

# 2019 AP<sup>®</sup> US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

## UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

### SECTION II

Time — 1 hour and 40 minutes

**Directions:** You have 1 hour and 40 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. It is suggested that you spend approximately 20 minutes each on Questions 1, 2, and 3 and 40 minutes on Question 4. Unless directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. In your response, use substantive examples where appropriate. It is recommended that you take a few minutes to plan each answer. You may plan your answers in this Questions booklet, but no credit will be given for notes written in this booklet. You will only earn credit for what you write in the Free Response booklet.

1. Since 2008 the Alliance Defending Freedom, a conservative Christian interest group, has promoted an annual event known as Pulpit Freedom Sunday. On this occasion, pastors are encouraged to challenge a provision of the tax law known as the Johnson Amendment, which prohibits political activity by certain nonprofit organizations, including religious organizations. While the Johnson Amendment does not restrict religious leaders from speaking out regarding social issues, it does prohibit them from contributing money to political campaigns or speaking out in favor or against candidates running for political office.

On Pulpit Freedom Sunday, as an act of civil disobedience, pastors and religious leaders preach openly about the moral qualifications of candidates seeking office.

After reading the scenario, please respond to A, B, and C below.

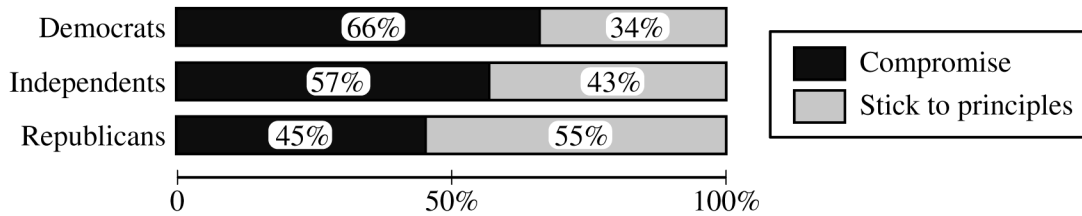
- A. Describe an action Congress could take to address the concerns of the interest group in the scenario.
- B. In the context of the scenario, explain how partisan divisions could prevent the action described in part A.
- C. Explain why the Alliance Defending Freedom might argue that their constitutional rights are threatened by the Johnson Amendment.

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

## 2019 AP<sup>®</sup> US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

SHOULD GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS COMPROMISE  
OR STICK TO THEIR PRINCIPLES?



Source: American National Election Studies 2016 Pilot, January 2016

2. Use the bar graph to answer the following questions.

- Identify the political affiliation of people who are most likely to believe elected officials should compromise.
- Describe the difference between Democrats and Republicans on their attitudes of whether government officials should stick to their principles, based on the data in the bar graph.
- Explain how the data in the bar graph could influence how a Republican candidate would shift his or her campaign positions after securing the Republican nomination for president.
- Explain how the data in the bar graph could affect policy making interactions between the president and Congress.

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

# **AP<sup>®</sup> UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

## **2019 SCORING GUIDELINES**

### **Question 1**

**3 points**

**Part A: 1 point**

One point is earned for describing an action Congress could take to address the concerns of the interest group in the scenario.

- Congress could pass a law that would reverse the Johnson Amendment.
- Congress could pass a law to allow religious organizations to participate more directly in politics.

**Part B: 1 point**

One point is earned for explaining, in the context of the scenario, how partisan divisions could prevent the action described in part A.

- Partisan divisions make it more difficult to pass a law because parties adhere to different ideological points of view.
- If Congress and the president are from different political parties, the president might threaten to veto the legislation.

**Part C: 1 point**

One point is earned for explaining why the Alliance Defending Freedom might argue that their constitutional rights are threatened by the Johnson Amendment.

- The Alliance Defending Freedom and other religious groups might argue that their First Amendment rights are being violated.
- The Alliance Defending Freedom and other religious groups might argue that their freedom of speech/religion is being violated.

A score of zero (0) is assigned to an answer that is off-task or is attempted but earns no points.

A score of NR is assigned to an answer that is blank.