

Politics A Level

Transition work year 11 to 6th form

UK Politics

Task 1 (Main Task) - How does British Politics function?

You are going to undertake a project to look at the key elements of British Political system. This will be essential in your understanding of the course and will inform debate in our first politics lessons in September.

This project is also essential in developing you as an independent learner, which is vital for any successful politics student. You can use the internet, however we don't want information copied and pasted. You are going to create a booklet and produce one A4 page on the following areas:

1. What is Parliament?

What is House of Commons and House of Lords?

What are the key differences between them?

Who are the key individuals in House of Parliament? ie the House Speaker

What is an MP? And what do they do? Include examples of MPs and their Constitutions

2. Who is in the Government and the Cabinet?

What is the Cabinet?

Who are each members of the Cabinet and their office?

Is the Cabinet important?

3. Who are the key individuals of the opposition?

Who are the 2 main opposition parties? Include logos

Who are the leaders of these parties?

What were their main policy from 2017 election?

4. What is the First-Post-the-post (FPTP) electoral system?

What are the positives of the system?

What are the negatives of the system?

What other electoral systems are they?

5. What are key elements of 3 main parties Core ideologies?

What is Conservatism? What are the key elements?

What is Socialism? What are the key elements?

What is Liberalism? What are the key elements?

6. What was the result of the 2017 General election?

What is a difference between a majority government and hung Parliament?

What were the main factors in determining the outcome?

Task 2 - Additional Reading and Research

Reading beyond the textbook gives a greater depth to your knowledge and understanding. Suggestions include:

- Broadsheet newspapers: The Guardian, The Times, Independent, Daily Telegraph
- BBC News online: www.bbc.co.uk/
- Al Jazeera English: www.aljazeera.com/
- The Economist: www.economist.com/
- CNN online: <http://edition.cnn.com/>
- The New Statesman magazine: www.newstatesman.com/

Home of our Democracy – there is a virtual tour of Parliament available during lockdown at <https://www.parliament.uk/visiting/virtualtour/> .

Website www.parliament.uk - explore this and watch the video clips on how Parliament functions. This will help with your research task. There are also a number of interactive games of the day/life of an MP.

Politics England, a weekly show on BBC iplayer - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000h99c>

Sunday Political viewing There are a number of political shows on Sunday morning. These include Sunday with Laura Kuenssberg, Sophie Ridge and the BBC Sunday Politics Show. All shows are available on catch up. www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer and www.itvhub.com.

News Apps - There are a number of news apps that keep you up today date with current political events. Explore them to find the most useful for you.

Podcasts – there is a vast range of politics podcasts. Explore them, choose the best one and write a statement to persuade me to listen to it.