

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2012 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 2

3 points

One point is earned for a correct definition of political socialization. An acceptable definition includes:

- The process by which people form their ideas about politics and acquire their ideas about government
- The process by which political values are formed and transmitted from one generation to the next

One point is earned for **each** of two descriptions of methods currently used by Russian authorities to socialize citizens. Acceptable descriptions include:

- State-controlled media sets agenda and primes citizens on important issues, as well as controlling the debate and establishing norms.
- The government controls textbook content and educational curriculum to shape people's ideas about government.
- Progovernment youth organizations such as Nashi and progovernment rallies have been organized to support the regime.
- Proregime Internet campaigns are used to depict Putin as a strong and capable leader.
- The Russian Orthodox Church bolsters the legitimacy of the regime.

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

A score of dash (—) is earned for a blank answer.

2. Define political socialization. Describe two methods Russian authorities currently use to socialize citizens.

Political socialization is the method in which people learn about their government and how they are influenced in ~~forming~~ forming their own political ideas. Many agents of politicalization that authorities use in Russia to promote putins, united Russia campaign is through massive control of media, which includes propaganda and mis-information about other candidates running for office.

Another agent of political socialization in Russia that authorities use is a youth group called "Nashi." This group is state ~~to~~ run and is like a summer camp for children. When children enroll in "Nashi" they are politically brain washed about united Russia and Putin.

This politically motivated youth group was aimed at getting youth that will later be able to vote, to align with Putin and his United Russia Party.

2. Define political socialization. Describe two methods Russian authorities currently use to socialize citizens.

Political socialization is like mind control. They want the citizens to only know certain things about the government. Schools have to teach certain things according to the government. An example of political socialization is making school children in the U.S. say the Pledge of Allegiance every morning. This brings out a sense of pride and nationalism.

One method Russian authorities use to socialize citizens is controlling the media, what is shown on tv, in papers/magazines/books, and heard on the radio. By managing these things Russia is able to control what the people know about what's going on in the government.

Another method they use is ~~the~~ controlling what is taught in school. The government makes sure that from a ^{young} ~~good~~ age the students are taught to have pride in their country and to always support the government no matter what.

2. Define political socialization. Describe two methods Russian authorities currently use to socialize citizens.

Political socialization is the means through which people learn about their government and its affairs. Russian authorities use schools to socialize their citizens. In the schools they have censored textbooks to teach only what they want known. Additionally, they use youth groups such as Nasci to politically socialize their citizens.

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2012 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 2

Overview

The intent of this question was for students to examine political socialization and to consider the ways in which Russian authorities currently socialize citizens. The skills tested were conceptual and descriptive: to define and describe. Students had three specific tasks: to define political socialization, to describe one method that Russian authorities currently use to socialize citizens, and to describe a second, distinct method that Russian authorities currently use to socialize citizens.

Sample: 2A

Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for correctly defining political socialization as how people “are influenced in forming their [sic] own political ideas.”

The response earned 2 points for correctly describing two distinct methods Russian authorities currently use to socialize citizens. First, the response describes “massive control of media, which includes propaganda and mis-information about other candidates running for office.” Second, the response describes how Russian authorities use “a youth group called ‘Nashi.’ ... When children enroll in ‘nashi’ they are politically [sic] brain washed [sic] about united Russia and Putin.”

Sample: 2B

Score: 2

The response did not earn a point for defining political socialization.

The response earned 2 points for correctly describing two methods Russian authorities currently use to socialize citizens. First, the response describes how “controlling the media” allows authorities “to control what the people know about what’s going on in the government.” Second, the response states that Russian authorities are involved in “controlling what is taught in school. The government makes sure that ... the students are taught ... to always support the government no matter what.”

Sample: 2C

Score: 1

The response did not earn a point for defining political socialization.

The response earned 1 point for correctly describing one method Russian authorities currently use to socialize citizens: “In the schools they have censored textbooks to teach only what they want known.”

The response did not earn a point for the identification of Nashi as a second method that Russian authorities currently use to socialize citizens because no description is provided.