

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 function of an electoral regulatory organization (also called an election commission).
- (B) Describe an election rule that enhances political competition.
- (C) Explain how electoral regulatory organizations contribute to democratization.
- (D) Explain why an authoritarian political system would use an electoral regulatory organization.

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**

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- (A)** Describe a function of an electoral regulatory organization (also called an election commission). **1 point**

Acceptable descriptions include:

- An electoral regulatory organization can do any of the following:
 - set various rules about ballot access and competition.
 - oversee, monitor, or run elections.
 - Enforce campaign laws.
 - ensure ballot access for candidates.
 - provide opportunities for voters to vote.
 - establish voting locations, times, and technology.
 - count votes in elections.
 - Protect polling places.
 - set rules for campaign ads.

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- (B)** Describe an election rule that enhances political competition. **1 point**

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Establishing quotas (regional, gender, or cultural).
- Establishing a proportional election system.
- Creating an independent election commission.
- Reducing qualifications for running in elections.
- Lowering the threshold for winning seats in the legislature.
- Allowing equal media access for all candidates.

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- (C)** Explain how electoral regulatory organizations contribute to democratization. **1 point**

Acceptable explanations include:

- Electoral regulatory organizations contribute to democratization by:
 - managing the fairness of elections to improve electoral competition.
 - reducing voter fraud to increase the legitimacy of the results.
 - improving transparency to increase the public's trust in elections.
 - providing the possibility of alternation of power to increase government legitimacy or stability.
 - adhering to rule of law to promote government legitimacy.

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- (D)** Explain why an authoritarian political system would use an electoral regulatory organization. **1 point**

Acceptable explanations include:

- Authoritarian political systems may use electoral regulatory organizations to:
 - limit opposition candidates from appearing on the ballot.
 - create the appearance of fairness/legitimacy.
 - solidify the ruling party's control.

Total for question 1 4 points