

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2016 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 4

3 points

One point is earned for EACH correct description of a domestic factor that influenced the relaxation of China's one-child policy.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Male preference causes sex selective abortion or infanticide.
- Kidnappings or trafficking of females due to a shortage of females.
- Challenges of caring for an aging population.
- Concerns about filling labor shortages, including rural shortages.
- Anticipated population decline in the future.
- Too much of a decline in the birth rate.
- Concerns about uneven policy implementation
- Concerns about unregistered children who do not have access to state services.
- The redundancy of the policy given similar impacts of economic or educational modernization.

Note: Just stating that there are more males than females is not enough of a description.

One point is earned for a correct description of an international factor that influenced the relaxation of China's one-child policy.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Pressure from states and nongovernmental organizations, such as women's groups and human rights groups, on the Chinese government over human rights issues
- Efforts to counter brain drain, to attract back to China those who have left by allowing them to have more than one child
- China seeking to build trust with powerful countries that oppose the policy

Note: No significant pressure from multinational corporations or foreign businesses yet; no sanctions have been used or implemented against China by outside forces.

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.

4. Describe two domestic factors that influenced the relaxation of China's one-child policy. Describe one international factor that influenced the relaxation of the policy.

4) One factor which caused the relaxation of China's one-child policy ^{generally} domestically is the increase in median age, which hurts the sustainability of a country's economy, as the smaller number of younger, working-age people have difficulty supporting large ^{populations of} older, non-working-age people. Another domestic factor is the unbalanced gender ratio, which tends to skew male, leading to ~~many~~ many infringements on the rights of females, ^{such as an increased number of} female abortions, ^{female} infanticide, and rape ~~increase~~, in addition to many men being unable to find wives and to have children, which could lead to a shrinking population. Internationally, many ^{other} countries and human rights groups have denounced the one-child policy as being an infringement on the rights of Chinese citizens, and have pressured China to end the one-child policy. All of these factors have led to a relaxing of the one-child policy in China.

4. Describe two domestic factors that influenced the relaxation of China's one-child policy. Describe one international factor that influenced the relaxation of the policy.

China's one-child policy was relaxed due to several reasons. One of the ~~most~~ foremost was the lack of females in China.

China's traditional culture had placed men above females, and many female babies had been aborted. This led to a dangerous

inequality in the population of women versus men. ^{It got to the point that the Chinese gov. imported women from nearby countries.}

Another reason was the growing population of second and third children, who had no legal status and were basically permanent members of a new lower class. Having tens of millions of ~~at~~ non-citizens with no legal status makes prosecution and most other legal affairs tend to be difficult.

However, not least of the reasons for the change in policy was the international disgust for it. The EU and most other western, pro-democratic, and human rights organizations considered the policy to be a human rights violation. Some countries even went so far as to place sanctions on Chinese goods.

4. Describe two domestic factors that influenced the relaxation of China's one-child policy. Describe one international factor that influenced the relaxation of the policy.

- not enough people on farm
- political rights

40

One domestic factor that influenced the relaxation of China's One-Child policy is the government's decision to make birth control more accessible, ^{which gave the} ~~so the~~ ~~government~~ citizens ~~have~~ more ability to control birth rates without government imposed laws. Another domestic factor is that under the one-child policy there wasn't enough human labor to work on farms in rural areas. One international factor is pressure from international groups that ^{to which} China is selling their products ~~for~~ to relax the One-Child policy. These groups are concerned that the citizens of China should have civil liberties, and that government should not be imposing laws on personal matters.

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2016 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 4

Overview

The intent of this question was to assess students' knowledge of domestic factors and international considerations that have an effect on policy choices in China, specifically changes to the one-child policy. The skills tested were descriptive. The students had three specific tasks: to describe two distinct domestic factors and one international factor that influenced the Chinese government to make a change in the one-child policy.

Sample: 4A

Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for correctly describing the aging population where “younger, working-age people have difficulty supporting large populations of older, non-working-age people” as a domestic factor. The response earned 1 point for describing “the unbalanced gender ratio . . . leading to . . . female infanticide” as a domestic factor. The response earned 1 point for describing countries and human rights groups that have “denounced the one-child policy as being an infringement on the rights of Chinese citizens, and have pressured China to end the one-child policy” as an international factor.

Sample: 4B

Score: 2

The response earned 1 point for correctly describing that “China’s traditional culture had placed men above females, and many female babies had been aborted” as a domestic factor. The response earned 1 point for correctly describing that some second and third children “had no legal status and were basically permanent members of a new lower class” and attributing this as a domestic factor. The response did not earn a point for correctly describing an international factor.

Sample: 4C

Score: 1

The response earned 1 point for correctly describing that “under the one-child policy there wasn’t enough human labor to work on farms in rural areas” and attributing this as a domestic factor. The response did not earn a point for correctly describing a second domestic factor. The response did not earn a point for correctly describing an international factor.