

2006 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 definition and description 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.

Definition and Description: We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes total on questions 1 through 5.

1. Define illiberal democracy.
2. Identify two defining characteristics of corporatist systems that make them distinct from pluralist systems.
3. Define political legitimacy and list two sources of political legitimacy.
4. Identify two features of the Russian political system that make it a mixed presidential/parliamentary system of government.
5. There has been some debate as to whether economic growth causes democracy or merely correlates with democracy. Define the terms “correlation” and “causation.”

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

6. (a) Discuss two reasons why leaders of unitary systems might choose to decentralize power.
(b) Describe one method used by leaders of unitary systems to decentralize power.
(c) Describe how a decentralized unitary system differs from a federal system.

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2006 SCORING GUIDELINES**

Question 1

1 point

One point is earned for an accurate definition of illiberal democracy.

Acceptable definitions may include:

- Elections without civil liberties/rights/human rights.
- Limits/restrictions on civil liberties/rights/human rights; may also reference no independent judiciary.
- Small/weak civil society.
- Large-scale disenfranchisement, probably on ethnic/racial grounds.

Note: No specific definition of democracy is necessary. (“It is a democracy, but ...” is a sufficient definition of illiberal democracy).

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.