

The revised VCE Second Language study designs (2019-2023)

Community Languages Victoria
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VCAA

Languages Unit, Curriculum

VCE Languages reviewed

The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority has now completed a review of twelve VCE Second Language studies:

Arabic	Indonesian Second Language
Chinese Second Language	Italian
Chinese Second Language Advanced	Japanese Second Language
French	Korean Second Language
German	Spanish
Greek	Vietnamese Second Language

VCE Languages reviewed

All twelve reviewed study designs are now available on the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority website



Where to find the revised Study Design



2019 EXAMS TIMETABLE

The dates and times for this year's VCE exams are now available online.

[Read more >](#)



All twelve revised study designs are available on the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) website

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Where to find the revised Study Design

First Languages

- [Chinese First Language >](#)
- [Indonesian First Language >](#)
- [Japanese First Language >](#)
- [Korean First Language >](#)
- [Vietnamese First Language >](#)

Classical Languages

- [Classical Greek >](#)
- [Classical Hebrew >](#)
- [Latin >](#)

Indigenous Languages of Victoria: Revival and Reclamation

- [Indigenous Languages of Victoria: Revival and Reclamation >](#)

Second Languages

- [Arabic >](#)
- [Chinese Second Language >](#)
- [Chinese Second Language Advanced >](#)
- [Chinese Language, Culture and Society >](#)
- [French >](#)
- [German >](#)
- [Greek >](#)
- [Indonesian Second Language >](#)
- [Italian >](#)
- [Japanese Second Language >](#)
- [Korean Second Language >](#)
- [Spanish >](#)
- [Vietnamese Second Language >](#)

Collaborative Curriculum and Assessment Framework for Languages (CCAFL)

- [Armenian >](#)
- [Auslan >](#)
- [Bosnian >](#)
- [Chin Hakha >](#)
- [Croatian >](#)
- [Dutch >](#)
- [Filipino >](#)
- [Hebrew >](#)
- [Hindi >](#)
- [Hungarian >](#)
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- [Khmer >](#)
- [Macedonian >](#)
- [Maltese >](#)
- [Persian >](#)
- [Polish >](#)
- [Portuguese >](#)
- [Punjabi >](#)
- [Romanian >](#)
- [Russian >](#)
- [Serbian >](#)
- [Sinhala >](#)
- [Swedish >](#)
- [Tamil >](#)

Staged Implementation

- **Units 1 and 2 of the new study designs have been implemented in 2019**
- **Units 3 and 4 will be implemented in 2020**
- **The accreditation period for these studies will be 2019-2023**

- **Online *Advice for Teachers (AFT)* documents have been devised for all 12 languages**
- **The *Advice for Teachers* replaces the current *Assessment Handbook***
- **Exam specifications and sample SACS will no longer be in study designs**

- **Structure builds on the concepts and terminology in the Victorian Curriculum F–10 to allow a clear transition**
- **Viewing included as 5th macroskill**
- **Assessment tasks for Units 1 and 2 to be devised by the teacher**
- **Key knowledge and key skills for each area of study are in separate lists.**

Units 1 & 2

**3 assessment
tasks per unit**

**Schools report results
to the VCAA: Only S/N**

**Responses in E&SL
for Unit 1 Outcome 2**

Units 3 & 4

3 SACs – Unit 3

3 SACs – Unit 4

**Report results to the
VCAA: S/N and marks**

**No SAC responses
required in English**

Each study design sets out

- **Prescribed themes and topics for the specific language and culture/s**
- **Suggested subtopics**
- **Text types students can be expected to produce**
- **Styles of writing – personal, imaginative, persuasive, informative and evaluative**
- **Grammar list**

Cross-study specifications – common to all languages



- **Viewing included as 5th macroskill**
- ***“For the purpose of this study, viewed texts may include photographs, pictures, posters, films or film clips, captioned illustrations or maps related to the subtopic.” Text types, pg. 12.***

Students are required to study and analyse “cultural products or practices” as part of some assessment tasks and SACS.

- ***“Cultural products or practices can be drawn from a diverse range of texts, activities and creations. These may include the following: stories, poems, plays, novels, songs, films, photographs, artworks, architecture, technology, food, clothing, sports and festivals.” Communities, pg. 10.***

Three Areas of Study in each unit

- **Interpersonal communication**
- **Interpretive communication**
- **Presentational communication**

The outcomes for each unit reflect these.

In Unit 3

- **Students participate in a role play to negotiate a solution to a personal issue**
- **Students respond to texts**
- **Students express ideas in personal, informative or imaginative writing**

Unit 3 - Outcomes	Marks	Assessment tasks
Outcome 1 Participate in a spoken exchange to resolve a personal issue	20	A three- to four-minute role-play, focusing on negotiating a solution to a personal issue
Outcome 2 Interpret information from texts and write responses	15	Responses to specific questions or instructions using information extracted from written, spoken and viewed texts on the selected subtopic
Outcome 3 Express ideas in a personal, informative or imaginative piece of writing	15	An approximately 250-word personal, informative or imaginative piece of writing
Total marks	50	

In Unit 4

- **Two SACs in Unit 4 can be on the same subtopic**
- **There are three separate SACs two of which require analysis of chosen aspects of culture**
- **Students produce a piece of evaluative or personal writing on an issue (SAC 3)**

Unit 4 - Outcomes	Marks	Assessment tasks
Outcome 1 Share information, ideas and opinions in a spoken exchange	20	A three- to four-minute interview providing information and responding to questions about a cultural product or practice
Outcome 2 Analyse information from written, spoken and viewed texts for use in a written response	15	An approximately 250-word written response for a specific audience and purpose, incorporating information from three or more texts
Outcome 3 Present information, concepts and ideas in evaluative or persuasive writing on an issue	15	An approximately 300- word evaluative or persuasive piece of writing
Total marks	50	

Features of revised VCE Second Language studies

- **Chinese Second Language (CSL) and Chinese Second Language Advanced (CSLA) are in separate study designs**
- **Character list for CSL has 440 characters**
- **Character list for CSLA has 618 characters**
- **No translation tasks in VCE Chinese studies**
- **In Japanese Second Language (JSL) there is now only one list - prescribed Kanji**

External Exams

Oral Examination

approximately 15 minutes

Written Examination

2 hours plus 15 minutes reading time.

Sample exams will be provided for all twelve studies

For ongoing information



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VCAA BULLETIN NO. 49 - JUNE 2019 FEATURE ARTICLE

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