



# Who runs the United Kingdom?

Lesson 6

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**Lesson 6: Who runs the United Kingdom?  
Key Stage 3 (Year 7)**

<p><b>Overview</b></p>	<p>To draw together their learning across this scheme of work, students produce a piece of work addressing the key enquiry question: ‘Who runs the United Kingdom?’ They choose whether to create a leaflet, essay or mind map and use success criteria to shape the content. They then peer assess each other’s work and end the lesson by considering how they could get involved in politics and perhaps become the leaders of tomorrow.</p>
<p><b>Citizenship skills and concepts</b></p>	<p><b>Concepts:</b> democracy <b>Skills:</b> political literacy, debate</p>
<p><b>Essential teaching guidance</b></p>	<p><b>Timings for each task are given as guidelines. Please use your professional judgement when deciding how to deliver the tasks, depending on time available and your students’ needs.</b></p> <p>The lessons in this scheme of work have been written by experts to be generic and do not reference any specific political parties or ideology. Please be mindful of different levels of exposure to politics within the classroom, and consider differing viewpoints and how students may challenge one another. Read the government’s guidance on political impartiality in schools before teaching any political lessons.</p> <p>You may also find the <a href="#">ACT guidance on teaching sensitive and controversial issues</a> and <a href="#">ACT guidance on Political Impartiality in Citizenship</a> helpful.</p>
<p><b>Learning questions</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is Parliament?</li> <li>2. What is the government, and how is it different to Parliament?</li> <li>3. How are our leaders elected?</li> <li>4. Does Westminster hold all of the power?</li> </ol>
<p><b>Lesson resources</b></p>	<p>Slide presentation for the lesson</p> <p>Worksheet: Who runs the UK? Multiple choice quiz (for Starter task)</p> <p>Worksheet: Who runs the UK? Task sheet (for Task 1)</p> <p>Worksheet: Who runs the UK? Peer assessment (for Task 2)</p> <p>Glossary of key terms</p>

<p><b>Differentiation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Consider using no-hands-up questioning to encourage students to engage with the learning, and reduce the likelihood of students being passive.</li> <li>● Ensure sufficient ‘think time’ is provided before selecting a student or before moving on to another student to get the answer.</li> <li>● Use the phone-a-friend technique for students who cannot answer a question. They select a peer to provide an answer; once the right answer is given, the original student repeats it.</li> <li>● Use choral (whole class) responses for new terminology or to address misconceptions.</li> <li>● Students can choose between making a leaflet, writing an essay and making a detailed mind map for the main task. You will need to offer different levels of support throughout the lesson, whilst students work on their individual tasks.</li> <li>● You could offer sentence starters, essay structure and model making the mind map.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Assessment opportunities</b></p>	<p>This lesson offers assessment opportunities through the multiple choice quiz, main task and peer assessment. Questioning should be used throughout the lesson – through reviewing the multiple choice quiz and whilst students work on their individual assessment tasks.</p>
<p><b>Do now / starter/ entry task</b> (10 minutes)</p>	<p><b>Multiple choice quiz</b></p> <p><i>Slides 2 to 5</i></p> <p>Give each student a copy of the worksheet ‘Who runs the UK? Multiple choice quiz’. Ask them to complete the quiz independently. This is designed to test their knowledge from the previous five lessons. The questions vary in difficulty to ensure all students feel they can succeed.</p> <p>If students complete the multiple choice quiz before the end of the allotted time, ask them to design their own retrieval questions.</p> <p>Share slide 3 and ask students to tick and fix their answers in a different coloured pen. It is important to address any misconceptions at this point.</p> <p>Use slides 4 and 5 to introduce the lesson and outline what students will be doing.</p>
<p><b>Task 1</b> (35 minutes)</p>	<p><b>Who runs the UK leaflet, essay or mind map</b></p> <p><i>Slides 6 to 8</i></p> <p>Share slide 6 and explain to the students that they now have the opportunity to answer the key enquiry question ‘Who runs the UK?’ by</p>

choosing one of the following options:

- making a leaflet
- writing an essay
- creating a detailed mind map

Give each student a copy of the worksheet 'Who runs the UK? Task sheet'. Go through the success criteria on slide 7 with the students. These are split into four key questions, as below.

1. *What is Parliament?*

- I have explained the three parts of Parliament: House of Commons, House of Lords, monarch.
- I have explained what Parliament does: makes laws, debates, checks and challenges the government.

2. *What is the government, and how is it different to Parliament?*

- I have explained what the government does: running the country, Prime Minister, Cabinet.
- I have explained the differences between Parliament and government..

3. *How are our leaders elected?*

- I have explained what a general election is, and have briefly explained what first-past-the-post is.
- I have explained what local elections and local councillors are.

4. *Does Westminster hold all of the power?*

- I have explained what devolution means, and how the UK has devolved governments.
- I have explained local devolution.
- I have given reasons why the UK has local and national devolution.

Talk through the instructions for the task on slide 8. Point out the success criteria and word bank on the worksheet. Students should tick off the criteria as they complete them and use the word bank as a guide for key terms to include.

Explain to the students that they will peer assess each other at the end of the given time, and provide structured feedback to one another on their work. You could show students the peer assessment worksheet or leave this until later in the lesson.

If students decided to create a mind map, remind them to do this in the way previously modelled in lesson 1, linking key ideas, points and facts together, rather than having lots of random ideas, points and facts.

You may wish to ask students which task they have chosen and group them accordingly. This will make it easier to provide feedback

throughout the task (e.g. recapping essay structure, modelling mind mapping).

An example essay structure to follow is:

- Introduction
- Paragraph 1: What is Parliament?
- Paragraph 2: What is the government, and how is it different to Parliament?
- Paragraph 3: How are our leaders elected?
- Paragraph 4: Does Westminster hold all of the power?
- Conclusion: Summary of who runs the UK

While students are working, circulate the room offering support and advice as and when needed. You will be able to identify students who may need additional scaffolding, e.g. sentence starters, talk for writing.

**Task 2**  
(10 minutes)

**Peer assessment**

*Slide 9 & 10*

Give each student a copy of the worksheet 'Who runs the UK? Peer assessment'. Explain that they are going to read someone's work and check it against the success criteria, ticking of the criteria met and providing at least one WWW and one EBI point.

Decide who will mark whose work. Partners could swap work, or you could collect in and distribute the students' leaflets, essays and mind maps.

Once work has been swapped, students begin the peer assessment process. Ensure they deliver verbal feedback in conjunction with their written feedback.

Circulate the room as students work to ensure they are on task and provide constructive feedback.

Display the success criteria once more (slide 10) and ask the class for examples of excellent work. Get them to talk through their partner's work and how it has met the success criteria.

Students swap their work back, along with the peer assessment worksheet.

<p><b>Plenary / reflection</b> <i>(5 minutes)</i></p>	<p><b>British Youth Council</b></p> <p><i>Slide 11</i></p> <p>Display the quote by Nelson Mandela on slide 11:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow.”</p> <p>Ask the students what they think this means. Who was Nelson Mandela? Why is he important? Allow thinking time before randomly selecting students to provide feedback. Bounce ideas around the room.</p> <p>Briefly explain who Nelson Mandela was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A political activist who fought against apartheid (racial divide) in South Africa, including the right to vote for black people</li> <li>● Imprisoned for 27 years for his activism</li> <li>● Became the first black South African president after his release</li> </ul> <p>Explain to students that they are the next generation. Could they be the ones to make a difference? In politics? In their community? In the country? In the world?</p> <p>Over the course of these lessons, students have learnt who and how the UK is run. Will they be the leaders of tomorrow?</p> <p>Bring the lesson to an end by introducing students to the British Youth Council – a charity for young people (under 25s) to make change happen.</p>
<p><b>Takeaway task</b></p>	<p>Ask students to look at the British Youth Council’s website to find out more about how they could get involved in politics. They can find this here:</p> <p><a href="https://www.byc.org.uk/programmes/uk">https://www.byc.org.uk/programmes/uk</a></p>
<p><b>Additional teacher links &amp; resources</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">Get to Know Your UK Parliament</a> The Get to Know Your UK Parliament guide has lots of information about what Parliament is and how it works.</li> <li>● <a href="#">Nelson Mandela</a> More information about Nelson Mandela can be found on the National Geographic Kids website.</li> </ul>

# Who runs the UK? Multiple choice quiz

Read each question carefully, and circle the correct answer.

1. Who is elected in a general election?

- a) Monarch
- b) MPs
- c) Lords
- d) Local councillors

2. What is the voting age?

- a) 16
- b) 17
- c) 18
- d) 21

3. Who is elected in a local election?

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Monarch
- c) Local councillors
- d) MPs

4. What is first-past-the-post?

- a) UK's electoral system
- b) UK's constituencies
- c) UK's nationally devolved system
- d) UK's locally devolved system

5. What are reserved powers?

- a) Powers devolved from Parliament
- b) Local councils' powers
- c) National governments' powers
- d) Powers kept with Parliament

6. Who runs local councils?

- a) MPs
- b) Local councillors
- c) Prime Minister
- d) Lord

7. Which is a reserved power?

- a) Public transport
- b) Education
- c) Defence
- d) Health and social care

8. Which is a devolved power?

- a) Immigration
- b) Parks and open spaces
- c) Foreign affairs
- d) Trade policy

9. Which is not a part of Parliament?

- a) Monarch
- b) House of Commons
- c) House of Lords
- d) Local councils

10. What does the government do?

- a) Runs the country
- b) Decides on local issues
- c) Makes laws
- d) Checks and challenges Parliament

# Who runs the UK? Task sheet

## Task:

Choose a task:

- Making a leaflet**
- Writing an essay**
- Creating a detailed mind map**

## Word bank:

- Parliament
- House of Commons
- House of Lords
- Monarch
- MPs
- UK
- Elected
- Unelected
- Check and challenge
- Government
- Laws
- Debate
- Constituency
- Local councillor
- Local council
- General election
- Devolution
- Reserved power
- National government
- Local government
- Local election
- Local issues
- Prime Minister
- Cabinet
- Lead
- Vote
- Ballot
- Democracy

## Success criteria:

Tick these off as you meet them

### 1. What is Parliament?

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### 2. What is the government, and how is it different to Parliament?

- I have explained what the government does: running the country, Prime Minister, Cabinet.
- I have explained the differences between Parliament and the government.

### 3. How are our leaders elected?

- I have explained what a general election is, and have briefly explained what first-past-the-post is.
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### 4. Does Westminster hold all of the power?

- I have explained what devolution means, and how the UK has devolved governments.
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# Who runs the UK? Peer assessment

Peer assessor's name: ..... Work of: .....

**Success criteria:**  
Tick off the criteria met

## 1. What is Parliament?

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## 2. What is the government, and how is it different to Parliament?

- You have explained what the government does: runs the country, Prime Minister, Cabinet.
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## 3. How are our leaders elected?

- You have explained what a General Election is, and have briefly explained what first-past-the-post is.
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## 4. Does Westminster hold all of the power?

- You have explained what devolution means, and how the UK has devolved governments.
- You have explained local devolution.
- You have given reasons why the UK has local and national devolution.

What Went Well (WWW):

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Even Better If (EBI):

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