

PUB1601

October/November 2017

THE STRUCTURING AND FUNCTIONING OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Duration 2 Hours

100 Marks

EXAMINERS

FIRST

SECOND

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Closed book examination

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This examination paper consists of three pages

Write the number of each question answered clearly in the space provided on the cover of the examination answer book

Answer **ALL FOUR (4)** questions

[TURN OVER]

QUESTION 1

South Africa's system of government has been typified as a democracy. This means that South Africa has a system of government based on the principle of popular sovereignty, political equality, popular consultation and majority government. The government authority in a democracy may be divided into three categories: legislative, executive and judiciary. Write an essay on the legislature and the executive, and more specifically, we want you to concentrate on the following of each category:

1.1 Composition

1.2 Powers (authority)

NOTE: It is important that you apply your answer to all three spheres of government (national, provincial and local)

[25]

QUESTION 2

Different types of public institutions (or groups) are involved in the provision of public services. The first group consists of the national, provincial and municipal departments. The second group is known as parastatal institutions, quasi-autonomous institutions or public entities. In general, these institutions can be classified into nine distinct categories. It is expected of you to expand on each category's purpose and also provide at least two examples per category. Use the following list of categories as guideline:

2.1 Advisory

2.2 Regulatory

2.3 Judiciary

2.4 Tertiary education

2.5 Research and development

2.6 Cultural and environmental management

2.7 Commercial and industrial enterprises.

2.8 Social service

2.9 Constitutional support

[25]

[TURN OVER]

QUESTION 3

An important dimension of public accountability relates to the permissibility of the actions of public officials. In other words, what are they allowed to do and what are they not permitted to do. Describe if the public services that are provided are permissible by law. In this regard, it is expected of you to focus on the following:

- 3.1 The need for ethical guidelines
- 3.2 Mutual agreement on what is permissible and what is not (does own value system allow it, do the codes of conduct allow it, is it lawful or is it constitutional?)

[25]

QUESTION 4

The government with its legitimate authority and capability of physical force poses a permanent threat to the freedoms of society. The challenge is therefore to have a government that is strong enough to maintain law and order, but that is sufficiently restricted to prevent it from turning into tyranny. Taking this statement into consideration, it is expected of you to write an essay to explain the following:

- 4.1 Where the government gets the authority to exercise its powers
- 4.2 How the abuse of power may be restricted

[25]

TOTAL: [100]