AP Comparative Government

Democratization Briefing Paper Blog Questions

Directions: Read the article, and find your assigned question.  On the AP COGO blog, click on this entry, and leave a comment. Type in your name, type your assigned question at the beginning of your comment, and then answer it. Provide a thoughtful, informed response to your question (about 250 to 350 words) and post it by the due date.  Then respond to at least two other discussion postings (about 150-200 words).  Demonstrate that you have read the material. Although your discussion and responses are not formal papers, they should be written in Standard English with full attention to punctuation and typos etc. Note On-line Discussion Ethics and Discussion Grading Rubric. Your responses are due before the beginning of class on the due date.

1. What is democratization? Summarize the three waves. Also, what is Freedom House and how does it rate different countries? CARLY
2. How do levels of economic development and the international environment of democracy affect democratization? Provide examples. CARLY
3. What is the difference between “democratization from above” and “democratization from below”? Explain the differences between a personalistic authoritarian regime and a single-party authoritarian regime. Please provide specific examples in your analysis. CARLY
4. Describe democratic consolidation. What is the most powerful factor shaping democratic consolidation? Why? Under what circumstances will consolidating a democracy often fail? CARLY
5. What percentage of the world’s democracies are “partial” or “illiberal”? Explain the largest policy consequence of a successful democratic consolidation? Explain other political consequences. CARLY
6. How does democratic consolidation directly and indirectly help economic growth? What is democratic responsiveness, and why is it complicated? SHELLY
7. According to Freedom House, what does it mean to be fully democratized? Why do Great Britain and Mexico specifically and individually get this ranking? SHELLY
8. According to Freedom House, what does it mean to be partially democratized? Why do Russia and Nigeria specifically and individually get this ranking? SHELLY
9. According to Freedom House, what does it mean to be undemocratic? Why do Iran and China specifically and individually get this ranking? SHELLY
10. What are the authors’ predictions for the future? What is the basis for these predictions? SHELLY