



AP[®] Comparative Government and Politics 2005 Free-Response Questions

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**2005 AP® COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

SECTION II

Time—100 minutes

Directions: You have 100 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. Spend approximately one-fourth of your time (25 minutes) on each question. In your responses, use substantive examples where appropriate. Make certain to number each of your answers as the question is numbered below.

Economic, Political, and Social Indicators of Development for China and Russia

Indicators	China	Russia
1. GDP per capita (in United States dollars)	4,600	8,800
2. GDP by economic sector		
Agriculture	18%	7%
Industry	49%	39%
Service	33%	53%
3. Death rate	6.77/1,000	13.91/1,000
4. Life expectancy	71.86	70.02
Male	67.29	62.29
5. Literacy	81.5%	98%
Female	72%	97%
6. Infant mortality	27.25/1,000	19.78/1,000
7. Freedom house civil-liberties scale (1 = most free, 7 = least free)*	6	5

Some percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

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1. In the last fifteen years, China and Russia have shifted significantly from centrally planned economies toward more market-driven economies, with divergent consequences for development.
 - (a) Using the data from two of the seven indicators in the table above, make and support an argument that either China or Russia is more developed than the other.
 - (b) Using two of the factors below, explain how, in the last fifteen years, each has contributed to the level of development of the more-developed country you identified in (a).
 - Institutional arrangements
 - International forces
 - Leadership change

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2. The office of executive consists of a head of government and a head of state.
- (a) Describe the main function of the head of government and the main function of the head of state.
 - (b) Identify the office that constitutes the head of government in Great Britain AND the office that constitutes the head of government in India or Mexico or Nigeria.
 - (c) Compare the head of government in Great Britain with the head of government in the country you chose in (b) in relation to each of the following.
 - The legislature/parliament
 - The electorate
3. The politics and public policies of France continue to be affected by its colonial experience in Algeria.
- (a) Explain how this colonial experience led to constitutional change in France.
 - (b) Use a specific example to demonstrate how this colonial experience influences a current political party or parties in France.
 - (c) Use a specific example to demonstrate how this colonial experience influences current public policy in France.
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Political and Socioeconomic Indicators for India, Mexico, and Nigeria

	India	Mexico	Nigeria
Percentage of government ministers that are female	10.1	10.1	22.6
Percentage of members of lower house of parliament that are female	9.0	16	3.4
Female labor force (as percentage of total labor force)	32	32	36
Fertility rate	3.1	2.8	5.2
Female literacy rate	45.4	89.5	55.7

4. The table above lists selected statistical indicators related to the status of females in India, Mexico, and Nigeria.
- (a) Using data from the table above, describe the level of female representation in national politics in India or Mexico or Nigeria.
 - (b) From the table above, select data from two socioeconomic indicators and use the data from each indicator to explain the level or type of female representation in national politics in the country you chose in (a).
 - (c) From your knowledge of the country you selected in (a), explain how one feature of its political system affects female representation in national politics in that country.

END OF EXAM