

2023



AP[®] United States Government and Politics

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 2

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Free-Response Question 2

- Scoring Guidelines**
- Student Samples**
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Question 2: Quantitative Analysis**4 points**

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- A.** Identify the generation that is projected to have the lowest percentage of eligible voters in 2028, as shown in the bar graph. **1 point**

Acceptable identifications include:

The Silent Generation

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- B.** Describe the trend over time in the data, as shown in the bar graph. **1 point**

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Over time, the percentage of eligible voters increases among people born later.
- Over time, the percentage decreases among people born earlier.
- Over time, the percentage of eligible voters among the Silent Generation decreases while the percentage of eligible voters among Generation Z increases.

- C.** Draw a conclusion about how a trend in the data could affect a 2032 presidential candidate’s strategy to mobilize eligible voters. **1 point**

Acceptable conclusions include:

- As the percentage of eligible voters in Generation Z increases, a campaign could shift to a media platform Generation Z uses more, such as social media.
- As the percentage of eligible voters among Baby Boomers decreases, a campaign could shift its platform to move away from issues that Baby Boomers care about the most.

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- D.** Explain how life cycle effects, as shown in the bar graph, could influence a candidate’s policy platform. **1 point**

Acceptable explanations include:

As a generation gets older and its share of overall eligible voters changes, the issues that matter the most to the public may change. A candidate would respond to these changes by adopting popular positions on the issues that matter the most.

Total for question 2 4 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. The generation that is projected to have the lowest percentage of eligible voters in 2028 is the silent generation.

B. Over time, older generations ~~show to have~~ are shown to have ~~less eligible voters, while~~ a decreasing percentage of eligible voters, while younger generations are shown to have an increasing percentage of eligible voters.

C. Based off of the ~~area~~ trend in the bar chart, 2023 presidential campaigns will seek to appeal to the younger generation of voters. This could be done by promising to address issues that concern the younger generations (Generation Z and Millennials). Doing so will result in gathering more supporters since those generations are the ones with majority eligible voters.

D. The life cycle effect is the effect the aging has on people's views. As people age, their concerns on political issues could shift. This means that a candidates policy platform would have to shift ~~with~~ with those changing views as well to maintain those supporters, or the policy platform could change to the interest of a new ~~minority~~ majority generation to obtain more supporters/voters.

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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.

A. The generation having the lowest percentage of eligible voters in 2028 is the silent generation.

B. The trend is that through 2016 to 2036, other than the Generation Z, all of the other generations' eligible voters decreases continuously when generation Z increases with eligible voters.

C. As the Silent generation diminishes in 2032, candidates in the 2032 presidential election will not focus on silent generation and will create strategy that will mobilize and favor Generation Z, Millennials, Generation X, and Baby boomers. They may come up with ~~offer~~ future promises that will align ^{with} the needs and values of people from these groups.

D. In dealing with life cycle effect, candidates will need to switch their policy platforms accordingly that will gain ~~benefit~~ from favor from the generations the candidates wishes to target. Candidates needs to abandon some more tradition platforms and to conform with ideas and values that are embraced by newer generations in order to gain popularity and earn their positions.

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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.

Ⓐ In 2028 the lowest percentage of eligible voters is the silent Generation. Ⓑ The trend of the graph is going upwards where the generations who can vote are trending up. Ⓒ A presidential candidate's strategy to mobilize eligible voters would have to target the younger generation. As the older generation no longer vote, and younger generation trend upwards strategy will aim to mobilize younger eligible voters. Ⓓ Life cycle effect lead a candidate policy platform needing change. Since people are following their cycles so does the policy platform. As the generations trend upwards president will have to adopt their policies. This is the effect of the life cycle.

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Question 2

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

Overview

The Quantitative Analysis question called on students to read and interpret data related to eligible voters categorized by generation, from 2016 to 2036. Students were expected to describe relationships through analysis of data related to generational voter eligibility. They were asked to describe a trend over time presented in the data. Students were also expected to draw a conclusion from the data to explain the potential generational effect on voter eligibility. Finally, the question asked students to explain how life cycle effects could influence candidates' policy platforms.

Sample: 2A

Score: 4

The response earned 1 point in part A for identifying the Silent Generation as having the lowest percentage of eligible voters in 2028.

The response earned 1 point in part B for describing the trend in the data that “[o]ver time, older generations are shown to have a decreasing percentage of eligible voters, while younger generations are shown to have an increasing percentage of eligible voters.”

The response earned 1 point in part C for concluding that presidential campaigns will change strategy “by promising to address issues that concern the younger generations (Generation Z and Millennials) ... since those generations are the ones with majority eligible voters.”

The response earned 1 point in part D by explaining, “The life cycle effect is the effect the aging has on people’s views. As people age, their concerns on political issues could shift ... a candidates policy platform would have to shift with these changing views.” The response explains the effect of life cycle on people’s views and how candidates respond to these changes.

Sample: 2B

Score: 3

The response earned 1 point in part A for identifying the Silent Generation as having the lowest percentage of eligible voters in 2028.

The response earned 1 point in part B for describing the trend over time. It states that “other than the Generation Z, all of the other generations’ eligible voters decreases ... when generation Z increases with eligible voters.”

The response earned 1 point in part C because it draws a conclusion about how a trend in the data could affect a 2032 presidential candidate’s strategy by stating that candidates “may come up with future promises that will align with the needs and values of people from these groups.”

In part D the response did not earn a point because it does not explain how life cycle effects could influence a candidate’s policy platform. While the response states that “candidates will need to switch their policy platforms ... that will gain favor from the generations the candidates wish to target,” it does

Question 2 (continued)

not explain how life cycle effects would shift generational preferences and encourage candidates to change their positions. Pointing out that candidates would target a different generation is not a complete explanation.

Sample: 2C

Score: 1

The response earned 1 point in part A for identifying the Silent Generation as having the lowest percentage of eligible voters in 2028.

The response did not earn a point in part B because “The trend of the graph is going upwards where the generations who can vote are trending up” does not accurately describe a trend over time in the data.

The response did not earn a point in part C. While it mentions a candidate’s strategy, it does not include a strategy a candidate could use to mobilize eligible voters.

The response did not earn a point in part D because, while it does describe change in candidate platform, the response does not explain the life cycle effect.