

# AP<sup>®</sup> COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

## 2009 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 2

#### 3 points

One point is earned for a correct definition of political ideology.

The following are acceptable definitions:

- A coherent set of values and beliefs about the goals of government, public policy, or politics.
- A belief system about how government should rule, be run, or implement policies.
- A set of beliefs or guiding principles about government and policy.
- A set of aims, principles, and ideas that inform political practice.

*Notes:*

- Definition must indicate that ideology is not just one idea or opinion but is a pattern of belief(s) about politics, policy, or government.
- The definition must connect to larger values rather than an individual's own opinions.
- Definition is NOT about one issue, or a personal opinion, or what one feels.
- Definition of political ideology is NOT the "party platform" but rather the guiding principles that inform the party platform.

One point is earned for identification of one political party that participated in the 2006 Mexican presidential election.

Acceptable identifications include any of the following:

- PRD (Party of the Democratic Revolution)
- PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party)
- PAN (National Action Party)

One point is earned for a description of one central element of the party's political ideology.

Acceptable descriptions include any of the following:

- PRD: Promotes social reforms, expansion of welfare programs, populist policies, economic nationalism, social justice.
- PRI: Centrist, moderate, nonideological, adrift of ideological moorings. Ideology is to maintain power and is changeable, adaptable, opportunistic.
- PAN: Conservative, socially conservative. Party of business interests and Catholic interests and values. Promotes laissez-faire economic policies and giving more power to regional governments.

*Notes:*

- Merely stating that the central element of the political ideology is a point on the political spectrum e.g., "on the right" (PAN), "on the left" (PRD), or "in the middle/center" (PRI), without further elaboration, will NOT earn a point.
- To earn a point for a description of the central element of the PRI's ideology, the response must illustrate context.

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted answer that merits no points.

A score of dash (—) is earned for a blank or off-task answer.

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Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

2A

Political ideology is the set of economic, political and social beliefs endorsed by a body, in regards to government. (person or group)

One party that participated in the 2006 presidential elections in Mexico was the National Action Party (PAN). Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD). One central element of the PRD's political ideology is <sup>the promotion of</sup> ~~that~~ social welfare programs, ~~should be~~ provided since it has a large electoral base <sup>from laborers</sup> in the poorer, laborer-heavy south of Mexico.

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

Political ideology is a person's or group's set of ideas for how a government should operate. One political party that participated in Mexico's 2006 election is the PRI. The PRI's political ideology is one that caters to the wealthy, and somewhat abandons the poor.

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

20

Political ideology is the attitude that a person has about government and what they believe a government should do. In Mexico, the PRI believes the government should continue as it has been for the last few decades, and nothing should change.

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## 2009 SCORING COMMENTARY

### Question 2

#### Overview

The overall intent of this question was for students to examine the concept of political ideology and to demonstrate an understanding of the concept by describing a central element of the political ideology held by one of the political parties that participated in the 2006 presidential elections in Mexico. Students had three specific tasks: (1) to define the concept of political ideology; (2) to identify one political party that participated in the presidential elections in Mexico; and (3) to describe one central element of that party's political ideology.

#### Sample: 2A

##### Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for correctly defining political ideology as “the set of economic, political and social beliefs endorsed by a body (person or group) in regard to government.”

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying the “Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD)” as a party that participated in the 2006 presidential elections in Mexico.

Describing a central element of the PRD's ideology as “the promotion of social welfare programs” earned the response 1 point.

#### Sample: 2B

##### Score: 2

The response earned 1 point for defining political ideology as “a person's or group's set of ideas for how a government should operate.”

The response correctly identifies the “PRI” as a party that participated in the 2006 presidential elections in Mexico and thus earned 1 point.

The response did not earn a point for describing a central element of the PRI's ideology. The response incorrectly describes the PRI's political ideology as “one that caters to the wealthy, and somewhat abanobns [*sic*] the poor,” and it does not describe a coherent set of beliefs held by the PRI.

#### Sample: 2C

##### Score: 1

The response did not earn a point for defining political ideology as “the attitude that a person has about government and what they believe a government should do.” The response indicates how an individual might feel about “what they believe a government should do” and does not define political ideology as a set of values and beliefs or part of a belief system.

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying the “PRI” as a party that participated in the 2006 presidential elections in Mexico.

The response did not earn a point for describing a central element of the PRI's ideology, stating that “the PRI believes the government should continue as it has been for the last few decades, and nothing should change.”