

## NEW WORD: DEMOCRACY



**Meaning:** Power to the people .A country that has regular free and fair elections, a free press and its citizens have rights.

**Synonym:** Elected representatives

**In a sentence:** The UK is a **democracy** because we hold general elections at least every five years.

**Exam Technique:**

What is good about a democracy?

What rights might citizens have living in a democracy?

## NEW WORD: DICTATORSHIP



**Meaning:** A country where all the power is in one persons hands. There are no free and fair elections and the media may not be free to report on many issues

**Synonym:** Authoritarian Regime

**In a sentence:** Hitler was in charge of a **dictatorship** when he abolished the Reichstag, outlawed other political parties and made himself Fuhrer of Germany.

**Exam Technique:**

What are the negatives in a dictatorship?

Describe the Nazi dictatorship of Germany in the 1930s?

NEW WORD: UK  
PARLIAMENT

**Meaning:** Is made up of both Houses of Parliament and the monarchy. Their main role is to check and challenge the work of Government (Scrutiny) and debate important issues.

**Synonym:** Westminster

**In a sentence:** The **UK Parliament** has a big legislative role as it decides on new laws and amends old ones

**Exam Technique:**

How does Parliament hold the Government to account?

What is parliament made up of?

Is the UK Parliament democratic?

## NEW WORD: MONARCHY



**Meaning:** The royal family of a county. A form of government with a monarch at the head.

**Synonym:** The royal family

**In a sentence:** The reigning **monarch** in the UK is Queen Elizabeth II and next in line is her son Charles.

**Exam Technique:**

What benefits does the British Monarchy bring to the UK?

Is a monarchy a democratic form of government?

Can you name any other members of the British royal family?

**NEW WORD: GOVERNMENT**

**Meaning:** A group of people with the authority and power to govern a country or state.

**Synonym:** Welfare / Charity

**In a sentence:** In 2017 the Conservative Party are leading the UK **Government** and Theresa May is the Prime Minister.

**Exam Technique:**

What responsibilities does the Government have to the people?

What is a coalition government?

What is the role of an MP?

How is a government elected?

**NEW WORD: COUNCIL**

**Meaning:** a group of local people elected to manage the affairs of a town, county or district rather than central government.

**Synonym:** Local authority

**In a sentence:** The **local council** is responsible for the rubbish collection, the libraries and many other local issues in my area.

**Exam Technique:**

What is a ward?

How are local Councillors elected?

Explain the role of the local council?

**NEW WORD: HOUSE OF COMMONS**

**Meaning:** This is the lower chamber of parliament where the 650 MP's are elected to every general election. The seats are green and the 'speaker' will preside over debates and the running of it.

**Synonym:** Lower House / Chamber

**In a sentence:** I enjoy watching the PM at the despatch box in the **House of Commons** responding to the opposition MP's.

**Exam Technique:**

Why makes people want to volunteer?

What are the benefits of volunteering?

Explain why charities rely so much on volunteers.

**NEW WORD: HOUSE OF LORDS**

**Meaning:** This is the upper chamber of parliament with over 700 members, which are known as peers. They are unelected members who have been nominated for their expertise. Seats are red.

**Synonym:** Upper House / Chamber

**In a sentence:** Some people believe that the unelected **House of Lords** should be abolished.

**Exam Technique:**

What role does the House of Lords play?

Is the House of Lords democratic?

**NEW WORD:**  
**CONSTITUENTS**

**Meaning:** A group of voters in a specified area who elect a representative to parliament (Legislative body)

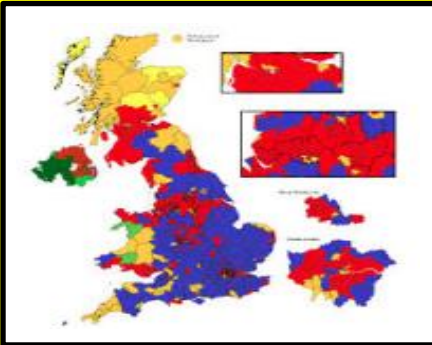
**Synonym:** Specified voters

**In a sentence:** As a constituent of Enfield North I have the right to contact my local MP about any concerning issues I have.

**Exam Technique:**

Why does an MP have to listen to their constituents?

What power do constituents have in influencing parliament?

**NEW WORD:**  
**CONSTITUENCIES**

**Meaning:** An area (locality) that an MP represents. There are 650 Constituencies in the UK who each have a local MP that represents them.

**Synonym:** Specified area

**In a sentence:** In 2015 the Scottish National Party won 56 out of 59 Constituencies in Scotland.

**Exam Technique:**

How many constituencies are there in the UK?

What is gerrymandering?

**NEW WORD: GENERAL ELECTION**

**Meaning:** Every five years in the UK the whole country gets to vote for the political party they want to be in charge of the national government. They do this by choosing their local MP

**Synonym:** Vote

**In a sentence:** Recently in the 2017 **general election** no single party won a majority of the seats.

**Exam Technique:**

Why is voter turnout low at General Elections?

Why is it important to vote?

Who can vote in elections?

**NEW WORD: ANARCHY**

**Meaning:** A state of disorder. No recognised government or authority in charge. Absolute freedom for people to do what ever they want.

**Synonym:** Chaos

**In a sentence:** There was **anarchy** on some streets of London during the riots in 2011.

**Exam Technique:**

Can anarchy ever be an effective form of government?

What would you do if there were no laws in the UK?



**NEW WORD: THE CABINET**

**Meaning:** A group of 20+ senior MP's who are chosen by the Prime Minister to lead on specific policy areas such as health, transport etc.

**Synonym:** Senior MP's

**In a sentence:** Theresa May recently order a **cabinet** reshuffle where some new MP's were promoted and some existing MP's had lost their roles in the cabinet.

**Exam Technique:**

What responsibilities do cabinet members have?

What is the ministerial code?

**NEW WORD: MP**

**Meaning:** A Member of Parliament. This person has been elected by their constituents to represent them in parliament.

**Synonym:** Elected person

**In a sentence:** As a local **MP** I must not only support my political party but also balance this with the needs of my local area when deciding which way to vote on issues in parliament.

**Exam Technique:**

What responsibilities does a Local MP have?

How can you contact your local MP?

Who is your local MP?

**NEW WORD: PEERS**

**Meaning:** Are members of the upper chamber (House of Lords). Most members are life peers although some still sit because they inherited the title/position from their parents.

**Synonym:** lords

**In a sentence:** Because peers are unelected representatives some people feel this is undemocratic.

**Exam Technique:**

Where do peers sit in Parliament?

What responsibilities do peers have?

**NEW WORD: CIVIL SERVICE**

**Meaning:** Employees who help the government in the day to day running of the country by helping to develop and implement policies. Civil servants are politically impartial.

**Synonym:** Government workers.

**In a sentence:** As a member of the civil service I am accountable to the public and must act with integrity, honesty and impartiality?

**Exam Technique:**

Why must civil servants be impartial?

How important is the civil service?