

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

## 2012 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 6

**5 points**

**Part (a): 1 point**

**One point** is earned for a correct definition of the concept of a state. Acceptable definitions include:

- An organization that maintains control over a given territory
- A set of political institutions that generate and execute policy within a defined territory
- The entity that has the monopoly on the legitimate use of coercion within a given territory

**Part (b): 1 point**

**One point** is earned for a correct explanation of how a nation is different from a state. Acceptable explanations include:

- A state is a set of institutions that maintain control over a given territory, while a nation is a group of people bound by common traits (such as race, language, religion, and ethnicity) and political identity or aspirations.
- A nation refers to a group of people and not an institutional mechanism or set territory.

Note: Students do NOT need to define nation to earn this point.

**Part (c): 1 point**

**One point** is earned for a correct description of a challenge that governments face in securing stability in multinational states. An acceptable challenge may include:

- Conflicting interest among groups
- Competition among groups
- Perceived lack of legitimacy or authority of the central government
- Fragmentation
- Pressure for more autonomy
- Secession
- Intergroup conflict
- Civil war

**Part (d): 2 points**

**One point** is earned for each correct discussion of a policy that governments take to address the challenge described in part (c). Acceptable policies may include:

- Granting more autonomy
- Devolution
- Federal structure
- Legislative, bureaucratic, military, or executive quotas
- Informal political arrangements
- Changes to the electoral system

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**Question 6 (continued)**

- Constitutional protection
- Negotiations to address or resolve grievances
- Creating a state-based, patriotic identity (i.e., civic culture, symbols)
- Partition
- Suppression
- Co-opting local or national authorities
- Weakening national groups
- Co-opting media, reframing national groups as threats

Note: The two policies discussed must be distinct.

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

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

Conceptual Analysis: We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes on question 6.

6. Many of the countries covered in the AP Comparative Government and Politics course are multination states.

- Define the concept of a state.
- Explain how a nation is different from a state.
- Describe one challenge governments face in securing stability in multination states.
- Discuss two policies that governments have taken to address the challenge you described in part (c).

A. A state is any geopolitical region in which the government has ~~power~~ <sup>sovereignty</sup> over its people. For example, The United Kingdom is a state, as the central government in London has the <sup>legal</sup> sovereignty to govern all of the people within its boundaries, which is strengthened by the high levels of legitimacy held by the current regime.

B. A nation is ~~the~~ any group of people who share ethnic, cultural, or religious ties. The boundaries of the population of a nation may or may not coincide with the geopolitical boundaries in a state. When they do this is called a nation-state. When there are many nations within one state this is called a multination state.

C. Multination states include The United Kingdom, Nigeria, and Russia, ~~that is~~ Each has faced a common challenge of violence caused by ~~some~~ <sup>cumulating</sup> cleavages between the different nations within a state. In the UK, the cleavage between the Irish Catholic nation of Northern Ireland and the Protestant nation of the rest of the country caused conflict with the formation of the terrorist IRA (Irish Revolutionary Army). In both Russia and Nigeria, conflicts between nations produced violence. In Russia the Chechens in Chechnia ~~the~~ staged a bloody revolt when the Russian state failed

## ADDITIONAL ANSWER PAGE FOR QUESTION 6.

To grant them independence, in Nigeria the Igbo territory of Biafra staged a bloody civil war for independence with the ruling Yoruba called the Biafran war.

D. The ethnic conflict caused by multinational states is being addressed in several ways. The government of Nigeria amended its electoral rules and created FEDECO ~~It~~ with the goal of ensuring that ~~electoral~~ <sup>competitors</sup> ~~leaders~~ must have both national and regional support to win an election. In the United Kingdom, the central government devolved some of its powers to the regional governments in Wales, ~~Great~~ Scotland, and Northern Ireland. These policies were instituted with the intention of giving the various nations in the respective states increased influence and reducing ethnic conflict.

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Conceptual Analysis: We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes on question 6.

6. Many of the countries covered in the AP Comparative Government and Politics course are multination states.

- (a) Define the concept of a state.
- (b) Explain how a nation is different from a state.
- (c) Describe one challenge governments face in securing stability in multination states.
- (d) Discuss two policies that governments have taken to address the challenge you described in part (c).

b. a) A state is a region where the government retains a monopoly of violence over.

b) A nation entails multiple states and/or provinces ~~that~~ that unify into one ultimate regime that displays sovereignty. A state is much smaller and much more limited.

c) A government who presides over multiple nations, such as Russia, is often unstable because the nations political cultures are conflictual or "centrifugal". Chechnya has recently engaged in acts of terrorism because it does not agree with the rest of the Russian Regime.

D) To counter the rebellion in Chechnya, Russia president, Putin, has taken away their local government as well as their

## ADDITIONAL ANSWER PAGE FOR QUESTION 6.

right to vote for their own governors. Thus, he took away the political autonomy of the Rebellious Chechnya. President Vladimir Putin will not allow Chechnya to complete its dissension from Russia because of its oil-rich land.

GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE.

Conceptual Analysis: We suggest that you spend approximately 30 minutes on question 6.

6. Many of the countries covered in the AP Comparative Government and Politics course are multination states.

- Define the concept of a state.
- Explain how a nation is different from a state.
- Describe one challenge governments face in securing stability in multination states.
- Discuss two policies that governments have taken to address the challenge you described in part (c).

A) A State ~~is~~ is a particular territory ~~that~~ consisting of a government ruling over a population.

B) A Nation ~~is~~ includes a government which ~~establishes~~ sets rules in Exerting its power over Subunits

C) One challenge governments face in securing stability in multination states is ~~ethnic~~ cleavages. Multination states include people in society which are separated by class, region, and ethnicity.

d) One policy taken to address ~~the~~ cleavages is moving the Capitol to the center of a multination state. Another policy implemented involves try ~~to~~ to successfully represent all cleavages in the legislature.

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## 2012 SCORING COMMENTARY

### Question 6

#### Overview

The intent of the question was for students to examine both the concept of a state and the difference between a state and a nation, to consider how multination states present governments with a challenge to stability, and to consider multiple policies used by governments to respond to that challenge. The skills tested were conceptual, descriptive, and analytical: to define the state and then differentiate the concepts of nation and state, to describe a challenge to stability posed by multination states, and to discuss policies that are taken in reaction to that challenge. Students had five specific tasks: to define the concept of a state, to explain how a nation is different from a state, to describe one challenge that governments in multination states face in securing stability, to discuss one policy that governments have taken to address that challenge, and to discuss a second, distinct policy that governments have taken to address that same challenge.

#### Sample: 6A

##### Score: 5

In part (a) the response earned 1 point for correctly defining the concept of a state as “any geopolitical region in which the government has sovereignty over its people.”

In part (b) the response earned 1 point for explaining that a “nation is any group of people who share ethnic, cultural, or religious ties” and is different from a state in that the “boundaries of the population of a nation may or may not coincide with the geopolitical boundaries in a state.”

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for correctly describing a challenge governments face in securing stability in multination states as “violence caused by cumulating cleavages between the different nations within a state.”

In part (d) the response earned 2 points for discussing two policies that governments have taken to address the challenge described in part (c). A first point was earned for discussing how the “government of Nigeria amended its electoral rules and created FEDECO with the goal of ensuring that candidates must have both national and regional support to win an election.” A second point was earned for discussing how in “the United Kingdom, the central government devolved some of its powers to the regional governments in Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.”

#### Sample: 6B

##### Score: 3

In part (a) the response earned 1 point for correctly defining the concept of a state as “a region where the government retains a monopoly of violence over [sic].”

In part (b) the response does not correctly explain how a nation is different from a state and therefore did not earn the point.

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for correctly describing that a “government who presides over multiple nations . . . is often unstable because the nations [sic] political cultures are conflictual or ‘centrifugal,’ ” which is a challenge governments face in securing stability in multination states.



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## **2012 SCORING COMMENTARY**

### **Question 6 (continued)**

In part (d) the response earned 1 point for discussing two policies that governments have taken to address the challenge described in part (c). A first point was earned for discussing how, to “counter the rebellion in Chechnya, Russia president, Putin, has taken away ... their right to vote for their own governors.” The response does not correctly discuss a second policy that governments have taken to address the challenge identified in part (c) and therefore did not earn the second point.

#### **Sample: 6C**

#### **Score: 1**

In part (a) the response earned 1 point for correctly defining the concept of a state as “a particular territory consisting of a government ruling over a population.”

In part (b) the response does not correctly explain how a nation is different from a state and therefore did not earn the point.

In part (c) the response does not correctly describe a challenge governments face in securing stability in multination states and therefore did not earn the point.

In part (d) the response does not discuss policies that governments have taken to address the challenge described in part (c) and therefore did not earn either of 2 points.