

## **AP Government & Politics: United States** 1999 Free-Response Questions

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#### 1999

# The College Board Advanced Placement Examination

### GOVERNMENT & POLITICS: UNITED STATES

#### **Question 1**

In the 1990's presidential election campaigns have become more candidate centered and less focused on issues and party labels. This change has been attributed both to how the media cover presidential campaigns and to how candidates use the media. Identify and explain two ways in which the media have contributed to candidate-centered presidential campaigns. Identify and explain two ways in which presidential candidates' use of the media has contributed to candidate-centered campaigns.

Your answer should NOT include a discussion of presidential primary elections.

#### **Question 2**

National interest groups often target national-level policymaking institutions to achieve their policy objectives.

Select one of the following national interest groups.

- American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)
- American Medical Association (AMA)
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)

For the group you selected do each of the following.

- a. Identify one major national-level policymaking institution that this group targets.
- b. Describe one resource or characteristic of the group you have chosen AND explain how it influences the choice of the target you have identified in (a).
- c. Describe another resource or characteristic of the group you have chosen AND explain how it influences the choice of the target you have identified in (a).

#### **Question 3**

Is Congress effective in exercising legislative oversight of the federal bureaucracy? Support your answer by doing ONE of the following.

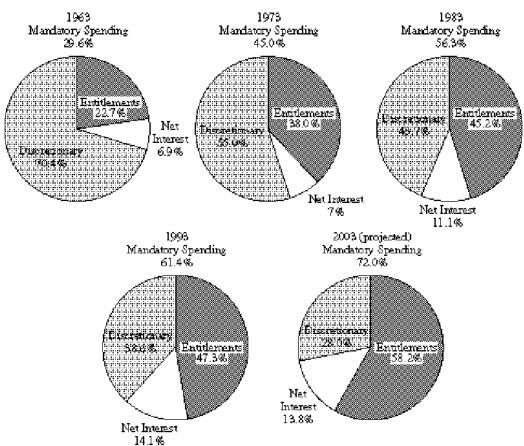
• Explain two specific methods Congress uses to exercise effective oversight of the federal bureaucracy.

OR

• Give two specific explanations for the failure of Congress to exercise effective oversight of the federal bureaucracy.

#### **Question 4**

#### GROWTH OF MANDATORY SPENDING IN THE FEDERAL BUDGET



Using the information in the pie charts above, identify two budgetary barriers that hinder the creation of new policy initiatives. Explain why each of the barriers you identified persists. Using your knowledge of United States politics, identify one nonbudgetary barrier AND explain how this barrier hinders the creation of new policy initiatives.