

Welcome to UK Government & Politics!

Between now and September you need to be working on the following projects to help give you a grounding in all things political!

1. Write a short essay answering the below question.

Does the UK have a democratic deficit?



Within your answer you need to make reference to:

- The differences between direct and representative democracy
- What the strengths and weaknesses of the UK democratic system are - think about the following:
 - ✓ The electoral system - is FPTP fair?
 - ✓ Parliament - what does it do well? What needs to be reformed?
 - ✓ Pressure groups - do they disperse power?
- How could democracy in the UK be enhanced?

The essay should be typed up and should demonstrate a wide range of reading and research.

2. Produce a presentation summarising the current state of the Brexit negotiations. Ensure you include information on the following:

- Definitions of a 'soft' and 'hard' Brexit.
- The Brexit policies of the Conservatives, Labour, SNP and Liberal Democrats.
- Divisions within each party over their parties' Brexit policies



- Key defeats the government has suffered in the House of Commons and the House of Lords

3. To show that you have been following the news over the summer holidays you must bring in 10 articles that you have found relating to UK Government & Politics.

They can be cut outs from a newspaper or print outs from the internet. Be prepared to discuss why you have picked them as relevant to UK politics.

Details of useful websites can be found below:

- bbc.com/politics
- theguardian.com/politics
- telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/
- economist.com/sections/britain
- theweek.co.uk
- private-eye.co.uk
- politics.co.uk
- politicshome.com

You should also aim to watch at least one of the following every week:

- Question Time - Thursdays BBC 1
- The Week - Thursdays BBC 1 - after QT
- The Andrew Marr show - Sunday mornings, BBC 1
- The Politics Show - Sunday mornings, BBC 1



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