# AP Comparative Government and Politics

# Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

# Inside:

- ☑ Free Response Question 2
- ☑ Scoring Guideline
- **☑** Student Samples
- **☑** Scoring Commentary

## AP® COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS 2017 SCORING GUIDELINES

#### Question 2

#### 3 points

One point is earned for correctly identifying the Conservative Party or Tories as the party with the majority of seats in the House of Commons.

One point is earned for correctly identifying the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) or Single Member District (SMD) or plurality system or winner-take-all system as the electoral system in Great Britain.

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how the electoral system affects party representation in the House of Commons.

Correct explanations include:

- Promotes the dominance of two parties
- Overrepresentation of major parties
- Underrepresentation of minor or third parties, such as the Liberal Democrats or UK Independence Party (UKIP)
- Regional party representation in Parliament, such as the Scottish National Party (SNP)
- Increased representation of centrist parties

A score of zero (0) is earned for an attempted answer that earns no points or for an off-task answer.

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

2.	Identify the party with the majority of seats in the House of Commons. Identify the electoral system Great Britain. Explain how the electoral system affects party representation in the House of Commons.
----	--

-	A
	4
ec.	11

Curren	H-y-	the p	onty	with	the	n	geri	44 6	f se	ats	1'2	the
												y. The
												tory
												elected
through	^	single	men	sec	dista	ict,	FP"	TP	olunal	17 1°es,	Th	is system
exagge	rates	the	win	tor	ne	tim	<b>-</b>	naihsi	YE600	po	ties	and
makes	17	hande	e for	1	hird	per	110	(lih	e the	Li	ben	Democat
to ho									121			
(i	7.				- 946	[46]	ű.					
		(#				-70-14					-	
		£	is						4201			
			. 8				i.			15		
			,	-03							11 31	
			•	1,000	#2 1 - A	ā g		[4]		15		
								(_				
11			A.		•		The Control	E.				6
			5.72		**							
			*								e	
				-				-	-			
- 6	-					-		[G				
14)												
		16						-				
	52				(1		(1)	. 9			0	

Unauthorized copying or reuse of any part of this page is illegal.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

The	curre	nt p	partu	Wit	nt	he r	najor	ity e	or se	ats	in
the Ha	ise af	Con	mons	is -	the	Con	ervat	ive Po	rty:	The	
electoral	545+	em	in G	reat	Briti	ans	15 0	a first	pas	t-the	-post
electoral	845+	em.	HEREF	where	a	cer	tain	polit	ical	party	wins
election	and	thei	n non	inates	sa	part	y lea	der-	the .	Prime	Minist
Great Br	itains	elect	oral	syste	m	also	deteri	mines	par	ty_	
represent	tation	in	the	House	of	Conv	ons.	Propo	ction	al.	
represent	ation	deter	mines	the	an	nount	ef	seat	5 0	ach	-
party h	olds,	deper	iding	on w	ACTION	MONOR	y Wh	at pe	r con	t of	the
overall 1	rote e	ach	party	rec	ievec	١				* *	
v.*	9									*	
£1.	9				**		<u> </u>		6)	1, -20 1,27	
10	m :		3 *					4		R	
	¥1							E		1)	
			365 83	50		ac i					9.5
	ă.	#	W	•		V.		* **			
							14			134	4
7)		Sa M	1 (4)		9	Ş			ii.	3. 10	1,
						3	19		řé.	N 3	
						E A		# 1	Ж.	0 (4 - 6) 10	
*		t)					3.6	91 8		e	
e					00			(a *)	* 74	4	25.5
	12						56 	- 11 - 12 - 12 - 12 - 12 - 12 - 12 - 12			

<ol><li>Identify Great Br</li></ol>	the party with tritain. Explain h	he majority of seats in ow the electoral system	the House of Con affects party re	mmons. Identify the presentation in the	e electoral system House of Comm	mir 2C
The	port	y with	the	majori	tyot	E 6 #
		The Hou				ve
		e party.				
		ritain is				
Proppr	troner	l Repres	entat	ion at	ab part	4
nentes	entatio	n in the	e hous	e of co	ninos	48 60
must	nelilla	try one	entrin	, that H	il perce	Mask
at vo	tos for	each part	y morely	y most	classica v	nerter er
the wa	444 A BEY	of seat	5 00000	1 1- 11.	21 to mession 1	0 hn . 0
arry.	owo oppor	01 344	o cerco . c	TO VIN	1 304	1,000
part j.		V 8 V	250			):
	*	*			***	- 24 20
	2	* * *		•	100 1 100	
8 <u> </u>	8	2		98 32		D-
	<del></del>		34			
			98 2			
	· ·		1011	*,		
			10 H		et)	
3	<b>6</b> 1			F 50 P	0.	
		6 8	* ****			
2 NA		# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #		20	/	
-		<del>/////////////////////////////////////</del>	* *			34 (5)
	YOU CONTRACT OF THE STATE OF TH			# A		(4 (2)
	54		17			

### AP® COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS 2017 SCORING COMMENTARY

#### Question 2

#### Overview

The intent of this question was to assess students' knowledge of how the electoral system impacts party representation in the House of Commons in Great Britain. The skills tested were descriptive and explanatory. Students had three specific tasks: to identify the majority party in the House of Commons, to identify the electoral system in Great Britain, and to explain how the electoral system affects party representation in the House of Commons.

Sample: 2A Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying the party with the majority of seats in the House of Commons as "the Conservative (Tories) Party." The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying the electoral system as "single member district, FPTP pluralities." The response earned 1 point for explaining how "[t]his system exaggerates the win for the two mainstream parties and makes it harder for third parties."

Sample: 2B Score: 2

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying the party with the majority of seats in the House of Commons as "the Conservative Party." The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying the electoral system as "first-past-the-post." The response did not earn a point for explaining how the electoral system affects party representation in the House of Commons.

Sample: 2C Score: 1

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying the party with the majority of seats in the House of Commons as "the conservative party." The response did not earn a point for correctly identifying the electoral system in Great Britain. The response did not earn a point for explaining how the electoral system affects party representation in the House of Commons.