

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2009 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 3

3 points

One point is earned for a correct description of how colonialism has shaped contemporary politics in Nigeria.

Acceptable descriptions of colonialism's influence include any of the following:

- Inhibits national identity formation: colonial rule (direct in the south/indirect in the north) created regional identities and rearranged boundaries.
- Ethnic and religious division and tensions: indigenous and Christian religions in the south, Islam in the north; underlying ethnic identities; rearranged boundaries.
- Residual colonial institutional and cultural features: bureaucracy, language, colonial boundaries.
- Dependency: extractive economic relations with the West and former colonial power; neocolonialism (continued exploitation).
- System of government: Westminster and procedural features of western democracy.
- Ineffective civil society and weak democratic consolidation: authoritarian colonial structure disrupted consensus-based indigenous political systems; evolution of dominant executives; corruption (prebendalism).

One point each is earned for two correct descriptions of how colonialism has shaped contemporary politics in Great Britain.

Acceptable descriptions of colonialism's influence include any of the following:

- Multiethnic/multiracial society: immigrant presence from former colonies.
- Rise in nationalism: anti-immigrant tendencies and xenophobia.
- More inclusive political institutions and society: immigrant representation in political offices/social sectors.
- Resurgent nationalism: self-determination movements in colonies fostered a shift in the way that subnational and national groups sought greater autonomy.
- The British Commonwealth offers a framework for contemporary foreign policy interaction between Great Britain and its former colonies.
- International influence is partially sustained on wealth from exploitation of natural resources and trade arrangements with former colonies.

Notes:

- The task here is to provide a description and not an identification.
- Mere description of countries is not sufficient.
- Do not accept use of Iran and Ireland as colonies.
- Accept Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales only in terms of resurgent subnationalism.
- Imperialism is not the same as colonialism and does not earn a point.
- Do not accept arguments based on the United States or European Union.

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.

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

3A

In Nigeria, colonialism has created tensions between Northern and Southern areas. When Nigeria was still a British colony the British ruled indirectly in the North, ruling through religious leaders called emirs, and directly in the South, overthrowing kings and replacing them with ~~British~~ British or Indian warrant chiefs. This meant that the North stayed ^{mainly} Muslim while the South was Christianized. As a result, Britain invested more in the South, building schools and doing other public works project. This worsened the comingling cleavages of Nigeria that already existed by adding more-education and religion.

Colonialism has also had an effect on the UK. Many of the former colonies of Great Britain have chosen to join the Commonwealth, a trading block. This has enabled Britain to put an emphasis on trade and also have access to natural resources that might not have had otherwise. In addition, many citizens of former colonies of the United Kingdom have immigrated there. This has increased cultural diversity, affecting representation in Parliament and also social tensions.

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

[3B]

With Nigeria's colonial past, it has endured a tough path of democracy. It has constantly (more than 3 times) needed a military leader to step in after a failed citizen leader to keep the peace. With its diverse ethnic population that was colonized together as Nigeria, it struggles to stay peacefully together and still looks for the national unity. Different political cleavages make unity a tough task and independence from Great Britain has been tough to manage w/ a corrupt and mis-managed government.

Great Britain after the colonialization of Nigeria hasn't faltered. It remains a strong nation who benefited from Nigeria's economic opportunities (oil) and its dominance that has let it remain a universal super power. In Europe and throughout the world Great Britain has remained a strong political leader. ~~W~~

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

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Colonialism has bred increased conflict in the political sphere of Nigeria. Different tribes and ethnic groups were ~~placed~~ collectively placed into the boundaries of a single country. Thus, peoples with little in common have been forced to "butt heads" in a single political system.

Due to its history of colonialism and imperialism, the citizenry have shed any desire for centralized power, such as what they experienced under the rule of a monarch. Subsequently, it has emphasized greater representation in government.

Another example is the desire to remove hereditary peers in the House of Lords. The citizenry support a system based on merit rather than on simple appointments as under the rule of a monarch.

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2009 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 3

Overview

The overall intent of this question was for students to describe the impact of colonialism on the colonized and the colonizer. Students had two specific tasks: (1) to describe one example of how colonialism has shaped contemporary politics in Nigeria, and (2) to describe two examples of how colonialism has shaped contemporary politics in Great Britain.

Sample: 3A

Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for a description of how Great Britain's colonial practice of dividing the regions of northern and southern Nigeria has worsened cleavages in contemporary politics in the country.

The response earned 1 point for explaining that organization of a Commonwealth of former colonies provides Great Britain a network of trading partners and ready access to their natural resources.

The response earned 1 point for the statement that “many citizens of former colonies of the United Kingdom have immigrated” to Great Britain and therefore “increased cultural diversity, affecting representation in Parliament and also social tensions.”

Sample: 3B

Score: 2

The response earned 1 point for the description of how the diverse ethnic groups unified under colonialism have become political cleavages that cause the contemporary Nigerian state to remain unstable.

The response earned 1 point for the explanation that contemporary Great Britain remains a major power due to the continued exploitation of economic opportunities with its former colonies, such as the exploitation of oil in Nigeria.

The response earned no point for a second description of how colonialism has shaped contemporary politics in Great Britain.

Sample: 3C

Score: 1

The response earned 1 point for the description of how the boundaries created by the colonizer that put “[d]ifferent tribes and ethnic groups” together in “a single country” have led to tensions in contemporary Nigerian politics.

The response did not earn points for a description of the impact of colonialism on Great Britain by describing decentralization of power, nor for “the desire to remove hereditary peers.”