

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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Question 1

6 points

Part (a): 1 point

One point is earned for making an accurate comparison of *both* Federalist and Anti-federalist positions.

- The Federalists wanted a stronger national government and weaker state governments, while the Anti-federalists wanted a weaker national government and stronger state government.
- The Federalists wanted a balanced relationship between federal and state governments, while the Anti-federalists wanted a weaker national government and stronger state government.

Part (b): 2 points

One point is earned for each accurate description of a feature of the original Constitution that led to the growth of the national government's power. Acceptable descriptions include:

- Necessary and Proper clause/Elastic clause
- Supremacy clause
- Commerce clause
- General Welfare clause
- Taxing power
- Unitary Executive

Part (c): 2 points

One point is earned for an accurate explanation of how each of the following addressed Anti-federalist concerns:

- First Amendment – Student must demonstrate knowledge of at least one right in the First Amendment and indicate that the First Amendment protects an individual's liberty and provides protection from government power.
- Tenth Amendment – Student must demonstrate an understanding that powers not mentioned in the Constitution are reserved to the states and people.

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Question 1 (continued)

Part (d): 1 point

One point is earned for an accurate explanation of how one of the following clauses has altered the balance of power between the state and national governments.

- Due Process Clause – Student must demonstrate an understanding that individual protections in the Bill of Rights are applied to the states. Student must indicate that states are compelled to follow national requirements.
- Equal Protection Clause – Student must demonstrate an understanding that the clause protects members of groups from discrimination by states. Student must indicate that states are compelled to follow national requirements.

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

A score of dash (—) is assigned to an answer that is blank.