

GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

Year 11 to Year 12

You should aim to cover as broad a range of political literature to familiarise yourself with the political institutions and concepts you will be studying from September. Below are some suggested materials. To prepare fully, you should read/watch as many as you can of the following:

How Democracy works in the UK by comedian Danny Wallace

<http://www.parliament.uk/education/teaching-resources-lesson-plans/democracy-parliament-and-government-video/>

How the House of Commons works

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/commons/what-the-commons-does/>

The role and work of the House of Lords

<http://www.parliament.uk/about/faqs/house-of-lords-faqs/role/>

How General Elections work

<http://www.parliament.uk/education/teaching-resources-lesson-plans/the-general-election-explained/>

Pressure Groups

Take a look around the pressure group **Liberty**'s website to get a feel for some of the issues associated with civil rights/civil liberty disputes

<http://www.liberty-human-rights.org.uk/>

Impact of European/local elections in 2014

(useful to look back on this in comparison with what did happen in the elections)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-27567744>

Current Affairs

Any comment article related to UK political issues from this website

<http://www.politics.co.uk/comment-analysis/>

Voting systems

Simple information on the different types of voting systems

<http://www.electoral-reform.org.uk/voting-systems>

Ideology quiz

Take the 'Vote Match' quiz to find out what political party your ideology matches up with

<http://www.votematch.org/>

General Election 2017

Results and analysis

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election/2017>

General Election 2010

Read through the policies of the major parties at the last General Election in 2010.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/election_2010/8515961.stm

Reading

As you are already well aware, regular and thorough reading and note-taking are vital ingredients to successful study. At A Level, it is of considerable importance that you read as avidly and widely as possible. Use the school and local library.

Current Events

Finally, **and really importantly**, get into the habit of reading a newspaper/news website on a **regular basis** – every day!!

A developing knowledge of current events is **essential** to success in Politics. We encourage discussion and debate about current issues so make sure you are informed!

Media

As well as reading widely you should consult the editorial/comment section of a 'quality' newspaper as often as possible (preferably daily!) and in addition, keep up-to-date with daily news stories and political analysis. This can be done very effectively through the broadcast media, especially the **BBC News / Politics web pages**

Radio Four, the Today Programme (93.5 FM, 6am – 9am or IPlayer)

- **essential** to listen to part of it every morning, especially the 8am news and usually a significant interview at 8.10am (eg. the P.M. or other important politicians)

Channel Four News (C4, 7:00pm),

Newsnight (BBC2, 10:30pm),

Question Time (BBC1, Thursday 10:30pm) followed by the **Week in Politics**

Any Questions (Radio Four, Friday 8pm, repeated Saturday / or IPlayer)

Sunday morning politics programmes such as Andrew Marr & regional programmes

So familiarise yourselves with some background information about how the system works and the main players in that system. If you turn up in September and do not know what the House of Lords does or who Theresa May is then we have a problem!

Good Luck folks and come prepared – silence is not an option in A level politics!