

**UNIT 5 AP® UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

SECTION II

Time – 25 minutes

Directions: You have 100 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. Spend approximately one-fourth of your time (25 minutes) on each question. In your response, use substantive examples where appropriate. Make certain to number each of your answers as the question is numbered below.

4. The framers of the United States Constitution created a legislative system that is bicameral. However, it is not just bicameral; the framers also established two houses of distinctly different character and authority.
- (a) Discuss two reasons why the framers created a bicameral legislature.
 - (b) Identify one power unique to the House of Representatives and explain why the framers gave the House that power.
 - (c) Identify one power unique to the Senate and explain why the framers gave the Senate that power.
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**AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
UNIT 5 SCORING GUIDELINES**

Question 4 (2006)

6 POINTS POSSIBLE

Part (a): 2 points

Part (b): 2 points

Part (c): 2 points

Part (a): 2 points

- 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 intra-branch check / prevent majority tyranny

Part (b): 2 points - 1 point for identification, **1 point** for explanation (linked to character of House)

Identifications:

- Initiate revenue bills
- Choose president when electoral college is deadlocked
- Impeachment

Explanations:

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

Part (c): 2 points – 1 point for identification, **1 point** for explanation (linked to character of Senate)

Identifications:

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

Explanations:

- 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 in the Constitution (e.g., "filibuster" does not get credit because it's a Senate rule, not a constitutional power).

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.