



**Year 12/13 New College Pontefract**  
**Politics Summer Independent Learning**

Part 1:

- Paper 2 retrieval practice (compulsory element)

Part 2:

- Paper 3 preview work (strongly recommended to complete)

**Part 1**

**UK Constitution**

**Core task:** Define the following key terms

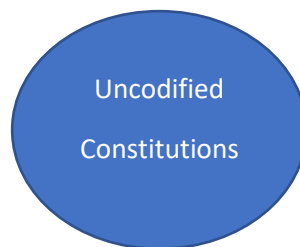
**Aiming for A:** provide a specific example to support the key term – this should be the best example that you can select to illustrate each term

<b>Key term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Authoritative works</b>		
<b>Common law</b>		
<b>Conventions</b>		
<b>Devolution</b>		

<b>Entrenched</b>		
<b>Federal</b>		
<b>Hereditary peer</b>		
<b>Parliamentary Sovereignty</b>		
<b>Statute law</b>		
<b>Unitary</b>		

## Uncodified constitutions

- Outline the **key features** of an **uncodified constitution** on the bubble map below
- Expand the bubble map to explain the **advantages and disadvantages** of this type of constitution.
- Rank the advantages and disadvantages from greatest advantage/disadvantage downwards. Evaluate the strongest arguments in favour of retaining an uncodified constitution.



How far-reaching have constitutional reforms been since 1997/2010?

***Complete the table below***

<b>Constitutional Reform</b>	<b>Arguments that it has achieved its aim</b>	<b>Counter argument</b>
Devolution		
Parliamentary reform: House of Lords		
Parliamentary reform: House of Commons		

Human Rights Reform		
Electoral reform		
Freedom of Information		
Reform of the Judiciary		
City government in London/devolution outside London		

English Votes for English Laws		

Which has been the most successful constitutional reform since 1997? Why?

Why has been the least successful constitutional reform? Why?

## Devolution

Summarise the powers that the following have:

Metro mayors

Scottish Parliament

Welsh Parliament

Northern Ireland Assembly







**Should devolution be extended to the English regions?**

Choose three arguments in favour and three arguments against this idea. For each, explain how strong an argument that you think it is:

Arguments in favour	Arguments against

Do you think that devolution should be extended to the English regions?



## Parliament

What are the functions of the House of Commons, the House of Lords and functions of both Houses? Provide an example for each

Powers and functions of the House of Commons only	Powers and functions of both houses	Powers and functions of the House of Lords only

What are the three main differences between the powers of the Commons and the powers of the Lords?



## **The House of Lords**

How much influence does the House of Lords have in British politics?

Outline three arguments in favour of the Lords exercising influence in British politics. You must provide an example for each

1.

2.

3.

Outline three arguments against the Lords exercising influence in British politics. You must provide an example for each

1.

2.

3.

Does the House of Lords play an effective role in British politics?

**Part 2 (strongly recommend to complete)**

Completing this part of the SIL will help your understanding of socialism and American politics in Year 13

Read the following article <https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/729708/us-election-2016-senate-house-of-representatives-political-system-explained-how-work>. Fill out the table below with the key aspects and information about the role each branch of the US government plays. In the second column identify the parallel institution in the UK and add any similarities or differences that you have noticed in its organisation and powers. Use your knowledge of the UK system from Paper 2.

<b>US Branches of Government–Organisation and Powers</b>	<b>UK Branches of Government-Key Similarities and Differences</b>
The President (Executive)	

The Senate (Legislature)	
The Supreme Court (Judiciary)	

**The US Constitution**

What is a constitution?

What is the difference between a codified and uncoded constitution?

Research the following US constitutional amendments and explain each one. Then find a court case that links to the amendment

<b>Constitutional amendment and explanation</b>	<b>Court case</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> amendment	
2 <sup>nd</sup> amendment	
5 <sup>th</sup> amendment	
8 <sup>th</sup> amendment	
14 <sup>th</sup> amendment	



## Socialism

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eo\\_91mSXZL4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eo_91mSXZL4)

Watch the above video on socialism. For each key theme, write at least five bullet point notes:

Human nature	
The state	

Society	
The Economy	

