

PART III

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

This question is based on the accompanying documents. It is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Some of these documents have been edited for the purposes of this question. As you analyze the documents, take into account the source of each document and any point of view that may be presented in the document.

Historical Context:

Throughout history, different systems of governmental decision making and different roles of citizens in the decision-making process have developed. Two of these systems are **absolute control** and **democratic rule**.

Task: Using information from the documents and your knowledge of global history and geography, answer the questions that follow each document in Part A. Your answers to the questions will help you write the Part B essay in which you will be asked to

- Describe two characteristics of a government under absolute control *and* two characteristics of a government under democratic rule.
- Analyze the role of citizens in the decision-making process of a government under absolute control *and* the role of citizens in the decision-making process of a government under democratic rule.

In developing your answer to Part III, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

- (a) **describe** means “to illustrate something in words or tell about it”
- (b) **analyze** means “to determine the nature and relationship of the component elements”

Part A

Short-Answer Questions

Directions: Analyze the documents and answer the short-answer questions that follow each document in the space provided.

Document 1

Pericles' "Funeral Oration," Athens, 5th century BC

...Our form of government does not enter into rivalry with the institutions of others. We do not copy our neighbours, but are an example to them. It is true that we are called a democracy, for the administration is in the hands of the many and not of the few. But while the law secures equal justice to all alike in their private disputes, the claim of excellence is also recognized; and when a citizen is in any way distinguished, he is preferred to the public service, not as a matter of privilege, but as the reward of merit. Neither is poverty a bar, but a man may benefit his country whatever be the obscurity of his condition. There is no exclusiveness in our public life, and in our private intercourse [communication] we are not suspicious of one another, nor angry with our neighbour if he does what he likes; we do not put on sour looks at him which, though harmless, are not pleasant. While we are thus unconstrained in our private intercourse, a spirit of reverence [respect] pervades our public acts; we are prevented from doing wrong by respect to those which are ordained for the protection of the injured as well as to those unwritten laws which bring upon the transgressor [violation] of them the reprobation [disapproval] of the general sentiment....

Source: Benjamin Jowett, trans., *The History of Thucydides*, Book II, Tandy-Thomas

1 According to Pericles, what are *two* characteristics of a democracy? [2]

(1) _____

(2) _____

Score

Document 2

In the *absolutist* state, sovereignty is embodied in the person of the ruler. Absolute kings claimed to rule by divine right, meaning they were responsible to God alone. (Medieval kings governed “by the grace of God,” but invariably they acknowledged that they had to respect and obey the law.) Absolute monarchs in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries had to respect the fundamental laws of the land, though they claimed to rule by divine right.

Absolute rulers tried to control competing jurisdictions [powers], institutions, or interest groups in their territories. They regulated religious sects. They abolished the liberties long held by certain areas, groups, or provinces. Absolute kings also secured the cooperation of the one class that historically had posed the greatest threat to monarchy, the nobility. Medieval governments, restrained by the church, the feudal nobility, and their own financial limitations, had been able to exert none of these controls....

Source: John P. McKay, et al., *A History of Western Society (5th edition), Volume II From Absolutism to the Present*, Houghton Mifflin Company

2 According to the authors of *A History of Western Society*, what are *two* characteristics of a government under absolute control? [2]

(1) _____

(2) _____

Score

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Document 3

The English Bill of Rights is a result of the ongoing struggle for governmental control between the British Crown and the British Parliament.

The English Bill of Rights, 1689

That the pretended power of dispensing with laws or the execution of laws by regal authority, as it hath been assumed and exercised of late, is illegal;...

That levying money for or to the use of the Crown by pretence [false] of prerogative [right], without grant of Parliament, for longer time, or in other manner than the same is or shall be granted, is illegal;

That it is the right of the subjects to petition the king, and all commitments and prosecutions for such petitioning are illegal;

That election of members of Parliament ought to be free;...

And that for redress [correction] of all grievances, and for the amending, strengthening and preserving of the laws, Parliaments ought to be held frequently.....

Source: www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/england.htm

3a According to the English Bill of Rights, what is **one** characteristic of democratic rule? [1]

Score

b How does the English Bill of Rights change the role of citizens in England? [1]

Score

Document 4

This illustration depicts the government of France from the mid-1600s to the early 1700s.



Source: Henry Abraham and Irwin Pfeffer, *Enjoying World History*, Amsco Publications

4 According to the cartoon, what is *one* characteristic of absolute control? [1]

Score

Document 5

“The Fascist Decalogue” was written in 1934 to describe the goals of Fascism.

1. Know that the Fascist, and in particular the soldier, must not believe in perpetual peace.
2. Days of imprisonment are always deserved.
3. The nation serves even as a sentinel [guard] over a can of petrol [gasoline].
4. A companion must be a brother, first, because he lives with you, and secondly because he thinks like you.
5. The rifle and cartridge belt, and the rest, are confided to you not to rust in leisure, but to be preserved in war.
6. Do not ever say, “The Government will pay...” because it is *you* who pay; and the Government is that which you willed to have, and for which you put on a uniform.
7. Discipline is the soul of armies; without it there are no soldiers, only confusion and defeat.
8. Mussolini is always right.
9. For a volunteer there are no extenuating circumstances when he is disobedient.
10. One thing must be dear to your above all: the life of the Duce [Mussolini]....

Source: Michael Oakeshott, ed., *The Social and Political Doctrines of Contemporary Europe* (American Edition), Cambridge University Press

- 5 Based on “The Fascist Decalogue,” state *one* role of citizens under the government described in this document. [1]

Score

Document 6

The Japanese Constitution of 1947

Article 12:

The freedoms and rights guaranteed to the people by this Constitution shall be maintained by the constant endeavor of the people, who shall refrain from any abuse of these freedoms and rights and shall always be responsible for utilizing them for the public welfare.

Article 13:

All of the people shall be respected as individuals. Their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness shall, to the extent that it does not interfere with the public welfare, be the supreme consideration in legislation and in other governmental affairs....

Article 15:

The people have the inalienable right to choose their public officials and to dismiss them.
2) All public officials are servants of the whole community and not of any group thereof.
3) Universal adult suffrage is guaranteed with regard to the election of public officials.
4) In all elections, secrecy of the ballot shall not be violated. A voter shall not be answerable, publicly or privately, for the choice he has made....

Source: www.solon.org/Constitutions/Japan/English/english-Constitution.html

6a Based on the Japanese Constitution of 1947, state *one* characteristic of a government under democratic rule. [1]

Score

b According to the Japanese Constitution of 1947, what is *one* role that citizens have in the new Japanese government? [1]

Score

Document 7

...We are both humbled and elevated by the honour and privilege that you, the people of South Africa, have bestowed on us, as the first President of a united, democratic, non-racial and non-sexist government.

We understand it is still that there is no easy road to freedom

We know it well that none of us acting alone can achieve success.

We must therefore act together as a united people, for national reconciliation, for nation building, for the birth of a new world.

Let there be justice for all.

Let there be peace for all.

Let there be work, bread, water and salt for all.

Let each know that for each the body, the mind and the soul have been freed to fulfill themselves....

Source: Nelson Mandela, Inaugural Address, May 10, 1994

7 According to Nelson Mandela, what is *one* characteristic of democratic rule? [1]

Score

Document 8

...The Cultural Revolution was probably the most destructive social upheaval modern China has endured. My wife and I were arrested by the newly formed security forces and thrown into prison as suspected spies of this or that foreign power. Our home was broken up. My 16-year-old daughter was sent to the grasslands of Inner Mongolia, while my son, barely eight years old, had to be left behind with my mother, who lived on a meager pension. Our home was ransacked three times by Red Guards claiming to be from different factions. There was, however, one thing I was grateful for. The time I spent in prison taught me more about China's true state of affairs than I have learned during the rest of my life....

Source: Ying Ruocheng, "China's Wild Ride", *Time*, September 27, 1999

8 According to the document, what is *one* characteristic of absolute control? [1]

Score

Part B

Essay

Directions:

Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs, and a conclusion. Use evidence from *at least five* documents in your essay. Support your response with relevant facts, examples, and details. Include additional outside information.

Historical Context:

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Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to:

- Develop all aspects of the task
- Incorporate information from *at least five* documents
- Incorporate relevant outside information
- Support the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Use a logical and clear plan of organization, including an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme