
AP[®] Comparative Government and Politics

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary Set 2

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Free Response Question 5

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AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2019 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 5

3 points

One point is earned for a correct description of how the economic ideology of the Chinese Communist Power (CCP) has changed since Deng Xiaoping held power.

Acceptable descriptions may include:

- Expanding the socialist market economy
- Expanding the privatization of state-owned enterprises
- Expanding foreign direct investment
- Allowing capitalists to join the CCP
- Incorporating legal protection of private property
- Balancing economic development
- Developing a harmonious socialist society
- Recognizing the “Chinese Dream”
- Expanding global international influence
- Focusing on the need for environmental protection

One point is earned for EACH correct explanation of why the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- To maximize economic growth
- To reduce income inequality or poverty
- To balance economic development
- To deal with a slowing economy
- To deal with pollution or energy shortages
- To ensure legitimacy of the CCP
- To exercise greater international influence
- To reduce social unrest
- To allow new CCP leaders to leave a legacy

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

A score of (—) is earned for a blank.

- 5A
5. Describe how the economic ideology of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has changed since the time Deng Xiaoping held power. Explain two reasons why the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years.

When Deng Xiaoping was in power of the CCP, he started to implement some neoliberal reforms in order to stabilize the economy from the aftereffects of Mao Zedong's rule. However, he still remained fairly socialist and only used some market policy for stabilization. Currently, the CCP has become interactive with foreign powers for economy and are turning towards an import-based economy. ~~One reason why the CCP changed ideology is because~~ Overall, it is currently leaning towards capitalist reforms on the economy. One reason why ideology changed is because China has engaged in globalization by joining the World Trade Organization and planning the Belt and Road Initiative which makes ~~its~~ its economy more connected with other countries. In order for this, its economy must be liberalized. Another factor contributing to this is that the cost of production in China is rising, ~~and~~ so being an export economy may not be beneficial to them. By becoming more market based, they may be able to trade and help their economy grow.

5. Describe how the economic ideology of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has changed since the time Deng Xiaoping held power. Explain two reasons why the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years.

5. The economic ideology has changed from being completely communist with no private ownership and being a command economy but after Deng Xiaoping, the economy has liberalized and has implemented more open market practices. One reason why the ideology changed was because before the change there was a huge amount of income inequality and many people living in poverty and switching lifted many of them out of poverty. Another reason is that before the change, China's economy was not growing and switching kickstarted economic growth.

5. Describe how the economic ideology of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has changed since the time Deng Xiaoping held power. Explain two reasons why the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years.

The Chinese Communist Party used to ~~have~~ have a state driven economy. Since then, China has used neo-liberal reforms to ~~privatize~~ privatize, deregulate, and grow their economy. China did this in order to grow their economy which wasn't doing too well previously and create more jobs as they were industrializing. When they industrialized, they wanted a competitive market and foreign investments to be successful.

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2019 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 5

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Overview

The intent of this question was to assess students' understanding of how and why the economic ideology of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has changed during the last 30 years. The skills tested were conceptual and analytical. Students had three specific tasks: to describe how the economic ideology of the CCP has changed since the time Deng Xiaoping held power and to explain two reasons why the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years.

Sample: 5A

Score: 3

The response earned 1 point for describing that the economic ideology of the CCP has changed since the time of Deng Xiaoping as “he started to implement some neoliberal reforms. Currently, the CCP has become interactive with foreign powers for economy and are turning towards an import-based economy.” The response demonstrates an understanding that Deng introduced the concept of economic liberalization, and the CCP has continued to expand the market socialist economy. Additional acceptable responses include that the CCP has changed its economic ideology to focus on building a harmonious society or on balancing economic development.

The response earned 1 point for explaining that the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years “because China has engaged in globalization by joining the World Trade Organization and planning the Belt and Road Initiative which makes its economy more connected with other countries.” The response demonstrates an understanding that the CCP has changed its economic ideology to exercise greater international influence. Additional acceptable responses include that the CCP changed its economic ideology in order to deal with a slowing economy or with problems caused by pollution.

The response earned 1 point for explaining that the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years: “By becoming more market based, they may be able to trade and help their economy grow.” The response demonstrates an understanding that the CCP has changed its economic ideology to maximize economic growth. Additional acceptable responses could have focused on the CCP changing its economic ideology in order to ensure its own legitimacy or to reduce social unrest.

Sample: 5B

Score: 2

The response did not earn a point for describing how the economic ideology of the CCP has changed since the time Deng Xiaoping held power. The statement “[t]he economic ideology has changed from being completely communist with no private ownership and being a command economy but after Deng Xiaoping, the economy has liberalized” does not acknowledge that economic liberalization began under Deng. An acceptable description would be that the CCP changed its economic ideology in order to balance economic development or to expand global international influence.

The response earned 1 point for explaining that the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years because “there was a huge amount of income inequality and many people living in poverty and switching lifted many of them out of poverty.” The response demonstrates an understanding that the CCP has changed its economic ideology to reduce income inequality. Additional acceptable responses include that the CCP changed its economic ideology in order to deal with a slowing economy or with problems caused by pollution.

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2019 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 5 (continued)

The response earned 1 point for explaining that the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years because “China’s economy was not growing and switching kickstarted economic growth.” The response demonstrates an understanding that the CCP has changed its economic ideology to maximize economic growth. Additional acceptable responses include that the CCP changed its economic ideology in order to ensure its own legitimacy or to reduce social unrest.

Sample: 5C

Score: 1

The response did not earn a point for describing how the economic ideology of the CCP has changed since the time Deng Xiaoping held power. The statement that the “Chinese Communist Party used to have a state driven economy” does not acknowledge that economic liberalization began under Deng. An acceptable description would be that the CCP changed its economic ideology in order to expand the socialist market economy or to expand global international influence.

The response earned 1 point for explaining that the CCP has changed its economic ideology over the past 30 years because “China did this in order to grow their economy.” The response demonstrates an understanding that the CCP has changed its economic ideology to maximize economic growth. Additional acceptable responses include that the CCP changed its economic ideology in order to deal with a slowing economy or with problems caused by pollution.

The response did not earn a point for explaining why the economic ideology of the CCP has changed over the past 30 years. The statement that “they wanted a competitive market and foreign investments to be successful” is another explanation of the goal of the CCP to maximize economic growth. An acceptable response would explain that the CCP changed its economic ideology in order to ensure its legitimacy or to deal with poverty.