

# AP<sup>®</sup> COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

## 2012 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 3

#### 3 points

**One point** is earned for **each** of two explanations of how current environmental problems in China resulted from its economic liberalization. Current environmental problems may include:

- air pollution
- habitat loss
- land contamination
- urban sprawl
- water pollution

Acceptable explanations for how the problems listed above resulted from economic liberalization may include:

- expansion of industry
- lack of government regulation
- increased use of automobiles
- increased consumption
- poor infrastructure

Notes: Explanations must demonstrate linkage to economic liberalization. Explanation may be the same for two distinct environmental problems.

**One point** is earned for a correct description of a policy the Chinese government developed in response to the environmental problem identified above. Acceptable descriptions of a policy include:

- temporarily shutting down factories
- physically moving factories
- implementation of green technologies and subsidies to companies using them
- reduced use of automobiles or controls on automobile emissions
- better legal framework for policy regulation
- greater planning in or increased infrastructure development

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

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

3. Explain how two current environmental problems in China resulted from its economic liberalization. Describe one policy the Chinese government has developed in response to one of these environmental problems.

3) Two current environmental problems in China are air pollution and water contamination. These issues resulted from the rapid economic liberalization experienced by the country in recent years. With the economic liberalization, ~~there~~ the country has had rapid urbanization as workers from rural areas move to work in the cities. ~~the~~ Overpopulation of these cities has resulted in a strain on the local ecosystem as many people are driving cars or dumping waste. Also, the creation of many new factories has caused issues. The new factories create smog and air pollution in the cities as well as water pollution from the dumping of by products into rivers and streams. The Chinese government has attempted to respond to these issues through granting incentives to companies if they adopt green practices. This policy has been largely ineffective so far because ~~many companies~~ and the country's economic progress is so new and an efficient, working system hasn't been effectively developed yet. However, the gov't's initiation of tax cuts and economic benefits to companies who go green, could aid in the issue.

3. Explain how two current environmental problems in China resulted from its economic liberalization. Describe one policy the Chinese government has developed in response to one of these environmental problems.

Since China has embraced economic liberalism, it has allowed for privatization and free markets. This led to more people being involved in the economy, and more industries came about. However, pollution <sup>of the</sup> ~~has~~ air and land has resulted from this. There are not many policies in China ~~that~~ for protecting the environment. There was even the Three Gorges Dam incident, <sup>where</sup> ~~where~~ the building of the dam negatively impacted the environment and it was also built in a dangerous location. ~~It is a danger~~ If there is an earthquake, the dam could break open and flood many towns.

3. Explain how two current environmental problems in China resulted from its economic liberalization. Describe one policy the Chinese government has developed in response to one of these environmental problems.

③ Two current environmental problems in China resulted from its economic liberalization are air pollution and an over populated society. After the economy increased, and more and more industrial buildings were created, the government focused on the stability of the economy over the quality of air. More and more are having children since the economy is in a stable place, which means an over populated country. Thus, the government developed a 'one-child policy' in response. Every family (in mostly urban places) is limited to one child only, although a boy is highly wanted over girls. This creates a rapidly aging population.

# AP<sup>®</sup> COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

## 2012 SCORING COMMENTARY

### Question 3

#### Overview

The intent of this question was for students to explain how Chinese economic liberalization has led to current environmental problems and to describe its effect on Chinese government policy. The skills tested were both descriptive and analytical: to describe and explain in a short conceptual response. Students had three specific tasks: to explain how one current environmental problem in China resulted from economic liberalization, which required an understanding of the concept of economic liberalization; to explain a second, distinct current environmental problem resulting from economic liberalization; and to describe one Chinese government policy that has been developed as a result of one of the environmental problems identified.

#### **Sample: 3A** **Score: 3**

The response earned 2 points for correctly describing two environmental problems in China resulting from economic liberalization. The first point was earned for mentioning air pollution, and the second point was earned for naming water pollution. The response relates both problems to economic liberalization with the statement, “These issues resulted from the rapid economic liberalization experienced [*sic*] by the country in recent years. . . . Also, the creation of many new factories has caused . . . smog and air pollution in the cities as well as water pollution from the dumping of by products into rivers and streams.”

The response earned 1 point for describing a Chinese government policy that was developed in response to the environmental problem with the statement, “The Chinese government has attempted to respond to these issues through granting initiatives to companies if they adopt green practices.”

#### **Sample: 3B** **Score: 2**

The response earned 2 points for correctly explaining two environmental problems resulting from economic liberalization with the statement, “Since China has embraced economic liberalism, it has allowed for privatization and free markets . . . and more industries came about. However, pollution of the air and land has resulted from this.”

The response does not describe a Chinese government policy and therefore did not earn a point.

#### **Sample: 3C** **Score: 1**

The response earned 1 point for correctly explaining air pollution as an environmental problem resulting from economic liberalization with the statement, “environmental problems in China resulted from its economic liberalization . . . air pollution . . . . After the economy increased, and more and more industrial building [*sic*] were created, the government focused on the stability of the economy over the quality of air.”

The response did not earn a point for the explanation of a second environmental problem.

The response did not earn a point for the description of a Chinese government policy.