

## Week One Introduction to Politics



1. Look through the *Week 1 Introduction* ppt and at the picture on slides 2-11 and decide how these can be viewed as politics.  
For each slide write down one or two words/phrases to describe what aspect of politics you think this relates to.
2. Then (slide 13) read this Politics Review article about Democracy at [Week1 Politics Review democracy introduction.pdf \(tggsacademy.org\)](https://www.tggsacademy.org/Week1_Politics_Review_democracy_introduction.pdf) and note down (bullet points or spider diagram) 7 different definitions / types of democracy.
3. How would you define politics? (no more than two sentences)
4. Slides 14 and 15 give you an overview of the course and what you need to do to be ready for September – the main message is to follow politics in the news
5. Find a recent cartoon about current political events/people that you like (Mr Endersby regularly tweets out cartoons), print it and write a few sentences about what point the cartoonist is making.
6. Slides 18-20 - How can politics be viewed as both a conflict of ideas and a conflict of interests? Explain briefly and provide examples

7. Slides 21 – 24 – Key political terms about power and authority.

Note your answers to the questions on legitimacy from slides 23/24:

- The Queen
- Kim Jong-Un?
- Boris Johnson?
- Vladimir Putin?
- Joe Biden?
- Is it always straightforward to identify how legitimate a leader's authority is?

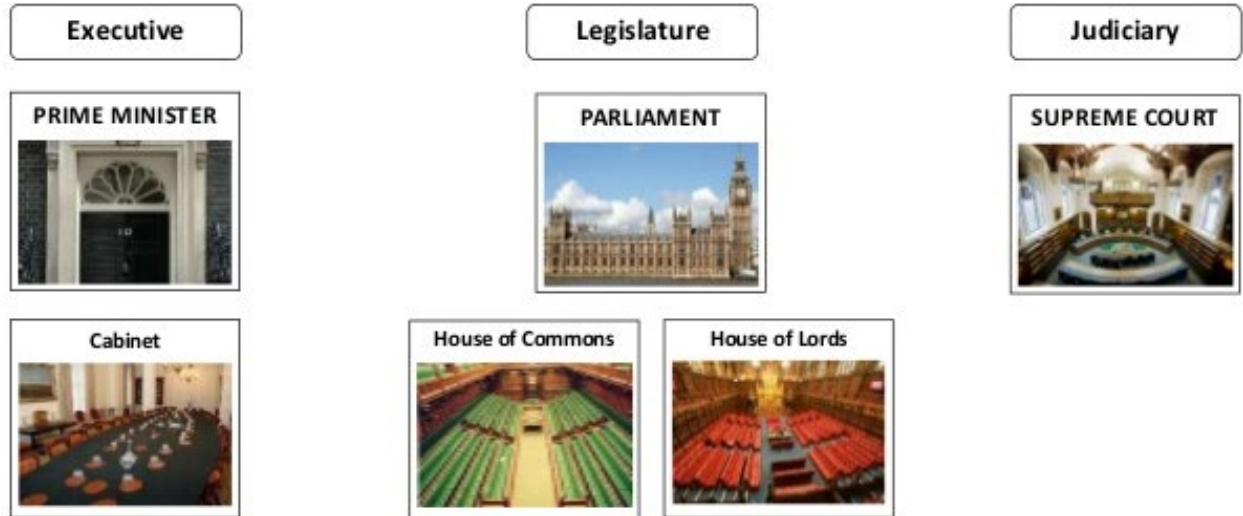
Then read slides 25 and 26 and answer the Qs in red on slide 26:

- Why has national sovereignty been an issue in British politics in recent years?
- Research an example of Scotland having a different policy from England?
- On really big political questions, the UK can hold referendums to let the people decide - examples of this?
- Sometimes the courts tell parliament that it's laws go against rights and should be changed –what were these two cases about?

8. Slide 27 looks at Rights and Civil Liberties – use the links to answer the Qs in red on the slide:

- What rights do you have?
- Rights can clash sometimes – for example?
- Rights can clash with the needs of national security – what is the Shamima Begum case about?
- How did covid affect our liberties?

# THE THREE BRANCHES OF UK GOVERNMENT



9. Using the image above try to find examples of the Executive falling out with the Legislature - research Theresa May trying and failing to bypass Parliament to get Brexit done, and Boris trying and failing to prorogue Parliament. How was the Supreme Court involved?

10. Modern British politics was shaped by significant key events including:

- The creation of NHS
- Britain joining the EEC (later renamed the EU)
- Margaret Thatcher privatising key industries
- Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland getting some devolved powers (ability to pass some of their own laws, e.g. free tuition fees in Scotland)
- Britain leaving the EU

Briefly research each of the events and create a timeline to show them – you could also include the prime ministers from 1945 until today and colour code it for which party was in power.