**UNIT OVERVIEW:** Democracy and Participation

**ENQUIRY:** Is the UK facing a democratic deficit?

|  |
| --- |
| **Unit intention:** To explore the workings of democracy and assess the different features that makes a country democratic. It will also explore the different ways people participate from traditional to modern forms of political participation.  |
| **Success criteria** | 🗸 | X |
| 1. I can **distinguish** between the different types of democracies and explain the significance. I can **assess** and **evaluate** direct and representative democracy.
2. I **identify** and **assess** the different features of democracy and **evaluate** whether the UK is facing a democratic deficit.
3. I can **identify** and **assess** the traditional and modern forms of political participation. I can **evaluate** whether the UK is facing a participation crisis.
4. I can **explain** how the franchise has been extended. I can **identify, assess** and **evaluate** whether the franchise should be extended further.
5. I can **identify** and **explain** the different types of pressure groups. I can **assess** the different factors for PGs success and failures. I can provide a detail account of two case studies, one sectional and the other promotional.
6. I can **explain, assess** and **evaluate** the significance of Think Tanks, Lobbyists and Corporations in influencing government decisions and whether they promote or hinder democracy.
7. I can **identify** and **explain** the key milestones of the development of a rights-based culture in the UK. I can **assess** and **evaluate** the extent to which citizens’ rights are protected. I can **assess** the debate between
 |  |  |
| To be successful:* Flip reading before every lesson (use textbook, articles provided by the teacher, GC resources)
* Come to class with questions for the teacher.
* Stay up to date by reading on current affairs.
* Regular essay plans and timed assessments
* Collaborate with others.
 |
| **Topic Sequence*** Introduction to Democracy
* Direct and Representative democracy
* Is the UK democratic?
* Is the UK facing a participation crisis?
* Extending the franchise debates
* Pressure Groups – how successful are they?
* Think Tanks, Lobbyists and Corporations
* Rights in Context
 | **Useful links and Resources:** **BBC News** [www.bbc.com/politics](http://www.bbc.com/politics) **Channel Four News (Politics)** – in depth video analysis of political stories. <https://www.channel4.com/news/>The **Economist** has analysis and opinions of the latest political stories. <https://www.economist.com/> **The Telegraph** – Current political news, more from a Conservative perspective. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/>The **Guardian** – Current political news, more from a liberal perspective. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics>**Blogs****UCL Constitution Unit** – Research based blog dealing with analysis of current political problems<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/> **Politics blog** <http://alevelpolitics.com/>**Useful resources** **Tutor2u – resources for A-Level Politics** <https://www.tutor2u.net/politics>**Politics Review Magazines – Extra Resources** <https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/magazines/magazines-extras/politics-review-extras> |

|  |
| --- |
| **Exam Questions** |
| **Evaluate the view that the UK has a democratic deficit (30 marks)****Evaluate the view that the UK should adopt direct democracy (30 marks)****Evaluate the view that citizens’ rights are protected in the UK (30 marks)****Evaluate the view that Think Tanks, Lobbyists and Corporations influence government decisions (30 marks).****Evaluate the view that pressure groups are successful in influencing government decisions (30 marks)** |
| **Teacher Question Time**Write questions below you would like the teacher to clarify your understanding on |
|  |