

2017 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.

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

1. Explain how a regime change differs from a change in government. Describe one example of a regime change since 1990 in a country studied in the AP Comparative Government and Politics course. Describe one example of a change in government since 2010 in a country studied in the AP Comparative Government and Politics course.
2. Identify the party with the majority of seats in the House of Commons. Identify the electoral system in Great Britain. Explain how the electoral system affects party representation in the House of Commons.
3. There is a greater concentration of foreign investment in the north of Mexico than in the south. Describe one cause of the regional differences in foreign investment. Describe one economic consequence of the regional differences in foreign investment. Describe one political consequence of the regional differences in foreign investment.
4. Identify a religious minority that has one or more reserved seats in the Majles. Explain two reasons why Iran reserves seats for some minority groups.
5. Define the term “rule of law.” Describe an institutional arrangement that promotes the rule of law in democratic regimes. Explain why authoritarian regimes resist the rule of law.

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Question 1

3 points

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how a regime change differs from a change in government.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- A regime change has occurred when the type of political system has changed. This is different from a change in government, which occurs when leaders or parties move in and out of office.
- Regime changes involve complete transformation of the political system from one type to another, whereas governmental change involves replacement of individual leaders or political parties.

One point is earned for a correct description of an example of a regime change in the AP Comparative and Politics core countries since 1990.

One point is earned for a description of an example of a change in government in the AP Comparative and Politics core countries since 2010.

Any of the examples below earn 1 point:

Country	Regime change since 1990	Government change since 2010*
China		Hu Jintao–Xi Jinping
Great Britain		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brown–Cameron/Clegg (Labour–Conservative/Lib Dem) (Labour–Coalition Control) • Cameron/Clegg–Cameron (Conservative/Lib Dem–Conservative) (Coalition–Conservative) • Cameron–May (Conservative–Conservative)
Iran		Ahmadinejad–Rouhani
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Authoritarian–democratic ◦ Dominant party–multiparty • Accept reforms made under Zedillo • Transition from dominant party to multiparty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calderon–Pena Nieto • PAN–PRI
Nigeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourth Republic or Constitution of 1999 (or late 1990s) • Authoritarian and/or military rule to democracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yar’Adua–Jonathan (PDP–PDP) • Jonathan–Buhari (PDP–APC)

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Question 1 (continued)

Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• USSR to Russian Federation• Communist party state to electoral authoritarianism/semiauthoritarian regime/illiberal or procedural democracy/competitive authoritarianism• Constitution of 1993• Transitional democracy reverting to authoritarianism; transitional democracy to hybrid regime/illiberal democracy; multiparty to dominant party	Medvedev–Putin
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* Student can identify a new leader only and earn the point for government change.

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.