

3. Compare political party systems in two different AP Comparative Government and Politics course countries. In your response, you should do the following.
- (a) Define a political party system.
  - (b) Describe two different examples of political party systems, each one within a different AP Comparative Government and Politics course country.
  - (c) Explain how the political party systems shape political efficacy in each country described in (b).

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**Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet  
and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.**

**Question 3: Comparative Analysis****5 points**

- (a)** Define a political party system. **1 point**

**Acceptable definitions include:**

- A political party system is defined by the number of political parties that are able to win elections and govern.
- A political party system is defined by the power, influence, or strength of political parties and the degree of competition between parties.

- (b)** Describe two different examples of political party systems, each one within a different AP Comparative Government and Politics course country. **2 points**

**Acceptable descriptions include the following (max one point per country):**

**China**

- Single/one-party system – In China, only the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is allowed to govern.

**Scoring Note:** Responses that say “No other parties are allowed in China” earn no credit. Parties other than the Communist Party are allowed to exist but not govern.

**Iran**

- Iran lacks a formal political party system as parties operate as loosely formed political alliances.

**Mexico**

- Multiparty system – In Mexico, current rules allow multiple parties to win elections and govern.
- Dominant party system – Under the PRI/Before 2000, the rules allowed other political parties to compete, but only one party controlled the government in Mexico.

**Nigeria**

- Multiparty system – In Nigeria, there are rules that allow multiple parties to win elections and govern.
- Two-party system – In Nigeria, two major parties, the APC and the PDP, regularly win elections and govern.
- Dominant party system – Under the PDP/Before 2015, the rules allowed other political parties to compete, but only one party controlled the government in Nigeria.

**Russia**

- Dominant party system – The rules allow other political parties to compete, but only one party, United Russia, controls the government in Russia.
- Multiparty system – Under Yeltsin/Before 2001, multiple parties existed and won seats in the legislature.

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**United Kingdom**

- Multiparty system – In the United Kingdom, there are rules that allow multiple parties to win elections and govern.
- Two-party system – Two major parties, Conservatives and Labour, regularly win the most seats in the legislatures and are able to form the ruling government.

**Scoring Note:** The United Kingdom can be called a multiparty system, a 2-party-plus system, or a 2½ party system.

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(c)	Explain how the political party systems shape political efficacy in each country described in part (b).	<b>2 points</b>
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**Acceptable explanations include the following (max one point per country):**

- In the UK/Mexico/Nigeria, multiparty systems increase efficacy because they offer more than one viable option for diverse interests to be represented.
- In UK/Nigeria, the two-party system limits efficacy because there are limited options for representation and minority voices.
- In Russia's/Mexico's/Nigeria's dominant party system citizens lack efficacy because it is clear which party will always win elections and dominate the system.
- Russia's/Mexico's/Nigeria's dominant party system gives the appearance of a competitive party system so citizens may feel political efficacy.
- In China's single party system efficacy is limited because there are no viable alternative options.
- In China's single party system some citizens may have political efficacy because the party system allows for participation through party institutions and organizations that have real power.

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**Total for question 3    5 points**