Relationships between Institutions Topic Sheet

Торіс	Content	Un	derstood	? Green
4.1 The Supreme	The Supreme Court and its interactions with, and influence over,	Keu	Amper	Oreen
Court	the legislative and policy-making processes.			
	 The role and composition of the Supreme Court. 			
	• The key operating principles of the Supreme Court, including			
	judicial neutrality and judicial independence and their extent.			
	• The degree to which the Supreme Court influences both the			
	Executive and Parliament, including the doctrine of ultra vires			
	and judicial review.			
4.2 The relationship	The relationship between the Executive and Parliament.			
between the Executive	• The influence and effectiveness of Parliament in holding the			
and Parliament	Executive to account.			
	• The influence and effectiveness of the Executive in attempting			
	to exercise dominance over Parliament.			
	 The extent to which the balance of power between 			
	Parliament and the Executive has changed			
4.3 The European	The aims, role and impact of the European Union (EU) on UK			
Union	government.			
	• The aims of the EU, including the 'four freedoms' of the single			
	market, social policy, and political and economic union and the			
	extent to which these have been achieved.			
	 The role of the EU in policy making. 			
	 The impact of the EU, including the main effects of at least 			
	two EU policies and their impact on the UK political system and			
	UK policy making.			
4.4 Sovereignty	The location of sovereignty in the UK political system.			
	 The distinction between legal sovereignty and political 			
	sovereignty.			
	 The extent to which sovereignty has moved between 			
	different branches of government.			
	 Where sovereignty can now be said to lie in the UK 			

Key Questions: (These are not exhaustive!)

To what extent is the Supreme Court Independent?/ Neutral?
To what extent is Parliament dominated by the Executive?
To what extent does Parliament successfully act as a check and balance on the powers of the
Executive?
To what extent has Parliament retained its sovereignty?

Key Vocabulary:

Key Terms

Supreme Court	Judicial Review	Judicial Neutrality	Scrutiny
Ultra Vires	Judicial Independence	Elective Dictatorship	European Union
Accountability	Balance of Power	Influence	Power
Authority	Four Freedoms	Legal Sovereignty	Political Sovereignty
Impartiality	Declaration of Incompatibility	Rule of Law	Parliament Act 1911
Patronage	Whip System	Parliamentary Timetable	Salisbury Convention
Fusion of Powers	Separation of Powers	Lisbon Treaty	Single Market
Enlargement (EU)	Supranational institutions	Intergovernmental institutions	European Commission
European Parliament	Charter of Fundamental Rights		