

**2009 AP® COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS  
FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

**COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**Section II**

**Time—1 hour and 40 minutes**

**Directions:** You have 100 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. Make certain to number each of your answers as the questions are numbered below.

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

1. Describe the status of private property in China under Mao. Identify and explain one policy undertaken by the Chinese government within the past 30 years that contradicts that policy.
2. Define political ideology. Identify one political party that participated in the 2006 presidential elections in Mexico and describe one central element of its political ideology.
3. Colonialism had an impact on both the colonizer and the colonized. Describe one example of how colonialism has shaped contemporary politics in Nigeria. Describe two examples of how colonialism has shaped contemporary politics in Great Britain.
4. Describe one feature of a bureaucracy in the context of an authoritarian system. Explain how that feature you have described can both help and hinder the effective implementation of public policy in an authoritarian system.
5. Identify two countries in the AP Comparative Government and Politics course—other than Iran—where religion serves as a source of political legitimacy. Describe how religion confers political legitimacy in each of the two countries that you have identified.

**Conceptual Analysis:** We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes on question 6.

6. (a) Describe one similarity and one difference between illiberal democracy and liberal democracy.  
(b) Identify an institution that would need to be changed to make an illiberal democracy more liberal.  
(c) Describe a change to the institution you identified in (b) that would facilitate a shift from illiberal to liberal democracy.  
(d) Explain why the change you described in part (c) would lead to a more liberal democracy.

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## **2009 SCORING GUIDELINES**

### **Question 1**

**3 points**

One point is earned for a correct description of the status of private property in China under Mao.

Acceptable descriptions include any of the following:

- Private property was not allowed (in most periods).
- The constitution of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) prohibited private ownership of property; property was “owned by the people.”
- Private property was redistributed to the landless/peasants—land reform.
- Private property was confiscated.
- Private property was collectivized.
- After collectivization of private lands, communes were formed.
- The state was the primary owner of property and means of production.
- People often had right of use but no ownership.

Note: No identification point is earned for vague responses such as “There was none” or “People could not own anything.”

One point is earned for an identification of one policy undertaken by the Chinese government in the past 30 years that contradicts Mao’s policy, and 1 point is earned for an explanation of a way in which it does so.

Acceptable policies include any of the following:

- Decollectivization of land
- Disbanding of communes
- Private production allowed
- Privately owned enterprises
- Extended leases for land use
- Household responsibility system
- Constitutional reform
  - New rights of ownership
  - Enforcing the rule of law

Acceptable explanations include either of the following:

- Demonstrated linkages to Mao-era private property policy
- Comparative statement between Mao and current private property policy

No identification point is earned for the following unless the policy is linked to private property:

- Special Economic Zones (SEZs)
- Open Door policy
- “Three Represents” policy
- Township and Village Enterprises (TVEs)
- Privatization
- Capitalism
- Market economy
- Free market

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**Question 1 (continued)**

*Note:* The identification and corresponding explanation must be linked to the status of private property in China. If economic policies are used, such as market economy, free market, or SEZs, the response must relate the status of private property to the policy.

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted answer that merits no points.

A score of dash (—) is earned for a blank or off-task answer.