

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2009 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 4

3 points

One point is earned for a correct description of a feature of bureaucracy in an authoritarian system.

Acceptable features include any of the following:

- Recruitment is based on affiliations.
 - Party affiliation (ruling, single party)
 - Clan/tribal affiliations
 - Personal connections
 - Patronage, patron–client systems
 - *Nomenklatura* (Soviet system)
 - *Camarillas* (Mexico)
 - *Guan xi* (China)
- Merit is not the primary basis for recruitment.
- Large size because of authoritarian goals (e.g., monitor population).
- Less transparency compared with bureaucracies in democratic systems.
- The authoritarian regime uses the bureaucracy to distribute material benefits in return for loyalty to the regime.

Notes:

- The description of the feature must make the authoritarian context explicit. This might include references to a ruling, single, or dominant party (“the” party); authoritarian leaders, autocrats; contrasts with democratic systems.
- Generic descriptions of bureaucracies and their functions do not describe features.
- The feature must describe bureaucracies and not just the authoritarian system (e.g., control).
- Vague references to corruption as a feature are not sufficient.

One point is earned for explaining how the identified feature can help effective policy implementation.

Acceptable explanations include any of the following:

- Creates greater cohesiveness in policy implementation.
- Ensures policy cohesion in implementation.
- Insulates decision makers from pressure groups and ensures policy is not diluted.
- Ensures policy continuity.
- Facilitates building support for policy within bureaucracy.

Note: Efficiency and ease of policy implementation without further description are not acceptable explanations.

One point is earned for explaining how the identified feature can hinder effective policy implementation.

Acceptable explanations include any of the following:

- Not responsive to citizenry.
- Plagued by corruption/problems of prebendalism.
- Inefficient and ineffective in implementation owing to lack of policy expertise.
- Plagued by limited policy expertise.
- Ideologies trump practical concerns.
- Reduces opportunities for constructive criticism of bureaucratic policy implementation.

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Question 4 (continued)

Note: Explanations must be linked to both the described feature and to authoritarian systems. In addition, policy implementation must be clear.

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.

4A

In an authoritarian system, the bureaucracy is full of nepotism and cronyism. Authoritarian systems often see high ranking bureaucratic jobs being given to family members or long time friends and allies. This most often will hurt implementation of policy because these individuals know little about how to do their job effectively; they only want the job for the power and money. This could help implementation of policy because those closest to the leader in an authoritarian system will do what that leader wants done so they can keep their jobs, so the leader's wishes will be fulfilled.

4.

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

4B

~~But~~ Bureaucracy in an Authoritarian system is generally marked by rampant corruption, owing to the appointment of Bureaucrats based not on merit but on favor with the Authoritarian figure. Although this can help to raise the efficiency of getting legislature implemented, it also has the negative effect of directing policy more towards lining the bureaucrats' pockets than helping society at large.

4

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

4C

Bureaucracy's in ^{an} authoritarian system tend to institute policy from the country's leaders and push it down to the masses. Policy is thus effectively implemented, but there is a lot of public resentment to these policies because the public has no say in the policy. This is compounded by the problem that the public has no say over who the leader is that creates policy. The people may want something else, but they are forced to live under the policy set forward by the bureaucracy of an authoritarian regime.

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Question 4

Overview

The overall intent of this question was for students to examine bureaucracies in authoritarian systems and to link the particular features of those bureaucracies to policy implementation. Students had three specific tasks: (1) to describe a feature of a bureaucracy in the context of an authoritarian system; (2) to explain how that feature can help effective implementation of public policy in an authoritarian system; and (3) to explain how that feature can hinder effective implementation of public policy in an authoritarian system.

Sample: 4A

Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for describing a feature of a bureaucracy in an authoritarian system: “Authoritarian systems often see high ranking bureaucratic jobs being given to family members or long time friends and allies.”

The response earned 1 point for explaining how that feature helps the effective implementation of public policy in an authoritarian system: “This could help implementation of policy because those closest to the leader in an authoritarian system will do what that leader wants done so they can keep their jobs, so the leaders['] wishes will be fulfilled.” This connotes policy cohesion in implementation.

The response earned 1 point for explaining how that feature hinders the effective implementation of public policy in an authoritarian system: “This most often will hurt implementation of policy because these individuals know little about how to do their job effectively; they only want the job for the power and money.”

Sample: 4B

Score: 2

The response earned 1 point for stating that bureaucratic appointments in authoritarian systems are “based not on merit but on favor with the Authoritarian figure.”

The response did not earn a point for linking this feature with the effective implementation of public policy in authoritarian systems. Although the student states that “this can help to raise the efficiency of getting legislature [*sic*] implemented,” the response does not elaborate further the connection between appointments not based on merit and efficiency in policy implementation.

The response earned 1 point for explaining how that feature hinders the effective implementation of public policy in an authoritarian system: “it also has the negative effect of directing policy more towards lining the bureaucrats['] pockets than helping society at large.” This response describes corruption.

Sample: 4C

Score: 1

The response did not earn a point for describing a feature of bureaucracies in authoritarian systems. Although the authoritarian context of coercion is clear through the description that policy is pushed “down to the masses,” the response describes policy implementation rather than a particular feature of bureaucracies: “Bureaucracy’s [*sic*] in an authoritarian system tend to institute policy from the country’s leaders.”

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Question 4 (continued)

The response did not earn a point for explaining how that feature helps the effective implementation of public policy. Although the student asserts that “[p]olicy is thus effectively implemented,” the response does not provide an explanation linking the feature and policy implementation.

The response earned 1 point for explaining how the feature hinders the effective implementation of public policy: “This is compounded by the problem that the . . . people may want something else, but they are forced to live under the policy set forward by the bureaucracy of an authoritarian regime.” The response suggests the lack of responsiveness to the citizenry.