

2007 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. Make certain to number each of your answers as the questions are numbered below.

Short-Answer Concepts: We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes total on questions 1 through 5.

1. Identify three functions of political parties common to authoritarian and democratic systems.
2. Define devolution. Identify one institution created by devolution in the United Kingdom in the past ten years.
3. Identify two similarities in the goals of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in China and the Cultural Revolution in Iran.
4. Describe one defining characteristic of a command economy and describe one defining characteristic of a market economy. Contrast these two characteristics.
5. Identify three different forms of political participation in authoritarian systems.

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

6. (a) Define bicameralism.
 - (b) Identify one of the six countries covered in the AP Comparative Government and Politics course that has a bicameral national legislature.
 - (c) Explain why a federal democracy is likely to have a bicameral national legislature.
 - (d) Provide one other reason for a bicameral national legislature.
 - (e) Describe two implications of federalism for the policy-making process.

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2007 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 6

6 points

Part (a): 1 point

One point is earned for defining bicameralism.

A common definition is: A legislature with two houses.

- Examples do not count as definitions.

Part (b): 1 point

One point is earned for identifying a country covered in the AP Comparative Government and Politics course that has a bicameral legislature.

Acceptable countries: UK, Russia, Mexico, Nigeria.

- For students to earn a point for stating that Iran has a bicameral legislature, they must mention the Assembly of Religious Experts and say that this acts as a de facto upper house.

Part (c): 1 point

One point is earned for explaining why a federal democracy is likely to have a bicameral legislature.

Acceptable answer: To ensure that both regions/territories and individuals have representation.

- One point is earned for stating that regions/territories are represented in one of the houses. No point is earned if responses say only that it is because individuals are represented in one of the houses.

Part (d): 1 point

One point is earned for providing another reason for a bicameral legislature.

Acceptable answers may include:

- Checks and balances/to reject legislation.
- To postpone legislation.
- To park former prime ministers.
- To represent different classes.
- Division of legislative labor.
- More time for deliberation.
- To divide/weaken legislative power.
- To diffuse legislative power.

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2007 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 6 (continued)

Part (e): 2 points

One point is earned for describing each of two implications of federalism for the policy-making process.

Acceptable implications of federalism for the policy-making process may include:

- Slower lawmaking.
- Diffusion of responsibility.
- Greater inefficiencies.
- Disputes between national and subnational governments.
- Uneven distribution of policy costs and benefits (e.g., education).
- Broader representation.
- Multiple points to access the process.
- Diversity of policies.
- Greater legitimacy.

Do not allow “double dipping,” which may occur with (d) and (e).

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

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