

**2015 AP® UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS  
FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**



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3. The framers created the electoral college to elect the president of the United States. This system influences the campaign strategies of presidential candidates.
- Describe one reason that the framers chose to use the electoral college as the method to elect the president.
  - Describe the message the cartoon above conveys about presidential elections.
  - Explain why California, Texas, and New York do not appear prominently in the cartoon above.
  - Describe two campaign tactics presidential candidates use to win the key states identified in the cartoon above.

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4. The Fourteenth Amendment protects civil rights and civil liberties.
- (a) Describe the difference between civil rights and civil liberties.
- (b) Identify the primary clause of the Fourteenth Amendment that is used to extend civil rights.
- (c) Describe a specific legislative action that extended civil rights to each of the following.
- Women
  - Persons with disabilities
- (d) Identify the primary clause of the Fourteenth Amendment that is used to extend civil liberties.
- (e) Explain how civil liberties were incorporated by the Supreme Court in two of the following cases.
- *Gideon v. Wainwright*
  - *Mapp v. Ohio*
  - *Miranda v. Arizona*

**STOP**

**END OF EXAM**

# **AP® UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

## **2015 SCORING GUIDELINES**

### **Question 3**

**5 points**

**Part (a): 1 point**

One point is earned for describing a reason that the framers chose the electoral college method to elect the president. Possible descriptions include:

- Compromise between big and small states
- Protection against direct election by uninformed citizens/cater to elites
- Did not trust the people, Congress, or state legislatures to solely select president
- Reinforced federalism and gave states a role in presidential selection

**Part (b): 1 point**

One point is earned for an accurate description of the message in the cartoon. Possible descriptions include:

- The candidates focus only on battleground or swing states
- Many states are ignored by presidential candidates

Simply using the term, “battleground state” or “swing state” is not enough; the response must describe what is unique about a battleground or swing state

**Part (c): 1 point**

- One point is earned for an accurate explanation of why California, Texas, and New York do not appear prominently in the cartoon. The explanations may include that these states are not competitive because one party possesses disproportionate influence or power (or a variation thereof).

**Part (d): 2 points**

One point is earned for each of two accurate descriptions of campaign tactics presidential candidates use to win the key states identified in the cartoon. They may include:

- Concentration of money in those states
- More TV ads and use of media in those states
- Bigger campaign organizations in those states
- More travel to/make more campaign appearances in the key states
- Focus on issues that swing voters in that state care about
- Selection of a running mate from one of the key states

A score of zero (0) is assigned to an answer that is off-task or is attempted but earns no points.

A score of dash (—) is assigned to an answer that is blank.