

**2010 AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

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

6. Many scholars think that civil society is important for the development of democracy.
- (a) Define civil society.
 - (b) Identify and explain one specific condition within a political system that would enable civil society to thrive.
 - (c) Identify and explain another specific condition within a political system that would enable civil society to thrive.

Country Context: We suggest that you spend approximately 40 minutes (20 minutes each) on questions 7 and 8.

CONVENTIONAL FORMS OF CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN GREAT BRITAIN AND NIGERIA		
Type of Participation	Great Britain	Nigeria
Voting (turnout)	61%	49%
Discussing politics with others	46%	74%
Signing a petition	81%	7%

Source: 2000-2002 World Values Survey and 1999 European Values Survey.

7. Political participation ranges from the most conventional forms of political activity, such as the ones listed in the table above, to the most extreme, such as violence being used as the primary means of political expression.
- (a) Identify a difference between Nigeria and Great Britain in the level of conventional forms of participation from the table above. Explain why the difference in levels of participation exists.
 - (b) Identify a second difference between Nigeria and Great Britain in the level of conventional forms of participation from the table above. Explain why the difference in levels of participation exists.
 - (c) Describe one specific incident of violent political activity in Great Britain in the last fifteen years. Describe one specific incident of violent political activity in Nigeria in the last fifteen years.
 - (d) Explain why citizens in both countries might choose violent acts over more conventional forms of political participation.

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2010 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 6

5 points

Part (a): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct definition of civil society.

The following are acceptable definitions:

- Civil society is the formal and informal organizations that are not part of the state apparatus but operate in public.
- Civil society is composed of organizations that are voluntary and autonomous self-governing groups created to advance their own causes.
- Civil society is composed of groups that bring together people with common interests in social, charitable, religious, community or political concerns to articulate and advance their own causes.

Note:

- Definition must include conditions, not just examples of groups.
- It must be clear that civil society is separate from government, but it need not be political: includes groups such as private, not-for-profit health providers, schools, advocacy groups, social service agencies, antipoverty groups, development agencies, professional associations, community-based organizations, unions, religious bodies, recreational organizations (e.g., bowling leagues) and cultural institutions.

Parts (b) and (c): 4 points

One point is earned for each correct identification of a condition that enables civil society to thrive, and **1 point** is earned for each explanation of how that condition promotes civil society.

Acceptable conditions may include:

- pluralist
- liberal
- multiple points of access
- democratic processes
- free/fair elections
- civil rights/civil liberties
- freedoms of speech, assembly, press
- rule of law
- efficacy
- political accountability
- political competition
- political freedom
- political equality
- political transparency

Note: Students must provide an explanation of how the identified condition helps civil society to thrive. Students cannot reuse the identified condition from part (b) in part (c).

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

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