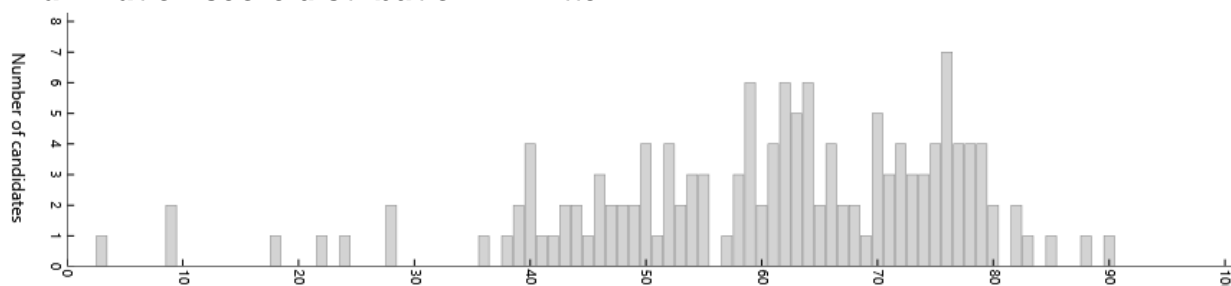




Summary report of the 2017 ATAR course examination: Career and Enterprise

Year	Number who sat	Number of absentees
2017	142	1
2016	167	3

Examination score distribution – Written



Summary

Attempted by 142 candidates Mean 60.27% Max 89.81% Min 3.19%

Section means were:

Section One: Short answer	Mean 63.18%		
Attempted by 142 candidates	Mean 37.91(/60)	Max 56.81	Min 3.19
Section Two: Extended answer	Mean 57.11%		
Attempted by 139 candidates	Mean 22.84(/40)	Max 35.00	Min 2.00

General comments

Candidates seemed to find Section Two more difficult compared to Section One. The majority of the candidates attempted all sections of the paper, suggesting that the length of the paper was appropriate. Where candidates did not attempt a question this suggested a lack of knowledge rather than a lack of time.

Candidates still need to allocate appropriate time and effort to both questions within Section Two. It was observed that some candidates would demonstrate depth and breadth of knowledge to one question of Section Two and their response to the second question lacked equivalent attention to detail. Question 4, referring to the Individual Pathway Plan (IPP), presented a few issues for candidates. Some candidates took an approach to this question by describing features of their actual future plans without reference to the specific underlying aspects of an IPP, while others focused on the specific features of an ideal IPP and then linked them to their own specific future intentions.

Advice for candidates

- Candidates need to make effective use of reading time for planning.
- Candidates need to ensure that they clearly mark the page number in their question/answer booklet if their answer extends beyond the space provided.
- Candidates are encouraged to read the extended answer questions carefully and note the mark allocation for each question and plan their time and writing accordingly.
- Candidates need to ensure that they have revised all areas of the examinable content and not limit themselves to select learning outcomes.
- Candidates need to make sure they note the key verbs used in a question such as 'outline', 'describe', 'explain', 'analyse', 'discuss' or 'justify', and respond to the question accordingly.

Advice for teachers

- Students need to be given ample practice at answering extended response questions as part of their school-based assessment program.
- Students need practice in deconstructing a question and identifying the actual task required by the question.
- Students need practice in demonstrating the application of knowledge rather than the recall of content.

Comments on specific sections and questions

Section One: Short answer (113 Marks)

In Section One candidates were required to answer all six questions. Section One short answers: Questions 4 and 5 part (a) appeared to be the most difficult with a mean of 53.18% and 54.80% respectively. Questions 2 part (a) (i), 2 part (c) and 4 part (b) appeared to be the easiest with means of 80.40%, 79.20% and 79.35% respectively.

Section Two: Extended answer (60 Marks)

Section Two required candidates to answer two of three questions. Section Two extended answer: all questions were satisfactorily answered with higher mean scores with the exception of Question 7 part (c) which was the most difficult with a mean of 45.13%. In Section Two, 73 candidates chose to answer Question 7 with a mean of 54.13%. The majority of candidates chose Questions 8 (86 candidates) and 9 (115 candidates) with means of 54.11% and 63.16% respectively. Question 9 part (a) had a mean of 71.01%.