, ‘Language variation and purpose’, and the topics of Unit 4, ‘Language variation and identity’.
-

Question 1 (3 marks)

Identify **one** modal verb used between lines 29 and 39. Describe how the modal verb supports **one** purpose of the text. Use appropriate metalanguage in your response.

Question 2 (3 marks)

Identify **two** examples of information flow between lines 20 and 33. Using appropriate metalanguage, describe the impact of **one** of these examples.

Do not write in this area.

Section B

Instructions

- Section B relates to Text 2 in the Insert.
 - 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 purpose’, and the topics of Unit 4, ‘Language variation and identity’.
-

Question 5 (30 marks)

Write an analytical commentary on the language features of Text 2.

In your response, you should comment on the:

- function(s), purpose(s) and intent(s) of the text
- situational and cultural context(s) influencing and affecting the text
- influence of register, tenor and audience
- relevant characteristics and features of language in the text.

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

Working space

Section C

Instructions

- Section C requires a sustained expository response to **one** question: Question 6, Question 7 or Question 8.
 - In your response, you are expected to:
 - demonstrate your ability to use relevant, descriptive and appropriate metalanguage
 - demonstrate familiarity with the topics of Unit 3, 'Language variation and purpose', and the topics of Unit 4, 'Language variation and identity'
 - refer to at least **one** of the stimulus materials provided.
-

Question 6 (30 marks)

'In contemporary Australian society, language can increase both social separation and social equality.'
Discuss, referring to at least **two** subsystems of language in your response.

Stimulus A

Language can be extremely powerful. It gives people the words to describe their experiences, to find their community and to advocate for change ...

Source: Edith Cowan University, *Inclusive Language Guide*, <www.ecu.edu.au>, 2022, p. 3

Stimulus B

<p>3/10</p> <h2>Differently Abled</h2> <p>A “differing ability” would be like, shooting lasers out of my eyeballs or something. What I have is a disability.</p> <p>@disabilityreframed</p>	<p>8/10</p> <h2>The world in general doesn't like to talk about disability. Instead, we talk around it.</h2> <p>@disabilityreframed</p>	<p>9/10</p> <h2>So, somebody somewhere sometime came up with a bunch of euphemisms that make it easy to talk around disability.</h2> <p>@disabilityreframed</p>
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Source: Adapted from Disability Reframed [Instagram post], 5 January 2024

Stimulus C

We can't expect any language to remain the same in terms of grammar and vocabulary across a single country, let alone when it spreads internationally. And we can't declare international varieties "wrong" on the mere basis that they differ from native speaker English, the standard variety in particular.

Source: A Baratta, P Vincent Smith and R He, 'Why universities shouldn't mark down international students for using non-standard English', *The Conversation* <<https://theconversation.com/>>, 19 April 2023

Stimulus D

Having secured gold in the women's 4x100m freestyle relay, the Australian quartet of Emma McKeon, Shayna Jack, Mollie O'Callaghan and Meg Harris made their way out of the Paris Aquatic Centre. It was then that Eurosport commentator Bob Ballard said: "Well, the women, just finishing up. You know what women are like... hanging around, doing their makeup..."

Source: G Abbott, 'A commentator has been sacked – but this won't be the last word in Olympic-sized sexism', *The Independent* <www.independent.co.uk/voices/>, 29 July 2024

Working space

Do not write in this area.

OR

Question 7 (30 marks)

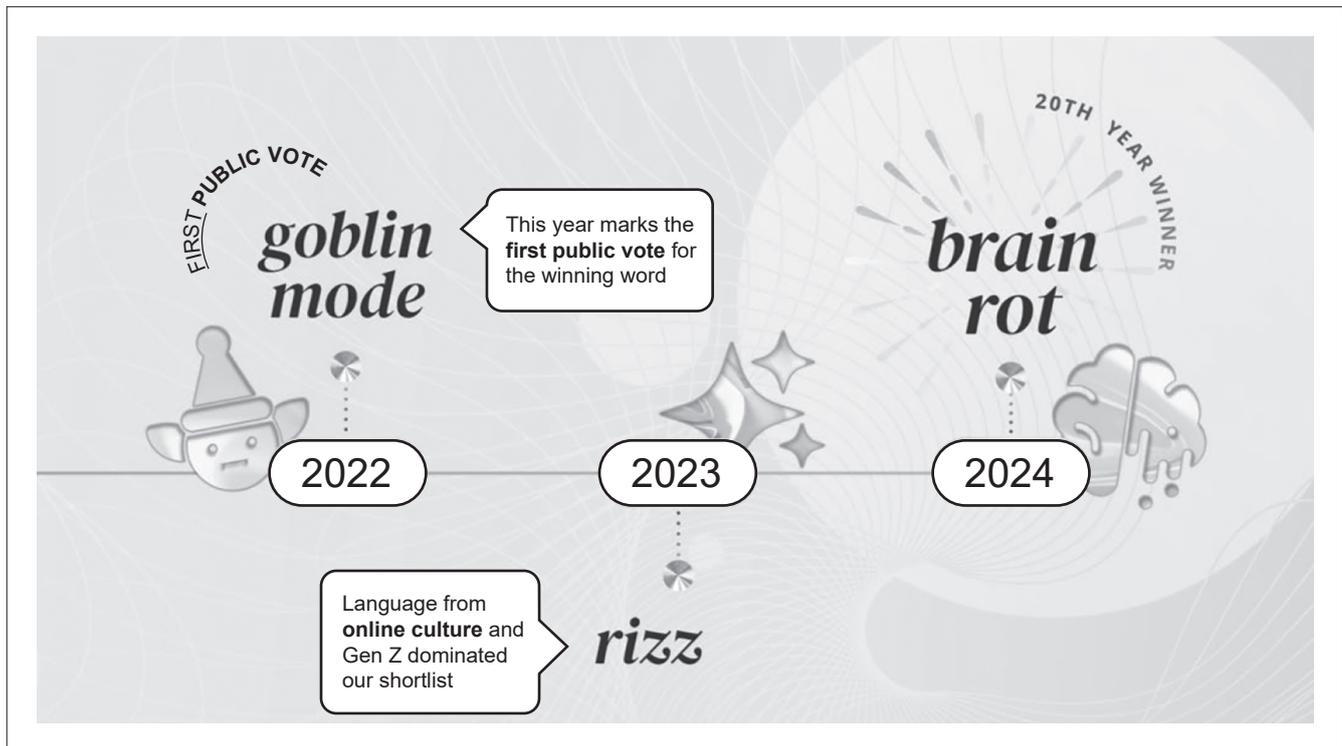
'Contemporary social changes and technologies have influenced language norms in Australia.'

Discuss, referring to at least **two** subsystems of language in your response.

Stimulus A

The internet didn't create informal writing, but it did make it more common, changing some of our previously spoken interactions into near-real-time text exchanges.

Source: G McCulloch, *Because Internet: Understanding How Language is Changing*, Vintage, London, 2020, p. 153

Stimulus B

Source reference: Oxford University Press (OUP), 'Oxford Word of the Year', <<https://corp.oup.com/word-of-the-year/>>, 31 October 2024

Stimulus C

Why does ChatGPT text sound bad? It's as though you asked a million people to respond to your prompt, and ChatGPT gives you the "average" of all their responses. [It] ... will be generic and vague. ChatGPT won't give you the best word for each scenario, it will just give you the most commonly used one.

Source: M Efron, 'Words and phrases that make it obvious you used ChatGPT', Medium <<https://medium.com/learning-data/>>, 21 May 2024

Stimulus D

While slang can sometimes be geographic based, the rise of platforms like TikTok have meant that its far more universal than it was in pre-social media days.

Source: A Merton-McCann, 'Teen slang – what you need to know to understand your teen', McAfee <www.mcafee.com/blogs/family-safety/>, 28 March 2024

Working space

OR

Question 8 (30 marks)

'Non-standard varieties of Australian English support the construction of identity.'

To what extent is this true in the public domain? Refer to at least **two** subsystems of language in your response.

Stimulus A

Source: Adapted from National Indigenous Television (NITV), 'NAIDOC' [X post], 4 July 2022; © SBS, reproduced with permission

Stimulus B

The default nickname formula in Australia is shortening a name down to one syllable and then adding an "o". You can also add an "sy" to many last names, especially if that person is a good-natured larrikin ... There are several other popular styles, which at best could be described as "observational humour" ...

Source: P Lenton, 'My name is Patrick. Don't you dare call me Pat', *The Age*, 25 February 2025

Stimulus C

For young people living in western Sydney, Mahmoud Ismail is “that TikTokker that reports on the area”. He attracts millions of views to his interviews with locals.

But why? Ismail says it’s not just his face and name that reflects an ethnic identity, but also how he sounds.

“It’s the representation and the relatability,” he says. “Some people hate my accent.”

Source: P Rontziokos, “‘It’s an expression of identity’: the TikTokker taking the western Sydney accent to the world”, *The Guardian* <www.theguardian.com/science/>, 25 January 2024

Stimulus D

Politicians may actually be distancing themselves even further from young people by trying to connect so unabashedly ... And once a slang term loses its exclusivity, it also loses its in-group status and becomes dated.

Source: E Storie, ‘Saying “sigma” only makes you less cool. How politicians are ruining Gen Alpha slang’, *SBS News* <www.sbs.com.au/news/the-feed/>, 24 September 2024

Working space

Assessment criteria

Examination responses will be assessed on the extent to which they demonstrate the ability to:

- 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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English Language

Insert for Sections A and B

Please remove from the centre of this book during reading time.

You may keep this Insert.

Section A

Text 1

Background information

The text is a written email delivered to Hilary, who recently purchased a frank green* product. Owned by Benjamin Young, frank green is an Australian reusable cup and bottle company. It is a company that produces alternative solutions to single-use plastic.

*Non-standard capitalisation as per the company's style

1. 
2. **Subject:** Thank you!
3. Hi Hilary,
4. Thank you for making 2024 spectacular. What an amazing environmental impact
5. we've made together.
6. It was our tenth year of creating multi-award-winning products that are beautiful,
7. functional and great for the planet. Thank you for joining us on the journey.
8. **Here are some of the highlights we've achieved this year:**
9. – Launched exciting new products and categories, including our extensive
10. Lunch range, Switch Lid, Hinged Cup, Cactus Leather, new Holiday gift sets
11. and limited edition colours.
12. – Collaborated with some of Australia's most prestigious brands, such as
13. Christopher Esber and Oroton.
14. – Made our mark on the fashion week circuits in London, Paris, and right here in
15. Australia.
16. – United with Parley for the Oceans to combat the devastating impact of single-
17. use plastics on our oceans. This partnership marks a significant milestone for
18. frank green, reflecting our commitment to creating a greener, more
19. sustainable future.
20. – Alongside Parley Australia, our team removed and diverted 137kg of waste
21. from the Australian coastline. We also made waves at Climate Week in New
22. York, contributing to vital discussions on solutions to plastic pollution.
23. – Commenced only making our products out of 90% recycled stainless steel.
24. – The Lucky Bag reached new heights with a \$50K prize, epic scavenger hunts,
25. and the launch of our Pet Lucky Bag—because, let's face it, we're a little
26. pet-obsessed here at frank green!
27. – With your incredible support, we've raised \$400,000 for our partner charities,

28. including Parley for the Oceans.
29. – We opened two stores in Jakarta and are gearing up to launch our first
30. Australian store at Chadstone – The Fashion Capital. And that’s just the
31. beginning—many more stores are set to open worldwide in 2025!
32. – We will continue our commitment to deliver to you premium, innovative and of
33. course sustainable solutions that you’ll want to use again and again.
34. 2025 is going to be extraordinary for your most loved reusable lifestyle brand, thanks
35. to our amazing team at frank green. I’m fortunate to have the most innovative, highly
36. talented people at frank green who care about making an impact. It’s been a brilliant
37. ten years. We couldn’t have done it without you. We appreciate you have a choice,
38. and are grateful you choose us.
39. THANK YOU!
40. Best,
41. Benjamin Young

42.



Multi Award
Winning
Designs



100% Australian
Designed &
Owned



Fully
Customisable

43.



Real service.
No robots,
just people.



Free shipping
over \$100



Buy now,
pay later

44.

Sustainable by Design

45.

Sustainability is at the heart of what we do. We

46.

offer a complete lifestyle range that’s been

47.

thoughtfully designed to make it easy to give

48.

up single-use plastic for good.

49. [Manage Email Preferences.](#)50. No longer want to receive these emails? [Unsubscribe](#)

Source: Adapted from a frank green email; © Frank Green, reproduced with permission

Section B

Instructions

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 purpose', and the topics of Unit 4, 'Language variation and identity'.

Text 2

In the following transcript Professor Kelvin Kong (K), a Worimi man, is receiving the NAIDOC¹ Person Award. This is his acceptance speech at the ceremony in front of a live audience (A), predominantly made up of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and fellow award recipients.

Background information

The NAIDOC Awards recognise outstanding contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples make to improve the lives of people in their communities and beyond, and to promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues in the wider community.

Kelvin Kong graduated from the University of New South Wales to become Australia's first Indigenous surgeon. He has received this award for his innovations in hearing health, particularly working with children. His mother, Grace Kinsella, was a pioneering Indigenous registered nurse, and his father, Dr Kong Cheok Seng, is a Malaysian-Chinese man.

¹NAIDOC – National Aboriginal Islander Day Observance Committee

The following symbols are used in this transcript:

/	rising pitch	_____	emphasis
\	falling pitch	<AA>	allegro – fast-paced utterance
,	continuing intonation	<L L>	lento – slow-paced utterance
?	questioning intonation	[]	overlapping speech
.	final intonation	-	truncated speech
(.)	very short pause	(H)	audible intake of breath
(..)	short pause	(())	vocal effects or other sounds
(...)	longer pause	@	laughter
=	lengthening of sound		

1. K: the= NAIDOC Week/ and the (..) NAIDOC Awar=ds\
um I hold in such high= regard/
2. so= (..) to be up here,
3. in front of you\
(..)
4. and receiving this
5. on behalf of my community (..) um <A I'm super proud of A>
6. there are (..) so many people\
um

8. who do so much work, (..) in this space,
9. um that (..) don't get <A this kind of platform A>
10. to talk about it and share their experience (H)
11. so I do wanna acknowledge and pay my respects to them/
12. who have done such ama=zing work (..)
13. um in this spa=ce (H)
14. um to the NAIDOC Committee (..) um
15. thank you for= (..) acknowledging that (...)
16. hearing health is is jus- so so important
17. ah for all of us\ u=m it's a two edged sword in
18. <A receiving something like this A>
19. because (..) I'm so happy and overjoyed,
20. to be in the room (..) full of such (..) amazing people\
21. who uh past friends <A I've not seen for such a long A> ti=me
22. um family and friends who have travelled
23. <A such a long way to be here A>
24. and celebrate (..) um and also
25. meeting people like Megan and Murrawah who (..)
26. are just awe inspiring for me\
27. um but the two edged sword is (..)
28. that we live in a country
29. and <A I'm accepting this award A> (..)
30. on the background (...)
31. of <L appalling ear health statistics\ L> (..)
32. and it's sad that we have to celebrate/
33. how ba=d our kids' ears are (..)
34. to actually receive these awards
35. and I'm ashamed o- that (...)
36. A: ((applause))
37. K: but I don't want to dwell on
38. some of the horrible statistics/
39. <A or some of the operations I do in there A>
40. but rather some of the happy successes for you (H)
41. um there are probably two stories
42. that <A come to mind quickly A> is um (..)
43. and I apologise in advance/ cause I'll dob them in
44. but Shazahia one of my patients

45. who= (..) is almost in sixth class/
 46. who told me after operation
 47. that she had a boy/ friend\
 48. I don't think he knows yet (.) but she was
 49. really proud because (..) she could actually hear 'im again
 50. A: @@@@
 51. K: or to= or to Trevor who (..) um
 52. came back after his operation
 53. and confided in me how (.)
 54. happy he was that (..) farts don't just smell they actually make noises (...)
 55. A: [@@@@]
 56. K: [and to hear that] uh happiness in their faces/
 57. and to see them partake
 58. in our culture our songs our singing,
 59. is just so= so= wonderful\
 60. um for our Elders (..) um who
 61. have done so much for us um
 62. <A I stand here before you because of the opportunities
 63. that you gave all of us A> (..)
 64. and it's just so pleasing to be here representing what
 65. you've done (..) and la=stly to my (..) fa=mily (..) um (..)
 66. to my wife Kiara's 'ere tonight/ to my kids at ho=me
 67. maybe you're watching/ Lewis (..) Ellery and Billy/
 68. um (..) thank you for sharing me=
 69. <A to allow me to do this A> wonderful wor=k
 70. I look forward to having a dance with everyone tonight
 71. <A on the dance floor/ A>
 72. thank you
 73. A: ((applause and cheering))

Source: Adapted from ABC Indigenous, 'Professor Kelvin Kong wins person award – National NAIDOC Awards' [YouTube video], ABC, 2023; reproduced with kind permission of Professor Kevin Kong

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