

**2015 AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Section II

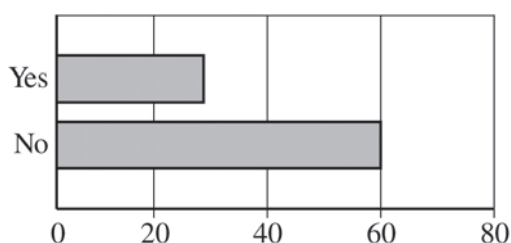
Time—1 hour and 40 minutes

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. Identify one ethnic minority group officially recognized by the Chinese government. Describe one special protection that the Chinese government extends to the group you identified. Explain why the Chinese government extends special protections to some of China's ethnic minority groups.
2. Describe why governments adopt austerity measures. Identify one austerity measure adopted by the British government since 2007. Explain one political consequence of that measure.
3. Identify one way members of the Guardian Council are selected. Describe two specific functions of the Guardian Council.
4. Explain how independent judiciaries strengthen democracy. Describe two actions that an authoritarian regime can take to undermine the independence of the judiciary.

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS WHO
WERE ASKED IF THEY WERE SATISFIED WITH
THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN RUSSIA



Source: Pew Research Global Attitudes Project, 2011

5. Write an empirical statement using the data from the graph above. Write a normative statement using the data from the graph above. Identify which type of statement a political scientist would use to make a factual argument: empirical or normative.

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2015 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 1

3 points

One point is earned for correctly identifying one minority ethnic group officially recognized by the Chinese government. Acceptable identifications may include:

- Uighurs
- Tibetans
- Zhuang
- Manchu
- Mongol
- Hui

One point is earned for a correct description of a special protection that the Chinese government extends to this group.

Note: The description of the special protection must be linked to the group identified.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Language rights
- Exceptions to population control policies
- Educational curriculum
- Legislative seats reserved
- Autonomous regions
- Religion (can be seen as a cultural right if it is tied to the correct group)

One point is earned for a correct explanation of why the Chinese government extends special protections to some minority ethnic groups.

Acceptable explanations include:

- Reduce conflict or rebellion or unrest
- Prevent groups from seeking separation
- Increase legitimacy
- Increase access to natural resources
- Make policy comply with party doctrine
- Improve global image
- Create buffer from other states

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

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