

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

## 2013 SCORING GUIDELINES

### Question 7

**8 points**

**Part (a): 1 point**

**One point** is earned for the correct definition of a hybrid regime.

An acceptable definition is:

A hybrid regime has elements of both democracy and authoritarianism.

Note: Definitions that identify hybrid regimes as illiberal or transitional regimes are not sufficient. Definitions that refer only to deficiencies in democratic institutions and processes are not sufficient. Definitions need to reflect both authoritarian and democratic elements.

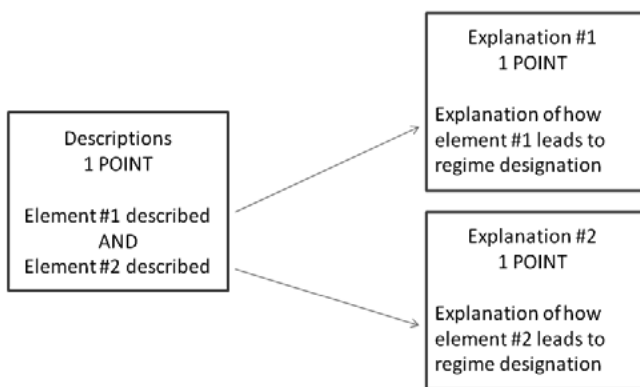
**Part (b): 1 point**

**One point** is earned for correctly identifying Russia as a **hybrid regime** AND China as an **authoritarian regime**.

**Part (c): 3 points**

**One point** is earned for descriptions of characteristics of TWO of the elements of Russia's political system.

**One point** is earned for each correct explanation (for a total of **2 points**) of how TWO of the following characteristics contribute to the regime designation in Russia.



Note: Description and explanation must be linked.

Note: The examples below are not exhaustive; they are meant to illustrate the need for responses to reflect both authoritarianism and democratic elements.

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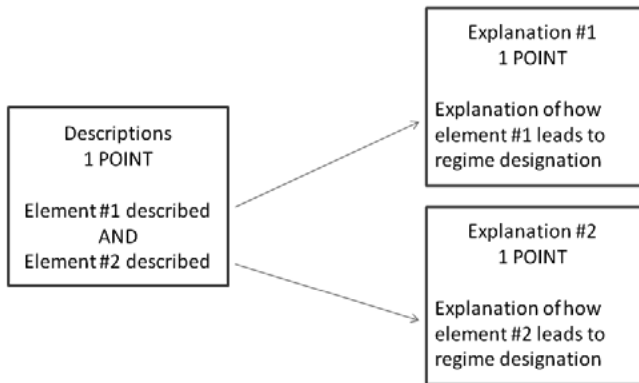
### Question 7 (continued)

<i>Element</i>	<i>Acceptable descriptions include ...</i>	<i>Acceptable explanations include ...</i>
<i>Electoral</i>	Multiparty elections →	BUT some parties are excluded from electoral process
<i>Competition</i>	Some parties excluded →	BUT elections include parties other than United Russia
<i>Civil</i>	NGOs, mass protests allowed →	BUT they are restricted, leaders sometimes arrested
<i>Society</i>	Restrictions on NGOs, protests →	BUT some NGOs and mass protests are allowed
<i>Media</i>	Small market media mostly free →	BUT large market media government-owned, controlled
	Large market media government-owned, controlled →	BUT small market media mostly free

### Part (d): 3 points

**One point** is earned for descriptions of characteristics of TWO of the elements of China's political system.

**One point** is earned for each correct explanation (for a total of **2 points**) of how TWO of the following characteristics contribute to the regime designation in China.



Note: Description and explanation must be linked.

Note: Response must highlight authoritarian elements, albeit limited democratic elements are possible.

Note: The examples below are not exhaustive; they are meant to illustrate the need for responses to connect the description of elements of the political system in China to a central authority.

<i>Element</i>	<i>Acceptable descriptions include...</i>	<i>Acceptable explanations include...</i>
<i>Electoral Competition</i>	Real electoral competition is not allowed ...	BY the state and/or the Communist Party
<i>Civil Society</i>	There is widespread persecution of activists ...	BY the government
<i>Media</i>	Media are widely censored	BY the leadership/party elites

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

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

A hybrid regime is a regime that is not entirely democratic but not completely authoritarian either. It has features of both but tends to lean more towards an authoritarian regime.

The map identifies Russia as ~~being~~ having a hybrid regime while China has a authoritarian regime.

Russia can be identified as ~~being~~ having a hybrid regime because of their attitude towards civil society and electoral competition. Civil society is allowed in Russia, which is characteristic of a democracy. However, civil society in Russia is heavily monitored and has heavy restrictions. This characterizes the state as being more authoritarian. There is some ~~amount~~ amount of electoral competition in Russia, a democratic feature. But this can be outweighed by the fact that Russia's elections have been subject to ballot stuffing and election fraud in the past.

China can be viewed as having a authoritarian regime because of its electoral competition and media. Electoral competition in China is near non-existent. Voting for officials ~~on~~ occurs only on

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the local level for citizens. And even then the candidates they are choosing from have been chosen by the only party in the government. The Communist Party has complete control of the government so that there is no competition from any other groups. This one-party-system leaves a small group of political elites to lead the country and hold policy-making power. This is a characteristic of an authoritarian regime. Additionally, China's media is not entirely free. The biggest media outlets are state-owned, like the media station Xinhua. Internet usage and press are for the most part heavily regulated. A notable feature of authoritarian regimes.

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## ADDITIONAL ANSWER PAGE FOR QUESTION 7.

a) A hybrid regime is a political regime which incorporates aspects of both a democratic and an authoritarian regime.

b) Russia has a hybrid regime, and China has an authoritarian regime.

c) In Russia there is electoral competition in the presidential elections, and therefore, Russia incorporates aspects of a democracy. In contrast, however, the government of Russia still exerts influence and control over the media, which is an aspect of an authoritarian regime. These two contrasting characteristics contribute to the regime designation of Russia.

d) China has one sole political party, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), therefore there is no electoral competition; this is a characteristic of an authoritarian regime. Furthermore, the CCP exerts massive control over the media which is another aspect of an authoritarian regime. These characteristics contribute to the regime classification of China.

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## ADDITIONAL ANSWER PAGE FOR QUESTION 7.

7. A hybrid regime is when a country's regime isn't fully authoritarian and they have democratic traits. Russia is a hybrid regime, while China is authoritarian. Russia's electoral system designed like the United States, yet they have proportional representation. Their media is strict because the president who is the head of state controls the media. For example the radio stations are controlled by him. It's a hybrid regime because of the major control the president has, yet it's a federal system.

In China there is proportional representation and the president dictates everything. Media isn't allowed in the country, only media that informs the people about China. They aren't allowed to have outside sources or information about other countries. It's also to the point where officials will kill others if they protest, like the incident in Tiananmen Square.

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

## 2013 SCORING COMMENTARY

### Question 7

#### Overview

The intent of this question was for students to examine the concept of hybrid regimes, to identify two different countries' regime types using map data, and to consider how the characteristics of two different elements of each of those countries' political systems contribute to their regime-type designations. The map prompt tested information literacy: the ability to interpret data displayed in maps correctly. The other skills tested were conceptual, descriptive, and analytical: to define hybrid regimes, to describe two elements of two particular political systems, and to explain how regime-type designations are a result of the characteristics of these elements. The students had eight tasks: to define hybrid regimes; to use data in cartographic form to identify Russia and China's regime designations; to describe characteristics of two different elements of Russia's political system; to explain how each of these elements lead to Russia's regime designations; to describe characteristics of two different elements of China's political system; and to explain how each of these elements lead to China's regime designations.

#### Sample: 7A

##### Score: 8

The response earned 1 point for correctly defining a hybrid regime as “a regime that is not entirely democratic but not completely authoritarian either. It has features of both”.

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying Russia as a hybrid regime and China as an authoritarian regime.

The response earned 1 point for correctly describing characteristics of two elements of Russia's political system: “Civil society is allowed in Russia” and “there is some amount of electoral competition in Russia”.

The response earned 2 points for correctly explaining how the characteristics of two elements of Russia's political system lead to its designation as a hybrid regime. First, the response correctly explains, “civil society is allowed ... However, civil society in Russia is heavily monitored [*sic*] and has heavy restrictions”. Second, the response correctly explains, “There is some amount of electoral competition ... But this can be outweighed by the fact that Russia's elections have been subject to ballot stuffing an [*sic*] electoral fraud”.

The response earned 1 point for correctly describing characteristics of two elements of China's political system: “Electoral competition in China is near non-existent” and “China's media is not entirely free.”

The response earned 2 points for correctly explaining how the characteristics of two elements of China's political system lead to its designation as an authoritarian regime. First, the response explains, “the candidates they are choosing from have been chosen by the only party in the government.” Second, the response explains, “The biggest media outlets are state-owned”.

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## 2013 SCORING COMMENTARY

### Question 7 (continued)

#### **Sample: 7B**

**Score: 5**

The response earned 1 point for correctly defining a hybrid regime as one that “incorporates aspects of both a democratic, and an authoritarian regime.”

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying Russia as a hybrid regime and China as an authoritarian regime.

The response earned 1 point for correctly describing characteristics of two elements of Russia’s political system: “In Russia there is electoral competition in the presidential elections” and “the government of Russia still exerts influence and control over the media”.

The response did not earn a point for explaining how the characteristics of the electoral system in Russia’s political system lead to its designation as a hybrid regime. The response also did not earn a point for correctly explaining how the characteristics of the media in Russia’s political system lead to its designation as a hybrid regime.

The response earned 1 point for describing characteristics of two elements of China’s political system: “there is no electoral competition” and “massive control over the media”.

The response earned 1 point for correctly explaining how the characteristics of the media in China’s political system lead to its designation as an authoritarian regime: “the CCP exerts massive control over the media”. The response did not earn a point for correctly explaining how the characteristics of the electoral system in China’s political system lead to its designation as an authoritarian regime.

#### **Sample: 7C**

**Score: 2**

The response earned 1 point for correctly defining a hybrid regime as “when a country’s regime isn’t fully authoritarian and they have democratic traits.”

The response earned 1 point for correctly identifying Russia as a hybrid regime and China as an authoritarian regime.

The response did not earn a point for describing characteristics of two elements of Russia’s political system.

The response did not earn a point for explaining how the characteristics of the electoral system in Russia’s political system lead to its designation as a hybrid regime. The response also did not earn a point for correctly explaining how the characteristics of the media in Russia’s political system lead to its designation as a hybrid regime.

The response did not earn a point for describing characteristics of two elements of China’s political system.

The response did not earn a point for explaining how the characteristics of the electoral system in China’s political system lead to its designation as an authoritarian regime. The response also did not earn a point for correctly explaining how the characteristics of the media in China’s political system lead to its designation as an authoritarian regime.