

A Level Politics

Part A - Bridging Work Task

This is a fantastic opportunity to expand your understanding of A Level Politics as you prepare for enrolment and start at Franklin in September.

Please complete the work and bring a copy to your enrolment, either printed or electronically.

The work will take you around **2 hours** so plan your time to best suit you.

How do I complete and submit my task?	<p>Complete the tasks on paper/handwritten or digitally, and bring a copy, either paper or electronically, to your enrolment appointment. Also, bring this along to your first lesson in September.</p> <p>If you didn't attend the Taster Day, don't worry. It isn't essential for completing this work, but please ensure that you have completed this bridging work.</p>															
Introduction to your Bridging Task	<p>This task will provide you with an introduction to the first topic you can expect to study in September, which will be British Politics. In this task you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the concept of democracy as it is applied in Britain• Understand the two main parties and other minor parties.															
Task details	<p>1. You need to research the following parties: Conservative, Green, Labour, Liberal Democrats, Reform.</p> <p>Your research technique: enter the name of each party into a search engine, e.g. Google. Follow your instincts, look on all social media (including TikTok).</p> <p>2. Following your research, complete the following table:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="427 1653 1434 1892"><thead><tr><th>Party name</th><th>Leader</th><th>Number of MPs</th><th>Key policies (20-30 words)</th><th>Your thoughts – what do you like/dislike about this party?</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr></tbody></table> <p>3. Make a judgement of the political parties and the nature of democracy in the UK by responding to the following question:</p>	Party name	Leader	Number of MPs	Key policies (20-30 words)	Your thoughts – what do you like/dislike about this party?										
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	<p>To what extent is the democratic system in the UK a ‘perfect system’? Write 300-500 words in response to this question. Be prepared to use your answer to contribute to class discussion in the first lesson.</p>
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Resources to help you with the Bridging Task	<p>Number of Members of Parliament (MPs) per parliament: https://members.parliament.uk/parties/commons</p>
Extension Tasks	
Extension Tasks to stretch and challenge you	<p>If you have completed the above to the best of your ability, feel free to try this extension task (<i>this is optional</i>):</p> <p>Research your MP and write a response to the following:</p> <p>My MP and what I think of them. (50-300 word)</p> <p>Advice: say who they are, what party they represent, how they come across on social media, key campaigns, and your opinion of what they have done and promise to do.</p> <p>If you do not know who your MP is then use this link: FindYourMP</p>
Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)	<p>You might enrol on these online courses and complete the following to push you a little further (this is optional):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International relations free course: Link 1 • International relations MOOCs: Link 2 • Open University, Introduction to UK Politics: Link 3

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Part B – Preparing for Studying at Franklin

A fantastic opportunity to widen your understanding of the course.

Examining Board and Specification	<p>This course follows Edexcel’s A Level Politics which includes the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UK Politics• Core Political Ideas: Liberalism, Socialism and Conservatism• UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas: Anarchism• Global Politics <p>Studying this course will give you a wide range of skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engaging critically with current affairs• presenting and debating• working as a team as well as individually• formulating and supporting an argument• Engaging with guest speakers from the wider world of politics <p>This qualification will allow you to study a wide range of courses at university, such as Politics, International Relations, History, Philosophy Politics and Economics (PPE), Archaeology, Law, English, Sociology and so on. The skills developed on the course will also support studies in the STEM field.</p> <p>There are many different career fields that students go into after studying Politics: such as politics, teaching, law, researchers for think tanks, analysts, journalism, marketing and communications, civil service and so on.</p> <p>You can find out more information about it via the exam board website here.</p>
Preparing for the course	<p>To further prepare for the course, why not check out some of the following:</p> <p>Websites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• www.politicshome.com• www.parliament.uk• News websites; regional, national and international. <p>Digital Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The A level Politics show podcast• Introduction to UK Parliament <p>Additional things you could do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Watch Channel 4 News or Newsnight• Observe local council meetings• Participate in politics e.g. a protest• Internship with an MP