



VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH

Dr David Howes
Chief Executive Officer
Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority
Level 7, 2 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne, 3000

28 August, 2019

Dear David,

I write to you on behalf of the VATE membership to raise some concerns regarding the copyright for VCE English, EAL and English Language papers.

The concern has been raised that the copyright materials that restrict English exam papers from being uploaded in full onto the VCAA website restricts teachers' ability to use the papers for educational purposes. Our members wish to query whether it is possible to instead source materials that allow for the past exam papers to have full access on the VCAA website.

It is common practice for teachers to draw on past exam papers and examiner reports as one of the best ways to help students prepare for and understand the demands of their final exams. However, for many teachers, they cannot access the full paper and therefore cannot fully draw on the advice from the examiners' reports. Other teachers who may have kept hard copies of exams from previous years would also put their schools in breach of copyright if they chose to photocopy or scan the papers.

We appreciate your feedback on this matter on behalf of our members, as well as any possible scope for change that might be possible in making future papers free from these constraints.

Kind regards

Emily Frawley
VATE President