Year 12/13 Summer Independent Learning- 2022

Part 1: Paper 2 retrieval practice

Part 2: Paper 3 preview work

Part 3: Paper 1 retrieval practice/progression exam preparation

Part 1

Without looking back at your notes, answer the following questions about the UK political system. Then, in a different colour pen, fill in the gaps using your notes using your Paper 2 notes.

1.Outline three pieces of constitutional reform that have been undertaken since 2010

2.How effective has constitutional reform since 2010 been?

3.Create a flow diagram explaining the parliamentary lawmaking process

4.What are the strengths and weaknesses of the parliamentary law-making process?

-Strengths

-Weaknesses

5.Give 3 examples of the Cabinet showing its importance and influence over the prime minister:

6.Give 3 examples of the PM exercising control and influence over the Cabinet:

7.What impact has the EU had on the three main political parties in Britain?

-Conservatives

-Labour

-Liberal Democrats

8.How have each of the following effected parliamentary sovereignty in the UK?

-The EU-Devolution

-Human Rights Act 1998

-Referenda

Part 2: 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.

US Branches of Government–Organisation and Powers	**UK Branches of Government-Key Similarities and Differences**
The President (Executive)	
The Senate (Legislature)	

The Supreme Court (Judiciary)	

Part 3: Progression Prep – Complete all the pages of your Paper 1 revision booklet, including the section at the end on each of the core ideologies. Complete 6 essay plans from the example questions document – 3 source questions and 3 ideologies questions. This will be the focus of your progression exam – a choice of 2 source questions and then a choice of 2 core ideologies questions.

How to use this guide

- ✓ This guide should help you to start your revision, but this should not be the only revision that you do (see the revision support section of this guide).
- ✓ Throughout the guide, there will be different levels of task:
  - **Core task**: all students should complete these tasks. Doing only these tasks will get you, at most, a C grade in the summer.
  - **Extended task**: all students aiming for a B or above should complete these tasks
  - **Aiming for A**: clue in the name! Those aiming for A*/A grades should complete these tasks.

Aiming for A

Visit the Edexcel website. Read through the mark schemes that accompany the sample assessment material (you will have answered all of these questions already). Look also at the model answers that Edexcel have produced for teacher training to get an idea of what Level 4/5 answers look like. https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/politics-2017.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=Pearson-UK:Category%2FTeaching-and-learning-materials

Section 1 – Component 1

UK Politics

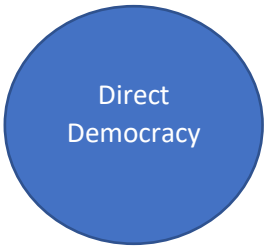
Democracy and Participation

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

Key term	Definition	Example
Legitimacy		
Direct Democracy		
Representative Democracy		
Pluralist Democracy		
Democratic deficit		
Participation crisis		
Franchise/suffrage		
Think tanks		
Lobbyists		

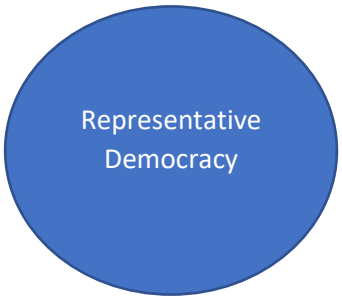
Direct Democracy

Core task: outline the **key features** of direct democracy on the bubble map below
***Extended task*:** expand the bubble map to explain the **advantages and disadvantages** of this type of democracy.
Aiming for A: rank the advantages and disadvantages from greatest advantage/disadvantage downwards. How far can direct democracy be used to enhance representative democracy?

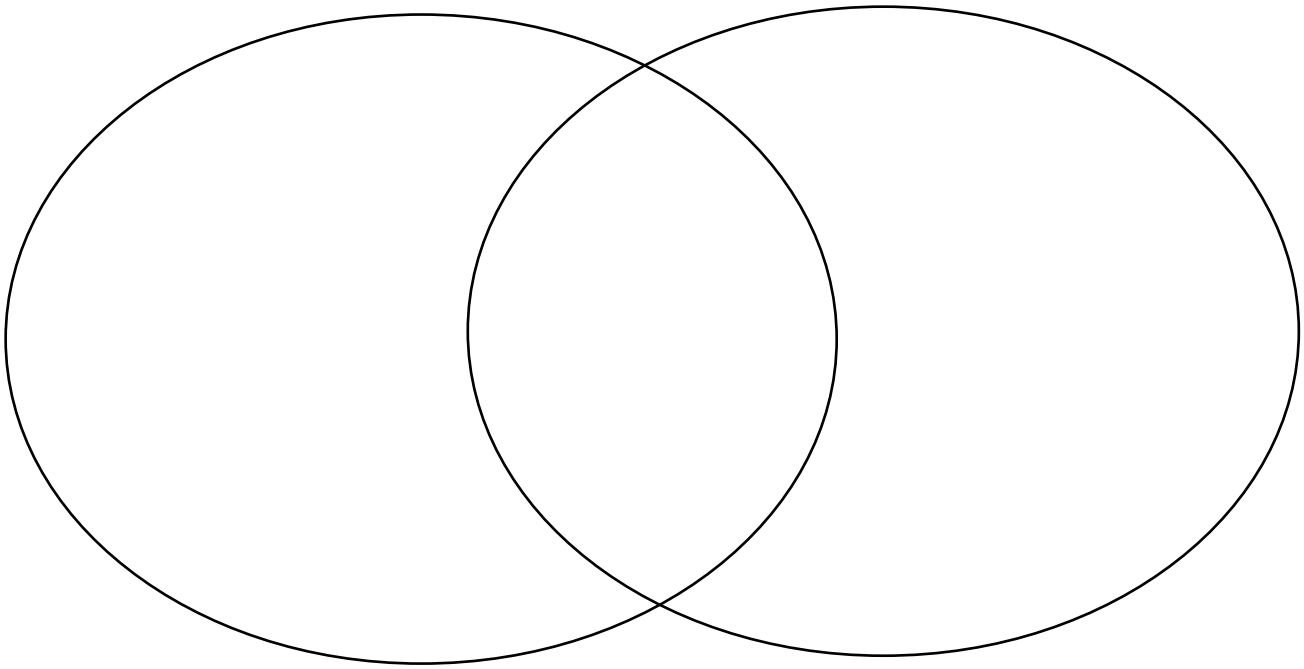


Representative Democracy

Core task: outline the **key features** of representative democracy on the bubble map below
***Extended task*:** expand the bubble map to explain the **advantages and disadvantages** of this type of democracy.
Aiming for A: rank the advantages and disadvantages from greatest advantage/disadvantage downwards.



***Core task*:** compare and contrast (similarity and differences) direct and representative democracy in the UK. Do this in a Venn diagram.



Extended task: what needs to change to improve representative democracy in the UK? Note down three ideas, with an explanation of how this might happen, and why it is needed?

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Aiming for A: what ideas have been proposed to improve UK representative democracy that are less viable? Note down three ideas, with an explanation of why this is the case?

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Democracy in the UK

Core task: what are the criteria for a democratic society? Summarise them below in a way that suits your revision style.

How democratic is the UK political system?

Core task: complete the table below.

Extended task: select a precise example to illustrate your explanation in the table.

Aiming for A: In a different colour in the table, where relevant, evaluate the measures that have been proposed for democratic renewal.

Feature of democracy	Arguments that it is democratic	Counter argument
Peaceful transition of power		
Free elections		
Fair elections		
Widespread participation		

Freedom of expression		
Freedom of association		
Protection of rights and liberties		
Limited government and constitutionalism		

Political participation in the UK

Core task: create a spectrum with forms of participation in the UK running from 'very intensive' to 'less intensive'.

Extended task: around your spectrum, explain how participation has changed over time and why it has changed. Include well-selected evidence in your explanations.

Aiming for A: how appropriate is it to talk of a crisis in participation? Is it not more accurate to simply talk in terms of a change in participation? Defend your view below.

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Widening the franchise

Core task: summarise the **key elements** of each act including:

- Impact of each act on extending the franchise based on class, gender, ethnicity and age

Extended task: **why** was the act passed – what was the historical context of each act? What was the political impact of each act in securing legitimacy?

1832 Great Reform Act

1867 Second Reform Act

1884 Third Reform Act

1918 Representation of the People Act

1928 Representation of the People Act

1969 Representation of the People Act

2016 Scottish Elections Act

Aiming for A:

1. How does the UK compare with other countries in terms of how the right to vote currently stands and has emerged over the years?
2. Look at current participation levels in terms of gender, age, class and ethnicity. Have extensions to the franchise been successful?

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<u>The work of suffragists and suffragettes</u>

Core task: explain the role that the suffragists/suffragettes played in extending the franchise. This must be **no fewer than 100 words**.

<u>Withholding the franchise</u>

Core task: which groups of people are unable to vote in UK elections?

Extended task: what are the arguments that barriers to the franchise should remain – e.g. for prisoners, foreign national and those under 18 etc. What are those against (include the work of **relevant pressure groups** in this task)

Arguments in favour	Arguments against

Current issues with the franchise

***Core task*:** explain the arguments in each issue concerning the franchise
Extended task: make links to the work of specific pressure groups and the views of different UK political parties – you may include anything else that you feel relevant.

Votes for 16-17 year olds

Arguments in favour	Arguments against

Compulsory voting

Arguments in favour	Arguments against

Registration reform

1. The system before and after 2014

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2. Implications of these changes

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3. Possible solutions?

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Aiming for A: which of these 3 issues should be the priority of government? Why is it more important than the other two? Justify your views.

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Pressure groups

Core task: complete the following:

A pressure group is .....
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The functions of pressure groups are:

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Core task: outline the features and functions of the following types of pressure group
Extended task: give an example of one pressure group to support your explanation along with a relevant campaign (be as precise and specific as possible).

Promotional (cause/issue)	Sectional (interest)	Social movements

Insider	Outsider

Pressure group methods

Core task: create a mind map of the different methods used by pressure groups – explain what these methods are and how far they affect the influence of groups.
Extended task: in addition, explain the advantages and disadvantages of these methods. Select a precise and relevant example to illustrate each side.
Aiming for A: in addition, how far does each method strengthen democracy, representation and participation?

Pressure Groups and democracy

***Core task*:** outline, with examples, the problems with **hyperpluralism**
Extended task: research competing pressure groups who pitch against one another and note their membership as well as their failures and victories.
Aiming for A:

1. Evaluate the extent to which group politics actually enhances pluralist democracies
2. 'Cause groups enhance pluralist democracy, whilst sectional groups are elitist'. How far do you agree?

Pressure group success

Core task: rank the factors that affect pressure group success from 'most important' to 'least important'
Extended task: add an explanation and illustrative example (precise and relevant)

Pressure groups case studies

***Core task*:** using your **case studies,** evaluate the view that pressure groups enhance democracy.
Extended task: using your **case studies,** evaluate the view that pressure groups threaten democracy

Enhance democracy	**Threaten democracy**

Think tanks and lobbyists

Core task: complete the following definitions

Think tanks are .....
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Think tanks promote democracy because .....
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for example, ...
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However, think tanks are bad for democracy because .....
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for example, ...
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Extended task: note the work of two think tanks and their contribution to political debate.

Lobbyists are .....
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Lobbyists and lobbying firms have faced criticism because .....
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for example, ...
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Pressure groups are different from parties because .....
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Aiming for A: evaluate the view that even the most successful pressure group will never be as important as a political party.

Extended task: Compile a checklist of three major companies with impact in the political world. How have they influenced government, and what were the reasons for this influence?

Aiming for A: Could 'other organisations' actually help pressure groups to have greater influence?

Rights in context

Civil liberties are .....
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for example, ...
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Human rights are .....
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for example, ...
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Core task: for each piece of legislation, summarise what it did to enhance and protect the rights of citizens.
Extended task: for each act, in a different colour, explain why it was significant in the protection or enhancement of rights.

1215 Magna Carta

1998 Human Rights Act

2000 Freedom of Information Act

2010 Equality Act

Rights and responsibilities

Core task: identify the strengths and weaknesses of rights in the UK
Extended task: clearly explain why these are strengths and weaknesses
Aiming for A: provide a clear and well selected example to support each strength/weakness

Strengths of rights in the UK	Weaknesses of rights in the UK

Extended task: explain how judicial review has been used to increase the protection of citizens' rights with two well-selected examples of this.

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Aiming for A: what criticism is given of the use of judicial review in protecting rights?

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Core task: what responsibilities do citizens have in the UK?

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Extended task: what tensions are there between rights and responsibilities in the UK? (include specific examples/cases)

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Aiming for A: The Human Rights Act: why is it difficult to reform? - answer the questions below.

1. Why is the Conservative Party concerned about the Human Rights Act?

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2. Outline the arguments for reform of the Human Rights Act

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3. Outline the obstacles to reform of the Human Rights Act

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4. Explain why reforming the Human Rights Act is 'easier said than done'.

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<u>Who protects rights in the UK?</u>

Core task: create a spectrum on the next page running from 'protects rights well' to 'protects rights poorly'. Add the following to your spectrum:

- Judges
- Parliament

- The State
- The EU
- Pressure Groups

Extended task: explain how each protects rights, justify its position on your spectrum. 50 word minimum for each

Aiming for A: add two case studies/pieces of evidence for each (in support and against) and explain how each case illustrates your point.

What role do pressure groups play in protecting our rights?

Core task: focus on the work and actions of Liberty and The Howard League for Penal Reform. What actions have they taken to protect and extend rights in the UK?
Extended task: for each outline their objectives and their failures and successes

Liberty	The Howard League for Penal Reform

Aiming for A: which factor is most important in determining the success of pressure groups who wish to protect rights in the UK? Why?

Political Parties

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

Key term	Definition	Example
Right wing		
Left wing		
One Nation		
New Right		
Old Labour		
New Labour		

Classical Liberal		
Modern Liberal		
Party Systems		

Core task: annotate this political spectrum with UK parties, including the minor parties from your case studies.
Extended task: add in a summary of why you have placed each party where you have on the spectrum – 25 words.
Aiming for A: add a specific party policy from the 2017 election manifestoes that illustrates why you have place each party where you have.

Core task: summarise left wing and right wing views on the following issues (applicable to the UK).
Extended task: in a different colour, explain the permutations of these ideas that have developed in the UK (you may need to link to some of your work on ideologies) – think about centre-left and centre-right policies, as opposed to simply left and right wing.
Aiming for A: complete the final row on what **populist** ideas look like for each end of the spectrum

	Left wing	**Right wing**
Economic ideas		
Social ideas		
Populism		

Aiming for A: Think about states that currently only allow one party to form. Where are they, and how may this restrict ideas in those countries?

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The role of political parties

Core task: create an image for each **function** of a political party. NO WORDS!
Extended task: in addition, rank the functions that parties fulfil from most important to least important with an explanation of why you have ranked them in the way that you have.

Aiming for A: what is the importance of the role that parties play in a representative democracy?
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Core task: answer the following core questions
Extended task: illustrate each answer with at least one UK example (in a different colour)

1. What is the doctrine of the mandate?

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2. Why is it significant that the doctrine of the mandate exists?

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3. What problems exist with the doctrine of the mandate?

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4. Why is it important that parties provide precise manifestoes to the electorate during election campaigns?

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<u>How UK political parties are funded</u>

Core task: complete the table of the different ways in which UK parties are funded, with a brief summary of what each method is and at least n of funds raised for each.

Methods of funding UK parties

Extended task: how far does this achieve fairness in the funding of parties in the UK? What is the impact of this on electoral success? Support your answer with examples from different elections.

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Aiming for A: Evaluate the extent to which parties should be solely state funded, using as much evidence as possible.

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Core task: complete the table that surrounds the debate concerning UK party funding.

Arguments in favour of state funding of parties	Arguments against state funding of parties

Extended task: Evaluate the funding of parties in the UK.

Strengths	Weaknesses
Opportunities	**Threats**

Aiming for A: How does the funding of UK parties compare to the USA and funding in other countries?

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Political Parties – The Conservative Party

Core task: create a road map for the Conservative party showing its origins and developments. Use the following on your road map:

- ✓ Different paths to show different strands of thought or dominant factions in the party
- ✓ Speed signs to show where there has been slow/rapid change
- ✓ Change in direction where the party has changed its approach
- ✓ Landmarks to represent the key ideas of the party over time

Extended task: for each faction of the party, outline their beliefs in the following policy areas, with specific policy examples from across time (i.e. not just current policy)

	Traditional/One-Nation Conservative Party	**New Right/Thatcherite Conservative Party**	**Modern Conservative Party**
Economy			
Law and Order			
Welfare			
Foreign Policy			

Aiming for A: is it true to suggest that the Conservative Party is the most internally divided party in the UK?

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Extended task: for each faction in the Conservative Party, summarise their beliefs, and the extent to which they differ from the rest of their party.
Aiming for A: which personalities are associated with each faction; do thy help or hinder their cause?

- Covid Recovery Group

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- Conservative Way Forward

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- Tory Reform Group

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- European Research Group

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Core task: complete the definition to the question below and the mind mapped plan
Extended task: in addition, what is your line of argument?
Aiming for A: mind map a plan to this question but write out your mini judgements and your overall conclusion.

Evaluate the view that the Conservative Party has stayed true to traditional Conservative values [30]

Definition

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Line of argument

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Mind map plan + judgements + overall evaluation

Political Parties – The Labour Party

Core task: create a road map for the Labour party showing its origins and developments. Use the following on your road map:

- ✓ Different paths to show different strands of thought or dominant factions in the party
- ✓ Speed signs to show where there has been slow/rapid change
- ✓ Change in direction where the party has changed its approach
- ✓ Landmarks to represent the key ideas of the party over time

Extended task: for each faction of the party, outline their beliefs in the following policy areas, with specific policy examples from across time (i.e. not just current policy)

	'Old' Labour	**New Labour**	**Post-Crash Labour Party**
Economy			
Law and Order			
Welfare			
Foreign Policy			

Aiming for A: is it true to suggest that the Labour Party is the most internally divided party in the UK?

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Extended task: for each faction in the Labour Party, summarise their beliefs, and the extent to which they differ from the rest of their party.
Aiming for A: which personalities are associated with each faction; do they help or hinder their cause?

- Momentum

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- Blairites

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- Blue Labour

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- Labour Together

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Core task: complete the definition to the question below and the mind mapped plan
Extended task: in addition, what is your line of argument?
Aiming for A: mind map a plan to this question but write out your mini judgements and your overall conclusion.

Evaluate the view that the Labour has stayed true to socialist values [30]

Definition

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Line of argument

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Mind map plan + mini-conclusions + overall evaluation

Political Parties – The Liberal Democrats

Core task: create a road map for the Liberal Democrats showing its origins and developments. Use the following on your road map:

- ✓ Different paths to show different strands of thought or dominant factions in the party
- ✓ Speed signs to show where there has been slow/rapid change
- ✓ Change in direction where the party has changed its approach
- ✓ Landmarks to represent the key ideas of the party over time

Extended task: for each faction of the party, outline their beliefs in the following policy areas, with specific policy examples from across time (i.e. not just current policy)

	Classical Liberals	**Modern Liberals**	**The Liberal Democrats**
Economy			
Law and Order			
Welfare			
Foreign Policy			

Extended task: for each faction in the Liberal Democrats, summarise their beliefs, and the extent to which they differ from the rest of their party.
Aiming for A: which personalities are associated with each faction; do they help or hinder their cause?

- Orange Book Liberals

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- Social Liberals

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Core task: complete the definition to the question below and the mind mapped plan
Extended task: in addition, what is your line of argument?
Aiming for A: mind map a plan to this question but write out your mini-judgements and your overall conclusion.

Evaluate the view that the Liberal Democrats are only influenced by Liberal values [30]

Definition

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Line of argument

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Mind map plan + mini-conclusions + overall evaluation

Extended task: To what extent are the three main UK parties influences by the ideas of **liberalism**? Consider the following issues:

- The protection of human rights

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- Constitutional reform

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- Social justice

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- Welfare

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Political Parties – Other UK parties

Core task: create a road map for UK political parties from 1990 onwards, showing their development and electoral success. Use a different colour for each party, and include the following parties: Conservatives, Labour, Lib Dems, SNP, UKIP and the Green Party.

. Use the following on your road map:

- ✓ Different paths to show different electoral success of each party
- ✓ Speed signs to show where there has been slow/rapid change in each party
- ✓ Change in direction where the party has changed its approach
- ✓ Landmarks to represent the key ideas/events of the party over time

Party	Share of vote	Number of seats
Cons		
Lab		
LD		
SNP		
UKIP		
Green		
Other?		

Party	Share of vote	Number of seats
Cons		
Lab		
LD		
SNP		
UKIP		
Green		
Other?		

Party	Share of vote	Number of seats
Cons		
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SNP		
UKIP		
Green		
Other?		

Party	Share of vote	Number of seats
Cons		
Lab		
LD		
SNP		
UKIP		
Green		
Other?		

Party	Share of vote	Number of seats
Cons		
Lab		
LD		
SNP		
UKIP		
Green		
Other?		

Extended task: for each general election, find the share of the vote that each party has gained.

1992

1997

2001

2005

2010

2015

Party	Share of vote	Number of seats
Cons		
Lab		
LD		
SNP		
UKIP		
Green		
Other?		

2017

***Core task*:** what conclusions can you draw from this data about the success of minor parties in the UK since 1990?

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Party	Share of vote	Number of seats
Cons		
Lab		
LD		
SNP		
UKIP		
Green		
Other?		

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Extended task: what has been the impact of minor parties on the major parties in the UK political system?

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Aiming for A: what are the prospects for the future success of minor parties in the UK?

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Extended task: for each party, summarise their policies in each area.
Aiming for A: make links to policies from the 2017 manifesto

	The Green Party
Economy	
Law and Order	
Welfare	
Foreign Policy	

	DUP
Economy	
Law and Order	
Welfare	
Foreign Policy	

	The SNP
Economy	
Law and Order	
Welfare	
Foreign Policy	

Minor parties and their leaders

Core task: who is the leader of each party, and how are they portrayed in the media (look at a cross-section of media outlets including print and other types)
Extended task: has the leader had any notable impact on the fortunes of each party?

The Green Party

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The SNP

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DUP

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Core task: complete the definition to the question below and the mind mapped plan
Extended task: in addition, what is your line of argument?
Aiming for A: mind map a plan to this question but write out your mini conclusions and your overall conclusion.

Evaluate the view that minor parties are now of limited significance in the UK [30]

Definition

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Line of argument

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Mind map plan + mini-judgements + overall evaluation

Consensus and adversary politics

***Core task*:** define the key terms
Extended task: give an example of each period in UK political history and assess how the major parties fit into this dichotomy
***Aiming for A*:** who are the specific individuals and what are the specific policies associated with each of these periods in British political history?

Consensus politics

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Adversary politics

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Trouble spot! What is the difference between adversarial politics and an adversarial style?

<u>Party classification</u>

Core task: complete the definitions of what the following party systems are.
Extended task: in your summary**,** explain which electoral systems are most likely to relate in this party system

What is meant by the term 'party system'?

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One-party system

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Dominant-party system

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Two-party system

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Three-party system

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Multi-party system

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Extended task: which party systems exist in the devolved regions, and how does that link to the electoral systems used in these regions?

a) Scotland

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b) Wales

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c) Northern Ireland

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Extended task: to what extent is the UK a two-party system? Your answer should refer to elections since 1945.

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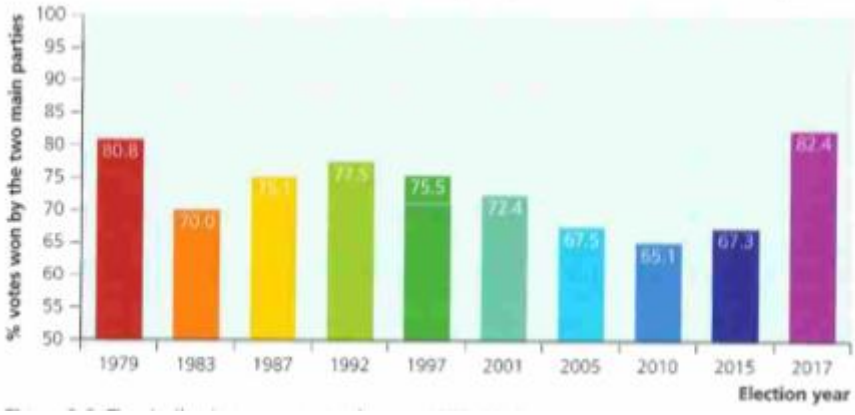
Aiming for A:: review the number of seats won by parties in UK General Elections, with the percentage of votes won by parties. Does this give a conflicting picture of the party-system in the UK since 1979?

Table 2.9 Two-party dominance in the UK, 1979–2017

Election year	Conservative seats	Labour seats	Third party seats	% of seats won by two main parties
1979	339	269	11	95.8
1983	397	209	23	93.3
1987	376	229	22	93.0
1992	336	271	20	93.2
1997	165	418	46	88.4
2001	166	413	52	87.8
2005	198	356	62	85.6
2010	307	258	57	86.9
2015	331	232	56	86.7
2017	318	262	35	89.2



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Extended task: what kind of party system exists at a local level in the UK? Use evidence in your response.

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Factors that affect party success

Core task: explain why small parties fail using the headings as a guide.
Extended task: provide a UK example of this which illustrates each reason.

Why small parties fail	How small parties can succeed
They lack funding	May find wealthy benefactors
The electoral system may discriminate against them	In devolved regions, PR helps small parties
They lack media exposure	Charismatic leader can help gain media support
People consider voting for them a wasted vote	Fewer votes wasted in proportional systems

Core task: Identify the factors the can affect party success:
1. Party leadership 2.media 3.party unity and division 4.finance.
Extended task: analyse and explain the impact that each factor has on party success, with specific UK examples and a judgement about which is most important.
Aiming for A: make and annotate links between factors Determine the relative importance of factors.

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