

**AP[®] UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2008 SCORING GUIDELINES**

Question 4

5 points

Part (a): 2 points

One point is earned for each of two explanations of measures taken by some states that affected voter turnout among African American citizens. Acceptable explanations are:

- Literacy tests
- Poll taxes
- Grandfather clauses
- Dilution of voting strength through redistricting
- White primaries
- Election procedures (notification, access)

Part (b): 2 points

One point is earned for each of two descriptions of alternative forms of participation. Acceptable descriptions are:

- Demonstrations/protests/public rallies/civil disobedience
- Organized interest-group activity (e.g., NAACP)
- Courts/litigation
- Boycotts
- Election activities other than voting (campaigning, donating)

Part (c): 1 point

One point is earned for a correct explanation of why an alternative form of participation was effective in changing civil rights policies based on the response in (b).

The response must *explain how or why* policy outputs or outcomes result from participation, including the following three elements:

- Participation
- Linkage mechanism
- Policy output or outcome

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.

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

4 US

4A1

A) States before the 1960's, specifically those in the South, used many techniques to either dissuade or exclude African Americans from coming to the polls even after the 15th amendment explicitly granted them that right. Amongst these techniques of disenfranchisement ~~were~~ ~~and~~ were the poll tax and the grandfather clause. The poll tax took advantage of the fact that many poor African American sharecroppers could not afford to pay at the polls while the white plantation owners could. Furthermore, the grandfather clause stated that only those who had grandfathers that voted could vote themselves (obviously excluding African Americans from participating)

B) While the ordinary ~~and~~ means of voting and participation were not always available to African Americans, some other legal and illegal variations of speech such as civil disobedience and boycotts and sit-ins were used very effectively to bring about a new era of political equality. Civil Disobedience was based in the concept that one should break unjust laws in the search for justice, while accepting all punishments. ~~Techniques~~ Other techniques that used legal methods of protest such as Boycotts and powerful sit-ins were effective in their nonviolent power of bringing about awareness

→

4 US

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

4A2

c) Civil Disobedience was especially effective in that it did not force African Americans to work ^{for justice} within the very same system that was committing injustice. It gave a platform ~~to~~ to the litigation that shaped and validated the entire civil rights era, through virtue of ~~the~~ judicial review (allowing courts to hear case and deem law unconstitutional that was broken).

B

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

4 US

AB

A.) In order to deter African Americans from voting prior to the 60's, some states instituted a poll tax, which required that money be spent to vote. Most African Americans after Reconstruction were poor and so could not afford to vote. And, in order to offset the poor white men, some states also ~~used~~ used the grandfather clause, which stated that if your grandfather had voted before Reconstruction, you too could vote. This allowed the poor white men who couldn't afford the poll tax to vote, while successfully discriminating against African Americans.

B.) In order to ~~to~~ have some participation ~~in~~ in the United States, some African Americans enlisted in the Army. This allowed them to show their support for their country and persuade some lawmakers to join their cause.

Another form of political participation that African Americans partook in was civil disobedience. The infamous

4 us

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Café sit-ins and marches helped bring publicity and activism to the civil rights cause.

C.) Civil disobedience was the biggest source of political participation African Americans used in the fight for civil rights. The images in the South of African Americans being arrested for sit-ins or hosed down and attacked by dogs during marches helped bring sympathy for their predicament. Similarly African American activists' eloquent ~~speech~~ and moving speeches, like Martin Luther King Jr., helped garner respect for their cause.

G

4C

4 us

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a) 1. women's right to vote

- this affected voter turn out amongst African-Americans, because ^a ~~very~~ substantial amount of them were women.

2. Absentee Ballot

- a lot of African-Americans who didn't have access to cars could now vote w/out walking long distances.

b) 1. IG's (Interest groups) such as NAACP.

Mainly through litigation ~~and~~ grassroots lobbying, and mass mobilization.

2. PAC's (Political Action Committees)

they used PAC's as a means of supporting candidates that would bring change in civil rights policies.

c) 1. IG's such as NAACP is effective in bringing change to civil rights policy because it.

① supports court trials that will make a difference (such as ... *Brown v. Board*)

- through the verdict of the trials, change will be brought about. with new laws & policy.

② grassroots lobbying / mass mobilization

- through both of these similar but different ^{FACTS} ~~ISSUES~~ IG's build a great

C₂

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

4 US

4C₂

SUPPORT FROM people who are for changing public policy in the same way as the group (Af-Americans in this case) This support and knowledge provided will show in positive votes on ~~public~~ CIVIL RIGHTS policy.

-Also through such massive demonstrations the group has a possibility of getting media coverage. Having media coverage will make the issue more well known. Thus gathering more people to bring change to ~~the~~ CIVIL RIGHTS policy.

AP[®] UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

2008 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 4

Overview

The intent of the question was to show how voting rights of African Americans were abridged and how alternative political action overcame barriers to the attainment of civil rights. The question asked students to (a) explain how Southern states used legal methods to discourage African American participation in the electoral process; (b) describe two alternative modes through which the civil rights movement led organized efforts to affect policy change even though voting was an avenue closed to African Americans; and (c) explain how one of the alternative forms of participation resulted in policy change in the arena of civil rights.

Sample: 4A

Score: 5

In part (a) the student correctly explains, alluding to the poll tax, that “many poor African American sharecroppers could not afford to pay at the polls,” earning 1 point. The student correctly explains that the grandfather clause had the impact of “obviously excluding African Americans from participating,” earning 1 point.

In part (b) the student correctly states that African Americans used techniques such as civil disobedience “to bring about a new era of political equality,” earning 1 point, and that boycotts “were effective in their nonviolent power of bringing about awareness,” earning 1 point.

In part (c) the student correctly explains that civil disobedience (described in part [b]) “gave a platform to the litigation” that allowed courts to deem the laws that were broken civilly as “unconstitutional,” earning 1 point.

Sample: 4B

Score: 3

In part (a) the student correctly explains that the poll tax affected participation because “[m]ost African Americans after Reconstruction were poor and so could not afford to vote,” earning 1 point. The student then correctly explains that the grandfather clause worked against African Americans, earning 1 point.

In part (b) the student earned 1 point by correctly stating that civil disobedience acted to “bring publicity and activism to the civil rights cause.” The student failed to earn the second point with the argument that African Americans joined the army to participate in the political process.

In part (c) the student fails to explain why a mode of participation effectively led to a change in policy and therefore did not earn a point.

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Question 4 (continued)

Sample: 4C

Score: 2

In part (a) the student incorrectly discusses how the women's vote and absentee ballot affected African American voting turnout and therefore did not earn any points.

In part (b) the student correctly states that African Americans engaged in interest group activity, including "litigation," through organizations such as the NAACP, earning 1 point.

In part (c) the student correctly explains that the NAACP (described in part [b]) engaged in "court trials that will make a difference . . . change will be brought about with new laws & policy," earning 1 point.