



B O A R D O F S T U D I E S
NEW SOUTH WALES

2010 HSC Society and Culture Sample Answers

This document contains ‘sample answers’, or, in the case of some questions, ‘answers could include’. These are developed by the examination committee for two purposes. The committee does this:

- (a) as part of the development of the examination paper to ensure the questions will effectively assess students’ knowledge and skills, and
- (b) in order to provide some advice to the Supervisor of Marking about the nature and scope of the responses expected of students.

The ‘sample answers’ or similar advice are not intended to be exemplary or even complete answers or responses. As they are part of the examination committee’s ‘working document’, they may contain typographical errors, omissions, or only some of the possible correct answers.

Section I — Social and Cultural Continuity and Change

Question 4

Sample answer:

Advances in computer technology have made it possible to work at home and in other locations outside of the office for example, the man working outside with laptop.

Question 8

Answers could include:

- Women have benefited from the continuity of anti-discrimination legislation allowing this group equal access to employment, higher rates of pay and promotion.
- School holidays for the students. They benefit from holidays – a time to rest and relax.

Question 11

Answers could include:

Japan: Industrialisation has meant that men travel long distances to work in cities, meaning traditional family living has changed. (Two generation families)

Australia: Changes in Australia's population have meant that non-Christian celebrations are now widely observed, for example, Chinese New Year

China: Changes in laws and social practices have enhanced the status of women, for example, greater participation in the workforce

Vietnam: Changes in gender roles, family structure and traditional marriages, allowing for the ability to choose one's own spouse. Mention of the impacts of Westernisation on Vietnam, including the move from rural to urban areas.

Section II — Depth Studies

Question 12 — Popular Culture

Question 12 (a)

Answers could include:

- Historical features, for example place and/or people
- Original consumers
- Original marketing strategies

Question 12 (b)

Answers could include:

- Hero/s have played an integral part in the formation and maintenance of the popular culture
- Hero/s have played a role in the consumption of popular culture and in its diffusion globally
- Hero status can continue to promote the popular culture after the hero has died, for example Elvis and Colonel Sanders
- Heroes play a role in perpetuating consumption patterns.

Question 12 (c)

Answers could include:

- Details the effects of globalisation on the popular culture
- Judgements about how the future consumption of the popular culture will change due to globalisation
- Increases the access to the popular culture. Technology creates and perpetuates further globalisation of the popular culture.
- Judgements may include: globalisation increasing access to artist's work; decreasing control and profitability through traditional revenue streams; increase in online access via online concerts and social networking and downloads; marketplace shrinks.

Question 13 — Belief Systems

Question 13 (a)

Answers could include:

- Historical features eg place and/or people and/or dates
- Root belief eg Buddhism from Hinduism, Christianity from Judaism
- Cultures that the belief originated from scientology/America, Feminism/Western Societies.

Question 13 (b)***Answers could include:***

- The impact of globalisation on the belief system
- The impact of the belief system on globalisation
- The maintenance of the belief system into the future if current global trends continue; for example, continued conflict between Christian cultures and Islamic cultures.

Question 13 (c)***Answers could include:***

- The interrelationship between one belief system/s, worldview which can cause peace and/or conflict
- The comparison of different belief systems and their roles in peace and conflict in the world
- A range of both macro and micro examples.

Question 14 — Equality and Difference**Question 14 (a)*****Answers could include:***

- Definition of what equality and difference are
- Examples of difference based on gender, race, ethnicity or socio-economic factors in relation to different outcomes.
- Examples of equality based on gender, race, ethnicity or socio-economic factors in relation to similar outcomes.

Question 14 (b)***Answers could include:***

- Unequal access to socially valued resources resulting in unfair outcomes. For example, poorer people get poorer outcomes from the judicial system
- Remote communities have unequal access to education that limit future career prospects
- Both conflict and co-operation can be consequences of inequality.

Question 14 (c)***Answers could include:***

- Points for the view that Australia is becoming a more equal society:
 - Introduction of anti-discrimination legislation
 - Increasing numbers of women in the workforce
 - Attitudinal change in favour of equality
 - Community action, for example, Reconciliation
- Points against the view:
 - Increasing income and wealth inequality
 - Increasing levels of discrimination based on ethnicity and religion
 - Women continue to be under-represented in positions of power
 - Ongoing legislative changes required to create equality
 - Affirmative discrimination
 - Ongoing welfare initiatives to address emerging inequalities.

Question 15 — Work and Leisure**Question 15 (a)*****Answers could include:***

- Work is done for money. Leisure isn't
- Some people do their leisure activities as a job, for example, fitness instructor, disc jockey, florist

Question 15 (b)***Answers could include:***

- Increasing use of computer games as a form of leisure, contributing to a shift to more passive leisure
- Technology allows more people access to some leisure activities, for example, online social networking for housebound people
- The facilitation of increased outsourcing of manufacturing to developing countries

Question 15 (c)***Answers could include:***

- Impact of technology on work:
 - Increasing mobility and flexibility, for example, working from home
 - Increasing efficiency and productivity, for example, with automation of tasks
 - Intensification of work, for example, multi-tasking
 - Increasing working hours, for example, being on call at all times
 - Automation creating unemployment
- Impact on leisure:
 - Increasing leisure time with reduced working hours
 - Introducing new leisure activities, for example iPhone applications
 - Increasing the cost of leisure activities, for example contributing to a greater gap in access according to status
- Increased corporatisation of work and/or leisure as technologies become more expensive

Section III — Depth Studies

Question 16 — Popular Culture

Answers could include:

- Products created at a local level and through media interaction with consumers, greater awareness and access is created, allowing the products to diffuse to new markets, nationally then globally influencing consumption levels.
- Students may refer to the media's role in advertising the product, creating heroes, mythology and paraphernalia and awareness of new and evolving products.
- Judgements may range from: cost of the products and paraphernalia reduces as the market size increases; popular culture contributes to economic growth; supports global processes; homogenisation of culture; exploitation of workers; undermining local cultures.
- Judgements may include: Media allows greater access to popular culture nationally than internationally; media focus on controversial aspects of Popular Cultures; media facilitates illegal access (for example downloading).

Question 17 — Belief Systems

Answers could include:

- Religious ideology will impact on secular ideology or vice versa in either negative or positive ways
- Different ideologies allow for different cultural practice within society
- Both ideology and belief play important roles in recording history and maintaining cultural practice within society
- Religious ideology and belief have a different role than secular ideology and belief in society
- Examples may be drawn from a global perspective, or from a societal perspective

Question 18 — Equality and Difference

Answers could include:

- Definitions of inequality
- Evidence related to possible impacts of maintaining existing inequalities in relation to:
 - Outcomes (in education, health, income, access to socially valued resources)
 - Relations between different groups in society (men and women, rich and poor, different ethnic or religious groups)
 - Social institutions (pressure for legal reform, changes in government)
 - Social structures (polarisation of income and wealth, racial tension, social movements for equality)

Question 19 — Work and Leisure

Answers could include:

- A discussion of:
 - The increasing casualisation of the workforce and its impacts, both positive and negative
 - Increasing working hours
 - Reduction in leisure time
 - Increasing use of technology within leisure
 - Increasing commodification of leisure activities
 - Continuity in the types of leisure pursued by different social classes
 - Increasing part-time employment among youth and youth combining work and study
 - Gender-based changes in work and leisure