

VCE past exams: the official papers, which years match, how to use them

Every VCE examination and its examination report are free on vcaa.vic.edu.au under Examination specifications, past examinations and external assessment reports, one page per study, split into papers under the current study design and papers from previous designs (which the VCAA says are not necessarily a guide to the current examination). Read 25 October 2026.

Study	Current study design	Current-design November papers	Previous-design papers	Extra current-design papers
Biology	2022 to 2026	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025	2002 to 2022	NHT 2023, 2024, 2025
Chemistry	Units 3 and 4 from 2024	2024, 2025	2002 to 2024	NHT 2025, 2026; data book 2026 v2
Physics	Units 3 and 4 from 2024	2024, 2025	2002 to 2024	NHT 2025, 2026; formula sheet Feb 2026
Psychology	2023 to 2027	2023, 2024, 2025	2017 to 2022; archive 2002 to 2016	2024 Chief Assessor presentation
Mathematical Methods	2023 to 2027	2023, 2024, 2025 (Exams 1 and 2)	2006 to 2023	NHT Exams 1 and 2: 2024, 2025, 2026; formula sheets Aug 2024
Specialist Mathematics	2023 to 2027	2023, 2024, 2025 (Exams 1 and 2)	2006 to 2023	NHT Exams 1 and 2: 2024, 2025, 2026
General Mathematics	2023 to 2027	2023, 2024, 2025 (Exams 1 and 2)	Further Mathematics 2006 to 2023	NHT Exams 1 and 2: 2024, 2025, 2026
English	Units 3 and 4 from 2024	2024, 2025	2001 to 2024	2024 pilot video; assessment criteria, sample answer book
EAL	Units 3 and 4 from 2024	2024, 2025	to 2024	same as English
Literature	2023 to 2027	2023, 2024, 2025	2017 to 2022	
Economics; Business Management	from 2023	2023, 2024, 2025	2017 to 2022; archive to 2016	
Legal Studies	from 2024	2024, 2025	2018 to 2023; archive 2002 to 2017	

What each document is for

Document	Use
Examination specifications (most dated March 2025)	Read once in Term 1: sections, marks, time, approved materials
Sample examination	The first full paper of the year; mark it with the matching real paper's report
Past examinations	Current-design years as timed papers; previous-design years by topic
External assessment (examination) reports	The marking: state mean per question, answers or expected responses, assessors' comments
Data book / formula sheet	Learn what is given in Term 1; never memorise what the sheet gives

The four-pass method, the marking rules, and the tracker

Four passes

- [] Term 1, by topic: each area of study's questions from three previous-design papers, untimed, report open after each question
- [] Term 2, current-design papers, untimed, one a fortnight; record the questions below the state mean
- [] Term 3, timed: current-design papers again, the NHT papers, the sample exam; data book or formula sheet only
- [] The fortnight before: the two latest November papers, timed, at the exam's hour; then the full report; nothing new in the last week

Marks lost every year (from the examination reports)

- [] Unit missing or wrong; significant figures that ignore the data; a multiple-choice question left blank (no penalty for wrong)
- [] 'Describe' answered as 'explain' and the reverse; a concept named but not applied to the scenario; an essay that does not answer the exact prompt
- [] Mathematics: a final answer without working on a question worth more than one mark; an Exam 1 answer that relies on a calculator result

Paper tracker

Date	Study	Year / paper	Timed?	Mark / total	Questions below the state mean	Fixed on