

History and Politics Department: Revision Advice

Subject	Politics
Exam Board	Edexcel
Unit	Unit 2: Governing the UK
Unit Code	6GP02
Format of Exam	80 mins. Section A 40 mins. A choice of 2 questions (with 3 parts) with sources as a stimulus. Section B 40 mins. A choice of 2 essay questions. Students answer 2 questions from a choice of 4.
Link to Specification	http://www.edexcel.com/quals/gce/gce08/gov/Pages/default.aspx

Key Issues for Revision

- **Constitutions** (The sources of the UK constitution, the nature of Constitutionalism in the UK and advantages and disadvantages codified and uncoded constitutions.)
- **Sovereignty** (Where sovereignty is located in the UK, how membership of the EU and devolution has affected sovereignty. Key reforms to the constitution from 1997 - eg devolution, House of Lords reform, FOI, HRA etc.)
- **Parliament** (The role and effectiveness of Parliament, assessment of recent and proposed reforms to UK Parliament).
- **Prime Minister and Cabinet** (Cabinet government - role of the PM and Cabinet, Powers and styles of the PM)
- **Judges and Civil Liberties** (Judicial independence and neutrality, the role of judicial review. The nature of Civil Liberties and the impact of the HRA, the relationship between the Judiciary and the Executive)

Revision Materials

Please make full use of the McNaughton/Edexcel textbook that you have been given and 'Tutor2U' revision notes and *Edexcel AS Politics "ExamBuster" notes*.

Suggested Revision Activities

- **Produce detailed plans** in response to part (c) questions and essay questions. Sample questions are available in the Tutor2U revision notes and pages 198/9, 240/1, 272-4, 296-297 of the McNaughton/Edexcel textbook. Also pages 300-315 for examination guidance (applicable to units 1 and 2).
- **Practice full responses to past/possible questions** (parts a,b and c (40 minutes for all three parts of the question) and the essay question (40 marks in 40 mins) under timed conditions.
- **Make detailed revision notes on the key issues** - use the specification and the key terms it includes as a starting point.
- **Try to tackle a series of part (a) and (b) questions** to ensure that you are comfortable giving precise, concise definitions.