#### ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Free Response Questions

## **Unit 1: Foundations of Democracy**

### Part I. Quantitative Analysis.

(in millions)

Federal '45 '50 '55 '60 '65 '70 '75 '80 '85 '90 '95 '00 '05 '10 |

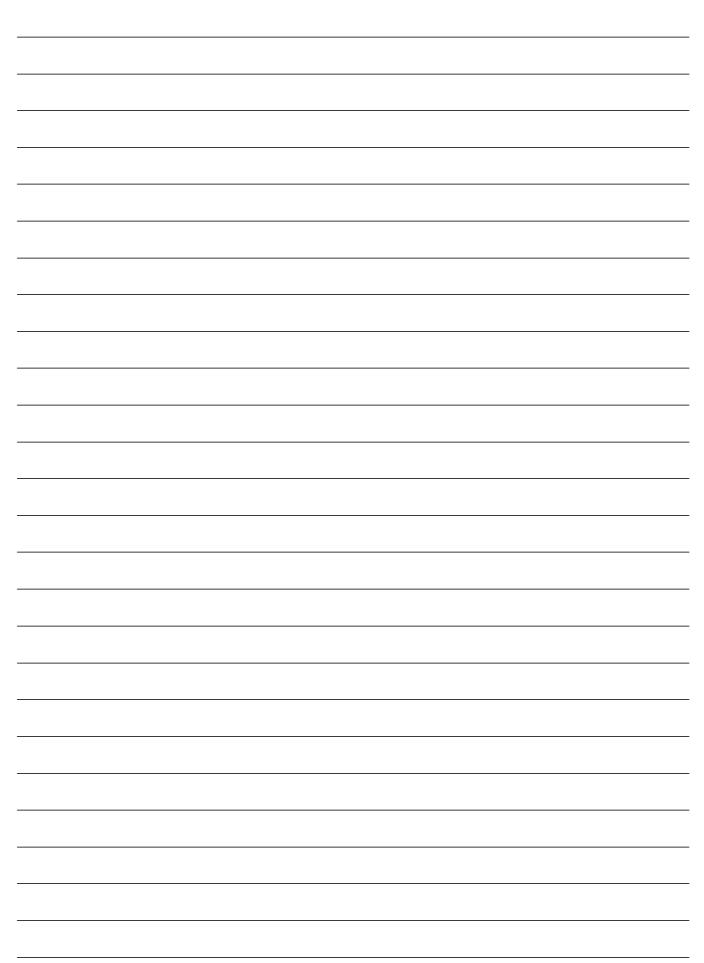
State

Local

								<b>'</b> 85				••	
4	6	7	10	11	13	15	16	17	18	18	16	15	14

Using the data provided and your knowledge of United States politics, perform the following tasks.

- a. Identify the year in which federal and state/local government employment was the same.
- b. Describe a similarity or difference between federal and state/local employment between the years 1945-2010. Explain how the similarity or difference is affected by block grants.
- c. Explain how this trend in employment for state/local government affects access points to shape public policy.



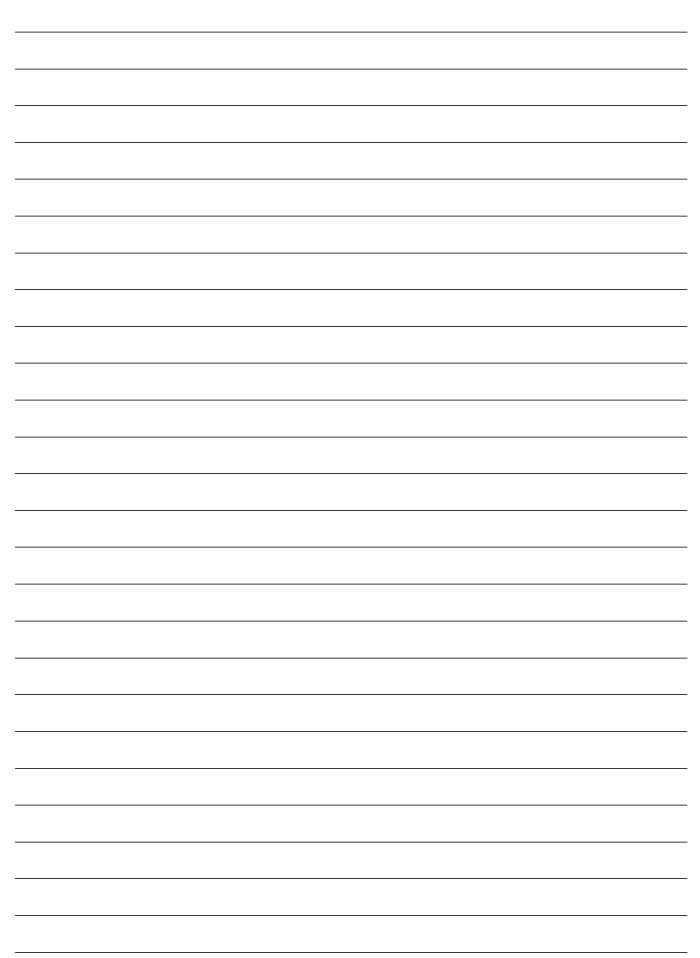
## Part II. Argument.

Develop an argument that explains which of the three models of representative democracy – participatory, pluralist, or elite – best achieves the founders' intent for American democracy in terms of ensuring a stable government run by the people.

In your essay, you must:

- Articulate a defensible claim or thesis that responds to the prompt and establishes a line of reasoning.
- Support your claim with at least TWO pieces of accurate and relevant information. At least ONE piece of evidence must be from one of the following foundational documents Brutus 1, Federalist 10, U.S. Constitution
- Use a second piece of evidence from another foundational document from the list or from your study of the electoral process
- Use reasoning to explain why your evidence supports your claim/thesis

Respond to an opposing or alternative perspective using retutation, concession, or reduttal



# **Rubrics**

# **Scoring the Quantitative Analysis Question (4 points)**

A good response should:

- Identify or describe the data in the quantitative visual (0-1 point)
- Describe a pattern, trend, or similarity/difference as prompted in the question (0-1 point) and draw a conclusion for that pattern, trend, or similarity/difference (0-1 point)
- Explain how specific data in the quantitative visual demonstrates a principle in the prompt (0-1 point)

## Scoring the Argument Essay (6 points)

A good response should:

- Articulate a defensible claim or thesis that responds to the question and establishes a line of reasoning (0-1 point)
- Describe one piece of evidence that is accurately linked to the topic of the question (1 out of 3 points); use one piece of specific and relevant evidence to support the argument (2 out of 3 points); use two pieces of specific and relevant evidence to support the argument (3 out of 3 points)
- Explain how or why the evidence supports the claim or thesis (0-1 point)
- Respond to an opposing or alternative perspective using refutation, concession, or rebuttal that is consistent with the argument (0-1 point)