

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE/DIALECT

WACE examination – 2008 design brief

There will be a single examination for English as an Additional Language/Dialect. The range and nature of questions will allow all candidates the opportunity to demonstrate their competence in Standard Australian English.

Time allowed

Reading time before commencing work: Ten minutes
Working time for paper: Three hours

Special note

Candidates are permitted to use a printed English language dictionary (non-electronic and not a thesaurus).

Permissible items

Standard items: pens, pencils, eraser, correction fluid, ruler, highlighter.
Special items: English language dictionary (non-electronic and not a thesaurus).

Section	Supporting information
<p>Section One: Listening</p> <p>25% of the examination</p> <p>5–15 short-answer questions including 2–3 multiple-choice</p> <p>Suggested working time: 40 minutes</p>	<p>The questions enable candidates to demonstrate their understanding of standard spoken English in TWO separate aural texts. The sequence of questions follows the sequence of information in the texts.</p> <p>The questions are phrased so as to minimise the effect of different levels of reading comprehension.</p> <p>The stimulus materials may include reproductions of conversations, lectures, narratives, interviews, and news broadcasts. Voices and accents vary between the stimulus materials.</p>
<p>Section Two: Reading</p> <p>20% of the examination</p> <p>5–10 short-answer questions</p> <p>Suggested working time: 40 minutes</p>	<p>The questions relate to the information in written texts across a range of subjects or a common scenario. They are structured as a series of closed and open items that increase in complexity.</p> <p>Possible formats of response include: dot points, short descriptive answers, summaries, diagrams, or scaffolded tables/retrieval charts.</p> <p>The stimulus materials may include narrative, expository texts, dramatic scripts, conversation transcripts, lectures, talks, speeches, poetry, or song lyrics.</p>
<p>Section Three: Reading and viewing</p> <p>25% of the examination</p> <p>1 extended synthesis</p> <p>Suggested working time: 45 minutes</p>	<p>The extended synthesis enables candidates to demonstrate that they can read and view a range of texts with understanding, and synthesise the information contained within them.</p> <p>The stimulus materials will include print texts (such as articles, narratives, conversations, lectures or talks) and visual texts (such as photographs, diagrams, graphs or drawings).</p>
<p>Section Four: Extended writing</p> <p>30% of the examination</p> <p>1 question chosen from no fewer than 5 options.</p> <p>Suggested working time: 55 minutes</p>	<p>The questions enable candidates to demonstrate appropriate use of text type to suit audience, purpose and register, and to use semantic items to suit the context.</p> <p>They also allow for the demonstration of the use of strategies, such as note-making or refining/reshaping existing writing.</p>