

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

SECTION II

Time—1 hour and 30 minutes

4 Questions

Directions: You have 1 hour and 30 minutes to answer one conceptual analysis question, one quantitative analysis question, one comparative analysis question, and one argument essay. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. It is also suggested that you spend approximately 10 minutes total on question 1, 20 minutes each on questions 2 and 3, and 40 minutes total on question 4. 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. You may plan your answers in this orange booklet, but no credit will be given for anything written in this booklet. **You will only earn credit for what you write in the separate Free Response booklet.**

1. (a) Describe a socialist policy used by governments to address income inequality.
(b) Explain how political ideology differs from political culture.
(c) Explain how socialist policies might affect economic development.
(d) Explain how a government’s implementation of a socialist policy might affect its legitimacy.

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 1: Conceptual Analysis**4 points**

(a) Describe a socialist policy used by governments to address income inequality. **1 point**

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Welfare benefits for the poor provide benefits such as healthcare or family assistance to lower-income people.
- Progressive taxation sets proportionally higher tax rates for higher-income people.
- A higher minimum wage provides more income to people with the lowest income.
- Universal healthcare provides healthcare free at the point of service to all citizens.
- Nationalization of industries/companies takes companies into public/government ownership.

(b) Explain how political culture differs from political ideology. **1 point**

Acceptable explanations include:

- Political culture refers to the shared political beliefs of people within a country, whereas political ideology refers to how people think their beliefs should be applied and protected by the government.
- Political culture refers to widely shared beliefs and values about how citizens relate to government, whereas political ideology refers to a particular set of ideas about the role of government.
- Political culture refers to broadly accepted norms for processes of decision-making in a society, while political ideology refers to a particular set of political preferences about what decisions should be made.
- Political culture refers to political norms and values characteristic of a society as a whole, whereas political ideology normally refers to the political ideas of a group.

(c) Explain how socialist policies might affect economic development. **1 point**

Acceptable explanations include:Negative effects

- Nationalization of private industry might deter investment in other industries, lowering economic growth.
- Socialist policies might reduce incentives or profit motive, reducing economic efficiency or productivity, or innovation.
- Increasing social spending might undermine economic development because it creates greater opportunities for patronage and corruption by centralizing control of the economy under greedy officials.
- Excessive regulation to accomplish social goals might stifle innovation and/or reallocation of resources to more productive ends.

Positive effects

- Nationalization of private industry might result in profits being used for development rather than for individual financial gain.
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- Progressive taxation might increase the government's ability to make effective investments in infrastructure/education/technology.
- Higher quality government-provided health, education, or housing might make people more productive.
- Redistribution of wealth might help lower-income citizens seek more productive opportunities.

(d) Explain how a government's implementation of a socialist policy might affect its legitimacy. **1 point**

Acceptable explanations include:

- Socialist policies might be unpopular with citizens, decreasing their acceptance of the government's right to rule or authority.
- Socialist policies might be incompetently or corruptly managed, decreasing citizens' acceptance of the government's right to rule or authority.
- Socialist policies might be popular with citizens, increasing their acceptance of the government's right to rule or authority.
- Socialist policies might satisfy citizens' basic needs, helping to secure regime stability.

Total for question 1 4 points