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A Level Politics



Exam Focus: Paper 3

Each paper will have a choice of:
- 2 Comparison questions (12 marks),
- 3 essay questions (do 2) (30 marks each)

And 1 compulsory comparison question (12 marks)

This paper is worth 1/3 of your total mark.



Structure, policies and factions within the Democrat and Republican parties

Campaign finance

Presidential elections: Primaries, caucuses, Electoral college

Paper 3, Topic 5: Democracy and participation

Methods, types and power of US interest groups

Voting behaviour and voting patterns

The legislative process

Structure and powers of Congress

How Congress 'checks' other branches

The role of parties in Congress

Role and powers of the president



Limits on Presidential power

Case studies of presidents

Rights and race and the Supreme Court

Judicial activism and restraint

Paper 3, Topic 2: Congress

Paper 3, Topic 3: The President

Paper 3, Topic 4: The Supreme Court and race

Congressional elections

Informal powers of the president

Imperial presidency

Nature of the Supreme Court

Appointments process and politicisation

Composition and ideology of the current court

The extent to which the constitution enhances democracy

The amendment process

EXOP, NSC, OBM, WHO

Role of the president in foreign policy

Judicial review

Key cases

Comparison with the UK constitution

Checks and balances

Paper 3, Topic 1: The US constitution

What federalism is, and to what extent the US is still a federal system

Structure of the constitution

Differing views and tensions within Feminism

Core ideas and strands of feminism

YEAR 13

Exam Focus: Paper 1 and 2

Each paper will have a choice of:
- 2 extract questions (30 marks),
- 2 essay questions (30 marks)
- 2 essay questions on the ideologies (24 marks).

Each paper is worth 1/3 of your total mark.

Paper 2: Non-core ideology: Feminism

Origins of feminism

Study 5 key thinkers



Core ideas and strands of socialism

Differing views and tensions in socialism

Origins of socialism

Origins of liberalism

Core ideas and strands of liberalism

Core ideas and strands of conservatism

Paper 1 Core Ideologies: Liberalism, Conservatism and Socialism

Study 5 key thinkers in each ideology

Differing views and tensions in liberalism

Differing views and tensions in conservatism

Origins of conservatism

Debates on systems

Comparison of FPTP with other systems

Advantages and disadvantages of electoral systems

Referendums in the UK and their impact

Case studies – 3 different general elections

Impact of systems on representation and voter choice

Analysis of voting behaviour

Class, Gender, Age, Regional voting

Different types of media and their impact

Media bias

Opinion polls and elections

FPPT
AMS
STV
SV

Paper 1, Topic 3: Electoral Systems

Paper 1, Topic 4: Voting Behaviour

Paper 2, Topic 3: The Executive

Paper 2, Topic 4: Relations

Powers of the PM

The cabinet

Special advisors

Ministers and their departments

The supreme court

Relationship between parliament and the executive

Judicial neutrality and independence

Relations between SC and gov/parliament

Tories
Labour
Lib
Dems

The political spectrum

Features and functions of political parties

Funding of political parties

Is there a crisis in democracy?

Participation in politics

Pressure groups methods

Widening of the franchise

Direct v representative democracy

Paper 1, Topic 2: Political Parties

Paper 1, Topic 1: Democracy and Participation

Paper 2, Topic 2: The Legislature

Paper 2, Topic 1: The constitution

Scrutiny of the executive

Role of MPs, peers and backbenchers

Structure of the Commons and the Lords

Passage of a bill

Sources of the UK constitution

Devolution in UK nations

What is a constitution and what type we have in the UK

Constitutional reforms 1997-current

Structure and powers of the Commons and the Lords

YEAR 12

Welcome