

## Year 12 Government and Politics summer preparation work

### **TASK:**

Complete all of the tasks on this sheet. To do so you must first follow the link for each section and then secondly complete the questions.

**YOU MUST BRING THIS HOMEWORK TO THE FIRST LESSON IN SEPTEMBER. WITHOUT THIS TASK COMPLETED YOU WILL NOT MAKE A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION TO STAY ON THE COURSE, NOR WILL YOU HAVE SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE TO STUDY THE AS COURSE FURTHER**

### **TASK 1: Learning key terms**

LINK: [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk\\_politics/vote\\_2005/basics/4346975.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/vote_2005/basics/4346975.stm)

Use the website to write definitions for the following key terms:

- **Budget:**
- **By- election:**
- **Cabinet:**
- **Coalition (you will need to update the definition given on the website):**
- **Constituency:**
- **Deposit:**
- **Devolution:**
- **First-by-the-post:**
- **Hung Parliament:**
- **Landslide:**
- **Manifesto:**
- **MP Member of Parliament:**
- **Opposition:**
- **Proportional representation:**
- **Queens speech:**
- **Referendum:**
- **Speaker:**
- **West Lothian Question:**
- **Westminster:**

## TASK 1: 2017 General Election results

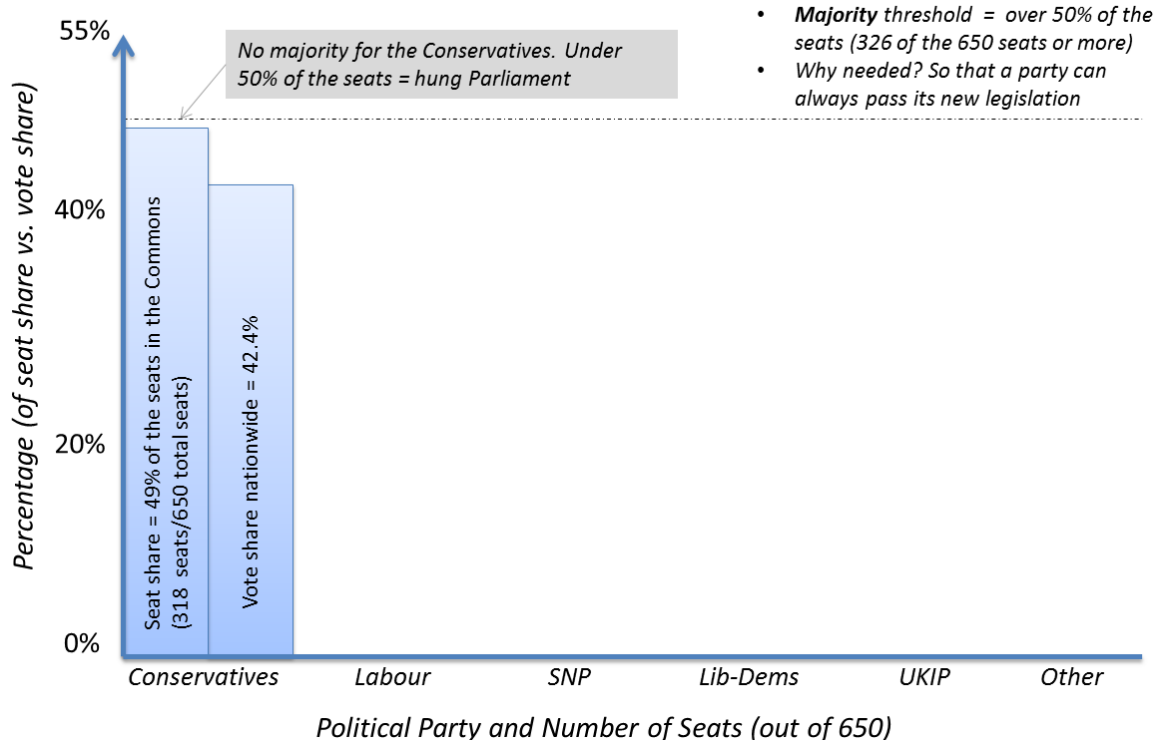
LINK: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election/2017/results>

**A) NATIONAL RESULTS:** Read the election results and then complete the bar chart below: put the results of each major UK party on to the bar chart (**plot both a 'seat share' and 'vote share' bar for each party – e.g. 'Conservative vote share = 42.4% of all votes; Con seat share = 318 seats won/650[total MPs in the Commons] \* 100 = 49%**). The UK uses the First Past the Post election system. We will compare this system to others later in the year.

Take just two pieces of data from the table on the BBC website: voter share and seat share.

- **Vote share** means the number of people that physically placed a cross next to a ballot paper for a particular party in the election.
- **Seat share** means how many seats (out of a total of 650) has been won by that party in Parliament. Every constituency (local area) returns one of the 650 MPs sitting in the Commons. Each constituency can only have one winner.

**TURNOUT** - 68.7% (up from 65.1% in 2010 and 66.1% in 2015)



**B) LOCAL RESULTS – In the 'find a constituency' box type in your local area:**

- Who is your local MP?
- What is their party?
- What percentage of the vote did they win?

## **TASK 2: Who is who in the government?**

**MAIN LINK:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-40249644>

**More info:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/ministers>

In the British electoral system the Queen invites the leader of the winning party in a general election to form a government (to run the country day to day from 10 Downing Street). The new Prime Minister's first job is to then select around 21 MPs to form his cabinet. A cabinet can be re-shuffled (changed) at any point. The cabinet meets weekly in Downing Street to decide together how the country should be run. Each cabinet minister is given a specific policy area of expertise. They must run their department – eg. health – day to day, but also create new laws for Parliament to pass in their policy area.

For your A-Level exam you need to have strong knowledge of politics over the past 5 years.

Consequently, fill in the fact-file about Theresa May's cabinet below:

Who is PM?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Theresa May was elected leader after David Cameron resigned following the result of the referendum on Europe on 23rd June 2016. Use this website <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-36660372">http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-36660372</a> to write down a few key details about Theresa May:</li><li>2. Read this article and write down suggested reasons why she lost the election <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2017-40237833">http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2017-40237833</a></li></ol>
Who is Chancellor?	Also read <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-40249644">http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-40249644</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Why does the article suggest he has been given the job?</li></ul>
What job does Damian Green have?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What does the role involve?</li></ul>
Name any other particularly well known cabinet members	
The number of <b>women</b> in cabinet	
The number of those from an <b>ethnic minority</b> background in cabinet	

### **TASK 3: Confidence and supply with the DUP**

Theresa May's lack of a Parliamentary majority has meant that she has had to top up her 318 seats by working with the DUP. The DUP has 10 seats, allowing the government to have over half the total 650 seats in the House of Commons. This means that if all the other parties gang up against Theresa May then they still can't vote down her legislation.

May is not in a formal coalition. Instead she has entered in to a 'confidence and supply' arrangement. Read the following article <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/jun/11/confidence-and-supply-what-does-it-mean-and-how-will-it-work-for-the-new-government>

*Explain what a confidence and supply arrangement means below:*

### **TASKS 4: Implications for Brexit**

Read this article and write down at least one consequence of the election for Brexit?  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-40220247>

### **TASKS 5 & 6:**

#### **Post- 1945 Administrations Task:**

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk\\_politics/election\\_2010/8654338.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/election_2010/8654338.stm)

Use the website to find who won the following elections and by how much:

**1945:**

**Feb '74:**

**Oct '74:**

**1979:**

**1997:**

#### **Newspaper Task:**

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/jun/03/which-parties-are-the-uk-press-backing-in-the-general-election>

Use the website to *briefly* explain which national papers gave their support for Labour, Conservative or another party during this general election.