

- 3.** Compare the limits on the power of the judicial system in two different AP Comparative Government and Politics course countries.

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- A.** Describe a function of a judicial system.
- B.** Describe a limit on the power of the judicial system in two different AP Comparative Government and Politics course countries.
- C.** Explain why each of the two AP Comparative Government and Politics course countries described in (B) would limit the power of their judicial systems.

Question 3: Comparative Analysis

5 points

A	Describe a function of a judicial system.	1 point
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Examples of acceptable responses may include the following:

- Judicial systems:
 - interpret the laws of a country
 - assess constitutionality of laws
 - resolve disputes in a country
 - apply the law
 - maintain checks and balances between branches of government
 - can protect the rights and liberties of citizens in a country
 - help countries establish rule of law or maintain rule by law

B	Describe a limit on the power of the judicial system in two different AP Comparative Government and Politics course countries.	2 points
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Examples of acceptable responses may include the following:

China

- In China, the judiciary is under the control of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)/General Secretary/president.
- In China, the judiciary enforces rule by law, or the laws made by the national government, and does not have any additional decision-making power.
- In China, the government has a process for removing judges for misconduct.
- In China, the judges serve fixed terms.

Iran

- In Iran, the Chief Justice is appointed by the Supreme Leader and the Supreme Court lacks judicial independence because of this constraint.
- In Iran, judges must be clerics who adhere to Islamic Sharia law.
- In Iran, the judiciary lacks the power of judicial review.
- In Iran the government has a process for removing judges for misconduct.
- In Iran, the judges serve fixed terms.

Mexico

- In Mexico, judges on the Supreme Court rely on appointment by the executive branch and confirmation by the legislative branch.
- In Mexico, Supreme Court justices will be elected by popular vote.
- In Mexico, Supreme Court justices can only serve for a fixed term.
- In Mexico, legislative changes to the constitution cannot be overturned by the judicial branch.
- In Mexico, the government has a process for removing judges for misconduct.

Scoring Notes: Reform of the Mexican judiciary goes into effect on June 1, 2025.

Responses that reference 15-year terms for Mexican Supreme Court justices should be given credit. Responses that reference an upcoming change (12-year terms) for Mexican Supreme Court justices should be given credit.