

**2018 AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Section II

Time—1 hour and 40 minutes

Directions: You have 1 hour and 40 minutes to answer five short-answer concept questions, one conceptual analysis question, and two country context questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all eight questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes total on questions 1 through 5, 30 minutes on question 6, and 40 minutes total on questions 7 and 8. These suggested times do not reflect the weight of the questions as part of your AP exam score. In your responses, use substantive examples where appropriate.

Short-Answer Concepts: We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes total on questions 1 through 5.

1. Identify a country in the AP Comparative Government course that uses proportional representation as a part of its electoral system. Explain how legislative seats are allocated in a proportional representation system. Describe the impact of proportional representation electoral rules on a party system.
2. Describe one way in which the Iranian government discriminates against women. Describe one way in which the Iranian government treats men and women equally. Explain how gender discrimination undermines democratic principles.
3. Identify two indicators of democracy. Describe when a democracy is considered consolidated.
4. Identify the political party of a Mexican president elected in the last twenty years. Describe the electoral system used to select Mexico's president. Identify one electoral reform and explain why this reform made Mexico's presidential elections more competitive.
5. Describe one reason both democratic and authoritarian regimes use coercion to govern. Describe one alternative to the use of coercion to govern in both democratic and authoritarian regimes. Explain why authoritarian regimes do not rely exclusively on coercion to govern.

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2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 1

3 points

One point is earned for correctly identifying a country studied in the AP Comparative Government course that uses proportional representation as part of its electoral system.

Acceptable identifications include:

- Russia
- Mexico
- The UK in Scotland, Wales, and the London Assembly

One point is earned for correctly explaining how legislative seats are allocated in a proportional representation system.

Acceptable explanations include:

- Rewards seats to parties in legislatures in proportion to votes received.
- Percentage of vote the party receives equals the percentage of seats for the party in the legislature.

One point is earned for correctly describing the impact of proportional representation electoral rules on a party system.

An acceptable description is:

- Proportional representation creates a multiparty system.
- Greater voice for minority parties or more opinions or wider party spectrum.
- Makes gaining a majority more difficult.
- Coalition governments more likely.
- Greater voice to voters to have their views represented.
- Individual candidates less important and parties more important.

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

A score of dash (—) is earned for a blank.