

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 6

5 points

Part (a): 1 point is earned for a description of the process used in a parliamentary system for the selection of the chief executive. An acceptable description includes the following:

- The head of the majority party becomes prime minister.
 - If a majority exists, the head of the party becomes the prime minister.
 - If no majority exists, the largest minority party usually names the prime minister in a coalition government.

Note: No point is earned for “legislature selects the executive” without reference to party or coalition.

Part (b): 1 point is earned for a correct contrast of the process described in part (a) with the process used in a presidential system for the selection of the chief executive. An acceptable contrast includes the following:

- Parliamentary — legislature selects the head of government.
- Presidential — executive is chosen separately from legislature.
- The people elect the president.

Note: Parts (a) and (b) may be read together. The response must demonstrate that the executive and legislature are fused in a parliamentary system and not fused in a presidential system.

Part (c): 1 point is earned for a description of the process used in a parliamentary system for removing the chief executive. An acceptable description includes the following:

- Legislature gives vote of no confidence.
- Party removal is internal party decision.

Part (d): 1 point is earned for a contrast of the process described in part (c) with the process used in a presidential system for removing the chief executive. An acceptable contrast includes: legislature removes president.

Note: The response must contrast with part (c) to earn a point; just mentioning impeachment is not enough to earn a point.

Part (e): 1 point is earned for a description of a check on executive power within a parliamentary system. An acceptable description includes the following:

- Cabinet resignation.
- Backbencher resistance or revolt.
- Question time.
- Upper house can delay legislation.
- Judiciary can overturn laws passed by the executive or parliament.
- Parliament can refuse to pass legislation/budget proposed by the executive.
- Must call for an election within a set time.

Note: Response earns no credit in part (e) for only stating “vote of no confidence.”

6. There are a variety of arrangements of power in executive-legislative relationships. Using your knowledge of the countries included in the AP Comparative Government and Politics course, complete the following tasks.

a. In a parliamentary system, citizens vote for the party that they wish to control the government. The leader of that party becomes the prime minister.

b. In the presidential system, the chief executive is directly elected by the people. In contrast, the chief executive in the parliamentary system is not.

c. In a parliamentary system, the chief executive is removed through a vote of no confidence. Parliament votes on this, and if they vote negatively, the prime minister can be removed.

d. The procedure for removing the chief executive in a presidential system is very different. The president must be impeached by one legislative house, and tried by another. The parliamentary system is simply a vote without a trial.

e. A check on ~~exec~~ executive power in a parliamentary system is "Question Time." This is a time once a week where members of Parliament can ask the prime minister questions, and hold him or her accountable for his or her actions. They can ask anything without limit.

(a) In Britain the parliamentary system there dictates that the chief executive is chosen ~~through~~ depending on ~~the~~ which party has the majority in Parliament at the moment. That chief executive is called the Prime Minister.

(b) In a Presidential system, for example, Russia, the chief executive is chosen through direct elections, but runoffs are possible when multiple candidates are involved.

(c) The process used in Britain for removing the Prime Minister is relatively informal. If the party in power doesn't believe the Prime Minister is good, they can ask the PM to step down. If the party in power changes ~~that~~, then the Prime Minister has to step down.

(d) In a presidential system, it is ~~more~~ simpler, ~~the~~ on the next election, make sure to vote him out of power.

(e) In the parliamentary system of Britain, because of the fusion of powers within the legislature, the legislature can simply ~~legislate~~ create laws to block anything the Prime Minister does. And if unlawful, can charge him

5. Economic globalization is to globalize the economy with trade, urbanization, and other means. One policy response to economic globalization is privatization, taking public and selling to private. One organized response is protesting economic globalization.

6a. In a parliamentary system, the chief executive is nominated, ~~elected, then~~ and elected or appointed. ~~is~~

b. In a presidential system the chief executive can be either directly elected or elected by ~~part~~ part of the government like the electoral college.

c. To remove the chief executive in a parliamentary system, such as in Great Britain, the parliament can call for a vote of no-confidence, which would remove the ~~PM~~ Prime Minister.

d. In a presidential system, to remove a chief executive, you can impeach the executive and if ~~it~~ it sticks the chief executive is fired.

e. Other than removing a chief executive, to check the executive's power you ~~can~~ ~~could have~~ have the chief executive meet with parliament each week to tell them what is wrong, right, what needs to be changed, what should stay the ~~same~~ ~~same~~ same, or put back, and so on.

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2011 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 6

Overview

The intent of this question was for students to examine the various arrangements of power in executive-legislative relationships. The skills tested were both descriptive and analytical: to describe and compare. Students had five specific tasks: (a) to describe the process for the selection of the executive in a parliamentary system; (b) to contrast the process for the selection of the executive in such a parliamentary system with the process for the selection of the executive in a presidential system; (c) to describe the process for the removal of the executive in a parliamentary system; (d) to describe the process for the removal of the executive in a presidential system and contrast it with the processes for the removal of the executive in parliamentary and presidential systems; and (e) to describe a check, other than the removal process, on the executive in a parliamentary system.

Sample: 6A

Score: 5

In part (a) the response earned 1 point for accurately describing the selection of the executive in a parliamentary system: “The leader of that party [that controls government] becomes the prime minister.”

In part (b) the response earned 1 point for accurately describing and contrasting the selection of the chief executive in presidential and parliamentary systems: “In the presidential system, the chief executive is directly elected by the people. In contrast, the chief executive in the parliamentary system is not.”

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for accurately describing the removal of the chief executive in a parliamentary system: “[T]he chief executive is removed through a vote of no confidence. Parliament votes on this, and if they vote negatively, the prime minister can be removed.”

In part (d) the response earned 1 point for accurately describing and contrasting the removal of the chief executive in a presidential system with the statement that “[t]he president must be impeached by one legislative house, and tried by another. The parliamentary system is simply a vote without a trial.”

In part (e) the response earned 1 point for accurately describing a check on the executive in a parliamentary system as “‘Question Time.’ This is a time once a week where members of Parliament can ask the prime minister questions, and hold him or her accountable for his or her actions.”

Sample: 6B

Score: 3

In part (a) the response earned 1 point for accurately describing the selection of the executive in a parliamentary system by stating that “the chief executive is chosen depending on which party has the majority in Parliament.”

In part (b) the response the response earned 1 point for accurately describing and contrasting the selection of the executive in a presidential system: “In a Presidential system . . . the chief executive is chosen through direct elections.” Because part (a) of the response demonstrates understanding that the chief executive is indirectly elected in a parliamentary system, the response earned credit for contrasting the selection of the chief executive in parliamentary and presidential systems.

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Question 6 (continued)

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for accurately describing the removal of the executive in a parliamentary system: “If the party in power doesn’t believe the Prime Minister is good, they can ask the PM to step down.”

In parts (d) and (e) the response earned no points because it does not accurately describe the process for removing the executive in a presidential system or a check on executive power in a parliamentary system.

Sample: 6C

Score: 1

In part (a) the response did not earn a point because it does not accurately describe the selection of the chief executive in a parliamentary system.

In part (b) the response also did not earn a point. When parts (a) and (b) are read together, the response inaccurately indicates that the executive may be elected directly in both parliamentary and presidential systems.

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for accurately describing the removal of the executive in a parliamentary system as “the parliament [*sic*] can call for a vote of no-confidence, which would remove the Prime Minister.”

In part (d) the response did not earn a point because it does not describe the impeachment process or make an accurate comparison with the removal of the executive in a parliamentary system.

In part (e) the response did not earn a point because it is vague.