

4. Develop an argument as to whether populism increases or decreases political stability.

Use one or more of the following course concepts in your response:

- Corruption
- Sovereignty
- Cleavages

In your response, you should do the following.

- ✓ Respond to the prompt with a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning using one or more of the provided course concepts.
- ✓ Support your claim with at least TWO pieces of specific and relevant evidence from one or more course countries. The evidence should be relevant to one or more of the provided course concepts.
- ✓ Use reasoning to explain why your evidence supports your claim or thesis, using one or more of the provided course concepts.
- ✓ Respond to an opposing or alternate perspective using refutation, concession, or rebuttal.

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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 4: Argument Essay 5 points

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria	
Row A Claim/Thesis (0–1 points)	<b>0 points</b> Does not meet the criteria for one point.	<b>1 point</b> Responds to the prompt with a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning.
Decision Rules and Scoring Notes		
<b>Responses that do not earn this point:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only restate the prompt.</li> <li>Do not make a claim that responds to the prompt.</li> </ul> <b>Examples that do not earn this point:</b> <p><b>Restate the prompt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Populism has had little impact on states since the global financial crisis.”</i></li> <li><i>“Populism can be on the left or right of the political spectrum.”</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Do not respond to the prompt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Populism is a big problem in many of the countries studied in this course.”</i></li> <li><i>“The global financial crisis has changed states.”</i></li> </ul>	<b>Responses that earn this point:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respond to the prompt rather than restating or rephrasing the prompt and establish a line of reasoning.</li> <li>Provide a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning as to whether populism increases or decreases political stability using one or more of the provided course concepts: corruption, sovereignty, cleavages.</li> </ul> <b>Examples that earn this point:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>“Populism has led to changes in public policy since the global financial crisis, increasing political stability through the use of policies that diminish corruption.”</i></li> <li><i>“Populist policies support the interests of the common people over the elite. Populism has decreased political stability because it often increases tensions between cleavages such as the rich and the poor.”</i></li> <li><i>“Populism increases stability through nationalist claims that prioritize domestic policies over international pressures.”</i></li> <li><i>“Populist movements, such as Brexit, and leaders, such as the SNP, encourage independence movements that can destabilize the existing regime.”</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Additional Notes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The claim or thesis must consist of one or more sentences that may be located anywhere in the response.</li> <li>A claim or thesis that meets the criteria can be awarded the point whether or not the rest of the response successfully supports that line of reasoning.</li> </ul>		