

**AP[®] UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
2014 SCORING GUIDELINES**

Question 2

6 points

Part (a): 1 point

One point is earned for an accurate identification of how one of the following amendments affected the electorate:

- The Fifteenth Amendment gave African Americans the right to vote.
- The Nineteenth Amendment gave women the right to vote.
- The Twenty-Sixth Amendment gave citizens age 18 and over the right to vote.

Part (b): 2 points

One point is earned for each explanation of factors that affect voter turnout:

- Motor voter laws add more registered voters to the rolls, potentially changing voter turnout.
- Photo identification laws create a potential barrier for those without accepted forms of ID, changing voter turnout.

Part (c): 1 point

One point is earned for an accurate description of how one of the following affects the likelihood of a person voting in an election:

- Education
 - Education is positively correlated with voter turnout: The higher the education level of a person, the more likely he or she is to vote.
- Age
 - Age is positively correlated with voter turnout: The older a person is, the more likely he or she is to vote.

Part (d): 2 points

One point is earned for each accurate explanation of why voter turnout differs in the following:

- Presidential vs. midterm elections
 - Media coverage is greater in presidential elections.
 - Increased interest in and importance of national and presidential campaigns.
- Primary vs. general elections
 - Partisans and activists are more likely to vote in primaries.
 - Only party members may vote in closed primaries.
 - Many primary elections are noncompetitive.
 - Independents are less likely to participate in primary elections.
 - General elections simplify choices.
 - Media coverage is greater in general elections.
 - Increased interest in and importance of general elections.

A score of zero (0) is assigned to an answer that is off task or is attempted but earns no points.

A score of dash (—) is assigned to an answer that is blank.

2. Voter turnout is influenced by constitutional provisions, voting laws, and demographics.

(a) Identify the effect of one of the following amendments on the electorate.

- Fifteenth Amendment African Americans
- Nineteenth Amendment women suffrage
- Twenty-sixth Amendment

(b) Explain how each of the following factors may affect voter turnout.

- Motor voter laws register at license, republicans against it ^{more young people are voting}
- Photo identification laws

(c) Select one of the following demographic features and describe its relationship to the likelihood of a person voting in an election.

- Education
- Age

(d) Explain why voter turnout is different in each of the following.

- Presidential versus midterm elections
- Primary versus general elections

a) The fifteenth amendment effected the electorate. The fifteenth amendment gave African Americans the right to vote. This effected the electorate because now, because African American men could now vote it effected the outcome of the President. African Americans are more likely democratic so when they vote they are more likely to vote for the democratic candidate and because that effects who will be president.

1b) Motor voter laws affect voter turnout. The motor voter law allowed people to become a registered voter at the place they got their license. This increased voter turnout because it was an easier, easier way to register. It also increased the number of liberal people voting; republicans were against

this law because most younger people are democratic and more younger people were registering because they were getting their licenses.

2b) Photo identification laws affected voter turnout. Photo identification laws required you to show some sort of photo I.D. at the time of voting. This decreased voter turnout because people either didn't want to find their ID, but it also limited fraud, or voting twice.

c) Education effects the likelihood of someone voting in an election and their ideology. The higher amount of education you have the more likely you are to vote because you are more informed.

1d) Presidential elections have a higher voter turnout than midterm elections. This is because people are more informed with presidential elections than midterm elections because they are more broadcasted through media. Another reason people don't vote as much in midterm elections is because the election time and days is usually during a weekday when people are working.

2d) In primary elections voter turnout is lower than general. In a primary election you are voting for

Question 2 is reprinted for your convenience.

2A 3 & 3

2. Voter turnout is influenced by constitutional provisions, voting laws, and demographics.

(a) Identify the effect of one of the following amendments on the electorate.

- Fifteenth Amendment
- Nineteenth Amendment
- Twenty-sixth Amendment

(b) Explain how each of the following factors may affect voter turnout.

- Motor voter laws
- Photo identification laws

(c) Select one of the following demographic features and describe its relationship to the likelihood of a person voting in an election.

- Education
- Age

(d) Explain why voter turnout is different in each of the following.

- Presidential versus midterm elections
- Primary versus general elections

a candidate which less people care about. In a general election you are voting for the president which more people care about, because it affects their lifestyles more & less people go to primary's also because they are at specific times and days and general elections take place multiple days. Usually people with higher political efficacy go to primary's because they think they will have a high influence.

2. Voter turnout is influenced by constitutional provisions, voting laws, and demographics.

(a) Identify the effect of one of the following amendments on the electorate.

- Fifteenth Amendment
- Nineteenth Amendment
- Twenty-sixth Amendment

- race / prevents reading text

(b) Explain how each of the following factors may affect voter turnout.

- Motor voter laws
- Photo identification laws

(c) Select one of the following demographic features and describe its relationship to the likelihood of a person voting in an election.



(d) Explain why voter turnout is different in each of the following.

- Presidential versus midterm elections
- Primary versus general elections

A. ~~The Nineteenth Amendment~~ The 26th amendment is the amendment where a person can not be limited to vote based on their race, or ethnicity. This gave more rights to vote for African Americans. For examples, some African Americans were denied the right to vote, but after this amendment was passed it forced for people to let African Americans to vote.

B.1. Motor voter laws, which was that when you got a new veh. automobile, ~~was~~ a person was required to register to vote. This ~~decreased~~ law did not increase voter turnout however, and it was more irritating to people.

purchasing a vehicle.

B2. Photo identification laws decreased voter turnout because it forced people to bring ID to elections, however some did not want to put in the effort to get a photo ID just for voting, thus decreased the amount of voters. For example, say a person wanted to vote, but forget to renew his ID, he would lose interest in voting because he would have to go home first.

C. Education affects the likelihood of a person voting in an election. If a person is well educated, they tend to vote more often. If a person ~~is~~ has a high school degree or lower, they are more likely to vote less because they are less informed inactive citizens.

D1. There is much more voter turnout for presidential elections ~~because~~ than in midterm elections because the media sets the agenda of only ~~making~~ caring about the president, and not worrying about congressmen. For example, the media would rather display the presidential election

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Question 2 is reprinted for your convenience.

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2. Voter turnout is influenced by constitutional provisions, voting laws, and demographics.

(a) Identify the effect of one of the following amendments on the electorate.

- Fifteenth Amendment
- Nineteenth Amendment
- Twenty-sixth Amendment

(b) Explain how each of the following factors may affect voter turnout.

- Motor voter laws
- Photo identification laws

(c) Select one of the following demographic features and describe its relationship to the likelihood of a person voting in an election.

- Education
- Age

(d) Explain why voter turnout is different in each of the following.

- Presidential versus midterm elections
- Primary versus general elections

candidates than local congressmen in the midterm, where a new president will not be elected.

D2. There is more voter turnout in general elections than primary elections because primary elections are to select candidates for the general election, and people want to vote in the general election more, and skip the nomination of candidates.

For example, instead of going to the primary election, he went to the general election to see who won primaries.

2. Voter turnout is influenced by constitutional provisions, voting laws, and demographics.

(a) Identify the effect of one of the following amendments on the electorate.

- Fifteenth Amendment
- Nineteenth Amendment
- Twenty-sixth Amendment

(b) Explain how each of the following factors may affect voter turnout.

- Motor voter laws
- Photo identification laws

(c) Select one of the following demographic features and describe its relationship to the likelihood of a person voting in an election.

- Education
- Age

(d) Explain why voter turnout is different in each of the following.

- Presidential versus midterm elections
- Primary versus general elections

a) At the start of our country, the only people who were allowed to vote were white males who owned land.

Fortunately, we have come a long way, considering who is allowed to vote. Being female, the Nineteenth Amendment is one that I am very thankful for. The Nineteenth Amendment being female, the Fifteenth Amendment is one that I am very thankful for. This Amendment made voting possible for women. I think ^{that} the women's right to vote is very beneficial to this country because we work, have children, buy homes, and of course, are citizens of the country, so our vote is just as important. Of course, women are more likely to vote against things laws of violence for instance increasing military spending or making a gun easier to attain, which can be different from what a man would vote for. Women ~~will also vote~~ are also interested in laws having to do with education and the safety of children.

ADDITIONAL ANSWER PAGE FOR QUESTION 2.

~~either~~ b) The law that states that you must have a drivers license narrows the people who are able to vote, but only by a small percentage because most Americans who are able to have a drivers license (who are of age and have not committed crimes to have it revoked) do have drivers licenses. However, having photo identification laws expand the ability to vote because everyone should have some form of identification (most times, it is a drivers license). But then, we need to take into consideration ~~the~~ people who don't have photo ID, like homeless people. But, these laws are in place so that ~~only~~ only the people who are legal citizens can vote if they are of age and passes all other requirements.

~~c) It is a fact that younger voters will vote very different than elderly voters. People from the age of 18-21 are~~ Younger voters are more liberal than older voters, voting against military spending and lower taxes.

c) It is a fact that younger voters will vote very different than elderly voters. Young voters are more liberal, voting against military spending and ~~for~~ ~~more~~ interested in ~~education~~ higher education laws. But, ~~the~~ younger voters are also less likely to vote than 50-60 year olds with ~~degrees, and in partic~~ very high education because they are more likely to be very ~~more~~ involved in politics.

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2 c 3 of 3

Question 2 is reprinted for your convenience.

2. Voter turnout is influenced by constitutional provisions, voting laws, and demographics.

(a) Identify the effect of one of the following amendments on the electorate.

- Fifteenth Amendment
- Nineteenth Amendment
- Twenty-sixth Amendment

(b) Explain how each of the following factors may affect voter turnout.

- Motor voter laws
- Photo identification laws

(c) Select one of the following demographic features and describe its relationship to the likelihood of a person voting in an election.

- Education
- Age

(d) Explain why voter turnout is different in each of the following.

- Presidential versus midterm elections
- Primary versus general elections

d) Most people participate in Presidential elections because ~~the media~~ is the most covered by the media. Citizens see more on their local news ~~about~~ or on commercials about the president than they do their own governor or representatives! Also, general elections are more campaigned throughout the state, with billboards and signs or stakes, so people see these signs ~~every~~ everyday and are more likely to vote.

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2014 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 2

Overview

This question examined the students' knowledge of how voter turnout is influenced by constitutional provisions, voting laws, and demographics. Part (a) asked students to identify one of three amendments and its effect on the electorate. In part (b), the students were asked to explain how motor voter laws and photo identification laws affected voter turnout. In part (c), the students were asked to describe the relationship between age or education and its effect on voter turnout. Part (d) required students to explain the difference between voting turnouts in both presidential vs. midterm elections and primary vs. general elections.

Sample: 2A

Score: 6

In part (a) the response earned 1 point for correctly identifying that the “fifteenth amendment gave African Americans the right to vote.”

In part (b) the response earned 2 points. One point was earned for correctly explaining that motor voter laws “allowed people to become a registered voter at the place they got their license [*sic*]. This increased voter turnout because it was an easier way to register.” A second point was earned for correctly explaining that photo identification laws “required you to show some sort photo I.D. at the time of voting. This decreased voter turnout because people either didn’t want to find their ID, but it also limited fraud, or voting twice.”

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for correctly describing that “[t]he higher amount of education you have the more likely you are to vote because you are more informed.”

In part (d) the response earned 2 points. One point was earned for correctly explaining the difference between presidential and midterm elections: “Presidential elections have a higher voter turnout than [*sic*] midterm elections. This is because people are more informed with presidential elections than [*sic*] midterm elections because they are more broadcasted through media.” A second point was earned for correctly explaining the difference between primary and general elections: “In primary elections voter turnout is lower than [*sic*] general. In a primary election you are voting for a candidate which less people care about. In a general election you are voting for the president which more people care about, because it affects [*sic*] their lifestyles more.”

Sample: 2B

Score: 4

In part (a) the response did not earn a point for identifying the effect of the amendment on the electorate. It incorrectly identifies the Twenty-sixth amendment.

In part (b) the response earned 1 point. It did not earn a point for correctly explaining the effect motor voter laws had on the electorate. The response states that the registration process occurred when purchasing a new automobile. The response earned 1 point for correctly explaining the effect photo identification laws have on voter turnout: “Photo identification laws decreased voter turnout because it forced people to bring ID to elections, however some did not want to put in the effort to get a photo ID just for voting, thus decreased the amount of voters.”

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Question 2 (continued)

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for correctly describing the relationship between education and voter turnout: “If a person is well educated, they tend to vote more often. If a person has a high school degree or lower, they are more likely to vote less.”

In part (d) the response earned 2 points. One point was earned for correctly explaining why voter turnout is different between presidential and midterm elections: “There is much more voter turnout for presidential elections than in midterm elections because the media sets the agenda of only caring about the president, and not worrying about congressmen.” A second point was earned for correctly explaining why voter turnout is different between primary and general elections: “There is more voter turnout in general elections than primary elections because primary elections are to select candidates for the general election, and people want to vote in the general election more and skip the nomination of candidates.”

Sample: 2C

Score: 1

In part (a) the response did not earn a point for identifying the effect an amendment has on the electorate. The response incorrectly identifies the Fifteenth Amendment as making “voting possible for women.”

In part (b) the response earned 0 points. It did not earn a point for explaining how motor voter laws affect voter turnout. The response provides an incorrect definition of motor voter laws. The response did not earn a point for explaining how photo identification laws affect voter turnout because it does not indicate how photo identification laws affect voter turnout.

In part (c) the response earned 1 point for correctly describing the relationship between age and voter turnout as “younger voters are also less likely to vote than 50–60 year olds.”

In part (d) the response earned 0 points. It did not earn a point for explaining why voter turnout is different in presidential and midterm elections. It appears the comparison is being made between presidential and general elections instead of presidential and midterm elections. The response did not earn a point for explaining why voter turnout is different in primary and general elections. It appears the comparison is being made between presidential and general elections instead of primary and general elections.