



## AP<sup>®</sup> Comparative Government & Politics 2002 Free-Response Questions

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**2002 AP® COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS  
FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

**COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**Section II**

**Time—100 minutes**

**Directions:** You have 100 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. Spend approximately one-fourth of your time (25 minutes) on each question. Illustrate your essay with substantive examples where appropriate. Make certain to number each of your answers as the question is numbered below.

1. Political corruption can be defined as the use of illegitimate channels of political influence. Using this definition, respond to each of the following.
  - (a) Describe how two conditions may contribute to political corruption.
  - (b) Explain one consequence of corruption for politics in Russia.
  - (c) Explain one other consequence of corruption for politics in either India or Mexico or Nigeria.
  
2. A threat to the stability of a political regime involves more than a simple change of government. Both democratic and authoritarian regimes experience threats to stability.
  - (a) Identify one threat to regime stability in China since 1950, and describe the regime's response to this threat.
  - (b) Identify one threat to regime stability in France since 1950, and describe the regime's response to this threat.
  - (c) Explain how the threat you identified in (a) challenged regime stability in China.
  - (d) Explain how the threat you identified in (b) challenged regime stability in France.
  
3. Two major forces shaping the political world today are fragmentation and globalization. Fragmentation results from strong primary loyalty to cultural, ethnic, religious, or linguistic groups. Globalization results from rapidly expanding economic, cultural, and technological contact among countries.

Respond to the following in the context of India or Mexico or Nigeria.

  - (a) Select two of the following and explain one specific political consequence of fragmentation for each.
    - Political parties
    - Political legitimacy
    - Sovereignty
  - (b) Select two of the following and explain one specific political consequence of globalization for each.
    - Political parties
    - Political legitimacy
    - Sovereignty

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4. Political parties sometimes change their policy positions over time.
- (a) Describe how the British Labour Party has changed its policy position since 1979 in one of the areas listed below.
- European Union
  - Privatization and deregulation
  - Devolution
- (b) Describe how the British Conservative Party has changed its policy position since 1979 in one of the areas listed below.
- European Union
  - Privatization and deregulation
  - Devolution
- (c) Identify and explain how one factor has contributed to the change in Labour Party policy position described in (a).
- (d) Identify and explain how one factor has contributed to change in Conservative Party policy position described in (b).

**END OF EXAMINATION**