

5th Year Politics Transition – UK political parties

Overview: In this course, we are going to look at the two main political parties in the UK: Conservatives and Labour. We will see the key ideological differences between these parties and how these parties have developed until the 2019 General Election.

Week One: The Political Spectrum what are the key differences between right wing (normally associated with the Conservative Party) and left wing (normally associated with the Labour Party)?

Task one:

- Go to this website: <https://www.prechewedpolitics.co.uk/>
- Click on UK Member login
- Username: politics@reigategrammar.org
- Password: Learn@Home294
- Scroll down and on the right you will find UK Politics – click on political parties.
- Watch video 2 (What is socialism?) and answer these questions:

2. What is socialism?

1. What century was Karl Marx writing?	
2. In Marx's theory of history, how many stages would a nation progress through before Communism?	
3. What is the Proletariat?	
4. What do the Bourgeoisie do to the Proletariat?	
5. Socialism believe that people can achieve more by working in what sort of manner?	
6. What is egalitarianism	
7. In capitalism, what equality do socialism see as a myth?	
8. What do socialists think about private property?	
9. What do socialists think should do with the ownership of industry?	
10. When did the first socialist revolution take place?	
11. In which year did all men get the vote in the UK (with no property qualification)?	
12. Which groups in the UK sought to form the Labour Party to represent the working class?	
13. When did Labour win it first majority election in the UK?	
14. This Labour government in 1945 backed the recommendations of which report?	

15. In which year did this Labour government pass the National Health Service Act?	
16. Who was the Labour Prime Minister of this government in 1945?	
17. When did the post war consensus end?	
18. During the post war consensus there was agreement on 4 key principles: collectivism, mixed economy and welfare state. What is the missing principle?	
19. Which type of socialists accept capitalism?	
20. Who was the moderate Labour politician who wanted to reform Clause IV in the 1950s?	

Task two:

- Stay on the prechewed page and go to video 2 (what is conservatism?) and answer these questions:

3. What is conservatism? (Intro to party politics)

1. How do conservatives view change?	
2. What do conservatives want to do with the existing social order?	
3. What view of humanity (human nature) do Conservatives have?	
4. What do Conservatives think about order	
5. Which political figure is associated with the term “One-Nation Tories”	
6. What was the name of his novel that warned about the UK being divided into two nations?	
7. One Nation Tories think the rich have obligations to which groups?	
8. What term (normally used to describe the relationship between father and child) is used to describe One Nation Tories?	
9. What was the proper name of the ‘Butler Act’ 1944?	
10. Which One Nation Tory Prime Minister wrote a book called “The Middle Way” in 1938?	

Task three

- You should now have some understanding of left and right wing. Look at these policies and decide whether they are left or right wing. Please write at least 3 sentences explaining your thinking.

Left-wing or Right-wing policies

	Policy	Left or right wing explain
1	Right to buy – tenants of council houses are able to buy these homes at a discounted rate	
2	A high inheritance tax – a tax that someone pays to inherit money/property of a person who has died.	
3	Subsidised rail prices for commuters	
4	All key sports events must be shown on free-to-air TV (not channels that you have to pay for)	
5	Compulsory national service for youths aged 18-25	
6	The use of the death penalty	

7	A strong commitment to environmental issues and reducing climate change.	
8	International aid for developing countries.	
9	Reform of the House of Lords	
10	Over 75s getting a free TV Licence	

Task four

- You might know whether you have personal right or left wing political views (some of you were very vocal in the mock election at school!).
- However, go to this website and take the test where you answer questions on your person beliefs: <https://www.politicalcompass.org/test/en>
- Here is my result:

