

4. Develop an argument about whether government protections of civil liberties increase or decrease stability in a state.

Use one or more of the following course concepts in your response:

- Democratization
- Transparency
- Rule of law

In your response you should do the following.

- Respond to the prompt with a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning using one or more of the provided course concepts.
- Support your claim with at least TWO pieces of specific and relevant evidence from one or more course countries. The evidence should be relevant to one or more of the provided course concepts.
- Use reasoning to explain why your evidence supports your claim or thesis, using one or more of the provided course concepts.
- Respond to an opposing or alternate perspective using refutation, concession, or rebuttal.

STOP
END OF EXAM

Question 4: Argument Essay**5 points**

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria	
Row A Claim/Thesis (0–1 points)	0 points Does not meet the criteria for one point.	1 point Responds to the prompt with a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning.
	Decision Rules and Scoring Notes	
	Responses that do not earn this point: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only restate the prompt. Do not make a claim that responds to the prompt. 	Responses that earn this point: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to the prompt rather than restating or rephrasing the prompt and establish a line of reasoning. Provide a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning as to whether government protections of civil liberties increase or decrease stability in a state using one or more of the provided course concepts: democratization, transparency, and rule of law.
	Examples that do not earn this point: Restate the prompt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Government protections of civil liberties can both increase and decrease stability in a state.”</i> <i>“Some people argue that government protections affect stability.”</i> Do not respond to the prompt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“The U.S. Supreme Court is protecting civil liberties.”</i> <i>“Some governments don’t do enough to protect civil liberties.”</i> 	Examples that earn this point: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“As the state goes through the process of democratization, it offers protections of civil liberties to citizens. Citizens can use these civil liberties to organize and/or protest which makes their voices heard thus increasing the stability of the state.”</i> <i>“States going through democratization are often seeking to increase protections of civil liberties. However, this can create instability as these governments may be uncomfortable with how much new power its citizens have.”</i> <i>“States that have strong protections of civil liberties are more stable because the government allows for more transparency. This enhances support for the state and increases stability.”</i> <i>“Government protections of civil liberties increase stability in a state because they show the state’s commitment to rule of law.”</i> <i>“States that offer strong protection of civil liberties to citizens can end up becoming less stable over time. If they adhere to rule of law, they will allow more citizen dissent or protest in the government, which could lead to instability.”</i> <i>“States with governments that operate using rule of law protect civil liberties of individuals, even political opponents of the ruling government. This makes those opponents more likely to use legal methods of opposition, rather than violent means, which increases stability.”</i>
Additional Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The claim or thesis must consist of one or more sentences that may be located anywhere in the response. A claim or thesis that meets the criteria can be awarded the point whether or not the rest of the response successfully supports that line of reasoning. 		