



# Topic Assessment System

## Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas

### *Tests – Set B*

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# Teacher's Introduction

This pack is part of the comprehensive Topic Assessment System for Edexcel A Level Politics Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas.

## Tests: Set B

A second one-hour short-answer test worth 40 marks for each topic (except for the topic Emerging Parties, which is half the length).

The tests consist of 4-mark explanation questions, primarily focused on AO2 skills. For each 4-mark question there are four possible answers, double the number required by the question.

Set B tests are designed to mirror their Set A equivalents (for instance, by asking for disadvantages where the equivalent question in Test A asked for advantages).

### Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

## Structure

The Tests are divided into the following topics:

### UK Politics

- Democracy
- Rights
- Established Parties
- Emerging Parties
- Electoral Systems
- Voting and the Media

### Core Political Ideas

- Liberalism
- Key Liberal Thinkers
- Conservatism
- Key Conservative Thinkers
- Socialism
- Key Socialist Thinkers

Also available:

The Complete Topic Assessment System	
<b>Quizzes: Set A</b> For each topic, a 30-mark multiple-choice quiz with answers and explanations.	<b>Quizzes: Set B</b> A second quiz per topic, covering the same content, allowing students to retry after completing the first test.
<b>Tests: Set A</b> One-hour set of short-answer questions per topic. Each question is a bite-size challenge towards an essay.	<b>Tests: Set B</b> A second one-hour test per topic, with questions cleverly mirrored from Test A. ✓
<b>Essays: Set A</b> 12 essay questions with model answers for students to analyse and compare with their own.	<b>Essays: Set B</b> 12 more essay questions on similar topics, with indicative content for easy self- or peer-marking.

These tests could be used one after the other, but are designed to be more effective if they are spaced out throughout the one-year course (e.g. Test A used to consolidate knowledge and provide a standard assessment during delivery, and Test B used to identify weaknesses in knowledge and analysis skills prior to revision sessions).

June 2022

## Democracy – Test 1

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1. Explain **two** disadvantages of representative democracy.

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2. Explain **two** disadvantages of direct democracy.

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3. Explain **two** disadvantages of holding referendums.

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4. Explain **two** factors that suggest UK democracy is unhealthy.

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5. Explain **two** factors that suggest there is public demand for major democracy reform.

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6. Explain **two** advantages to being an 'insider' pressure group.

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7. Explain **two** reasons why pressure groups are bad for democracy.

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8. Explain **two** types of access used by pressure groups.

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9. Explain **two** reasons why pressure groups may fail in their aims.

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10. Explain **two** reasons why pluralism is bad for democracy.

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## Democracy – Test B

1. Explain **two** disadvantages of representative democracy.
2. Explain **two** disadvantages of direct democracy.
3. Explain **two** disadvantages of holding referendums.
4. Explain **two** factors that suggest UK democracy is unhealthy.
5. Explain **two** factors that suggest there is public demand for major democracy.
6. Explain **two** advantages to being a public interest pressure group.
7. Explain **two** reasons why pressure groups are bad for democracy.
8. Explain **two** points of access used by pressure groups.
9. Explain **two** reasons why pressure groups may fail in their aims.
10. Explain **two** reasons why pluralism is bad for democracy.

## Rights – Test B

1. Explain **two** methods used by the suffragettes.
2. Explain **two** ways in which the suffragettes were effective.
3. Explain **two** reasons why the franchise was extended to the working class.
4. Explain **two** reasons why the franchise should not be extended to 16- and 17-year-olds.
5. Explain **two** reasons why prisoners should not be allowed the vote.
6. Explain **two** arguments in favour of judicial review.
7. Explain **two** examples of commonly held social rights in the UK.
8. Explain **two** reasons for favouring human rights over civil rights.
9. Explain **two** reasons why parliamentary sovereignty does not undermine human rights.
10. Explain **two** arguments against scrapping the Human Rights Act.

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## **Preview of Questions Ends Here**

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This is a limited inspection copy. Sample of questions ends here to avoid students previewing questions before they are set. See contents page for details of the rest of the resource.

## Emerging Parties

1. Explain **two** reasons why Plaid Cymru can be considered a successful party.
  - Support for Welsh independence has steadily risen over time from being a fringe issue in 2020.
  - They have played a major role throughout the history of the Welsh Assembly, being a major party for most of its duration and in coalition between 2007 and 2011.
  - They have had consistent representation in the House of Commons since 1966, making election difficult for small parties.
  - They took part in national leadership debates prior to the 2015 general election.
2. Explain **two** principles advocated by the Democratic Unionist Party.
  - The DUP strongly support the union and Northern Ireland's place within it – and foremost.
  - As a result, the DUP are generally opposed to any kind of border poll on union, as this could stir up tensions.
  - The DUP hold strong, socially conservative views, such as opposition to same-sex marriage.
  - The DUP were very supportive of Brexit, but they do not agree with the outcome.
3. Explain **two** reasons why UKIP cannot be considered a successful party.
  - UKIP have not proved to be a lasting force in British politics, losing all of their seats in their primary goal.
  - UKIP was heavily reliant on their charismatic leader Nigel Farage in order to succeed, and once he resigned his position.
  - UKIP never successfully gained representation in the House of Commons, as they lack the support of the public, despite massive media coverage and substantial resources.
  - It could be argued that the EU referendum had more to do with factional battles within the Conservative Party than it had anything to do with UKIP.
4. Explain **two** reasons why the Greens cannot be considered a successful party.
  - Environmental politics have increased in salience all over the world due to climate change, but we cannot attribute this shift to the Green Party.
  - The Greens have never managed to build on their success in Brighton in terms of national politics, showing they are fundamentally limited by first past the post.
  - The Greens tend to receive very limited media coverage, are lacking in financial resources and lack recognised public figures.
  - The Greens have failed to set the national debate or heavily pressure a major party to successfully do so.
5. Explain **two** advantages for smaller or emerging parties.
  - Smaller parties can gain a relatively large amount of power and influence by winning a small geographic area.
  - Smaller parties can better take advantage of 'protest votes' against those who have not had a track record of power themselves.
  - Smaller parties do not suffer from people's preconceptions of them, as they are usually not so well known.
  - Smaller parties less frequently have to compromise on their beliefs, meaning they can attract a more loyal electorate.
  - Smaller parties can focus and campaign on specific issues that have been overlooked by the major parties to gain support.

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## **Preview of Answers Ends Here**

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