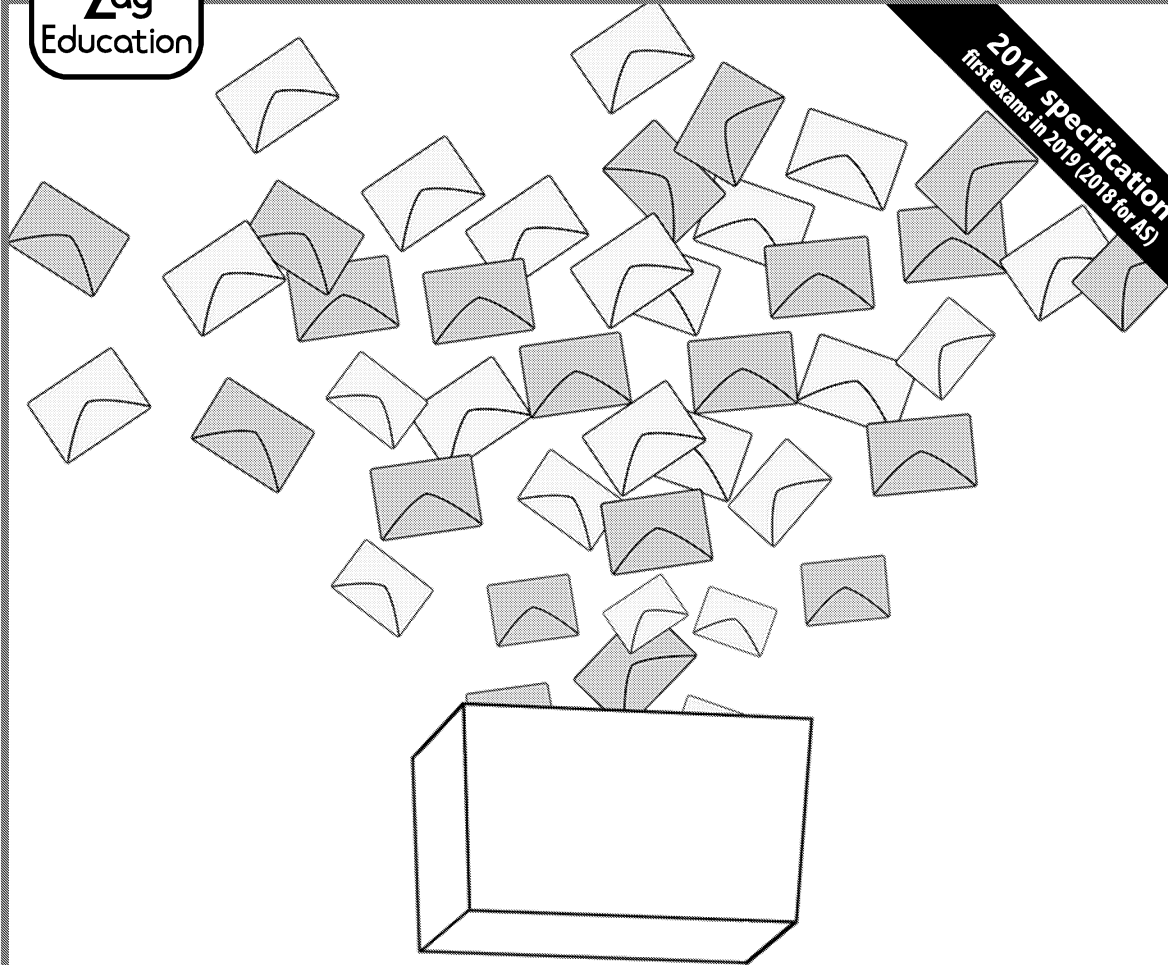




Politics

AS and A Level | Edexcel | 8PL0 / 9PL0

2017 specification  
first exams in 2019 (2018 for AS)



# Learning Grids for AS and A Level Edexcel

Component 1: UK Politics

*Democracy and Participation*

2022 Edition

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## Teacher's Introduction

This set of learning grids covers the Democracy and Participation module of the Edexcel A Level Politics specification. Each learning grid is designed to test the basic foundation of knowledge about the different branches of government and the power dynamics between them.

The questions and answers provided should give the students a comprehensive grasp of the facts before moving on to the analysis and evaluation needed for AO2 and AO3 marks in the exams. These learning grids follow recent political developments up to October 2022. References to relevant textbooks and the accompanying ZigZag course companion are included by unit.

The learning grids are split into four sections in line with the specification. The first section covers the current systems of direct and representative democracy in the UK. The second section covers development of the franchise in the UK and possibilities of further suffrage. The third section concerns pressure groups and their influence. The final section explores the development and protection of rights in the UK.

This resource is cross-referenced to:

- *Edexcel GCE Politics AS and A Level Student Book*, Goodlad, Mitchell, Colclough, Levinson, Laycock, Schindler and Tomes, Pearson Education, 2017, ISBN 978-1292187020
- *UK Government and Politics for AS/A Level (Fifth Edition)*, Lynch, Fairclough, Cooper, Hodder, 2017, ISBN 978-1-4718-89233
- *UK Government and Politics for AS/A Level (Sixth Edition)*, McNaughton, Cooper, Hodder, 2021, ISBN 978-1-3983-1133-6
- *A Level Edexcel Course Companion: Component 1: UK Politics: Democracy & Participation*, Murphy and Glover, 2022, ZigZag Education (MORE/11861)

### Second edition, November 2022

Cross-referencing updated for Course Companions (ZigZag Education 2022) and added for additional Hodder textbook (2021), plus minor updates to answers on pages 13 and 25.

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\* resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers

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## **Selected Question and Answer Pages**

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For demonstration only, the sample answer pages immediately follow their corresponding question pages

	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<b>Features of direct democracy</b>	<b>What two requirements are necessary of citizens to make direct democracy work?</b>	1.
		2.
	<b>Give three examples of direct democracy in practice.</b>	1.
		2.
		3.
	<b>Give an example of direct democracy taking place in the UK. What was the result?</b>	
	<b>List three advantages of direct democracy.</b>	1.
		2.
		3.
	<b>List three disadvantages of direct democracy.</b>	1.
		2.
		3.

	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<b>Features of direct democracy</b>	<b>What two requirements are necessary of citizens to make direct democracy work?</b>	Political education
		Participation
	<b>Give three examples of direct democracy in practice.</b>	Referendums
		Juries
		Petitions (accept any other relevant answer)
	<b>Give an example of direct democracy taking place in the UK. What was the result?</b>	Any referendum that has taken place in the UK (e.g. on EEC membership in 1975: UK voted to stay in EEC; on EU membership in 2016: UK voted to leave the EU)
	<b>List three advantages of direct democracy.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater level of debate and political education</li> <li>• Increased participation</li> <li>• Fewer questions surrounding the legitimacy of decisions</li> </ul>
	<b>List three disadvantages of direct democracy.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May lead to tyranny of the majority</li> <li>• People make decisions based on emotion rather than ratiore</li> <li>• It is not as practical</li> <li>• When it is used alongside a system of representative democra</li> </ul>



	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<b>How does individual liberty affect collective liberty?</b>	What are individual rights? Give an example.	
	What are collective rights? Give an example.	
	Outline two reasons why these types of rights may conflict with each other.	1.
		2.
	Why is the government often criticised in relation to rights?	
Why are the judiciary and the Human Rights Act often criticised in relation to rights?		

	Questions	Answers
<b>How does individual liberty affect collective liberty?</b>	<b>What are individual rights? Give an example.</b>	The rights and freedoms of citizens that are protected under law on an individual basis.  The right to free speech, for example.
	<b>What are collective rights? Give an example.</b>	The view that an entire group shares the right to something.  The right to national security, for example.
	<b>Outline two reasons why these types of rights may conflict with each other.</b>	The suspension of individual rights may be required to uphold a collective right.
		Individual rights may protect certain people who pose a threat to a collective right.
	<b>Why is the government often criticised in relation to rights?</b>	For passing laws that limit rights in order to expand state powers, and reducing the extent of liberties excessively.
	<b>Why are the judiciary and the Human Rights Act often criticised in relation to rights?</b>	For giving individuals who are considered dangerous or undeserving of protection more power within society, and expanding the extent of liberties excessively.



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## **Additional Selected Question Pages**

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## Unit 1.3: Pressure groups



Pearson Education: pp. 13–18  
 Hodder: pp. 223–232  
 Hodder 2021: pp. 27–36  
 ZigZag: pp. 21–32

	Questions	Answers
<b>Political participation</b>	Name three types of political participation.	1.
		2.
		3.
	How has technology affected participation? Explain your answer.	
	Give one argument in favour and one argument against the view that the UK is facing a 'participation crisis'.	

	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Answers</b>
<b>Types of pressure groups</b>	What is a pressure group?	
	Name the two main types of pressure group.	1.
		2.
	Describe the features of each type of group.	
	How are pressure groups different from political parties in terms of their goals?	
	What does 'insider status' mean?	
What does 'outsider status' mean?		

		Questions	Answers
<b>Methods used by pressure groups</b>		Name and explain a method used exclusively by an insider pressure group.	
		1.	
		2.	
		Name and explain the usefulness of five methods that can be used by all pressure groups.	
		3.	
	4.		
	5.		