AP® COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2009 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 8

7 points

Part (a): 2 points

<u>One point</u> is earned for an accurate description of one trend shown in the graph for Iran.

Acceptable descriptions include either of the following:
- Decline in population growth rate from 1980–1984 to 2000–2004.
- Increase in population growth rate from 1970–1974 to 1980–1984.

<u>One point</u> is earned for an accurate description of one trend shown in the graph for China.

The following is an acceptable description:
- Decline in population growth rate over the time period 1970–2009.

Notes:
- Trends are not mere descriptions of individual points on the graph.
- The populations of China and Iran did not decrease during this time period.
- Parts (b), (c), and (d) do not require specific references to the graph used in part (a).
- If the student describes a policy that was designed to increase the population growth rate, the student must place that policy in its time period accurately.
- Description of a policy designed to decrease the population growth rate does not have to state a time period.

Part (b): 2 points

<u>One point</u> is earned for an accurate explanation of a policy Iran has used to address population growth issues.

Acceptable explanations include any of the following:
- Incentives to increase family size to build the army (Iran–Iraq War).
- Family-planning law: encourages reductions in family size (1989–present).
- State-controlled media campaigns to raise awareness.
- Free birth control: state-sanctioned condom factories to provide access to birth control.
- Mandatory marital sex counseling for men and women to provide education on how to avoid unwanted pregnancies.
- Increased education/employment opportunities for women, as more education for females leads to lower birth rates.

<u>One point</u> is earned for an accurate explanation of a policy China has used to address population growth issues.

Acceptable explanations include any of the following:
- One-child policy to ensure only one child per family, in most instances.
- Fines for noncompliance incurred for having more than one child without state permission.
- Preferential housing/educational opportunities for compliance.
- Exemptions for ethnic minorities and rural areas to reduce opposition to one-child policy.

Note: The response must explain the policy; a simple identification of a policy is not sufficient.

Part (c): 2 points

<u>Two points</u> are earned for an explanation of why both Iran and China pursued population growth policies.

Acceptable explanations include any of the following:
- Economic development.
- Fear of unrest resulting from overpopulation.
- Relief of pressure on government budget.
- Strain on natural resources.

Note: A statement that the purpose has been to reduce population is not sufficient.

Part (d): 1 point

<u>One point</u> is earned for a description of one social or economic consequence of manipulating growth rates.

Acceptable descriptions of a social consequence include any of the following:
- Popular resistance to the policy of restriction.
- Female infanticide; "missing girls."
- Selective abortion.
- Sex-ratio imbalance.
- Potential empowerment of women.

Acceptable descriptions of an economic consequence include any of the following:
- Need for a security system to replace the traditional safety net provided by children for parents in large families.
- Reduction of poverty.
- Economic growth possibility.

Note: Students may use country-specific examples to describe a consequence of manipulating growth rates.

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.

8A₁

8) a. Iran's growth rate increased from the early 1970's to the early 1980's, decreased from the early 1980's to the early 2000's, but then increased from the early 2000's to the late 2000's. Overall, Iran's growth rate has decreased. With the exception of the time period from the late 1970's to the late 1980's where the growth rate was relatively constant, the growth rate has decreased from the early 1970's to the late 2000's.

b. Iran has to some degree been increasing the rights and freedoms of women as to reduce the population growth. If more women are working then fewer women will have alot of children. Putting women to work and educating them often decreases the birth rate, thereby slowing population growth. China has implemented more direct policy to slow population growth. Educational benefits as well as other benefits are provided to the families who have fewer children. These governmental incentives have slowed the birth rate, thus decreasing the growth rate.

c. Both Iran and China pursued population growth policies as means to live more sustainably— environmentally speaking. There is evidence to suggest

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

8A₂

that a smaller population produces less pollution ~~and~~ and uses fewer resources. These two aspects of living more sustainably were goals for both countries.

d.   One consequence of manipulating population growth rates can be ~~illegible~~ social unrest. Many families, perhaps for several reasons, want to have many children. They believe the number of children they have is a personal choice and the government should not be involved in these personal matters.

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

8 B₁

In China there has been a steady decrease in the population growth rate between 1970 and 2009. Iran had growth between 1970 and 1984, until the population growth rate decreased at a tremendous rate, until they had a ~more steady~ decrease ~between~ 1990 and 2004, until there was a small increase from 2004-2009. China has implemented a one child policy, whereby they allow a couple only one child. Otherwise they face abortions or tremendously increase your taxes. ~less~ ~~~~ This is because China was becoming over populated. Iran on the other hand wanted to encourage population growth due to the low population of males. Iran lost generations of men in the war against Iraq. Iran sent millions ~~~~ of men into battle only to die, so their population dramatically decreased. A social consequence of trying to manipulate population growth rates is the toll on the Chinese family. In the country, a large family is a source of pride, and families need many children to help do the work, so they continue having children, especially in hiding, which is dangerous to both the mother + child. Also, male babies ~males~ are wanted more ~than~ ~female~ babies because the Chinese want to continue their family name + legacy. This leaves many females abandoned. Also, since there is an majority ~~~~ males, there are not enough females

to marry. This all creates dire social consequess
~~~~~~~ with the population of China.

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

8C,

(a) Iran's population hit a peak in 1980 and then fell sharply thereafter. China's population has fallen through the decades but the growth rate began to level out in 2000.

(b) Iran - Iran has strict immigration laws but lets people move out of the country freely.
China - China instituted its "one child policy" to significantly reduce the rate of population growth in their country.

(c) Both Countries had very high growth rates and limited space. As both countries began to industrialize, they felt it necessary to their economic well-being to limit their population growth.

(d) Reducing the growth rate is beneficial to the economic stability of a country. If a country's population gets too

high, then it becomes difficult to have enough resources to support ~~the~~ all the citizens. This may force the government to borrow money which throws them into debt and poor financial standing.

AP® COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2009 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 8

Overview

The overall intent of this question was for students to examine the concept of population growth policies in a comparative context and to link the purposes of such policies with their social or economic consequences. The question was accompanied by a chart comparing the population growth rates of China and Iran from 1970 to 2009; thus the question also tested students' ability to read and interpret a relatively simple graph.

Students had four specific tasks: (a) to describe one trend in the provided graph for Iran and one trend for China; (b) to explain one policy used to address population growth issues in Iran and one policy in China; (c) to explain why both Iran and China pursued population growth policies; and (d) to describe one social or economic consequence of manipulating population growth rates.

Sample: 8A
Score: 7

In part (a) the response earned 1 point for describing an accurate population growth rate trend for Iran: "Overall, Iran's growth rate has decreased." The response also earned 1 point for stating an accurate population growth trend for China: "the growth rate has decreased from the early l970's to the late 2000's."

In part (b) the response earned 2 points for explaining that a population growth policy for Iran is "[p]utting women to work and educating them," and that in China "[e]ducational benefits as well as other benefits are provided to the families who have fewer children."

In part (c) the response earned 2 points for explaining that both Iran and China have pursued population growth policies as a "means to live more sustainably—environmentally speaking. There is evidence to suggest that a smaller population produces less pollution and uses fewer resources."

In part (d) the response earned 1 point for describing a social consequence of manipulating population growth rate as "social unrest."

Sample: 8B
Score: 5

In part (a) the response earned 2 points for describing an accurate population growth rate trend for Iran, "Iran had growth between l970 and l984, until the population growth rate decreased at a tremendous rate," and an accurate population growth trend for China, "there has been a steady decrease in the population growth rate between l970 and 2009."

In part (b) the response earned 1 point for explaining a population growth policy for China: "China has implemented a one child policy, whereby they allow a couple only one child." The response did not earn the second point because of insufficient information about a population growth policy in Iran.

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for an explanation of why Iran has pursued a population growth policy: Iran "wanted to encourage population growth due to the low population of males. Iran lost generations of men in the war against Iraq." The response did not earn a second point because there is insufficient information to explain China's purpose for its population growth policy.

In part (d) the response earned 1 point for describing a social consequence of manipulating population growth rates: "This leaves many females abandoned."

Sample: 8C
Score: 2

In part (a) the response did not earn a point for the description of population growth rate trends in Iran and China because the response discusses only the trend for population.

In part (b) the response did not earn points because there is insufficient information to explain population growth policies in Iran and China.

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for a partial explanation of why Iran and China have pursued a population growth policy. Although the response correctly states that both countries have "limited space" and feel "it necessary to their economic well-being to limit their population growth," the response does not fully explain why this situation is a problem.

In part (d) the response earned 1 point for a description of the consequence of manipulating population growth: "Reducing the growth rate is beneficial to the economic stabality [*sic*] of a country."