

2019

AP[®]

 CollegeBoard

AP[®] Comparative Government and Politics

Scoring Guidelines Set 2

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Question 1

3 points

One point is earned for correctly defining the concept of regime change.

Acceptable definitions may include:

- A regime change is when there is a complete transformation of the political system, such as a transition from authoritarianism to democracy.
- A regime change is a change to the constitution or a change to the fundamental laws structuring the government in a way that transforms the political system.

One point is earned for correctly identifying a country studied in the AP Comparative Government and Politics course that has experienced a regime change since 1990.

Acceptable identifications include:

- Mexico
- Nigeria
- Russia

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how a regime change is different from a change in government.

Acceptable explanations may include:

Regime change involves the transformation of the type of political system, whereas governmental change involves the replacement of individual leaders or political parties.

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted or off-task answer that earns no points.

A score of (—) is earned for a blank.

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Question 2

3 points

One point is earned for correctly identifying one indicator of income inequality.

Acceptable indicators include:

- GINI index or GINI coefficient
- Wage or income gap, such as between men and women, between ethnic groups, or between quintiles

One point is earned for a correct description of a political consequence of income inequality.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Increased political conflict, such as polarization, instability, or unrest among the poor
- Increased protests by the poor or political mobilization of the poor
- Concentration of political power among wealthy citizens
- Decreased political efficacy among low-income citizens
- Decreased political trust or state legitimacy among low-income citizens

One point is earned for a correct description of a policy that governments use to reduce income inequality.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- A tax system in which the rich pay higher rates than the poor
- Establishment of a minimum wage
- Transfer payments or subsidies to the poor
- Free or subsidized social services, such as education, health care, or housing
- Probusiness policies that reduce inequality, such as deregulation or privatization

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted answer that earns no points.

A score of dash (—) is earned for a blank or off-task answer.

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Question 3

3 points

One point is earned for a correct description of the goal of sustainable development.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Economic growth or improvements in social welfare that can be maintained into the future
- Economic growth or improvements in social welfare while limiting environmental damage or degradation
- Economic growth or improvements in social welfare that manage natural and other resources so they are not used up

One point is earned for correctly identifying one sector of Nigeria’s economy in which sustainable development has been a serious challenge.

Acceptable identifications may include:

- Nigeria’s energy sector, such as the oil industry
- Nigeria’s agricultural sector

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how economic factors influence environmental policy in Nigeria.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- Oil dependence or government reliance on rents discourages strict environmental regulations.
- Economic underdevelopment discourages strict environmental regulations.
- Foreign involvement or corruption in the oil industry complicates efforts to pass or enforce environmental policies.
- Overexploitation of resources led to the establishment of regulatory agencies or the passage of environmental laws.

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted or off-task answer that earns no points.

A score of (—) is earned for a blank.

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Question 4

3 points

One point is earned for a correct explanation of a reason why both authoritarian states and democratic states use coercion domestically.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- To increase legitimacy by maintaining order
- To ensure compliance by enforcing laws
- To protect sovereignty or national security

One point is earned for EACH correct description of ways that democratic states are constrained in their use of coercion.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- The need to maintain popular support
- The need to protect civil liberties
- The need to maintain transparency
- Effective checks and balances
- Independent judiciary
- Legislative oversight
- An independent press
- Free and fair elections
- Active civil society

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted answer that earns no points.

A score of dash (—) is earned for a blank or off-task answer.

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Question 5

3 points

One point is earned for a correct description of how the economic ideology of the Chinese Communist Power (CCP) has changed since Deng Xiaoping held power.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Expanding the socialist market economy
- Expanding the privatization of state-owned enterprises
- Expanding foreign direct investment
- Allowing capitalists to join the CCP
- Incorporating legal protection of private property
- Balancing economic development
- Developing a harmonious socialist society
- Recognizing the “Chinese Dream”
- Expanding global international influence
- Focusing on the need for environmental protection

One point is earned for EACH correct explanation of why the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- To maximize economic growth
- To reduce income inequality or poverty
- To balance economic development
- To deal with a slowing economy
- To deal with pollution or energy shortages
- To ensure legitimacy of the CCP
- To exercise greater international influence
- To reduce social unrest
- To allow new CCP leaders to leave a legacy

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted or off-task answer that earns no points.

A score of (—) is earned for a blank.

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Question 6

6 points

Part (a): 2 points

One point is earned for EACH correct description of a function of a bureaucracy in political systems.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Policy implementation or enforcement
- Connect or link government to people
- Provide policy makers with information
- Allow for specialization or expertise
- Deliver services to the public
- Promote greater efficiency
- Recruitment and training for government service
- Long-term stability for government

Part (b): 2 points

One point is earned for a correct identification of a way governments recruit civil servants in a merit-based bureaucracy.

Acceptable identifications may include:

- Civil service examinations
- Educational background
- Successful experience in field of expertise
- Candidates recruited based on their ability or qualifications

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how this method of recruitment can build legitimacy.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- Competence encourages legitimacy.
- Qualified civil servants build confidence.
- Process is viewed as fair and impartial.

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Question 6 (continued)

Part (c): 2 points

One point is earned for a correct identification of a way governments recruit civil servants in a non-merit-based bureaucracy.

Acceptable identifications may include:

- Clientelism or patronage
- Through birth, religion, ethnicity, gender, or region
- Nepotism
- Party loyalty, identification, or membership

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how this method of recruitment can build legitimacy.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- Groups receiving bureaucratic positions support the regime
- Strong civil service support for the regime
- Government policies more uniformly delivered or enforced

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted answer that earns no points.

A score of dash (—) is earned for a blank or off-task answer.

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Question 7

5 points

Part (a): 2 points

One point is earned for each correct description of a step in the process of selecting the British prime minister.

Acceptable steps include:

- Selection of prime minister by majority party or coalition
- Holding of national elections for members of the House of Commons
- Selection as party leader
- Appointment of prime minister by Queen
- Election as member of parliament

Part (b): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how the selection process for the British prime minister reflects a fusion of power.

Acceptable explanations include:

The selection of the prime minister is determined by the legislature.

- Prime minister is also a member of the legislative branch.
- The same party or coalition of parties controls both the legislature and the executive.

Part (c): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct description of a step in the process of selecting the Mexican president.

Acceptable steps include:

- Selected by direct elections
- Selected by plurality or first-past-the-post (FPTP) or single-member district (SMD) election
- Elected by the people or the citizens
- Presidential candidate chosen in a party primary

Part (d): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how the selection process for the Mexican president reflects a separation of power.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- The legislature has no bearing on the outcome of presidential election.
- The executive and legislative branches are independent from each other.
- The legislative and executive branches have different sources of power.
- The president is not a member of the legislature.

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted or off-task answer that earns no points.

A score of dash (—) is earned for a blank answer.

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Question 8

5 points

Part (a): 2 points

One point is earned for EACH correct description of a restriction to civil society adopted after Vladimir Putin became president in 2000.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Control of independent media by the government
- Government censorship of the media
- Increasing regulations on the Internet, such as blocking access or rerouting web traffic
- Regulations on protests or political participation
- Harassment or punishment of journalists, opposition leaders, or protestors
- Regulations on nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), such as registration requirements
- Regulations on labor unions
- Regulations on ballot access
- Anti-gay propaganda laws
- Use of tax code to control civil society groups
- Movement to a corporatist system where the state must sanction interest groups
- Use of vague and overly broad laws

Part (b): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct explanation of why the Russian government restricts civil society.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- To safeguard or maintain power
- To minimize threats to the state

Part (c): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct description of an example of a political activity that indicates civil society has persisted despite these restrictions.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Continued protests or opposition groups, such as Pussy Riot
- Blogging and Internet activism
- Continued existence of opposition political parties
- Continued critical reporting by journalists
- High voter turnout
- The existence of independent pro-Putin groups

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Question 8 (continued)

Part (d): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct explanation of why the Russian government continues to allow some civil society groups.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- To promote internal or external legitimacy
- To provide a façade of democracy
- To act as a safety valve
- To encourage activities of progovernment civil society groups

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted or off-task answer that earns no points.

A score of (—) is earned for a blank.