



AP[®] United States Government and Politics

2014 Free-Response Questions

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**2014 AP® UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

SECTION II

Time—1 hour and 40 minutes

Directions: You have 100 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. Spend approximately one-fourth of your time (25 minutes) on each question. In your response, use substantive examples where appropriate.

1. The United States Constitution's ratification resulted from a political process that required compromise between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists. Many of the debates in government today continue to reflect the concerns of each perspective.
 - (a) Compare the positions of Federalists and Anti-Federalists regarding the power of the national government.
 - (b) Describe two features of the original Constitution that have led to a growth in the power of the national government.
 - (c) Explain how each of the following additions to the Constitution addressed Anti-Federalist concerns.
 - First Amendment
 - Tenth Amendment
 - (d) Explain how one of the following clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment has altered the balance of power between the state and national governments.
 - Due process clause
 - Equal protection clause

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2. Voter turnout is influenced by constitutional provisions, voting laws, and demographics.

(a) Identify the effect of one of the following amendments on the electorate.

- Fifteenth Amendment
- Nineteenth Amendment
- Twenty-sixth Amendment

(b) Explain how each of the following factors may affect voter turnout.

- Motor voter laws
- Photo identification laws

(c) Select one of the following demographic features and describe its relationship to the likelihood of a person voting in an election.

- Education
- Age

(d) Explain why voter turnout is different in each of the following.

- Presidential versus midterm elections
 - Primary versus general elections
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3. Congress and the president both have a role in making foreign policy. Despite recent expansions in presidential power, there are still limits on presidential decision making in foreign policy.

(a) Describe two enumerated powers Congress has in making foreign policy.

(b) Describe two expressed powers the president has in making foreign policy.

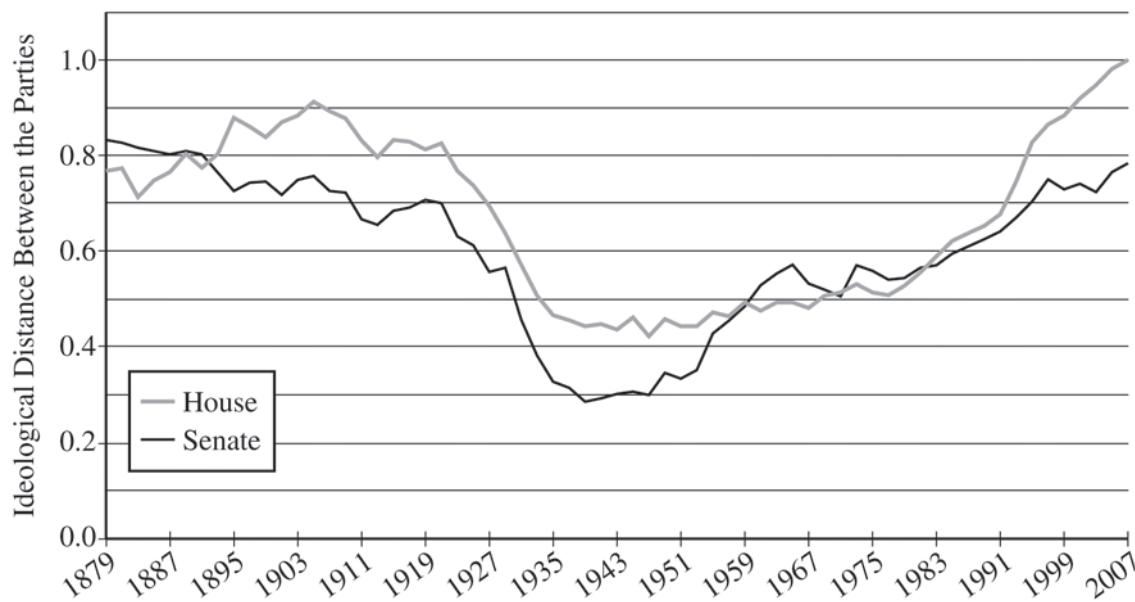
(c) Explain how executive agreements expand the president's ability to implement foreign policy.

(d) Explain how one of the following can limit the president's ability to implement foreign policy.

- Elections
- Presidential approval ratings

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PARTY POLARIZATION, 1879–2007



4. (a) Define party polarization.
(b) Identify a trend shown in the graph above.
(c) Describe two causes of party polarization in Congress.
(d) Describe one effect of party polarization on congressional policy making.

STOP

END OF EXAM