

**AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2006 SCORING GUIDELINES**

Question 8

8 points

Part (a): 2 points

One point is earned for each of two descriptions of measures taken by Iranian political leaders to democratize Iran's political process.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Liberalization of the press and other media.
- Elections (regular, competitive).
- Protests by leaders (members of parliament, etc.).
- Allowing more political parties/allowing more candidates to run.
- Relaxation of the dress codes (example of civil liberties).
- City and village elections (beginning in 1999).
- Weakening of enforcement of controls.
- Greater acceptance of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs).
- Greater rights for minority ethnic groups (guaranteed seats in the Majles, for example).
- Broadened participation of women (elections, creation of organizations, female candidates running).

Part (b): 2 points

One point is earned for each of two descriptions of ways in which Iranian political leaders have resisted democratization.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Vetting candidates.
- Shari'ah law.
- Basij morality police.
- Divorce laws.
- Arresting professors/dissenters/demonstrators.
- Criticism of Supreme Leader forbidden.
- Guardian Council vetoing legislature.
- Blocking the Internet.
- Persecution of the Baha'is, Kurds.

Part (c): 2 points

One point is earned for each of two descriptions of measures taken by Nigerian political leaders to democratize Nigeria's political process.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Implementation of new constitution eliminating military rule.
- Freer press.
- Elections (reappearance of regular elections; elections have continued since 1999).
- Protections for ethnic and religious groups.

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Question 8 (continued)

- Redrawing of state boundaries to increase representation (including increasing the number of states).
- Census.
- Direct election of president to increase legitimacy.
- Required support from different subnational groups.
- Creation of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

Part (d): 2 points

One point is earned for each of two descriptions of ways in which Nigerian political leaders have resisted democratization.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Coups d'état.
- Effects of allowing Shari'ah.
- Illegitimate elections
- Military resorting to violence.
- Poor human rights record.
- Persecution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and others.

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

A score of dash (—) is earned for a blank or off-task answer.

With the Islamic Revolution of 1979, the revolutionaries created a constitution. ~~Like~~ Like the democratic goals of the 1906 Revolution, this one too pushed democratic ideals with the ~~for~~ parliament, the Majles, whose members are directly elected. Additionally, there is a president who is directly elected. These elections are held frequently, if not fairly. Another measure to ~~of~~ democratize Iran's political process is the extension of suffrage to women, as well as youth above the age of sixteen.

However, these "democratic" measures have been countered by decidedly undemocratic measures. For one, the Guardian Council declares who ~~can~~ cannot run, thus eliminating true democracy where the people can vote for who they want. Under both Supreme Leaders, the Ayatollahs Khamenei & Khomeini, most reformist parties have been imprisoned and repressed. Another method of resisting democracy is the censorship of the press & media. The Iranian government heavily censors tv, radio & newspapers from showing pro-Western ideals. However compared to many other Middle Eastern nations, its press is allowed to ~~criticize~~ ^{is} criticize government more than others. Still, its press is by no means free, and is a tool used to counter democratization.

Nigeria has pushed for democracy by, after years of military rule, actually had two successive elections with current President Obabandura winning twice, though questionably. While, corrupt elections are a horror to hear of in established democracies, in Nigeria, even the holding of elections is a step towards democratization.

Nigeria has also tried to democratize by trying to establish the power of judicial review & authority. Nigeria's authoritative past led to the lack of rule of law in Nigeria and lack of authority for the courts. As the current leader ~~for~~ enters his second term, he hopes to make the existing constitution one that is actually followed.

While holding elections, was a step forward, there was a simultaneous half step back due to how corrupted and fraudulent the elections were. Foreign observers saw forced voting, ballot stuffing & managed to get 40,000 fraudulent votes cancelled. Another resistance to democratization is pre-Bendalism or the patron-clientism. Here the corruption is even worse than in the elections, placing Nigeria in the top 5 most corrupt nations in the world. While Nigeria is oil-rich, the benefits of this top oil distributor is felt by the pockets of the rich & corrupted officials - not the desperate people. Thus Nigeria has a long ways to go before it can be really seen as to whether democratization is occurring or not.

One measure taken by Iranian Political leaders to democratize Iran's political process is the direct election of the Majles and the council of religious experts and the indirect democratic selection of half the guardian council by the Majles.

Another measure taken to ~~more~~ democratize Iran's political process is the ~~also~~ creation of the expediency council to referee disputes between the Majles and the guardian council.

Iranian political leaders have resisted democratization by retaining the office of an unelected supreme leader with almost ~~unchecked~~ unchecked power, and by allowing the guardian council to throw out any law deemed contrary to shari'a.

One measure taken by Nigerian political leaders to democratize Nigeria's political process is the ~~direct~~ election of a president in 1999 after years of military dictatorships.

Another democratizing measure is the requirement that presidents be elected by 25% of the voters from 2/3 of the states, to ensure that a locally popular candidate does not win the presidency.

Nigerian political leaders have resisted democratization by running unfair elections and by allowing widespread, chronic corruption.

8.

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

8C1

a. ~~Cham~~ ~~has~~ leaders have made many attempts to democratize Cham's political process:¹ Cham has begun to have presidential elections as well as members of Chamian Parliament.² Cham's last President attempted to make many reforms including loosening the ties of church and state however that president was assassinated

b. ~~This~~ This map in which Chamian political leaders have resisted democratization.¹ Refuses to allow women to vote,² There is no separation of church and state.

c. Oluwalanjo has made many attempts to democratize Nigeria including: holding¹ presidential and governmental elections,² creating a federal system of government

d. ~~This~~ This map in which Nigerian political leaders have resisted

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering
on this page as it is designated in the examination.

8

82

democratization; ¹ Wealth of oil
is still in a few hands. ² Leaders
have been violently stopping
protest for liberation in the
south.

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2006 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 8

Overview

The intent of the question was to have students describe how Iran and Nigeria have moved toward democratization in the past two decades, while at the same time explaining how those two countries have restricted democratization processes.

Sample: 8A

Score: 7

In part (a) the response describes one measure taken by political leaders in Iran to democratize the country's political process: direct election of the president and of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majles) in "elections . . . held frequently, if not fairly" (1 point). The response does not provide accurate information about female suffrage in Iran, since the franchise was extended to women prior to the past two decades. Therefore the second point was not earned.

In part (b) the response describes two ways in which political leaders in Iran have resisted democratization. First, it states that "the Guardian Council declares who cannot run" (1 point). The response continues, noting that Iranian political leaders have resisted democratization through "censorship of the press & media," including significant limits on "tv, radio & newspapers" (1 point).

In part (c) the response describes two measures taken by political leaders in Nigeria to democratize its political process: the elimination of military rule and holding "successive elections" (1 point), and the power of judicial review, which aims to "make the existing constitution one that is actually followed" (1 point).

In part (d) the response describes two ways in which Nigerian political leaders have resisted democratization. The response gives specific examples of "corrupted and fraudulent" elections as one way leaders have resisted democratization (1 point). There is also an extensive discussion of prebendalism, which restricts political participation, and corruption, with oil benefits lining the "pockets of the rich & corrupted officials." This limits democratization among average citizens (1 point).

Sample: 8B

Score: 4

In part (a) the response provides an insufficient description of measures taken by Iranian political leaders to democratize the country's political process during the past two decades.

In part (b) the response describes one way in which political leaders in Iran have resisted democratization: allowing the Guardian Council to throw out any law deemed contrary to Shari'ah. The description of the power of the Supreme Leader as a measure of resistance to democratization in the past two decades does not earn the second point.

In part (c) the response describes two measures taken by political leaders in Nigeria to democratize its political process. First, the response describes "the election of a president in 1999 after years of military dictatorships" (1 point). It then describes procedures for presidential elections, stating that "25% of the voters from 2/3 of the states" must support a candidate in order for that candidate to win an election (1 point).

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Question 8 (continued)

In part (d) the response describes one way in which political leaders in Nigeria have restricted democratization: “running unfair elections” (1 point). The response also identifies “widespread, chronic corruption” as a way that Nigerian leaders have restricted democratization. Because the response does not provide any further description of corruption as a means of restricting democratization, it did not earn the second point. Corruption itself is not an intentional, official response to democratization.

Sample: 8C

Score: 1

In part (a) the response does not provide a sufficient explanation of how presidential and legislative elections have led to democratization of the political process in Iran. Therefore no points were earned.

In part (b) the response does not provide accurate information about female suffrage, nor does it give sufficient information about the relationship between political and religious authority as a measure of resistance to democratization in Iran. Therefore no points were earned.

In part (c) the response does not clarify the nature of elections or how federalism has democratized the political process in Nigeria. No points were earned.

In part (d) the response describes one measure of resistance to democratization in Nigeria, stating that “leaders have been violently stopping protest for liberation in the south” (1 point). The identification of the unequal distribution of wealth as a measure of resistance to democratization did not earn the second point.