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Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

2B

One of the major characteristics of a corporatist system that defines it from a pluralist system is the role that business plays. In a corporatist system, the government actively bargains with labor and industry in an effort to enact legislation, while in a pluralist system, legislation is passed without consulting or complying with the demands of the country's industries.

Another defining characteristic is that in a corporatist system of government, there are usually only one or two major political parties. This contrasts directly with a pluralist system, which, by definition, is comprised of a wide array of factions and interests, so that absolute rule by a single political party is nearly impossible.

AP[®] COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS 2006 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 2

Overview

The intent of this question was to test students' knowledge and understanding of corporatism and to examine their ability to distinguish it from pluralism.

Sample: 2A

Score: 2

This response correctly identifies two defining characteristics of corporatist systems that distinguish them from pluralist systems: the relevant interest groups involved in a corporatist system are labor, business, and government (1 point), and a few high-ranking officials represent each group (1 point).

Sample: 2B

Score: 1

This response correctly identifies labor and industry bargaining with government as a defining characteristic of corporatist systems that makes them distinct from pluralist systems (1 point). The response incorrectly identifies the number of political parties in corporatist systems as a second defining characteristic and therefore did not earn the second point.

Sample: 2C

Score: 0

This response incorrectly identifies patron–client relations as a defining characteristic of corporatist systems. While state *recognition* of interest groups is a characteristic of corporatist systems, state *control* of interest groups is not. Because no correct information is presented, the response earned no points.