

Year 11 Government & Politics 'A' Level Preparation Work

Hello,

I am pleased you have decided to study G&P next year. This is not an exam in current affairs and the news, although you will quickly get used to taking more of an interest in political affairs. This is an academic subject, which no prior knowledge of politics is needed. However, it would be very worthwhile if you did begin to do some preparation work for September.

Below are some things you could be getting on with over the next few months:

Task one

Research and create definitions for the following key words:

- General Election
- Regional Election
- Representative
- Democracy
- Political Participation
- Devolution

Task Two

To aid your knowledge of Political Parties, you must answer the following for TWO UK political parties of your choice:

1. Name of Political Party
2. Leader of Party
3. Number of MPs in the House of Commons
4. Four key policies from the 2019 General Election.
5. When were they founded?

Task Three

Be selective: I have many resources you can use. However, don't get overwhelmed. Start a political diary and aim to summarise a politics story from a newspaper and listen to a radio programme or a podcast each week. You will be amazed at how quickly you start to pick things up.

Newspapers

The Week (<http://subscription.theweek.co.uk/subscribe/>)
The Economist (<https://subscriptions.economist.com>)
The Guardian <http://www.guardian.co.uk/>
The Telegraph <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/>
The Independent <http://www.independent.co.uk/>
The Times <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/>
BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

Web Links

- BBC – Politics section – http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/default.stm
- Democracy live – <http://news.bbc.co.uk/democracylive/hi>
- The Guardian – <http://politics.guardian.co.uk/>
- History Learning Site – www.historylearningsite.co.uk/gbpolitics.htm
- Tutor2u – www.tutor2u.net/revision_notes_politics.asp
- UK Parliament – www.parliament.uk
- 10 Downing Street – www.number-10.gov.uk/output/Page1.asp
- Wikipedia – www.wikipedia.org
- The Conservative Party – www.conservatives.com/
- The Labour Party – www.labour.org.uk/home
- The Liberal Democrats – www.libdems.org.uk/
- UK Polling Data <http://ukpollingreport.co.uk/>
- UKIP <http://www.ukip.com/>

BBC TV and Radio Programmes

BBC Parliament

- Daily Politics
- The Politics Show
- Question Time
- Andrew Marr Show
- The Westminster Hour
- Beyond Westminster
- The Week in Westminster

Podcasts

<https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/alevel-politics-podcast>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/search?q=politics&suggid=>

<http://www.politics.co.uk/podcast/>

https://www.learnoutloud.com/category_podcast.php?cat=0&catid=26&level=0&id=26
&

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/series/politicsweekly>

<https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2018/jun/17/political-podcasts-10-of-the-best>

Task Four

Find out what a pressure group is and research one of the following pressure groups:

The BMA

Amnesty International

Greenpeace

Extinction Rebellion

You need to understand and explain:

What do they campaign for?

How do they campaign?

Have they been successful?

2. Investigate the role of an MP.

a.) research your local MP, who is he/she; which party do they represent; which constituency do they represent; what have they recently shown an interest in; research their voting history to see where they stand on key issues. <https://members.parliament.uk/>

Look at the MP in relation to the 2019 election. How many votes did they win by? Why do you think people voted for them.

E mail you MP! Ask them about themselves and what issues they feel are important. I want to see their reply please.

USA G&P

I want to consider what is currently going on in the US. We will use this in our work next year.

Find out and explain why people are protesting?

Can you research previous issues with black people and the police?

What do 'Black Lives Matter' do?

Can you find evidence to suggest that Black people in the US unfairly treated? Look at numbers arrested/ at college/ their average income?

Can you find evidence to suggest that the US government has in the past tried to pass laws and do things to improve the lives of black people?

What do you think about the case and the protests?