**UNIT OVERVIEW:** Democracy and Participation

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

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| **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> | | |

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| **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 |
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