

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

## 2015 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 1

#### 3 points

One point is earned for correctly identifying one minority ethnic group officially recognized by the Chinese government. Acceptable identifications may include:

- Uighurs
- Tibetans
- Zhuang
- Manchu
- Mongol
- Hui

One point is earned for a correct description of a special protection that the Chinese government extends to this group.

Note: The description of the special protection must be linked to the group identified.

Acceptable descriptions include:

- Language rights
- Exceptions to population control policies
- Educational curriculum
- Legislative seats reserved
- Autonomous regions
- Religion (can be seen as a cultural right if it is tied to the correct group)

One point is earned for a correct explanation of why the Chinese government extends special protections to some minority ethnic groups.

Acceptable explanations include:

- Reduce conflict or rebellion or unrest
- Prevent groups from seeking separation
- Increase legitimacy
- Increase access to natural resources
- Make policy comply with party doctrine
- Improve global image
- Create buffer from other states

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

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



1B1

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Section II

Time—1 hour and 40 minutes

**Directions:** You have 100 minutes to answer five short-answer concept questions, one conceptual analysis question and two country context questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all eight questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes total on questions 1 through 5, 30 minutes on question 6, and 40 minutes total on questions 7 and 8. These suggested times do not reflect the weight of the questions as part of your AP exam score. In your responses, use substantive examples where appropriate.

Short-Answer Concepts: We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes total on questions 1 through 5.

1. Identify one ethnic minority group officially recognized by the Chinese government. Describe one special protection that the Chinese government extends to the group you identified. Explain why the Chinese government extends special protections to some of China's ethnic minority groups.

The Chinese government recognizes the Tibetans as a protected minority group. They allow the Tibetans a place in the Politburo but with no real power. They grant protection to minority groups in order to placate tensions between minority groups and the government, which could prevent protests and violent uprising.

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Section II

Time—1 hour and 40 minutes

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**Short-Answer Concepts:** We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes total on questions 1 through 5.

1. Identify one ethnic minority group officially recognized by the Chinese government. Describe one special protection that the Chinese government extends to the group you identified. Explain why the Chinese government extends special protections to some of China's ethnic minority groups.

The Chinese Government officially recognizes the Tibetans. Tibetans mostly all live in one region secluded in western China. The Chinese government allows for them to be on their own and not have to be controlled by the regional government structures. The Chinese government extends special protections to some of China's ethnic minority groups because the urban areas have an overflow of people, so they want to do everything they can to keep them where they are.

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

## 2015 SCORING COMMENTARY

### Question 1

#### Overview

The intent of this question was to assess students' knowledge of ethnic minority groups in China, of the protections offered to those groups by the Chinese government, and students' understanding of why special protections were needed. The skills tested were descriptive and analytical. The students had three specific tasks: to identify one of the ethnic minority groups officially recognized in China, to describe a special protection that the Chinese government extends to the group they identified, and to explain why the Chinese government extends special protections to some ethnic minority groups.

#### Sample: 1A

##### Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying “Uyghurs [*sic*]” as an ethnic minority group officially recognized by the Chinese government. The response earned 1 point for correctly describing “their allowance to have more than one child” as a special protection extended by the Chinese government. The response earned 1 point for stating a reason why the Chinese government extends special protections, “to avoid dissent and possible revolution.”

#### Sample: 1B

##### Score: 2

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying Tibetans as an ethnic minority group officially recognized by the Chinese government. The response did not earn a point for the description of the special protection. The response earned 1 point for explaining that the reason China extends special protections to minority groups is to “prevent protests and violent uprising.”

#### Sample: 1C

##### Score: 1

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying Tibetans as an ethnic minority group officially recognized by the Chinese government. The response did not earn a point for the description of the special protection. The response did not earn a point for the explanation of why China extends special protections to minority groups.