

**AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2016 SCORING GUIDELINES**

Question 5

3 points

One point is earned for a correct description of the executive term limit rule in Mexico.

An acceptable description is:

Mexico has a one term limit (six-year term).

One point is earned for a correct description of the executive term limit rule in Nigeria.

An acceptable description is:

Nigeria allows for reelection of the executive (for a maximum of two four-year terms).

NOTE: The important thing is the limited number of terms, not the exact number of years.

One point is earned for a correct explanation of why many countries emerging from authoritarian rule utilize term limits.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- To prevent accumulation of power by a single leader
- To prevent continued domination by a single leader
- To respond to a history of abuse of power or personalistic rule
- To introduce new leadership or new policy ideas
- To limit opportunities for corruption

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.

5. Describe the executive term limit rule in Mexico. Describe the executive term limit rule in Nigeria. Explain why many countries emerging from authoritarian rule use executive term limits.

In Mexico the term for a president is known as a sexenio. ~~These~~ Mexican presidents may only serve 1 6 year term. In Nigeria presidents may serve up to two four year terms, much like in the United States. Many countries emerging from authoritarian rule use executive term limits to prevent another dictator or authoritarian ruler to take over the country. By establishing term limits, there is a limited amount of time the person can rule, they cannot just take over and stay in power. Countries coming from authoritarian rule experienced harsh, bad conditions under authoritarian rulers who may have been in power for decades, so term limits prevent a repeat of this from occurring.

5. Describe the executive term limit rule in Mexico. Describe the executive term limit rule in Nigeria. Explain why many countries emerging from authoritarian rule use executive term limits.

In ~~the~~ Mexico, the President is only allowed one 6 year term. In Nigeria, there is one 5 year term limit. Many countries emerging from authoritarian rule use executive term limits in order to ensure that no one will ever hold power for too long, gain too much power, and return back to an authoritarian regime.

5. Describe the executive term limit rule in Mexico. Describe the executive term limit rule in Nigeria. Explain why many countries emerging from authoritarian rule use executive term limits.

The ~~Mexican~~ term limits for presidents in Mexico ~~to not use~~ utilizes the sexaño system. A president serves for six years. Nigeria, the president can not serve more than ~~two~~ terms. Countries emerging from authoritarian rule utilize this executive term limit to ensure characteristics of the authoritarian regimes do not occur again.

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2016 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 5

Overview

The intent of this question was to assess students' knowledge of executive term limits. The skills tested were descriptive and analytical: to describe and explain. Students had three specific tasks: to describe the executive term limit rule in Mexico and the executive term limit rule in Nigeria (two tasks) and to explain why many former authoritarian countries adopt executive term limits.

Sample: 5A

Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for correctly describing the executive term limit rule in Mexico by stating that "Mexican presidents may only serve 1 6 year term." The response earned 1 point for correctly describing the executive term limit rule in Nigeria by indicating that "in Nigeria presidents may serve up to two four year terms." The response earned 1 point for correctly explaining why many countries emerging from authoritarian rule use executive term limits by stating that "countries coming from authoritarian rule experienced harsh, bad conditions under authoritarian rulers who may have been in power for decades, so term limits prevent a repeat of this from occurring."

Sample: 5B

Score: 2

The response earned 1 point for correctly describing the executive term limit rule in Mexico by stating, "In Mexico, the President is only allowed one 6 year term." The response does not correctly describe the executive term limit in Nigeria. The response earned 1 point for correctly explaining why many countries emerging from authoritarian rule use executive term limits: "to ensure that no one will ever hold power for too long, gain too much power, and return back to an authoritarian regime."

Sample: 5C

Score: 1

The response did not earn a point for describing the executive limit in Mexico. The response earned 1 point for correctly describing the executive term limit rule in Nigeria by stating that "the president can not [sic] serve more than two terms." The response does not correctly explain why many countries emerging from authoritarian rule use executive term limits.