

2018

AP[®]

CollegeBoard

AP Comparative Government and Politics

Scoring Guidelines

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 1

3 points

One point is earned for correctly identifying a country studied in the AP Comparative Government course that uses proportional representation as part of its electoral system.

Acceptable identifications include:

- Russia
- Mexico
- The UK in Scotland, Wales, and the London Assembly

One point is earned for correctly explaining how legislative seats are allocated in a proportional representation system.

Acceptable explanations include:

- Rewards seats to parties in legislatures in proportion to votes received.
- Percentage of vote the party receives equals the percentage of seats for the party in the legislature.

One point is earned for correctly describing the impact of proportional representation electoral rules on a party system.

An acceptable description is:

- Proportional representation creates a multiparty system.
- Greater voice for minority parties or more opinions or wider party spectrum.
- Makes gaining a majority more difficult.
- Coalition governments more likely.
- Greater voice to voters to have their views represented.
- Individual candidates less important and parties more important.

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

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

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 2

3 points

One point is earned for a correct description of a way in which the Iranian government discriminates against women.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Clothing restrictions.
- Women cannot run or be selected for president, Supreme Leader, the Guardian Council, or be appointed as a judge.
- A woman's testimony is not equal to a man's testimony.
- Punishments for adultery are more punitive for women.
- Women are not permitted to attend sporting events.
- Restrictions on women's university majors.
- Child custody and divorce laws favor men.
- Travel restrictions.
- Unequal inheritance laws.
- Citizenship passed through the father not the mother.

One point is earned for a correct description of a way in which the Iranian government treats men and women equally.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Access to education, including university.
- Women can vote.
- Women can drive.
- Women can run for political offices.
- Policy changes equalizing women's status.

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how gender discrimination undermines democratic principles.

Acceptable explanations include:

- Violates the democratic principle of equality under the law.
- Violates the democratic principle of all citizens having equal civil rights and liberties.
- Limitations on women's political participation go against equal access to leadership positions.
- Underrepresentation in government prevents women's voices from being heard.

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

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

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 3

3 points

One point is earned for EACH correct identification of an indicator of democracy (2 points total).

Acceptable indicators include:

- Free and fair elections
- Regular or frequent elections
- Competitive elections or competitive party system
- Free civil society
- Civil liberties
- Civil rights
- Independent judiciary
- Free or independent media
- Rule of law
- Peaceful alternation of power
- Popular sovereignty or representation of the will of the people
- Civilian control of the military
- Checks on executive power
- All citizens eligible to run for office
- Government accountability to the public
- Acceptance of election results
- Transparency of government actions
- High political efficacy

One point is earned for correctly describing when democracy is consolidated.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Durability or permanence of democracy over time
- Widespread acceptance of democracy by citizens
- Broad adherence to, or implementation of, main democratic principles throughout political system
- Reduced or minimal risk of reversion to authoritarianism

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

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

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 4

3 points

One point is earned for correctly identifying the PRI or the PAN as the political party of the Mexican president elected in the last 20 years.

One point is earned for correctly describing the electoral system used to select Mexico’s president.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- First-Past-the-Post (FPTP)
- Plurality
- Most votes wins
- Winner-take-all system

One point is earned for correctly identifying one electoral reform and explaining why this reform made Mexico’s presidential elections more competitive.

Acceptable identifications/explanations include:

Identification	Explanation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Independent electoral institute (IFE/INE)• Sexenio or one-term limit• Media access or equal time rules• Campaign finance reform• Televised debates• Secret ballots• Voter identification cards• Federal Election Tribunal• Establishment of primary system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prevents fraud• Makes elections more fair• Increases number of candidates• Reduces clientelism or corruption• Legitimizes elections or voting• Creates greater transparency• Eliminates dedazo tradition

NOTE: Student must identify the reform and explain how that reform made elections more competitive. It is insufficient to just identify the reform.

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

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

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 5

3 points

One point is earned for a correct description of a reason why both democratic and authoritarian regimes use coercion to govern.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- To ensure compliance or uphold law and order
- To assert the authority of the state

One point is earned for a correct description of one alternative to the use of coercion to govern in both democratic and authoritarian regimes.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Cooptation of key social actors
- Elections to reinforce legitimacy
- Appeals to nationalist identity
- Appeals to traditional or charismatic authority
- Provision of representation to key social actors
- Propaganda appeals for support
- Economic redistribution
- Incentives for compliance

One point is earned for a correct explanation of why authoritarian regimes do not rely exclusively on coercion to govern.

Acceptable explanations include:

- To maintain legitimacy and support from internal or external actors
- International pressures
- Fear of civil unrest
- High cost of repression
- Moral reservations on use of force

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

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

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 6

5 points

Part (a): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct identification of one social cleavage and one economic cleavage that commonly occur in societies.

Acceptable identifications include:

- Social cleavages including: religion, ethnicity, class, gender, urban/rural, age, education, region
- Economic cleavages including: class, urban/rural, wealth, elites/masses, education, region

Part (b): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how leaders can use cleavages to strengthen a government's hold on power.

Acceptable explanations include:

- Reward core constituencies for their support of government leaders and/or policies.
- Use the existence of the cleavage to justify maintaining or increasing the government's hold on power.
- Increase legitimacy in the government because of its handling of the conflict caused by the cleavage.

Part (c): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how cleavages can undermine regime stability.

Acceptable explanations include:

- Creates conflict, which threatens regime stability
- Undermines sense of national identity, which lessens regime stability
- Weakens state's ability to enforce law and order
- Creates polarization, which challenges state legitimacy

Part (d): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct description of an action governments take to address the negative consequences of the social cleavage identified in (a).

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Use of a federal system or devolution or autonomous zone to share power with local groups
- Promotion of a national identity or nationalism to unify the state
- Use of a proportional representation (PR) or mixed election system to create a multiparty system
- Employment of a quota system to ensure representation of multiple groups
- Passage of civil rights legislation to protect groups from discrimination
- Expansion of welfare programs or educational opportunities to change group status
- Deployment of force to repress or eliminate the cleavage

**AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2018 SCORING GUIDELINES**

Question 6 (continued)

Part (e): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct description of a different action governments take to address the negative consequences of the economic cleavage identified in (a).

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Use of tax or subsidy policies to decrease the cleavage
- Expansion of welfare programs or educational opportunities to reduce income inequality
- Establishment of job training programs and/or patronage positions to lessen the wealth gap
- Development of infrastructure projects to diminish regional or rural deficiencies

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

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

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 7

6 points

Part (a): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct description of one difference between a federal system and a unitary system.

An acceptable description includes:

- In a federal system power is shared between central and regional governments, while in a unitary system power resides in the central government.
- Regional governments have more authority in a federal system compared to a unitary system.

Part (b): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct explanation of why both Nigeria and Russia adopted a federal system.

Acceptable explanations include:

- Accommodation of ethnic or religious or regional diversity to allow for regional representation
- To account for regional differences or local preferences in large countries
- To grant autonomy to regions

Part (c): 2 points

One point is earned for EACH correct description of a disadvantage of federalism in Nigeria.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Discourages national unity
- Exacerbates regionally-based ethnic differences
- Exacerbates regionally-based religious differences
- Increases regional conflict and instability
- Increases chances for corruption at the regional or local level

Part (d): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct description of an institutional change that has limited federalism in Russia since 2000.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Cancellation of gubernatorial elections
- Creation of federal districts and presidential envoys
- Change in who is appointed to the Federation Council

**AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2018 SCORING GUIDELINES**

Question 7 (continued)

Part (e): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct explanation of why the Russian government has limited federalism since 2000.

Acceptable explanations include:

- Concentrate presidential powers
- Consolidate United Russia's powers
- Undermine regional opposition
- Curb secessionist tendencies
- Counter regionally orchestrated terrorism
- Increase national unity and national strength
- Reduce corruption at the regional or local level

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

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

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 8

6 points

Part (a): 1 point

One point is earned for correctly identifying Nigeria as the country from the table with the poorest environmental performance in 2014.

Part (b): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct statement that describes the relationship between environmental performance in 2014 and the level of economic development.

An example of a correct statement is:

- Wealthier countries tend to have higher environmental performance scores.
- Higher GDP per Capita correlates with higher Environmental Performance Index (EPI) scores.
- Developing countries tend to have lower environmental performance scores.
- Lower GDP per capita correlates with lower EPI scores.

Part (c): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct description of one cause of the relationship between environmental performance and the level of economic development.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Wealthier countries have more money to spend on the environment.
- Wealthier countries are less industrial and have more service-oriented economies.
- Wealthier countries have greater state capacity to address environmental issues.
- Wealthier countries invest more in research, development, and innovation related to the environment.
- Wealthier countries tend to focus more on post-materialist issues, such as the environment.
- Developing countries have fewer resources to devote to environmental issues.
- Developing countries focus more on basic material problems.
- Developing countries must focus more resources on their economies than wealthier countries.

Part (d): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct explanation of why Great Britain had the highest EPI score in 2014, but one of the lower rates of improvement in environmental performance over time.

Acceptable explanations include:

- Many of the environmental standards had already been put into place.
- Less room for environmental improvement.
- Less political focus because remaining environmental problems seem more marginal and less threatening.

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2018 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 8 (continued)

Part (e): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct description of a political response by Chinese citizens to their country's environmental problems.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Protesting about environmental concerns, such as air and water pollution
- Forming organizations such as NGOs and interest groups to advocate for solutions to the problem
- Using petitions to change environmental policy
- Filing lawsuits related to environmental problems

Part (f): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct description of a policy response by the Chinese government to the country's environmental problems.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Locating factories outside of urban areas, limiting the times when factories may operate, shutting down factories, or regulating factory emissions
- Creating more stringent fuel emission standards, controlling traffic, investing in mass transit, or promoting bicycle use
- Investing in new technologies, including renewable energy supplies
- Signing the Paris Climate Agreement in order to reduce pollution
- Banning coal in rural areas
- Regulating logging to curb deforestation or planting trees
- Creating a new environmental bureaucracy or ministry

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

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