



Week 1 – vocabulary

General election	When the citizens of a country (the electorate) vote to elect a new government. A general election in the UK usually happens once every five years.
Election writ	A declaration about elections to be held in each constituency following an election being called.
Prime Minister	The leader of the political party that is in power – the head of the government.
Parliament	The institution of government in the UK. It comprises of three parts: the House of Commons, the House of Lords and the monarch. Its purpose is to debate, make laws and scrutinise the government.
Democracy	A system of government in which citizens vote in regular, fair elections for representatives who then make laws and decisions on their behalf.
Constituency	A constituency is the specific geographical area that is represented by each MP in the House of Commons.
Member of Parliament (MP)	The representative elected to represent a constituency and formally elected to the UK's national legislative body.
Political party	An organised group of people who wish to govern a country and have very similar political ideas.
Manifesto	A manifesto is a statement published by a person or group of people, especially a political party, in which they say what their aims and policies are.
Electorate	People who are eligible to vote.
Election officials	The people responsible for overseeing the voting process to make sure it is proper and well organised.
Ballot	To vote secretly. People vote in private ballot boxes and use ballot papers.
Campaigning	Actions or events organised by an individual or a group of people to achieve an aim.
Candidate	A person who is standing in an election.
Parallel election	An election that runs alongside a general election, using the same information.