

2022

AP[®]

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AP[®] United States Government and Politics

Free-Response Questions Set 2

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

SECTION II

Time—1 hour and 40 minutes

4 Questions

Directions: You have 1 hour and 40 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. It is suggested that you spend approximately 20 minutes each on Questions 1, 2, and 3 and 40 minutes on Question 4. Unless directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. In your response, use substantive examples where appropriate. It is recommended that you take a few minutes to plan each answer. You may plan your answers in this orange booklet, but no credit will be given for anything written in this booklet. **You will only earn credit for what you write in the separate Free Response booklet.**

1. According to the National Educational Association (NEA), a national teachers' union with 3.2 million members and an annual budget of over \$300 million dollars, the United States is facing a sizable and expanding shortage of teachers. The report indicates that the shortage is especially severe in subjects such as math, science, and special education, where finding qualified teachers to fill positions can be hampered by low starting salaries.

The report finds that the average salary for a teacher is \$60,000, but for a new teacher it is usually less than \$40,000. Furthermore, salaries adjusted for inflation have declined 4.5% in the past decade. The report also indicates that the teacher shortage is considerably worse in high-poverty areas.

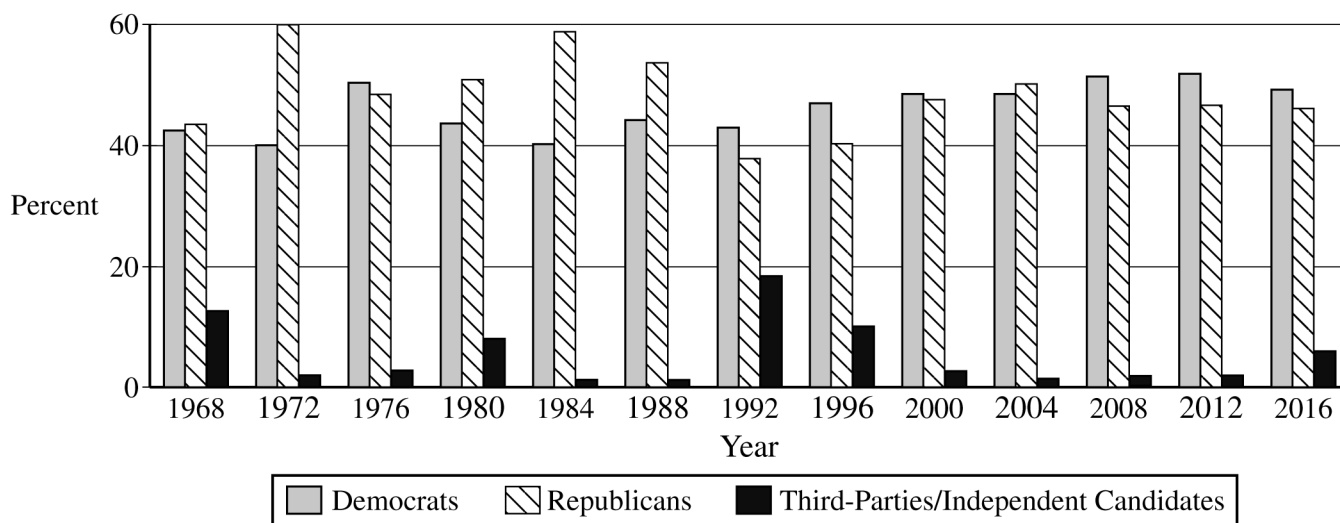
NEA President Lily Eskelsen García has called for higher salaries to address the issue. “How can we recruit and retain quality teachers for our students if we don’t pay them what they’re worth? It is time to show respect to those professionals who dedicate their lives to students and building the future of our communities. Professional work deserves professional pay.”

After reading the scenario, please respond to A, B, and C below.

- A. Describe a strategy that this interest group can use to address the issue in the scenario.
- B. In the context of the scenario, explain how the resources available to the NEA could impact the effectiveness of the strategy in part A.
- C. Explain how a block grant for education could affect the issue in the scenario in some states but not in others.

Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

PERCENT OF POPULAR VOTE SHARE IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS BY PARTY



Source: Dave Leip's Atlas of U.S. Presidential Elections, 2016

2. Use the data from the bar graph to answer the following questions.
- A. Identify the year in which a presidential candidate had the greatest percent of the popular vote in a presidential election.
 - B. Describe the overall trend in the percent of the popular vote of third-party/independent candidates.
 - C. Using the data, draw a conclusion about how the third-party/independent candidate may have affected the outcome of the 1992 presidential election.
 - D. Explain why the data in the bar graph does not necessarily relate to the outcome of presidential elections.

Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

This question requires you to compare a Supreme Court case you studied in class with one you have not studied in class. A summary of the Supreme Court case you did not study in class is presented below and provides all of the information you need to know about this case to answer the prompt.

Timbs v. Indiana (2019)

3. In November of 2013, Tyson Timbs was arrested after selling illegal drugs to an undercover police officer. Timbs pleaded guilty to the charges and was sentenced to a year of house arrest, five years probation, and a \$1,200 fine.

In addition, the state sought to seize Timbs’s Land Rover, which Timbs used to transport the illegal drugs. The Land Rover was previously purchased for \$42,000. Timbs argued that the vehicle seizure constituted an excessive fine, which was a violation of the Eighth Amendment. The maximum fine for Timbs’s crime was \$10,000, which was considerably less than the price Timbs paid for the Land Rover.

In the resulting case, *Timbs v. Indiana* (2019), the Supreme Court unanimously ruled in favor of Timbs. The opinion of the Court, authored by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, stated that the excessive fines clause is a provision that applies to the states. The Court found that the protection against excessive fines is “fundamental to our scheme of ordered liberty” and “deeply rooted in this Nation’s history and tradition.”

- A. Identify the legal doctrine that is common in both *Timbs v. Indiana* (2019) and *McDonald v. Chicago* (2010).
- B. Explain how the holding in *McDonald* was similar to the holding in *Timbs*.
- C. Explain how the decision in *Timbs* affects the reserve powers of the states.

Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

4. There is debate over the use of the Senate filibuster in the national legislative process. Take a position on whether the filibuster is beneficial or detrimental to policy making in the United States Congress.

Use at least one piece of evidence from one of the following foundational documents:

- Article I of the United States Constitution
- *The Federalist* 10
- *The Federalist* 51

In your response you should do the following:

- ✓ Respond to the prompt with a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning.
- ✓ Support your claim with at least TWO pieces of specific and relevant evidence.
 - One piece of evidence must come from one of the foundational documents listed above.
 - A second piece of evidence can come from any other foundational document not used as your first piece of evidence, or it may be from your knowledge of course concepts.
- ✓ Use reasoning to explain why your evidence supports your claim or thesis.
- ✓ Respond to an opposing or alternate perspective using refutation, concession, or rebuttal.

Begin your response to this question at the top of a new page in the separate Free Response booklet and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

STOP

END OF EXAM