

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2014 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 2

3 points

One point is earned for EACH correct description of the differences between Chinese Communist party leaders.

Acceptable differences may include:

- Earlier leaders had lower levels of education, but now most leaders are university trained.
- Most leaders were once military but are now mostly technocrats (business, finance, engineering).
- Leaders once valued ideological purity but are now more pragmatic.
- Leaders were once more revolutionary but now have greater technical expertise.
- Leaders once valued ideological purity but are now more business oriented.
- Most leaders under Mao worked their way up through the military or party ranks, while today's leaders are groomed for leadership positions or promoted through family connections.

Note: It is not sufficient to say that one set of leaders does not have the same background as the other set of leaders. The student must more fully describe the difference between the two sets of leaders.

One point is earned for a correct explanation of how one of the differences described above has influenced Chinese economic policy.

An acceptable explanation may include:

- Led to the creation of Special Economic Zones (SEZs)
- Influenced implementation of free market reforms
- Drove shift from central planning or five-year plans to economic liberalization
- Created a greater focus on international trade and foreign direct investment
- Fostered a more positive attitude toward globalization
- Promoted greater protection of private property

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

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

2A

2. Chinese leaders today differ from those under Mao Zedong in terms of their professional and educational backgrounds as well as their ideology. Describe two differences between today's Chinese Communist Party leaders and those under Mao. Explain how one of the differences you described has influenced economic policy in China.

One difference between today's leaders and those under Mao Zedong is that today many of the leaders come from urban backgrounds where they have gone through good education at the highest levels of a university. Many leaders today are engineers. Under Mao many leaders would have come from rural backgrounds and may not have had the same level of education today's leaders have. Another difference is that today's leaders are often business officials who are trying to achieve economic growth as well as revenue for the country. This shows that many of today's leaders have a more free-market and capitalist economic ideology. Under Mao leaders had a more planned economy ideology where they believed that the government should be in charge of the country's economy. The new leader's capitalist approach has changed China's economic policy greatly as state industries have become increasingly privatized and policies now allow foreign investors.

2B

2. Chinese leaders today differ from those under Mao Zedong in terms of their professional and educational backgrounds as well as their ideology. Describe two differences between today's Chinese Communist Party leaders and those under Mao. Explain how one of the differences you described has influenced economic policy in China.

The leaders of the CCP under Mao were technocrats. They were usually engineers and were appointed because of merit. The leaders of the CCP today are no longer technocrats. They are appointed based on guanxi, or personal connections.

The leaders of the CCP under Mao believed in Communist economic policies. They were for collectivization and a command economy. The leaders of the CCP today are more capitalist. This has influenced economic policy in China because the new leaders have allowed privatization of business and have opened China up to foreign investment.

2c.

more liberal
in terms of
how they
run the
country

2. Chinese leaders today differ from those under Mao Zedong in terms of their professional and educational backgrounds as well as their ideology. Describe two differences between today's Chinese Communist Party leaders and those under Mao. Explain how one of the differences you described has influenced economic policy in China.

2. Today's Chinese Communist Party leaders are more liberal (which means that they are more supportive of free market principles) and citizens' freedoms. The leaders ^{today} are also generally more open and allowing of foreign investors and try to improve relations with other countries. ^{because the Party leaders are more liberal} This has caused more liberal economic policy, which has allowed more privatization of the economy. There is less state control of the economy.

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Question 2

Overview

The intent of this question was to assess students' knowledge of the professional background, educational background, and ideology of past and current leaders of China and evaluate students' ability to explain how the differences in background and ideology influenced economic policy in China. The skills tested were descriptive and analytical. The students had two specific tasks: to describe two differences in the professional background, educational background, or ideology of leaders under Mao Zedong and the current leaders of China and to explain how one of the differences between past and current leaders has influenced economic policy in China.

Sample: 2A

Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for describing a difference by stating that current leaders “come from [*sic*] urban back ground [*sic*] where they have gone through good education [*sic*] at . . . a university” while leaders under Mao “would have come from rural backgrounds and may not have had the same high level of education today's [*sic*] leaders have.” The response earned 1 point for describing a second difference by stating that “many of today's [*sic*] leaders have a more free-market and capitalist economic ideology” while “[u]nder Moa [*sic*] leaders had a more planned economy ideology.” The response earned 1 point for explaining how the “new leaders [*sic*] capitalist approach has change [*sic*] China's economic policy . . . as state industries have become increasingly privatized.”

Sample: 2B

Score: 2

The response earned 1 point for describing a difference by stating that “leaders of the CCP under Mao believed in communist economic policies” and “were for collectivization and a command economy” while “leaders of the CCP today are more capitalist.” The response did not earn a point for describing a second difference in the educational background, professional background, or ideology of leaders under Mao and current leaders. The response earned 1 point for explaining how “this has influenced economic policy in China because the new leaders have allowed privatization [*sic*] of business and have opened China up to foreign investment.”

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Question 2 (continued)

Sample: 2C

Score: 1

The response did not earn a point for describing a difference in the educational background, professional background, or ideology of leaders under Mao and current leaders.

The response did not earn a point for describing a second difference in the educational background, professional background, or ideology of leaders under Mao and current leaders.

The response earned 1 point for explaining how “[t]oday’s Chinese Communist Party leaders are . . . more supportive of free market principles” which “has allowed more privatization of the economy” and “less state control of the economy.”