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# AP<sup>®</sup> Comparative Government and Politics

## Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 1

### Inside:

#### Free-Response Question 2

- ✓ Scoring Guidelines
- ✓ Student Samples
- ✓ Scoring Commentary

**Question 2: Quantitative Analysis****5 points**

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- (a) Using the data in the graph, identify the country in 1985 that has the lowest percentage of a population living in urban areas. **1 point**

**An identification includes the following:**

- China

- 
- (b) Using the data in the graph, describe the trend in the United Kingdom's percentage of a population living in urban areas. **1 point**

**Acceptable descriptions include:**

- It has been steady or constant.
- It has changed little.
- It has gradually increased.
- It has been steady with a slight increase in recent years.
- It has been consistently higher than the other countries shown.

- 
- (c) Describe how urbanization influences demographic change. **1 point**

**Acceptable descriptions include:**

- People move from rural areas to cities.
- A growing urban population means rising incomes or growth of the middle class.
- Urbanization reduces the birth rate.
- Urbanization leads to more access to education.
- Cities become more ethnically or religiously diverse.

- 
- (d) Using the data in the graph, draw a conclusion about what may have been a principal cause of the growing gap in urbanization between China and Nigeria between 2000–2018. **1 point**

**Acceptable conclusions include:**

**China**

- Economic liberalization and industrialization policies focused on cities.
- Special economic zones attracted people to cities.
- Emphasis on foreign direct investment attracted people to cities.
- Economic growth created more economic opportunities in cities.
- Economic diversification attracted people to cities.

**Nigeria**

- Rentier state which reduced investment in other economic sectors.
- Declining oil prices meant less government revenue.
- Less diversified economy meant fewer economic opportunities in cities.

- 
- |            |  |                |
|------------|--|----------------|
| <b>(e)</b> | Explain how governments have responded to the overall trend in urbanization illustrated in the data. | <b>1 point</b> |
|------------|--|----------------|
- 

**Acceptable explanations include:**

- As urbanization increased, social services increased to meet the needs of urban dwellers.
- As urbanization increased, governments increased infrastructure to support larger populations/businesses.
- As urbanization increased, governments increased access to education.
- As urbanization increased, policies were enacted to protect the environment against damage caused by industrialization.
- As urbanization increased, policies were enacted to build more housing to meet demands of a rising urban population.
- As urbanization increased, governments focused fewer resources on rural areas.
- As urbanization increased, governments provided more resources to rural areas. which had been neglected.
- As urbanization increased, national governments devolved power to local governments.
- As urbanization increased in China, the government used the hukou system to control internal migration.

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**Total for question 2    5 points**

Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you are answering on this page.

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Question 4



Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

- a. China.
- b. The percent of people in the UK living in cities has increased slightly ~~to~~ from 1960 to 2015, as it has gone from 79% to 84% approximately.
- c. Urbanization influences demographic change because ~~that~~ when people move to urban areas ~~that~~ they bring new ideas and are also susceptible to their own ideas and view points changing. For example, someone living in the country may want to have many children to help them, but after moving to an urban area they may want fewer children because it is expensive to have children in the city. Therefore, Urbanization not only influences what peoples' opinions are and thus which political candidate they support, but also motives such as birth rate.
- d. China's GDP was growing at a faster rate ~~than~~ <sup>surpassing the</sup> 2000s and the country was industrializing rapidly. This pushed people in China to move to the ~~city~~ cities where they had more economic opportunities. Nigeria on the other hand, still doesn't have as developed of an economy where a lot of work (and therefore people) is concentrated in the cities.

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Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Question 4



Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

e. governments have responded to the overall increase in urbanization by creating new ~~policy~~ ~~politics~~ policies meant to improve the lives living in cities. For example, since the rise in urbanization has come with the rise of pollution in cities, governments such as the Chinese government have created laws that create more environmental regulation. The Chinese government has also started initiatives to improve the environment by planting more trees. Governments have also responded to the increase in urbanization by investing in city infrastructure to promote further economic development and improve the well being of its people.

Page 5

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Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you are answering on this page.

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Question 4



Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

Question 2

a) In 1985 the country with the lowest % of population living in urban areas was China, with only around 26% living in urban areas.

||

b) The UK had a steady amount living in urban areas from 1960 to 2000, but from 2000 onwards, there was a gradual increase in the percent of people in urban areas.

||

c) Urbanization is the process of more ~~random~~ people concentrated, like cities, being built and expanded. Urbanization encourages people moving from rural areas to urban areas by providing opportunities in the city. This increases the urban demographic and decreases the rural demographic.

||

d) Between 2000-2018, China has put large emphasis on the economy, and has constructed special economic zones. This emphasis on the growing economy, one that's moving away from agriculture, massively favors cities.

Page 4

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Question 1

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Question 3

Question 4



Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

This increased urbanization as people move to cities for opportunities. ~~Nigeria between 2001-2018~~ China's economic growth worked very well, making the country urbanize quickly. Nigeria has had a harder time developing and urbanizing, the resource curse of oil has made their economy unstable and caused high tensions. This led to ~~an~~ slower urbanization as the economy hadn't advanced to a service-based one, like China's had.

e.) Rapid urbanization has allowed for increased ~~globalization facilitated by the government~~ neoliberal policies. China has established special economic zones with fewer restrictions. Nigeria has allowed more foreign oil companies into Nigeria. Mexico has increased trade with the US and Canada through NAFTA. All examples of neoliberal policies due to urbanization & developing economies.

Page 5

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0005910



**Important:** Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the question you are answering on this page.

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Question 4



Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

A) In 1985 the country that has the lowest percent of a population living in urban areas is China.

B) The United Kingdom percent of population living in urban areas has kept a consistency of around 80% for almost 55 years according to the graph.

C) Urbanization influences demographic change because when urban areas are industrialized they are no longer urban areas and becoming part of the country through their economy and government leading to demographic change.

D) The cause of the increase in percent of population <sup>is because</sup> ~~the~~ Nigeria and China have industrialized more parts of their countries ~~and~~ thus leading to a growing gap in urbanization.

E) Governments have responded really well for example ~~take~~ the leading country the UK who has the highest percent of population. From 1960-2015 out of all the other countries, however even the countries on the very bottom are making their way to the top <sup>because of their gov's.</sup>

Page 3

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## **Question 2**

### **Quantitative Analysis**

**Note:** Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

#### **Overview**

The intent of this question was to assess students' ability to interpret, describe, compare, and draw conclusions from quantitative data presented in a population distribution chart. This question about urbanization assessed students' ability to identify a data point on a line graph and describe a trend. Students were then asked to describe how urbanization influences demographic trends in the United Kingdom. The question assessed students' ability to draw a conclusion about the principle cause of the gap in urbanization between China and Nigeria between 2000 and 2018. And finally, students were asked to explain how governments responded to the trend in urbanization illustrated in the data.

#### **Sample: 2A**

**Score: 5**

- (a) The response earned 1 point for identifying China.
- (b) The response earned 1 point for describing the trend in urbanization in the United Kingdom as having "increased slightly from 1960 to 2015."
- (c) The response earned 1 point for describing how urbanization influences demographic change by stating that "someone living in the country may want to have many children ... but after moving to an urban area they may want fewer children."
- (d) The response earned 1 point for drawing a conclusion about the gap in urbanization rates by stating that China "was industrializing ... Nigeria on the other hand, still doesn't have as developed of an economy."
- (e) The response earned 1 point for explaining a response to urbanization by stating that governments have "started initiatives to improve the environment."

#### **Sample: 2B**

**Score: 4**

- (a) The response earned 1 point for identifying China.
- (b) The response earned 1 point for describing a trend in urbanization in the United Kingdom as "steady ... from 1960 to 2000, but from 2000 onwards, there was a gradual increase."
- (c) The response earned 1 point for describing how urbanization impacts demographic change as "people moving from rural areas to urban areas."
- (d) The response earned 1 point for concluding that the cause of the growing gap in urbanization is that "China ... has constructed special economic zones" and Nigeria has "the resource curse of oil."

## Question 2 (continued)

(e) The response did not earn a point because it does not describe a policy response to urbanization.

### **Sample: 2C**

#### **Score: 2**

(a) The response earned 1 point for identifying China.

(b) The response earned 1 point for describing the trend in urbanization in the United Kingdom as keeping “a consistency of around 80%.”

(c) The response did not earn a point because it inaccurately states that “when urban areas are industrialized they are no longer urban areas.”

(d) The response did not earn a point because it does not draw a conclusion about the reason for the urbanization gap between China and Nigeria.

(e) The response did not earn a point because it does not explain a specific government response to urbanization.