



AP[®] Comparative Government and Politics 2004 Free-Response Questions

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**2004 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 response, use substantive examples where appropriate. Make certain to number each of your answers as the question is numbered below.

1. Federal and unitary systems structure the relationship between national and subnational units.
 - (a) Define a unitary system of government. Define a federal system of government.
 - (b) Describe one advantage of a federal system and one advantage of a unitary system.
 - (c) Describe how federal or unitary systems are reflected in the national legislatures in Britain and in Russia.
 - (d) Describe how, since the late 1990's, Britain has become more federal and Russia has become more unitary.

2. Social cleavages, including ethnicity, region, class, and religion have important implications for political parties.
 - (a) Describe a major social cleavage in France, and explain how a specific political party has responded to it.
 - (b) For the response explained in (a), describe one consequence of the party's response in France.
 - (c) Describe a major social cleavage in India or Mexico or Nigeria, and explain how a specific political party has responded to it.
 - (d) For the response explained in (c), describe one consequence of the party's response in India or Mexico or Nigeria.

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3. Although there has been economic liberalization in China, the authoritarian Chinese Communist Party regime remains.
- (a) Identify two specific economic liberalization policies in China.
 - (b) Explain two specific reasons why economic liberalization policies challenge authoritarian rule in China.
 - (c) Describe two strategies that the Chinese Communist regime has used to maintain political control and provide an example of the use of each strategy.
4. (a) Describe how India or Mexico or Nigeria has experienced significant change since 1985 in each of the following areas.
- Economic performance
 - Single-party dominance or military rule
- (b) Identify one factor that contributed to the change in economic performance you described in (a), and explain how that factor contributed to the change.
- (c) Identify one factor that contributed to the change in single-party dominance or military rule you described in (a), and explain how that factor contributed to the change.

END OF EXAMINATION