
AP[®] Comparative Government and Politics

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 1

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Free Response Question 4

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Question 4: Argument Essay **5 points**

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria	
<p>Row A Claim/Thesis (0-1 points)</p>	<p>0 points Does not meet the criteria for one point.</p>	<p>1 point Responds to the prompt with a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning.</p>
Decision Rules and Scoring Notes		
<p>Responses that do not earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only restate the prompt. Do not make a claim that responds to the prompt. 		<p>Responses that earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to the prompt rather than restating or rephrasing the prompt and establish a line of reasoning. Provide a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning about whether globalization poses a significant threat to state sovereignty using one or more of the provided concepts: political socialization, international organizations, trade.
<p>Examples that do not earn this point:</p> <p>Restate the prompt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Globalization poses a significant threat to state sovereignty.”</i> <i>“State sovereignty is not threatened by globalization.”</i> <p>Do not respond to the prompt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Globalization is a threat because it significantly contributes to global warming.”</i> <i>“Globalization is good because it helps developing countries’ economies grow.”</i> 		<p>Examples that earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“International organizations may exert political and economic pressures on countries whose actions violate treaty obligations and global norms, which then pose a challenge to state sovereignty.”</i> <i>“Globalization brings higher levels of trade, foreign direct investment and multinational corporations, which can pose a challenge to a government’s ability to control what goes on inside its borders.”</i> <i>“International trade and investment may be accompanied by conditions on local practices around human rights and pose a challenge to state sovereignty.”</i> <i>“Globalization increases the flow of information and communication that is available to citizens, and as they become politically socialized, they may begin to oppose and resist the current regime constituting a challenge to state sovereignty.”</i> <i>“Globalization may produce an increase in trade and economic growth, which enhances state sovereignty.”</i> <i>Globalization can create conditions to help a country exercise sovereignty within its borders, using international organizations that can assist with economic growth.</i>
<p>Additional Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The claim or thesis must consist of one or more sentences that may be located anywhere in the response. A claim or thesis that meets the criteria can be awarded the point whether or not the rest of the response successfully supports that line of reasoning. 		

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria		
Row B Evidence (0-2 points)	0 points Does not meet the criteria for one point.	1 point Provides <u>one</u> piece of specific and relevant evidence from a course country relevant to one of the course concepts in the prompt.	2 points Provides <u>two</u> pieces of specific and relevant evidence from one or more course countries relevant to one or more of the course concepts in the prompt.
Decision Rules and Scoring Notes			
Responses that do not earn points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not provide any accurate evidence. Provide evidence that is not relevant to the course concepts in the prompt. 		Responses that earn 1 or 2 points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide specific and relevant evidence from required course countries, relevant to the course concepts in the prompt. 	
Examples that do not earn points: Provide evidence that is not specific <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Membership into the WTO helps countries maintain sovereignty.”</i> Provide evidence that is not relevant to course concepts in the prompt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Globalization has helped China’s economy grow tremendously over the past 20 years.”</i> <i>“Russia does not allow many foreign non-profit organizations into the country.”</i> 		Examples of acceptable specific and relevant evidence (one example is one piece of evidence): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Membership in the WTO puts pressure on all of the countries (except Iran) to maintain open economic policies in order to remain a member state.”</i> <i>“The IMF puts pressure on countries like Nigeria, Mexico, and Russia to cut government spending in order to be eligible for loans.”</i> <i>“Complaints about the immigration policies and requirements that accompanied membership in the EU provoked the UK to hold a referendum on whether or not to leave (Brexit).”</i> <i>“NAFTA and the changes in trade patterns it caused in Mexico spurred the Zapatista uprising because of the increase in commodity prices.”</i> <i>“The exploitation of oil in the Niger Delta has stimulated protests such as the MEND to challenge the distribution of wealth and the protection of the environment by the government.”</i> <i>“Multinational corporations operating in Mexico/Nigeria attempt to influence the country’s policies on access to natural resources.”</i> <i>“Access to social media gives people the ability to mobilize in Iran, China, or Russia.”</i> <i>“The spread of Islamic extremism from other parts of the world stimulates the emergence of Boko Haram in Nigeria.”</i> <i>“The expansion of mobile phone technology in Nigeria has meant that almost everyone has phones and is connected to each other and feels like a part of Nigeria.”</i> <i>“NDI, UN and other election observers came to observe recent elections in Nigeria and Mexico and brought legitimacy when they said that the elections were fair and free.”</i> <i>“China’s opening to more international trade after the admission to the WTO has generated high growth rates in past years.”</i> <i>“Mexico’s involvement in NAFTA has led to more neoliberal reforms and high economic growth.”</i> 	
Additional Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A response does not need to earn the point in Row A to earn points in Row B. A response does not need to explain the relationship between the evidence and the claim or thesis to earn points in Row B. (That explanation is evaluated in Row C.) 			

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria			
<p>Row C Reasoning</p> <p>(0-1 points)</p>	<p>0 points Does not meet the criteria for one point.</p>	<p>1 point Explains how or why the evidence supports the claim or thesis.</p>		
<p>Decision Rules and Scoring Notes</p>				
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p>Responses that do not earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include evidence but offer no reasoning to connect the evidence to the claim or thesis. • Restate the prompt without explaining how the evidence supports the claim or thesis. <p>Examples that do not earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The IMF puts pressure on Mexico to cut government spending in order to be eligible for loans.”</i> • <i>“Globalization poses a significant threat to state sovereignty and political socialization in China.”</i> </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> <p>Responses that earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the relationship between the evidence provided and the claim or thesis. <p>Examples of reasoning that explain how evidence supports the claim or thesis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“International organizations may influence states whose actions violate international agreements, treaties, and global norms by raising awareness about the problems, which pushes them to respond and change their policies in order to get continued international funding, support or respect which undermines state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Host countries have incentives to offer multinational corporations favorable treatment or lower labor and environmental standards in order to attract foreign investment which undermines state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Globalization would bring new funding and ideas that would increase the state’s ability to provide public goods and services which would increase state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Globalization increases the flow of information and communication that is available to citizens, which changes their political ideas and values, and they may be able to organize resistance covertly and oppose the regime which undermines state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Globalization brings international organizations that can help promote economic liberalization policies increasing state sovereignty.”</i> </td> </tr> </table>			<p>Responses that do not earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include evidence but offer no reasoning to connect the evidence to the claim or thesis. • Restate the prompt without explaining how the evidence supports the claim or thesis. <p>Examples that do not earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The IMF puts pressure on Mexico to cut government spending in order to be eligible for loans.”</i> • <i>“Globalization poses a significant threat to state sovereignty and political socialization in China.”</i> 	<p>Responses that earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the relationship between the evidence provided and the claim or thesis. <p>Examples of reasoning that explain how evidence supports the claim or thesis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“International organizations may influence states whose actions violate international agreements, treaties, and global norms by raising awareness about the problems, which pushes them to respond and change their policies in order to get continued international funding, support or respect which undermines state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Host countries have incentives to offer multinational corporations favorable treatment or lower labor and environmental standards in order to attract foreign investment which undermines state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Globalization would bring new funding and ideas that would increase the state’s ability to provide public goods and services which would increase state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Globalization increases the flow of information and communication that is available to citizens, which changes their political ideas and values, and they may be able to organize resistance covertly and oppose the regime which undermines state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Globalization brings international organizations that can help promote economic liberalization policies increasing state sovereignty.”</i>
<p>Responses that do not earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include evidence but offer no reasoning to connect the evidence to the claim or thesis. • Restate the prompt without explaining how the evidence supports the claim or thesis. <p>Examples that do not earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The IMF puts pressure on Mexico to cut government spending in order to be eligible for loans.”</i> • <i>“Globalization poses a significant threat to state sovereignty and political socialization in China.”</i> 	<p>Responses that earn this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the relationship between the evidence provided and the claim or thesis. <p>Examples of reasoning that explain how evidence supports the claim or thesis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“International organizations may influence states whose actions violate international agreements, treaties, and global norms by raising awareness about the problems, which pushes them to respond and change their policies in order to get continued international funding, support or respect which undermines state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Host countries have incentives to offer multinational corporations favorable treatment or lower labor and environmental standards in order to attract foreign investment which undermines state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Globalization would bring new funding and ideas that would increase the state’s ability to provide public goods and services which would increase state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Globalization increases the flow of information and communication that is available to citizens, which changes their political ideas and values, and they may be able to organize resistance covertly and oppose the regime which undermines state sovereignty.”</i> • <i>“Globalization brings international organizations that can help promote economic liberalization policies increasing state sovereignty.”</i> 			
<p>Additional Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To earn this point, the response must have a defensible claim or thesis (earned the point in Row A). • The explanation of the relationship between one piece of evidence and the claim or thesis is sufficient to earn this point. 				

Reporting Category	Scoring Criteria	
Row D Responds to Alternate Perspectives	0 points Does not meet the criteria for one point.	1 point Responds to an opposing or alternate perspective using refutation, concession, or rebuttal.
(0-1 points)	Decision Rules and Scoring Notes	
	Responses that do not earn this point: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restate the opposite of the claim or thesis. May identify or describe an alternate perspective but do not refute, concede, or rebut that perspective. 	Responses that earn this point: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must describe an alternate perspective AND refute, concede, or rebut that perspective.
	Examples of responses that do not earn this point: Restate the opposite of the claim or thesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Even with evidence to the contrary, many try to argue that globalization poses a significant threat to state sovereignty.”</i> Describe an alternate perspective but do not refute, concede, or rebut that perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“There are those who argue that globalization brings about economic development, which is good for all countries.”</i> 	Examples of acceptable responses to an alternate perspective may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>“Although some may suggest globalization may undermine the sovereignty of states by increasing their dependence on foreign trade, investment, and finance, globalization may alternatively promote economic growth that may lead to more capacity to provide services and infrastructure to its citizens. This could enhance the political authority and sovereignty of states.”</i> <i>“Although some may suggest globalization may bring pressures from a growing number of international organizations that may limit state sovereignty, they can also enhance it by providing financial support and information about best practices and assisting in effective policy implementation.”</i> <i>“Although some may suggest that globalization can enhance sovereignty through neoliberal reforms and economic growth, globalization ultimately threatens state sovereignty as international organizations and multi-national corporations now have influence on state decisions.”</i>
Additional Notes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To earn this point, the response must have a defensible claim or thesis (earned the point in Row A). Responses that demonstrate an incorrect understanding of the alternate perspective do not earn this point. 		

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.

As our world continues to develop, it begins to feel like a smaller place. Countries across the world can be reached in just hours, and resources can be transported from just about anywhere. Increased globalization has had many effects which leads some to question whether it is a threat to state sovereignty. Globalization is not a threat to state sovereignty because international organizations tend to play a small role in ~~polit~~ a nation's politics and because globalization increases trade which opens opportunities for countries rather than closes them.

One international organization - the UN - was created because a global desire to resolve conflicts peacefully. While it ~~does~~ does make international law, there are few things the UN can do to enforce that law. Because ^{if any} of this, state sovereignty reigns supreme. Another example of an international organization posing little threat to state sovereignty is ECOWAS and Nigeria. The ~~organization~~ organization which consists of West African States places a miniscule role in controlling any of the states. As with Nigeria's case, no rules put in place by ECOWAS have significantly impacted Nigeria. Thus, ECOWAS has played a small role and left Nigerian sovereignty in ~~fact~~ place.

Another reason globalization is not a threat to

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.

state sovereignty is that it opens up trade opportunities for countries which only give a country more options, thereby increasing their ability to ~~control~~^{govern} themselves. NAFTA is one ~~trade treaty~~ that Mexico has been involved in which has allowed them more options for growth. Mexico's involvement in NAFTA has increased economic prosperity and the amount of jobs in Mexico. Under NAFTA, Mexico is held to ~~not~~ no requirements other than guaranteeing free trade. Because of this, NAFTA poses no threat to Mexican sovereignty and instead benefits them. Another example of trade helping a country without removing sovereignty is Iran's joining of OPEC (A trade alliance between Oil Producing and Exporting Countries). When Iran joined OPEC, it brought stability to their oil markets, giving ~~them~~ ~~economies~~. This, in turn, opened economic opportunities for many Iranians and OPEC imposed little threat to Iran's sovereignty. ~~Because of this~~ It is clear to see that ~~global~~ trade caused by globalization ~~to~~ poses little to no threat to state sovereignty.

Some suggest that increased globalization leads to strong international organizations which threaten state sovereignty, citing the EU and the UK's decision to leave as evidence. ~~However~~ Arguing that organizations like the EU create laws superior to a states laws, they suggest that globalization has caused immense loss of state sovereignty.

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.

While some of their arguments may ring true, they fail to recognize that states are free to leave international organizations. Citing Brexit as my evidence, the ability a country has to leave international organizations shows that countries' sovereignty. Further, most international organizations play a significantly smaller role in law making than the EU.

~~created~~ because of globalization

Because international organizations typically play a small role, and when they don't countries can leave them, and because trade caused by globalization doesn't remove any state sovereignty as seen with Iran and Mexico, globalization does not pose a significant threat to state sovereignty.



Begin your response to each question at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

* Although globalization may lead to economic growth due to free market trade, globalization ultimately challenges state sovereignty through the membership with international organizations and their subsequent ~~rules~~ established rules. ~~As countries~~ As countries move towards globalization and the more free market style economy, these countries' respective sovereignty is more vulnerable to questions from other countries. Globalization comes with the membership of many international organizations such as the European Union (EU), United Nations (UN), NAFTA, etc. As countries join these groups, there is a newfound expectation that they follow the rules of the group which can challenge the state's original views. For example, the membership of the United Kingdom (UK) in the EU resulted in a significant challenge to the UK's sovereignty which led to Brexit, the split between United Kingdom and the European Union. Additionally, Algeria's membership within the United Nations has led to a decrease in state sovereignty as the country has more foreign imports now and is less reliant on domestic industries. While one may say that globalization does not pose a threat to state sovereignty because membership within international organizations ~~actually increases~~

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.

actually increases state sovereignty because states
are gaining more representation on a global
level.

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.

Globalization can pose a significant threat to state sovereignty as countries like Nigeria and Mexico could ultimately invest too heavily with international organizations that act as puppet masters. ^{This could cause} ~~causing~~ Nigeria and Mexico to rely too heavily on outside forces ~~abandoning the local state developments that need to be made.~~ ~~forcing them~~ forcing them to abandon local state developments that need to take place.

Globalization allows for countries to partake in trade and have relationships with neighboring countries for specific goods. However, this process/interaction ~~causes~~ causes countries to potentially stop producing in house goods ~~within their own countries~~ ^{country} which eliminates vital job opportunities for people in developing countries. ~~if countries do not have any resources to share then globalization~~ With globalization, strings become attached ~~and~~ with relationships that countries form. For example, if a country is dependent on another country's raw resources such as oil but that country is unable to ^{produce it} ~~provide it~~ ~~then~~ ~~the~~ ~~is~~ for an exchange then ^{that} _{other} country suffers. ~~Also~~ Furthermore,

Question 4

Argument Essay

Overview

The intent of this question was to assess students' understanding of globalization and its impact on state sovereignty by using one or more of the following course concepts: political socialization, international organizations, or trade. Students were expected to articulate a defensible claim/thesis and establish a line of reasoning using one or more of the concepts provided; support the thesis with relevant evidence from a course country; use reasoning to explain why the evidence provided supports the thesis; and respond to an alternative perspective using refutation, concession, or rebuttal. Students were expected to write an argumentative essay, demonstrating each of the skills mentioned above.

Sample: 4A

Claim/Thesis Score: 1

Evidence Score: 2

Reasoning Score: 1

Alternative Perspectives Score: 1

The response earned 1 point for responding to the prompt with a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning: "Globalization is not a threat to state sovereignty because international organizations tend to play a small role in a nation's politics."

The response earned 2 points for supporting the claim with two pieces of evidence from one or more of the course countries that are related to the topic and course concept in the prompt by stating, "Another example of an international organization ... is ECOWAS and Nigeria. The organization which consists of West African states places a miniscule role in controlling any of the states" and "Mexico's involvement in NAFTA has increased economic prosperity ... guaranteeing free trade."

The response earned 1 point for explaining why the evidence supports the thesis by stating, "NAFTA poses no threat to Mexican sovereignty and instead benefits them."

The response earned 1 point for responding to an alternative perspective by stating, "Some suggest that increased globalization leads to strong international organizations which threaten state sovereignty ... [w]hile some of their arguments may ring true, they fail to recognize that states are free to leave international organizations." The response adds that this freedom "shows that country's sovereignty."

Sample: 4B

Claim/Thesis Score: 1

Evidence Score: 1

Reasoning Score: 1

Alternative Perspectives Score: 0

The response earned 1 point for responding to the prompt with a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning: "globalization ultimately challenges state sovereignty through the membership with international organizations and their subsequent established rules."

The response earned 1 point for supporting the claim with one piece of evidence from one or more of the course countries related to the topic and course concept in the prompt by stating, "Globalization comes with the membership of many international organizations such as the European Union ... membership of the United Kingdom (U.K) in the EU resulted in a significant challenge which lead to Brexit. The response did not earn a point for the second piece of evidence, as the evidence is inaccurate.

Question 4 (continued)

The response earned 1 point for explaining how the evidence supports by the thesis by stating, “membership of the United Kingdom (U.K) in the EU resulted in a significant challenge to the U.K’s sovereignty.”

The response did not earn a point for responding to an alternative perspective as the alternative perspective is provided, but the response does not refute, concede, or rebut that perspective.

Sample: 4C

Claim/Thesis Score: 1

Evidence Score: 0

Reasoning Score: 0

Alternative Perspectives Score: 0

The response earned 1 point for responding to the prompt with a defensible claim or thesis that establishes a line of reasoning by stating, “Globalization can pose a significant threat to state sovereignty as countries like Nigeria and Mexico could ultimately invest too heavily with international organizations that act as puppet masters.”

The response did not earn points for supporting the claim with two pieces of evidence from one or more of the course countries related to the topic and course concept in the prompt because no specific evidence is provided.

The response did not earn a point for explaining how the evidence supports the thesis because no specific evidence is provided.

The response did not earn a point for responding to an alternative perspective because no alternative perspective is provided.