## **UK** Politics

Mark on how confident you are with each topic and what you need to do, use this as a checklist for your revision notes and then to keep track of the topics you have revised. Tick and date once you have completed the tasks.

Revisel	How I could teach	I?  I would need to look at my notes	I don't know	What do I need to do to improve my understanding – create a mind map, write revision note cards, use online tests, attempt some practice question papers, read and highlight my notes  OR  What questions do I need to ask from someone who can help me?	I have made my revision notes on this	I have revised this topic	I am confident on this topic	Evidence
Key topic 1: The Democracy and Participation								
The features of direct democracy and representative democracy.								
The similarities and differences between direct democracy and representative democracy.								
Advantages and disadvantages of direct democracy and representative democracy and consideration of the case for reform.								
2) Key milestones in the widening of the franchise in relation to class, gender, ethnicity and age, including the 1832 Great Reform Act and the 1918, 1928 and 1969 Representation of the People Acts.								
The work of the suffragists/suffragettes to extend the franchise.								
The work of a current movement to extend the franchise.								

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3) How different pressure groups exert influence and how their methods and influence vary in contemporary politics.				
Case studies of two different pressure groups, highlighting examples of how their methods and influence vary.				
Other collective organisations and groups including think tanks, lobbyists and corporations, and their influence on government and Parliament.				
4) Major milestones in the development of rights including the significance of Magna Carta and more recent developments, including the Human Rights Act 1998 and Equality Act 2010.				
Debates on the extent, limits and tensions within the UK's rights-based culture, including consideration of how individual and collective right may conflict, the contributions from civil liberty pressure groups – including the work of two contemporary civil liberty pressure groups.				
Topic 2 – Political Parties	 			
1)The functions and features of political parties in the UK's representative democracy.				
How parties are currently funded, debates on the consequences of the current funding system.				

2) The origins and historical development of the Labour Party, and how this has shaped their ideas and current policies on the economy, law and order, welfare and foreign policy.								
The origins and historical development of the Conservative Party, and how this has shaped their ideas and current policies on the economy, law and order, welfare and foreign policy.								
The origins and historical development of the Liberal Democrat Party, and how this has shaped their ideas and current policies on the economy, law and order, welfare and foreign policy.								
3) The importance of other parties in the UK								
The ideas and policies of two other minor parties (UKIP and the SNP)								
4) The development of a multi-party system and its implications for government.								
Various factors that affect party success – explanations of why political parties have succeeded or failed, including debates on the influence of the media								
Topic 3 – Electoral Systems								
1) First-past-the-post (FPTP), Additional Member System (AMS), Single Transferable Vote (STV) Supplementary Vote (SV).								

The advantages and disadvantages of these						
different systems.						
different systems.						
Comparison of first-past-the-post (FPTP) to a						
different electoral system in a devolved						
parliament/assembly.						
2) How referendums have been used in the UK and						
their impact on UK political life since 1997.						
The case for and against referendums in a						
representative democracy.						
3) Debates on why different electoral systems are						
used in the UK.						
The impact of the electoral system on the						
government or type of government appointed.						
The impact of different systems on party						
representation and of electoral systems on voter						
choice.						
Topic 4 – Voting Behaviour and the Media	l l	I		<b>'</b>	-1	
1) Case studies of three elections (one from the						
period 1945–92, the 1997 election, and one since						
1997), the results and their impact on parties and						
government						
The factors that explain the outcomes of these						
elections, including: the reasons for and impact of						
party policies and manifestos, techniques used in						
their election campaigns, and the wider political						
context of the elections o class-based voting and						

other factors influencing voting patterns, such as partisanship and voting attachment o gender, age, ethnicity and region as factors in influencing voting behaviour, turnout and trends				
.Analysis of the national voting-behaviour patterns for these elections, revealed by national data sources and how and why they vary				
2) The assessment of the role and impact of the media on politics – both during and between key general elections, including the importance and relevance of opinion polls, media bias and persuasion.				