



AP[®] Comparative Government and Politics 2008 Free-Response Questions

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**2008 AP® COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Section II

Time—1 hour and 40 minutes

Directions: You have 100 minutes to answer five short-answer concept questions, one conceptual analysis question, and two country context questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all eight questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes total on questions 1 through 5, 30 minutes on question 6, and 40 minutes total on questions 7 and 8. These suggested times do not reflect the weight of the questions as part of your AP exam score. In your responses, use substantive examples where appropriate. Make certain to number each of your answers as the questions are numbered below.

Short-Answer Concepts: We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes total on questions 1 through 5.

1. Define political socialization. Identify one agent of political socialization. Explain how the agent you have identified promotes political socialization.
2. Explain what it means to say that a government has transparency. Describe two examples that show how the Chinese government since 1997 limits transparency.
3. Define sovereignty. Describe two ways in which member states give up some sovereignty as members of the European Union.
4. Define theocracy. Identify two national-level institutions in Iran for which members are directly elected by citizens.
5. Define a welfare state. Describe two examples of social welfare policy important to Great Britain.

Conceptual Analysis: We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes on question 6.

6. States vary in terms of their party systems and electoral systems.
 - (a) Identify and explain the type of electoral system that tends to create a multiparty system.
 - (b) Identify and explain the type of electoral system that tends to create a two-party system.
 - (c) Describe one reason that a one-party system might emerge.
 - (d) Explain one advantage each of multiparty, two-party and one-party systems in a multiethnic society.

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Country Context: We suggest that you spend approximately 40 minutes (20 minutes each) on questions 7 and 8.

7. Various economic changes have affected the legal system in China.
- (a) Describe two reforms to the legal system in China in the past two decades.
 - (b) Explain two reasons that reforms to the legal system have occurred.
 - (c) Describe two important features of the Chinese legal system that have not changed in the past two decades.
8. Mexico and Russia have each experienced economic liberalization and political liberalization.
- (a) Define economic liberalization and define political liberalization.
 - (b) Describe one economic liberalization policy pursued in Mexico since 1985 and one economic liberalization policy pursued in Russia since 1991.
 - (c) Describe one political liberalization policy undertaken in Mexico since 1985 and one political liberalization policy undertaken in Russia since 1991.
 - (d) Compare one consequence of economic liberalization on social class in Mexico with one consequence of economic liberalization on social class in Russia.

STOP

END OF EXAM