

A Level Politics Y12 Mock Exam Revision Timetable – 2022 - 2023

<u>Week / Comm</u>	<u>Content to Cover UK Politics</u>	<u>Content to Cover UK Government</u>	<u>Complete?</u>
<p>17<sup>th</sup> April</p> <p>UK Pol: Democracy and reforms.</p> <p>UK Gov: UK Constitution.</p>	<p><b>1. How Democratic is the UK?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How well are we represented in the UK?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the different types of representation in the UK? (constituency, social, etc)</li> <li>How well are people's ideologies and minority groups represented?</li> </ul> </li> <li>How legitimate is our government?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is our government always given a sufficient mandate to rule? Examples?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Can we hold <i>our government to account</i>?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the different ways we can hold our government to account?</li> <li>Do these always work? Examples?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Is there a participation crisis in the UK?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do people vote? If not, why not?</li> <li>How else are people participating in politics?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Create a spider diagram around the big question of 'How Democratic is the UK?' Then add 4 arms around our 4 pillars of democracy: representation, legitimacy, accountability, participation. Add evidence around each to show that it is and is not sufficient in the UK (with real political examples!)</b></p> <p><b>1. Does the UK need reform?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Direct vs Representative Democracy.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do you understand the difference between these two types of democracy?</li> <li>Can you explain the benefits and drawbacks of each and apply them to the UK?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Create a for and against table for Direct and Representative Democracy.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How could the UK system be reformed?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Know up to date debates regarding proposed reform to fix issues with democracy. For example...                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do we need to reform the Lords?</li> <li>Votes for prisoners?</li> <li>Should we introduce compulsory voting?</li> <li>Should we give the vote to 16 and 17 year olds?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Create a spider diagram around the key issues within our democracy and explain the proposals there are to fix each. E.g participation crisis – lower voting age.</b></p>	<p><b>1. Current UK Constitution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make a spider diagram on the UK Constitution, including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What form does the UK constitution take? (Entrenched? Unentrenched?)</li> <li>What are the sources of our constitution? (Common law? Statute law?)</li> <li>What are the principles of our constitution? (Parliamentary Sovereignty? Rule of Law?)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>2. Constitutional reforms in past 30 years and impact of them</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make three separate tables on the three periods of constitutional reform.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1997 – 2010 - Labour</li> <li>2010 – 2015 - Coalition</li> <li>2015 – Present - Conservative</li> </ul> </li> <li>For each you need to know:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key changes made under the gov</li> <li>Strengths of the reform</li> <li>Weaknesses of the reform</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p>24<sup>th</sup> April</p> <p>UK Pol: PGs and other organisations</p> <p>UK Gov: Devolution</p>	<p><b>1. Pressure Groups and Other Organisations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Functions of PGs                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the purpose of a PG?</li> <li>What methods do PGs use?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Functions of Think Tanks                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What does a Think Tank do?</li> <li>What is their purpose in politics?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Functions of Lobbyists                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the job of a lobbyist?</li> <li>Who works with lobbyists?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>1. UK Devolution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider the history of devolution, why a devolved parliament was introduced, when and why have powers been extended/reformed?</li> <li>Make a table comparing the legislative and financial powers of the devolved parliaments.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scotland</li> <li>Wales</li> <li>Northern Ireland</li> <li>What powers are reserved at West Minster</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Functions of Corporations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How do Big Business influence politics?</li> </ul> <b>Create a profile on each of these types of organisations; with a few case studies for each and examples of how they have influenced political change.</b> </li> </ul>	<p><b>2. Devolution in England</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make notes on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What powers are devolved to regions? (e.g. Mayors?)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Why has regional devolution been slower/rejected?</p>	
<p><u>1<sup>st</sup> May</u></p> <p>UK Pol: How do PGs and other organisations impact on UK politics?</p> <p>UK Gov: Parliament role and scrutiny</p>	<p><b>1. How do PGs and other organisations impact on UK politics?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How democratic are PGs? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Think about how they function.</li> <li>- Think about how they try and influence politics.</li> <li>- Think about what makes some PGs more successful than others.</li> <li>- Think about whether PGs are elicits or pluralist.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• How successful/influential are PGs? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Think about how we categorise PGs (insider/outsider, etc).</li> <li>- Think about why some PG are more likely to be successful than others.</li> <li>- Think about the different types of methods (<i>why might some alienate the government/public?</i>)</li> <li>- Think about the different ways PGs can get access to the government (devolution, etc).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Can you apply the same Qs (above) to Think Tanks, Lobbyists and Corporations? So... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are Think Tanks, Lobbyists and Corporations democratic?</li> <li>- What makes each of these other organisations successful/unsuccessful?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Make a for and against table to answer each of these Q with real political examples to support your points.</b></p>	<p><b>How well does Parliament fulfil its role?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a spider diagram on how successful Parliament is at fulfilling the following roles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legislation (including process that bills go through.</li> <li>- Representation</li> <li>- Recruiting Ministers</li> <li>- Legitimacy.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Draw a table comparing the structure and roles of the Houses of Commons and Lords</li> <li>• Draw another table comparing the powers of the Commons and the Lords.</li> <li>• Highlight key differences of each chamber and assess where the Lords is more dominant and where the Commons has more power. (e.g. Salisbury Convention)</li> </ul> <p><b>How does the Legislative interact with the executive? Scrutiny</b></p> <p>How does Parliament Scrutinise the executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Back Benchers</li> <li>- Opposition</li> <li>- Committees</li> <li>- Use of questioning</li> </ul> <p>Create a table of for and against arguments as to whether Parliament DOES sufficiently scrutinise the executive or now WITH evidence to prove points.</p>	
<p><u>8<sup>th</sup> May</u></p> <p>UK Pol: Major Parties</p> <p>UK Gov: Ministerial Responsibility/ PM and the Executive</p>	<p><b>1. How Far has the ideology of major political parties changed?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For each party you should know: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Their ideologies and any changes within these (e.g. impact of Cameron and Blair)</li> <li>- Key leaders and their manifestos</li> <li>- Any key factions within the parties?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Conservatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New Right Conservatism</li> <li>- One Nation Conservatism</li> <li>- Key people – Thatcher, Cameron, May and Johnson.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Labour: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Traditional socialist values</li> <li>- The Third Way (Blair)</li> <li>- Key people – Blair, Brown, Miliband, Corbyn, Starmer</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Liberal Democrats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What are the ideologies of the Lib Dems?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Individual and Collective Ministerial Responsibility</b></p> <p>Ensure you know the difference!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How effective is IMR and CMR?</li> <li>• How does it help with scrutiny/accountability?</li> </ul> <p>Learn case studies of ministers who have been affected by ministerial responsibility.</p> <p><b>PM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What powers does the PM have? e.g. prerogative</li> <li>• What makes a powerful PM?</li> </ul> <p>Factors affecting power: PM style and personality</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What ideologies do they share with the two major parties?</li> <li>- Key People – Nick Clegg, Jo Swinson, Ed Davey</li> </ul> <p><b>Create a timeline for each party showing different leaders; attitude towards major policy, such as economy, foreign affairs, welfare, environment, etc. Also include any policy which does not align with traditional party ideologies (e.g. Cameron and same sex marriage goes against traditionalism of Conservatism, Blair didn't work closely with trade unions, despite Labour being founded on working class vote. Show trends and shifts between different leaders and contextual reasons for these.</b></p>	<p>The Cabinet The Party Size of Majority Popularity of PM Media Pressure of events</p> <p>Explain how each of the above can STRENGTHEN or WEAKEN a PM.</p> <p><b>PM Case Studies</b> <b>REMEMBER</b> you need at least one PM PRE-1997 and one PM POST-1997. However, questions will indicate they want at least 3 PMS in each Q.</p> <p>Create Case Studies of PMs who do well and not so well against each of the above factors:</p>	
<p>15<sup>th</sup> May</p> <p>UK Pol: Minor Parties and other debates</p> <p>UK Gov: Supreme Court</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>How important are minor parties within the UK?</b></li> <li>• Minor Parties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why have minor parties emerged?</li> <li>- Which are the key minor parties within the UK (UKIP, GREEN, SNP (...kind of...))?</li> <li>- How have minor parties influenced the major parties?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Party Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why should FPTP make the UK a two-party system?</li> <li>• To what extent is the UK a two-party system?</li> <li>• How has the UK party system changed?</li> </ul> <p><b>Create a spider diagram including minor parties and their key policies/ideologies. Then annotate around each policies; major parties have included to win voters; from these.</b></p> </li> <li>• <b>Other debates on parties:</b> How should parties be funded?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Supreme Court</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why was the supreme court introduced? What was the intention with the 2005 constitutional reform act?</li> <li>• Create a spider diagram on the role and powers of the Supreme Court. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How does the judiciary hold the government to account? (judicial review, ultra vires – how well do these work?)</li> <li>- What can the judiciary use to hold the government to account?</li> <li>- How does the judiciary ensure neutrality and independence?</li> <li>- Are there any ways the judiciary is NOT neutral and independent?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p>22<sup>nd</sup> May</p> <p>UK Pol: Voting Systems</p> <p>UK Gov: Rights</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. How fit for purpose is FPTP?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a table of advantages and disadvantages of FPTP. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure these are evidenced with REAL stats from recent elections.</li> <li>- Remember wider issues like safe seats and tactical voting.</li> <li>- How good is it representation wise? Does it create legitimate governments?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li><b>2. Voting systems around the UK</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What other voting systems are used in the UK?</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>Plurality Voting Systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Which elections use plurality voting systems?</li> <li>- Which elections in the UK use Plurality voting systems?</li> <li>- What are the pros and cons of Plurality voting systems?</li> <li>- Case studies of key election results to justify pros and cons.</li> </ul> <p>Proportional Voting Systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Which elections use plurality voting systems?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Rights (PAPER 1 TOPIC BUT IMPORTANT FOR PAPER 2)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What key legislation is there to help protect rights in the UK? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How does each law uphold rights?</li> <li>- What case studies are there of these laws in play?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• How well does the UK government protect rights? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How have governments committed themselves to protecting rights?</li> <li>- What evidence do we have of them successfully/unsuccessfully doing this?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• How well are rights protected in the UK? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What do we have to protect our rights?</li> <li>- How does the Supreme Court help?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• What other organisations are committed to helping protect rights in the UK?</li> </ul> <p>What are the Pros and Cons of protecting collective rights against</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Which elections in the UK use Proportional voting systems?</li> <li>- What are the pros and cons of Proportional voting systems?</li> <li>- Case studies of key election results to justify pros and cons.</li> </ul> <p><b>Annotate a map of the UK showing different elected bodies and the voting system each uses. Annotate how fair the results each system produces are, with examples.</b></p>	individual rights?	
<p>29<sup>th</sup> May</p> <p>UK Pol: What factors can influence voting behaviour?</p> <p>UK gov: EU and Sovereignty</p>	<p><b>1. What are the theories around voting behaviour?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rational Choice Voting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What are the demographic voting trends?</li> <li>- Key example of them in play (e.g. increase in women voting for Labour in 1997)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Single Issue Voting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- How can single issues dominate an election?</li> <li>- Key example of them in play (e.g. BREXIT!)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Valence Voting ('competence' voting): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- When is valence voting mostly likely to come into play?</li> <li>- How do we judge parties/leaders under valence voting?</li> <li>- Key example of them in play (e.g. who best to run country after recession?)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Dominant Ideology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Which dominant forces can be influential?</li> <li>- What impact does the media have?</li> <li>- Who is most likely to be influenced by different types of media?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>2. What do voting theories look like in practise?</b></p> <p>Create case studies for each voting model/theory. Explain what each is, the factors it must consider. Evidence the importance of each with examples of voting stats and trends which do support each and examples when elections have gone against these suggested trends.</p> <p><b>REMEMBER YOU NEED 3 CASE STUDIES OF ELECTIONS – 1997, one pre-1997 and one post-1997!</b></p>	<p><b>EU (TBC by Miss Key and Miss Moss which of this is required – sorry!)</b></p> <p>Create a spider diagram on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The aims of the EU</li> <li>• The Role of the EU in policy making</li> </ul> <p>The impact of the EU on the UK political system (examples)</p> <p><b>Sovereignty</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure you know the difference between legal and political sovereignty.</li> <li>- Create an annotated diagram showing the way sovereignty has moved between the different branches of gov.</li> <li>- Evaluate where sovereignty lies now.</li> </ul>	
<p>5<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> June</p> <p>EXAM WEEKS</p>	<p><b>Past Paper Questions Preparation and Planning-</b> Plan out answers for any questions you have not already completed at home/ in class or any you are not confident with- make sure you include all of your arguments and evaluation as well as evidence.</p> <p><b>Final review – key words, key people, key stats, - Flash cards to help you use these and commit them to memory</b></p>	<p><b>Past Paper Questions Preparation and Planning-</b> Plan out answers for any questions you have not already completed at home/ in class or any you are not confident with- make sure you include all of your arguments and evaluation as well as evidence.</p> <p><b>Final review – key words, key people, key stats, - Flash cards to help you use these and commit them to memory</b></p>	

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