

**AP[®] UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2006 SCORING GUIDELINES**

Question 4

6 points

Part (a): 2 points

One point is earned for each of two reasons discussed.

Acceptable reasons for discussion may include:

- Compromise at Constitutional Convention (representation of large vs. small population states).
- Compromise among competing interests/protect minority interests.
- Slow the process.
- Different types of representation/federalism.
- An intrabranched check/prevent majority tyranny.

Part (b): 2 points

One point is earned for a correct identification of a power unique to the House of Representatives, and 1 point is earned for a correct explanation that is linked to the character of the House of Representatives.

Acceptable identifications may include:

- Initiate revenue bills.
- Choose the President when the electoral college is deadlocked.
- Impeachment.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- Closer to the people.
- More representative of and responsive to the public/direct election to two-year terms.

Part (c): 2 points

One point is earned for a correct identification of a power unique to the Senate, and 1 point is earned for a correct explanation that is linked to the character of the Senate.

Acceptable identifications may include:

- Treaty ratification.
- Confirmation of judicial and executive appointments.
- Try impeachments/conviction/removal from office.

Acceptable explanations may include:

- More mature/“august” body.
- More insulated from public opinion/indirectly elected (originally).
- Longer and/or staggered terms.
- Reflects state interests.

Note: The unique power must be one that is included in the Constitution (e.g., “filibuster” does not get credit because it is a Senate rule, not a constitutional power).

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Question 4 (continued)

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

A score of dash (—) is earned for a blank or off-task answer.

4.

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

4A,

(4) (a) • The reason that the Framers created a bi-cameral Legislature was because of dissenting opinions on either side about a uni-cameral Legislature. Larger states wanted representation based on population - so as to wield more power. Smaller states wished to have equal representation for every state - so as not to be subject ~~to~~ to the tyranny of the majority. To resolve this difference, the Framers created one of each - the House of Representatives, which was based upon upon population; and the Senate, with 2 representatives from each state.

• Another reason that the Framers created a bi-cameral Legislature, was to slow the legislative process itself. This was a measure to make sure that any law that was to be enacted would be exhaustively deliberated - so as to not have the Legislature be subject and susceptible to the wild swings of public opinion. It was a safe guard against the tyranny of the masses.

B. one power that is unique to the house of representatives is the ability to introduce fiscal pieces of legislation. This was given to the House because the house's representatives are based on population. A part of the newly

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

4.

4A2

clichéd rhetoric of the revolution was "No taxation without representation" and to do otherwise would be hypocritical.

c. a power that was given to the Senate by the Framers was the ability to confirm the president's nomination for a Supreme Court justice. the reasoning that followed would be that the Supreme Court has equal influence over all the states, regardless of size or population, and it would be imperative for the states to have equal representation in that case.

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

4

4B

I am working on Question #4 before #3.

Thank You! :)

A) These Framers liked both the New Jersey Plan and the Virginia Plan, so they combined them into the Connecticut Compromise. This created the bicameral legislature.

Some agree that Congress ^{representation} should be based on population, while other disagreed and said it should be equal. So, then came the ~~House~~ House of Representatives & ~~Congress~~ Senate

↓ (population)	↓ (equal)
↓ minimum of 2 per state	↓ 2 per state

B) The House of Representatives has the power to impeach the president.

C) The Senate has the power to take the President to trial and actually remove him.

a.) The framers created a bicameral legislature because:

1) it ensures that a sole branch of legislatures control all the decisions made.

2) it enables them to have a check and balance system.

b.) One power that is unique to the House of Representatives is that bills relating to apportionment must originate in the House. The reason the power to originate all bills relating to money was given to the House is because there are more members in the House than there are in the Senate. In order for a bill to pass through the house more people have to vote in favor of it, therefore more members must agree that a certain spending is ~~warranted~~ worth it.

c.) One unique power that is given to the Senate is they are allowed to use a filibuster. A filibuster allows members to speak for as long as needed to postpone a vote on a certain bill. The framers gave the Senate this power because there are less of them and it a smaller meeting setting. Since their are fewer of them, they are less likely to have a long list of items that must be brought about.

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2006 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 4

Overview

The intent of this question was to gauge student understanding of the theoretical arguments and rationales for the bicameral structure of the United States Congress and to examine their knowledge of the distinctive powers granted to each chamber.

Sample: 4A

Score: 6

In part (a) the response earned 1 point for stating that the two houses of Congress were created to prevent “tyranny of the majority.” The second point was earned for stating that the reason the framers created a bicameral legislature “was to slow the legislative process itself” and to make sure the process is “exhaustively deliberated.”

In part (b) the response earned 1 point for stating that the House of Representatives has the unique power “to introduce fiscal pieces of legislation.” A second point was earned for explaining that the reason the framers gave this power to the House is that its “representatives are based on population.”

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for stating that the Senate has the unique power to confirm United States Supreme Court nominees. The second point was earned for the explanation that the Senate was given this power because it represents the states equally.

Sample: 4B

Score: 3

In part (a) the response earned 1 point for discussing one of the framers’ reasons for creating a bicameral legislature: to settle the dispute over the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan. The Great Compromise entailed a House of Representatives based upon population and a Senate based on equal representation of the states. The response does not attempt to discuss a second reason and therefore did not earn the second point.

In part (b) the response earned 1 point for identifying one power unique to the House of Representatives: it can impeach the president. The response offers no explanation and therefore did not earn the second point.

In part (c) the response earned 1 point by identifying one power unique to the Senate: the power to try an impeachment and remove a president from office. The response offers no explanation and therefore did not earn the second point.

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Question 4 (continued)

Sample: 4C

Score: 1

In part (a) the response discusses checks and balances but it does not provide a correct discussion of why the framers created a bicameral legislature and therefore earned no points.

In part (b) the response earned 1 identification point for stating that the House of Representatives has “the power to originate [*sic*] all bills relating to money.” The response does not provide a correct explanation of why this power was given specifically to the House and therefore did not earn the second point.

In part (c) the response does not correctly identify a constitutional power unique to the Senate and therefore did not earn the identification point. Since the response does not correctly identify a unique power, it did not earn the explanation point.