AP Comparative Government and Politics

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentaries Aligned with the 2020 Rubric

From the 2018 Scoring Pilot

AP Comparative Government and Politics Free-Response Question 4 (Student Responses from 2018 Pilot)

This packet of student samples labeled A - I includes two copies of each sample.* The first of these two samples is the original version of the student response with no additional marking. The second of these two samples includes annotation that indicates where each point was earned in the response. The below key indicates which annotation correlates to each of the points.

*Sample C contains no annotations, as no points were earned in that response.

Rubric	Description	Annotation Key
Row A	Claim/Thesis Point	Th
Row B	First Evidence Point	E1
Row B	Second Evidence Point	E2
Row C	Reasoning Point	R
Row D	Responds to Alternate Perspectives Point	Α

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS Section II

A 1 of 3

UK > CL: Most Free (1/4) PR > YM
COrruption: #8 (Score 82)

RUSSID + CL: 617 PR+717 (lease free)
Corruption: #135 (29)

Corruption plaques COUNTAGE World; however, the method of <u>dealing</u> amongst contries. Corruption within is different country typically arises from a lack of civil liberties & political vignes which cordenses all power the government. With the & Absolute power the citizens discrepancy is clearly UK, being a bighly civil liberties è <u> Colitical</u> DEODIE. AS a <u>result</u> Russia. on the other hand has a liberties & political concentrated & a

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Countries it is evident triat democratic
regimes are more effective in reducing Corruption
than authoritarian regiones as seen through
the DK & Russia.
Civil Liberties are crucial for a country to
progress, for when Gitizen's are granted
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Freedom house scoring that Democratic regimes
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than authoritarian regimes. Due to this, russia
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UK+ CL: Most Free (1/4) PR+ YM
COrruption: #8 (Score 82)

RUSSIO + CL: 617 PR+717 (least free)
Corruption: #135 (29)

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of corruption to occur. Thus, by studying both countries it is evident that democratic regimes are more effective in reducing corruption than authoritarian regimes, as seen through the UK & Russia. Civil Liberties are crucial for a country to progress, for when citizen's are granted freedom of speech an organizing they are allowed to express what change they want. As an authoritarian regime Russia Mas a lack of these liberties. Although the constitution States these freedoms to exist, Potin's power enables him to disregard the protection of these vights. It is seen that the more gutharitarian that possia becomes the less liberties are given. According to Freedominouse.org, as of 2017 Russia has a 6/7 on civil liberties making it towing in towns at the own on the other hand, the UK has a 19 on civil liberties (most free) in their democracy. UK has always made an effort to protect the homan E1 rights that citizens deserve which allows them to speak out & organize pearefully. In doing So, the gove can be criticized into making

improvements by the people. This himses the development of corruption, unlike Russia's goves when promotes it. In addition to civil liberties, political rights the exosity corruption. The UK Ea has several parties & competition diving <u>Plections</u>. These elections allow people to have a say in who their leader is ? prevents too much power in one party. Due to their efficient elections : system, UK is a 1/4 (most free) for political rights in freedom house In Russia, although it has several parties, one party has been in rule for a while. Elections bayen't been fair & open which results in a lack of rights to the propie. Due to the lark of proper voting me party bas consolidated power à can do unatever they wood This results in a score of 1914 (least tree) for Political rights. To conclude, it is evident through Freedom house scoring that Democratic regimes are more efficient to dealing with comption than authoritarian regimes. Due to this, Yussia is vanked 135/180 & UK is \$/180 . For a lack of corruption

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COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS Section II

C 1 of 2

When it all boils down to it, corruption is a function of who a politician's loyalties lie. They could pass legislature for the whole country, or they could pass it for the sich few who pay them off. Of our 6 AP countries, the one who has made it its goal to crack clown on corruption the most is China, arguably the most authoritarian. Conversely, the most corrupt of these states are either pre-2000 Mexico or Nigeria-both of which are democracies. An authoritarian regime type is more effective at reducing corruption than a democracy because there are no elections of any consequence that experience for it by other means. This leads to some authoritarian states—like China— to reduce corruption the

most.

Russia considers itself a democracy but they United Russia party has been accused of ballot stuffing in every election. Mexico has been getting better at reducing corruption, but there remains a massive spot in its history where PRI wan for almost one hundred years through solely corruption and a patronage system. Nigeria, like Mexico, has been getting better. But they have had many hiccops along the way (almost with every election). The only state that has had any form of success with reducing corruption is # China with the actions that the CCP takes to provide legitimacy because in their lack of elections. People like to believe that a democratic regime type is the best at every thing. This is incorrect. While they are certainly the best for most things, corresption just isn't one of them. The fact that they have elections opens the cloor to the highest bidder to come in and 'oun" the winner. Most democracies have been trying to work on this but there is simply no way to know for sure if the last corrupt politician is taken kore of.

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- Accountability in elections - transparency b/e of civil liberties

Corruption is very prevalant in many countries or the type of government. democratic regimes are more due to increased accountability trains parency due to greater civil liberties. Civil liberties such as freedom of speech freedom of the press, and freedom contribute to increased 40 torce d print what hrough investigative is able the press corruption.

a democratic state, the press has continued to gain knove freedom in recent years. They have began to report more and more on the government, policies, officials, and etc.

Some news platforms have reported about specific cases of corruption, and locause of this corruption is slowly becoming less common in Nigeria. While the increased reporting a common in Nigeria. While the increased reporting or it sometimes portrays the opposite idea since more stones are published, in general freedom of the press discourages corruption among government officials. On top of that the right to organize and heely speak allows the Migerian people to place public pressur and voice their opposition to corruption on the government. Only a democratic society that values these civil likerties has the possibility of becoming truly transparent. As we have seen in many democratic countries across the world, transparency reduces comption.

Secondly, the accountability that is present in free and fair elections continues Kingdom, free and fair elections ensure that

a person's place in government is not grananteed. It an official is suspected of corruption or has not satisfactority represented their constituents, they will likely be voted out of office in the next electron.

Free and fair electrons allow citizens to hold their representatives accountable. In the UK, the continued transition of power from conseniatives to the Labour Party proves that officials are burg held accountable for their pelicies and achons. It is much harden to be corrupt in such a transparent, accountable system. Although some may suggest that the lack of correspondence of civil likerhes breeds from of correspondence of government officials in authoritarian regimes, this is simply not the case. In Russia Puth has created fear in his government by showcasing what happens to compt officials, yet corruption is still very prevalent in Russia. Puton, himself is not make Sense. Overall democratic regimes are much more effective at reducing corruption,

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- Accountability in elections - transparency b/e of civil liberties

regardless of the type of government. In general however, democratic regimes are more effective at reducing corruption due to increased accountability in elections and more transparency that is due to greater civil liberties.

Civil liberties such as freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom to assemble all contribute to increased transparency. The press isn't forced to print what the regime wants it to print. Through investigative journalism and reporting, the press is able to alert the public to instances of corruption In Nigeria, >

Corruption is very prevalant in many countries

Usauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is flegal. E1 to gain more freedom in recent years. They have began to report more and more on the government, policies, officials, and etc. Some news platforms have reported about specific cases of correption, and because Of this corruption is slowly becoming less Lommon in Nigenia. While the increased reporting of it sometimes portrays the opposite idea since more stones are published, in general Freedom of the press discourages corruption among government officials. On top of that, the right to organize and freely speak allows the Nigerian people to place public pressure and voice their opposition to corruption on the government. Only a democratic society that values these civil likerties has the possibility of becoming truly transparent. As we have seen in many democratic countries across the world, transparency reduces comption.

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COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS Section II

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Throughout time, many countries have alternated between authoritarian and democratic regimes, often with mixed results. However, democratic regimes tend to be more effective at reducing corruption than authoritarian regimes, due to a higher rate of political transparency.

In democratic enteriors, like the united kingdom, elections are free, open, man fair, and competitive because of the publicity elections receive, it is difficult to fake results or buy votes, which is common in authoritarian regimes. Authoritarian

governments will do whatever is necessary to maintain power, which often leads to corrupt elections. In china, where a strong authoritarian government is in place, citizens are not even able 10 elect higher officials like the president. This makes secret deals and trades for support much easier, which can read to corruption. In democracies, activity in civil society organizations is encouraged, and civil Society Flourishes in good states like the UK, activity in organizations like avanços encourages political thought, and gives a voice to the people who may have policy concerns However, in an authoritarian state like china, civil society is almost nonexistant, and when it is, it is neavily controlled. This makes it difficult for citizens to voice discontent, reading to corruption, as citizens may bribe officials to get What is needed. This can also be seen in Russia, who has a procedural democracy.

leaning towards an authoritarian state. civil society, like china, is minimal and heavily controlled, and is often dangerous. political dissenters risk their lives, as unpopular opinions are often silenced with violence or imprisonment. some may daim that an authoritarian regime with a strong reader may root out corruption with its great influence, but often corruption is workn to deeply into the system to be taken out corruption is common in bureaucracies, where bribes will get you favorable treatment, and bureau cracies are both massive and powerful. Bureaucrats are most often not voted into their positions, which disconnects them from public scrutiny. Bureaucratic positions themselves can be used as a bribe giving favorable positions to those who are loyal to the reader and the state Democracies are more fit to fight corruption than authoritarian

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In an authoritanan regime most power is centralized within me federal government and placed in the wands of a few powerful elite. In contrast, in a democrane regime power is shared between the people (the cinzens) and the central government. In a democratic regime people's civil libernes are usually more protected than in an authoritanan regime. Also, civilsociety normally has a strong presence in democratic regimes along with tarrand decompetitive elections. Due to mere trends, a democratic regime is more effective in reducing corruption ramer than an authoritanan regime.

After delving into the political systems of a mynad of countries, it has been observed that the civil liberties of the people have bein more protected in democratic countries, such as me uk, man in aumontanan countres, such as china. In democratic countries like the UK, people are able to practice free speech, freedom of assembly, and freedom of the press. The same cannot be said for an authoritanan regime like china for inviance, prodemocracy protesters held a demonstration attamanen square in which their rights to treedom of speech and assembly were repressed when approximes arrested me protesters and snut down me demonstration. When people are allowed to freely utilize civil liberties, corruption can be bathed against and people can attempt to stop it. if people do not nave the nght to access mely civil libertity, they do not have the ability to speak out against corruption which would retre as an obstacle to corruption. since democrane regimes usually grant cinzens mely civil inderties, corruption can more effectively behindered. Also, it there is no treedom of the press, then me government convois what me cinitar view through me media, which can nide me true comption that is occurring. This is frequently occurry in countries with an authoritand a regime.

civil society tends to be more prominent in a democranc regime man in an aumontanan regime. When civil society has a greater presense, people are usually more active in politics. This could mean that more people are JOINING INTEREST Groups, NGOS, Or EVEN THAT JUST MORE people are voting. By naving more people involved in politics, corruption can be reduced and less power will be concentrated within a few powerful eliter. in democratic regimes matentalithis greater sense of RIVH society, people have a greater say in the public policy that s being created within the legislature, leading to more regitimacy in the government and a lower rever of corruption. in contrast, in authoritation regimes, civil society is usually nindered to some extent. For instance, in Russia NGO s nave been banned. By reducing civil society, me people rose in government is reduced, placing more power within mose controlling the central government, leading to meritable corruption.

Free, fair, and competitive electrons are usually more often seen in country with a democratic regime than an aumoritarian regime. More electrons in democratic regimes are direct in comparison with aumoritanian regimes. There direct electrons give people a greater say in pointer and increases legitimally within the government. Also, candidate are more often verted by preselected in dumonitanian regimes. For example, in china, the cop chooses one candidate for president and up that the national people's congress appoints, but in reality there is any one candidate endorsed by the CCP, so the CCP genuinely got to enouse the president type. Also there is in creased transparency. In a democratic regime than in an aumoritanian one
If there is less transparency, more corruption can be done behind the scenes, leading an aumoritanian regime ware suseptable

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in an authoritanan regime most power is centralized within me federal government and placed in the hands of a few powerful elite. In contrast, in a democranc regime power is snared between the people (the cinzens) and the central government. In a democratic regime people's civil libernes are usually more projected man in an aumontanan regime. Also, civusociety normally has a strong presence in democranc regimes along with fair and compensive electrons. Due to mere trends, a democratic regime is more effective in reducing corruption ramer man an authoritan an regime-

After delving into the political systems of a mynad of countries, it has been observed that the civil liberties of the people have been more protected in democratic countries, such as me uk, E1 man in authorianan countries, such as china. In democratic counties like me Uk, people are able to practice freespeech, freedom of assembly, and freedom of the press. The same cannot be said for an aumontanan regime like china. For instance, prodemocracy protesters held a demonstration attamanen square in which their rights to treedom of speech and assembly were repressed when approvines arrested me protesters and snut down the demonstration. When people are allowed to freely utilize civil liberties, corruption can be bathed against and people can attempt to stop it. If people do not have the night to access mely civil liberty, they do not have the ability to speak our against corruption which would retre as an obstacle to corruption. since democratic regimes usually grant citizens mely civil inderties, corruption can more effectively behindered. Also, it there is no treedom of me press, then me government convois what the cinzens view through the media, which can nide me true comption that is occurring. This is frequently occurry in countries with an authoritanan regime.

civil society tends to be more prominent in a democratic regime man in an authoritanan regime. When civil society has a greater presense, people are usually more active in politics. This could mean that more people are Joining interest groups, NGOs, or even that just more people are voting - by naving more people involved in politics, corruption can be reduced and less power will be concentrated within a few powerful eliter. In democratic regimes matentalimis greater sense of RIVM society, people have a greater say in the public policy that v being created within the legislature, leading to more regitimacy in the government and a lower rever of corruption in contrast, in authoritation regimes, civil society is usually nindered to some extent. For instance, in Russia NGO &s nove been banned. By reducing civil society, me people's rose in government is reduced, placing more power within mose controlling the central government, leading to Meritable corruption.

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COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS Section II

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Democratic regimes are better than authoritarian regimes at reducing corruption because democracies allow for elections and freedom of the Press. In the UK, for example, there are free and fair elections. This means that the elected officials are accountable to the Citizens of the UK. If an official is corrupt, they can easily be removed from office or not voted in for the next election. Also, the UK allows for freedom of the press. This allows the press or media to Call out and draw attention to any corruption.

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COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS Section II

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COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Section II

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1 Both authoritorian and democratic regimes have their own may of reducing comption. Authoritarian regimes center this power on a group of elites, giving little to no power to the people, while democratic regimes are run by the people of the country, with their government Box representing them. While authoritarion regimes many look less corrupt on paper, democratic regimes are the most effective when it comes to reducing comption because of their civil liberties, civil society, and elections. The civil liberties, freedom of speech, press, religion, etc., is more opponent in a democratic regime than an authoritorian one to rexample, the UK, as a democratic regime, has complete freedom of speach compression

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to the track of a other range China's Civil Society is completely restricted if It interferes with political views. For example, the spiritual practice of Falm Com was completely oblituated as it become so lorder and more impactful of chinese lives. All books were rived and it is even blocked from all hebsites in Chino, frother exemple is the tragedy in Tianomen Square, where political profestors were britistly killed by the governments military, Itis so hidden and suppressed that there oren't even records of how may deaths took place. Elections in democratic regimes are more of free foir, and frequent than authoritarian regimes, while every regime has its Comption through its elections, the UK, for exemple gives the choosing poner to the people when it comes to elections. While votus overit centered on the a specific conditate in particularly elections, and theorie OD they 5511 have the right to vote in the process of proportional representation. The An example of a direct and foir vote was the referendum of 2019 to allow Scotland to be come its own country. Although the Scotland lost the referendum, the vote was still an accurate representation of the people. For outheritarian regular

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Index of Scores for Samples: Question 4

Sample Reference	Row A	Row B	Row C	Row D
Α	1	2	1	0
В	1	1	1	0
С	0	0	0	0
D	1	2	1	0
E	1	2	1	1
F	1	2	1	0
G	1	2	1	1
Н	1	0	0	1
I	0	2	0	0

Sample A 4/5 Points

Row A: Claim/Thesis - 1/1

The response earned the point for Claim/Thesis with the argument in the first paragraph which outlines that corruption occurs in countries with a lack of civil liberties and political rights: "Russia, on the other hand, has a lack of civil liberties & political rights which allows power to be concentrated & a higher chance of corruption to occur. Thus, by studying both countries it is evident that democratic regimes are more effective in reducing corruption than authoritarian regimes, as seen through the UK & Russia."

Row B: Evidence - 2/2

The response earned both points for Evidence. The first evidence point is earned in the second paragraph with the explanation that "the UK has always made an effort to protect the human rights that citizens deserve, which allows them to speak out and organize peacefully." The second evidence point is earned in the third paragraph with the explanation of "the UK has several parties & competition during elections. These elections allow people to have a say in who their leader is & prevents too much power in one party." There is a third piece of evidence provided in the second paragraph about Russia, but it is not needed as the response has already earned two points.

Row C: Reasoning - 1/1

The response earned the point for Reasoning because it explains the relationship between the evidence provided and the claim that democratic regimes are more effective in reducing corruption than authoritarian regimes. The Reasoning point is found in the second paragraph after the first evidence point about how the UK protects citizens' rights to speak out and organize: "In doing so, the govt. can be criticized into making improvements by the people. This hinders the development of corruption..." The response provides reasoning for an additional evidence point, but it is not needed as it has already earned the point for Reasoning.

Row D: Responds to an Alternate Perspective - 0/1

The response did not earn this point because it does not attempt to respond to an alternate perspective.

Sample B 3/5

Row A: Claim/Thesis - 1/1

The response earned the point for Claim/Thesis with the argument in the second paragraph which explains the connection between civil liberties and the people's ability to hold the government accountable: "One reason democracies are more effective at reducing corruption is that civil liberties are present. If parts of the government are corrupt, the people seek change and holds the government accountable."

Row B: Evidence – 1/2

The response earned one point for Evidence. The first evidence point is earned in the second paragraph with the explanation that "In countries like the United Kingdom, there are these organizations that are run by the people. The civil society organizations keep the government in check through civil disobedience. Examples include protesting, boycotting, and marches." The third sentence is necessary to earn this point because it provides specific examples that demonstrate a clear understanding of what "civil disobedience" means.

Row C: Reasoning - 1/1

The response earned the point for Reasoning because it explains the relationship between the evidence provided and the claim that democratic regimes are more effective in reducing corruption than authoritarian regimes. The Reasoning point is found in the second paragraph after the first evidence point about civil society organizations and civil disobedience examples keeping democratic governments in check. "Protest such as these inform the general populace if the politicians they may be voting for is corrupt or not."

Row D: Responds to an Alternate Perspective -0/1

The response did not earn this point. It attempts to describe and refute an alternate perspective: "While there are examples of compelling evidence on why democracies are better at reducing corruption, there are those who still argue the contrary. The argue that authoritarian regimes can reduce corruption. However, these government have the most corruption. Countries such as Russia has been suspected in rigging elections of officials." Although the response identifies an alternate perspective it does not offer an actual description of that perspective—it simply identifies it. The rebuttal is ineffective because the response never demonstrates understanding of the alternate perspective.

Sample C 0/5

Row A: Claim/Thesis - 0/1

The response did not earn the point for Claim/Thesis because it does not offer a coherent or accurate argument that establishes a line of reasoning.

Row B: Evidence - 0/2

The response did not earn either evidence point because the examples provided are inaccurate and not specific.

Row C: Reasoning - 0/1

The response did not earn the point for Reasoning because it does not attempt to explain how or why the evidence supports a claim or thesis. Had the response attempted to do so it still would not have earned the Reasoning point because it did not earn the point for Claim/Thesis.

Row D: Responds to an Alternate Perspective - 0/1

The response did not earn this point. It attempts to describe and refute an alternate perspective: "People like to believe that a democratic regime type is the best at everything. This is incorrect. While they are certainly the best for most things, corruption just isn't one of them. The fact that they have elections opens the door to the highest bidder to come in and 'own' the winner. Most democracies have been trying to work on this, but there is simply no way to know for sure if the last corruption politician is taken care of." Although the response identifies an alternate perspective, it does not offer an actual description of that perspective—it simply identifies it. The rebuttal is ineffective because the response never demonstrates understanding of the alternate perspective.

Sample D 4/5

Row A: Claim/Thesis - 1/1

The response earned the point for Claim/Thesis with the argument in the first paragraph that explains the connection between accountability in elections and transparency because of civil liberties: "In general, however, democratic regimes are more effective at reducing corruption due to increased accountability in elections and more transparency that is due to greater civil liberties."

Row B: Evidence - 2/2

The response earned both points for Evidence. The first evidence point is earned in the middle of the second paragraph with the explanation that "In Nigeria, a democratic state, the press has continued to gain more freedom in recent years. They have begun to report more and more on the government, politics, officials, etc." Both sentences are needed to earn the evidence point because the second sentence provides a specific context for what "more freedom" means. The second evidence point is earned at the end of the second paragraph with the explanation of "On top of that, the right to organize and freely speak allows the Nigerian people to place public pressure and voice their opposition to corruption on the government." There is another piece of evidence provided in the third paragraph with a discussion about free and fair elections in the U.K., but it is not needed as the response has already earned two points.

Row C: Reasoning - 1/1

The response earned the point for Reasoning because it explains the relationship between the evidence provided and the claim that democratic regimes are more effective in reducing corruption than authoritarian regimes. The Reasoning point is found in the second paragraph after the first evidence point about Nigeria's freedom of the press which allows the press to report on the government: "and because of this, corruption is slowly becoming less common in Nigeria." The response provides reasoning for an additional evidence point, but it is not needed as it has already earned the point for Reasoning.

Row D: Responds to an Alternate Perspective - 0/1

The response did not earn this point. It attempts to describe and refute an alternate perspective: "Although some may suggest that the lack of civil liberties breeds fear of corruption in government officials in authoritarian regimes, this is simply not the case. In Russia, Putin has created fear in his government by showcasing what happens to corrupt officials, yet corruption is still very prevalent in Russia." Although the response attempts to describe the alternate perspective, it demonstrates an incorrect understanding. The rebuttal is ineffective because the response never demonstrates understanding of the alternate perspective.

Sample E 5/5

Row A: Claim/Thesis - 1/1

The response earned the point for Claim/Thesis with the argument about political transparency and free and fair elections. While it begins the argument in the first paragraph, it is the continuation of that argument into the second paragraph that earned the point. The response has to connect political transparency to one of the provided course concepts, which it does at the beginning of the second paragraph: "However, democratic regimes tend to be more effective at reducing corruption than authoritarian regimes, due to a higher rate of political transparency. In democratic states like the United Kingdom, elections are free, open, fair and competitive." The rubric stipulates that the claim or thesis may be located anywhere in the response, allowing for this response to earn the point for Claim/Thesis.

Row B: Evidence – 2/2

The response earned both points for Evidence. The first evidence point is earned in the second paragraph with the explanation that authoritarian governments will do whatever is needed to maintain power and that leads to corrupt elections like "In China, where a strong authoritarian government is in place, citizens are not even able to election higher officials like the president." The second evidence point is earned in the second paragraph with the example of civil society: "In states like the UK, activity in organizations like Quangos encourages political thought and gives a voice to the people who may have policy concerns." There is a third piece of evidence provided in the second paragraph about China, but it is not needed as the response has already earned two points.

Row C: Reasoning - 1/1

The response earned the point for Reasoning because it explains the relationship between the evidence provided and the claim that democratic regimes are more effective in reducing corruption than authoritarian regimes. The Reasoning point is found in the second paragraph after the first evidence point about elections in China and citizens' inability to elect higher officials. "This makes secret deals and trades for support much easier, which can lead to corruption." The response provides reasoning for an additional evidence point, but it is not needed as it has already earned the point for Reasoning.

Row D: Responds to an Alternate Perspective - 1/1

The response earned this point in the fourth paragraph by describing an alternate perspective and refuting it: "Some may claim that an authoritarian regime, with a strong leader, may root out corruption with its great influence, but often corruption is wove to deeply into the system to be taken out. Corruption is common in bureaucracies, where bribes will get you favorable treatment, and bureaucracies are both massive and powerful. Bureaucrats are most often not voted into their positions, which disconnects them from public scrutiny. Bureaucratic positions themselves can be used as a bribe, giving favorable positions to those who are loyal to the leader and the state."

Sample F 4/5

Row A: Claim/Thesis - 1/1

The response earned the point for Claim/Thesis with the argument in the first paragraph about civil liberties and competitive elections: "In a democratic regime people's civil liberties are usually more protected than in an authoritarian regime. Also, civil society normally has a strong presence in democratic regimes along with fair and competitive elections. Due to these trends, a democratic regime is more effective in reducing corruption rather than an authoritarian regime."

Row B: Evidence – 2/2

The response earned both points for Evidence. The first evidence point is earned in the second paragraph with the explanation about civil liberties being protected in democratic countries: "In democratic countries like the UK, people are able to practice free speech, freedom of assembly, and freedom of the press." The second evidence point is earned directly after that with the discussion about China and the lack of civil liberties: "The same cannot be said for an authoritarian regime like China. For instance, prodemocracy protesters held a demonstration at Tiamanen Square in which their rights to freedom of speech and assembly were repressed when authorities arrested the protesters and shut down the demonstration." There are additional pieces of evidence provided in subsequent paragraphs, but they are not needed as the response has already earned two points.

Row C: Reasoning - 1/1

The response earned the point for Reasoning because it explains the relationship between the evidence provided and the claim that democratic regimes are more effective in reducing corruption than authoritarian regimes. The Reasoning point is found in the second paragraph after the second evidence point about the Tiananmen Square demonstration where freedom of speech and assembly were repressed: "When people are allowed to freely utilize civil liberties, corruption can be battled against and people can attempt to stop it." The response provides reasoning for an additional evidence point, but it is not needed as it has already earned the point for Reasoning.

Row D: Responds to an Alternate Perspective - 0/1

The response did not earn this point. It describes an alternate perspective, but it does not attempt to refute, concede or rebut that perspective: "After exploring the variety of characteristics that define both an authoritarian and democratic regimes it is apparent that a democratic regime would be more efficient in reducing corruption. However, some could argue that an authoritarian regime could more effectively reduce corruption since it has more power within the country it can more easily stop corruption from continuing." The alternate perspective is described in the second sentence above, but the response ends without refuting, conceding, or rebutting that perspective.

Sample G 5/5

Row A: Claim/Thesis - 1/1

The response earned the point for Claim/Thesis with the argument in the first paragraph about elections and freedom of the press: *Democratic regimes are better than authoritarian regime at reducing corruption because democracies allow for elections and freedom of the press.*" This is a minimally acceptable example that earned the point because of the inclusion of "freedom of the press", which is a civil liberty. Had it stopped at "elections" it would not have earned the point.

Row B: Evidence – 2/2

The response earned both points for Evidence. The first evidence point is earned in the first paragraph with the explanation about free elections and accountability of officials: In the UK, for example, there are free and fair elections. This means that the elected officials are accountable to the citizens of the UK." The second evidence point is also in the first paragraph with a discussion of freedom of the press. Also, the UK allows for freedom of the press. This allows the press or media to call out and draw attention to any corruption."

Row C: Reasoning - 1/1

The response earned the point for Reasoning because it explains the relationship between the evidence provided and the claim that democratic regimes are more effective in reducing corruption than authoritarian regimes. The Reasoning point is found in the first paragraph after the first evidence point about free and fair elections in the UK: "If an official is corrupt, they can easily be removed from office or not voted in for the next election." The response provides reasoning for an additional evidence point, but it is not needed as it has already earned the point for Reasoning.

Row D: Responds to an Alternate Perspective - 1/1

The response earned this point at the end of the paragraph by describing an alternate perspective and refuting it: "Although some do argue that authoritarian states like China limit corruption through consolidation of power. This power allows officials to crack down on corruption by firing anyone that is corrupt. However, this may be true in a few cases, in most cases when a ruler or party has absolute power, it causes even more corruption. This is because there is no one to keep this party/person in check because said party/person holds all the power."

Sample H 2/5

Row A: Claim/Thesis - 1/1

The response earned the point for Claim/Thesis with the argument in the first paragraph about the transparency and the treatment of civil society organizations: "A democratic government is more effective in reducing corruption than an authoritarian one because it is more transparent as a government and treats civil society organizations fairly."

Row B: Evidence - 0/2

The response did not earn either evidence point because the evidence provided is not relevant to the course concepts in the prompt.

Row C: Reasoning - 0/1

The response did not earn the point for Reasoning because it does not provide an explanation of the relationship between the evidence and the claim or thesis.

Row D: Responds to an Alternate Perspective - 1/1

The response earned this point in the fourth paragraph by describing an alternate perspective and refuting it: "The opposite perspective may be that authoritarian govts may prevent corruption by having such a strong hold on society. This could be true, but is currently not because in any country that has a strong hold on its government, they are taking actions that are helping corruption because no one can challenge them."

Sample I 2/5

Row A: Claim/Thesis - 0/1

The response did not earn the point for Claim/Thesis because it simply restates the prompt and does not provide a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning.

Row B: Evidence - 2/2

The response earned both points for Evidence. The first evidence point is earned in the second paragraph with the explanation about civil liberties and freedom of speech in the UK: "The civil liberties, freedom of speech, press, religion, etc. is more opponent in a democratic regime than an authoritarian one. For example, the UK as a democratic regime has complete freedom of speech as seen through various social media like twitter or Facebook." The second evidence point is earned directly after that with a discussion about free press: "Their press is also independent of their government, so their media is not filtered or blocked. Even their debates in parliament can be watched live on cable." There are additional pieces of evidence provided in subsequent paragraphs, but they are not needed as the response has already earned two points.

Row C: Reasoning - 0/1

The response did not earn the point for Reasoning because it does not attempt to explain how or why the evidence supports a claim or thesis. Had the response attempted to do so it still would not have earned the Reasoning point because it did not earn the point for Claim/Thesis.

Row D: Responds to an Alternate Perspective - 0/1

The response did not earn this point. It minimally identifies an alternate perspective by stating that authoritarian regimes can also reduce corruption. However, it does not describe that perspective, nor does it attempt to refute, concede or rebut that perspective: "While democratic regimes more effectively reduce corruption, authoritarian regimes still have their own way of reducing it."