2023



# **AP<sup>°</sup> Comparative Government and Politics**

## Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 2

### Inside:

**Free-Response Question 2** 

- ☑ Scoring Guidelines
- ☑ Student Samples
- **☑** Scoring Commentary

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Que	stion 2: Quantitative Analysis	5 points
(A)	Using the data in the graph, identify the country with the lowest level of trust from 2016	1 point
	to 2021. An acceptable identification includes:	
	Russia	
(B)	Using the data in the graph, describe a change in the level of trust in Mexico from 2017 to 2021.	1 point
	Acceptable descriptions include:	
	<ul> <li>The level of trust in Mexico rose from 50 in 2017 to nearly 60 in 2021.</li> <li>The level of trust in Mexico increased.</li> </ul>	
	• The level of trust in Mexico increased by almost 10 points from 2017 to 2021.	
(C)	Describe political stability.	1 point
	Acceptable descriptions include:	
	<ul> <li>The durability of a political regime over time.</li> <li>The ability of a government to provide for the needs of its people to maintain the</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>public's confidence in the institution of the state over time.</li> <li>A state is politically stable when it can endure threats to its sovereignty.</li> </ul>	
(D)	Using the data in the graph, draw a conclusion about China's policies in maintaining political stability.	1 point
	Acceptable conclusions include:	
	<ul> <li>Chinese citizens have high levels of trust in the Chinese government because the government has successfully focused on economic growth to maintain political stability</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Chinese citizens have high levels of trust in the government because the government has effectively censored the media to maintain political stability.</li> </ul>	
(E)	Explain what the data in the graph imply about corruption in Russia.	1 point
	Acceptable explanations include:	
	• The data in the graph imply that there are high levels of corruption because Russian citizens are unlikely to trust a corrupt government.	

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Question 2 Question 1 Question 4 Important: Completely fill in the circle Question 3 that corresponds to the guestion you 0 0 0 are answering on this page. Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines. (E) According to the graph, Russia has peny relatively low levels of trust in the government amongst its citizens, when citizen don't trust their government teacters, it's mostly because they suspect them of comption. It is likely that corruption is quite high in Russia, since the citizery don't seen to must the government to rule honestly. Page 5 Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box. 0030780 000000000 05384/

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c) Politi	cal stability	is when	n the	form of	governme	nt of
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e) The	data in the	graph in	mplies th	vat Russio	l is percei	ived as
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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, explain, and draw conclusions from quantitative data on public trust levels across four AP countries presented in a graph. The question also was designed to assess students' ability to make connections across the concepts of trust, political stability, and corruption. Students were presented with a graph displaying numbers for the Trust Index Barometer for China, Mexico, the United Kingdom, and Russia. The graph showed the scores for these four countries from 2015 to 2021. Students were expected to be able to correctly identify the country with the lowest level of trust from 2016 to 2021. Students were also expected to correctly describe a change in the level of public trust in Mexico from 2017 to 2021. Students were then expected to correctly describe the concept of political stability. The next prompt asked students, using data from the graph, to draw a conclusion about China's policies in maintaining political stability. Finally, students were asked to explain what the data in the graph implied about corruption in Russia. Students were expected to demonstrate understanding that high levels of corruption negatively influence the degree of public trust in government.

#### Sample: 2A Score: 4

(A) The response earned 1 point for identifying Russia as the country in the graph with the lowest level of trust from 2016 to 2021.

(B) The response earned 1 point for describing the change in the level of trust in Mexico from 2017 to 2021 as "an increase of about 10 percentage points."

(C) The response did not earn a point because it does not provide an accurate description of political stability.

(D) The response earned 1 point for drawing a conclusion about China's policies in maintaining political stability using the data in the graph, by stating that "China's policies for maintaining political stability, such as media censorship, are quite effective."

(E) The response earned 1 point for explaining what the data in the graph imply about corruption in Russia by stating, "It is likely that corruption is quite high in Russia, since the citizery don't seem to trust the government to rule honestly."

#### Sample: 2B Score: 4

(A) The response earned 1 point for identifying Russia as the country with the lowest level of trust from 2016 to 2021.

#### **Question 2 (continued)**

(B) The response earned 1 point for describing a change in the level of trust in Mexico from 2017 to 2021 as "Mexico's level of trust increased steadily over the course of 2017 to 2021."

(C) The response earned 1 point for accurately describing political stability. The response correctly describes the "form of government of a state" as "not likely to change," indicating that the state is durable.

(D) The response did not earn a point for drawing a conclusion about China's policies in maintaining political stability. It explains that China has high levels of trust, but it does not provide any reasoning for how a specific policy used by China to maintain stability can help explain those high levels of trust.

(E) The response earned 1 point for successfully linking the low levels of trust in Russia with high levels of corruption, by stating, "If people aren't trusting Russia's institutions, businesses, media, and NGOs, then that must mean Russia has high levels of corruption."

#### Sample: 2C Score: 2

(A) The response earned 1 point for identifying Russia as the country in the graph with the lowest level of trust from 2016 to 2021.

(B) The response earned 1 point for describing the change in level of trust in Mexico from 2017 to 2021 as an "increase of trust in Mexico."

(C) The response did not earn a point for describing political stability because there is no indication of durability over time.

(D) The response did not earn a point for drawing a conclusion about China's policies in maintaining political stability using the data in the graph. The response does not describe a policy that helped China maintain political stability.

(E) The response did not earn a point for explaining what the data in the graph imply about corruption in Russia. While an attempt is made, the response does not accurately connect the data to corruption in Russia.