

A Level Politics Year 12

Transition Pack

*"I ermm, err think that
errmm, we should err be
ready err, errmm for the
future?"*



You are required to complete **ALL** of the activities in this transition pack for submission in the first week of the new academic year. **The A Level in Politics is a fun, embracing yet challenging qualification.** It will develop your thinking skills and vastly expand your knowledge of politics both in the UK and in the wider world. There will be nine taught hours per fortnight. It is then expected that students complete consistent independent study to support the course. This transition task will help you make the step up to Politics and set the expectation of independence needed throughout your studies.

Politics in the UK

This is a detailed and comprehensive assignment that you have been given. **Do not rush it.** We advise that you complete different parts of the transition pack at different points in the Summer holiday, rather than leaving it all until the final week of your break. **You should expect to spend longer on these tasks than any homework you have completed before.** A Level Politics will be a significant step up from the work you have completed in Year 11.

Task One – People in Politics

Look at the below photographs of British politicians. You must identify who they are, which party they belonged to and whether or not they were Prime Minister (PM) or Leader of Her Majesty's Opposition (HMO). You should also find one political event, policy or law they were involved with and a sentence of explanation. Get your family involved in this task – your parents will remember any of these faces, and some of them might be better suited even to your grandparents!



Task Two – News and Elections

Politics is a subject which cannot be unplugged from news and current affairs. Twitter is seen by some to be the future of Politics – it is used by journalists, politicians and politicians alike to share news and information as well as discuss political issues. I would advise that you create yourselves Twitter accounts as soon as possible and follow the below users for Political information and news:

@Britainelects (for news and updates on all things electoral in the UK)

@BBCNews / @SkyNews (or any other news station of your choice – or even more than one!)

@bbcquestiontime (the UK's most-watched political talk-show: BBC Question Time)

@BorisJohnson (prime minister)

@POTUS (the president of the United States of America)

@DExEUgov (The Department for Exiting the European Union)

And a range of political journalists like Julia Hartley-Brewer, Owen Jones, etc...

Your second task is to keep an eye on these Twitter accounts (as well as wider sources – the news and shows on TV, newspapers and others) over the Summer holidays and make a note of any particularly interesting news that is relevant to Politics in the UK. You may even find some stories which are interesting internationally, particularly if you choose to follow Donald Trump... This will help you with your next task.

Task Three- Politics in the News

You need to fill in the timeline below I would suggest using some of the links and connections below. Try to show variety in your notes, with the US in particular it is easy to keep a list of superficially outrageous but politically meaningless actions by Trump or Biden and forget about actions in Congress, constitutional issues and the Supreme Court.

This is in a separate document with examples.

Task Four – Parties and Issues

To start, you should quickly research the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat parties. What do they stand for? Then, use the internet, textbooks and your imagination to create your own political party which will stand at the next election. You should include the party's name, some points as to what the party stands for and three key policies your party will introduce if they are elected including **why** you would introduce them. These policies will cost money - will people have to pay more tax or would you make savings elsewhere? You have to **justify** your decisions. Some topics to consider might be:

Health
Crime
The European Union
Housing
Education

This task together with your book review should help you with the introductory assessment:
What do Politicians need to do to be successful in Politics?

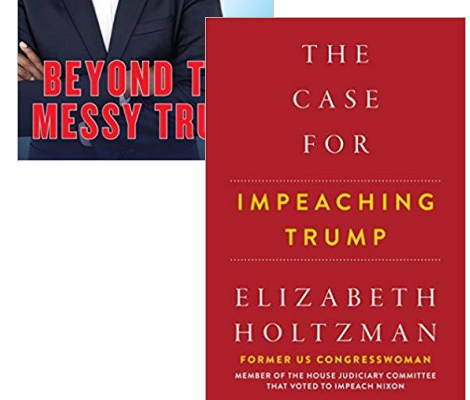
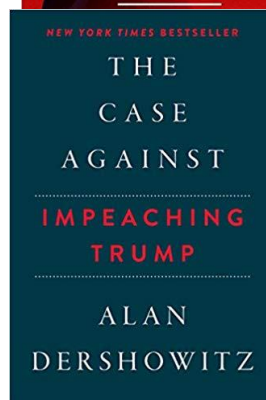
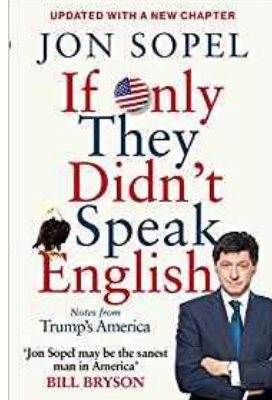
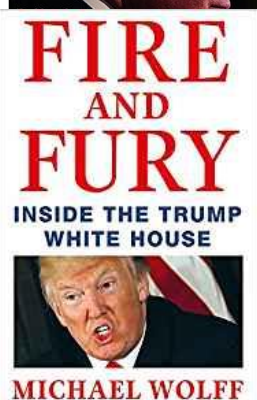
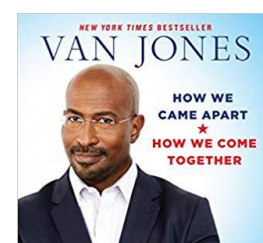
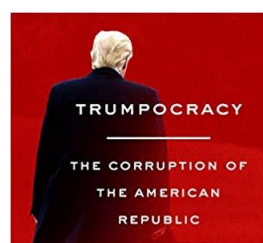
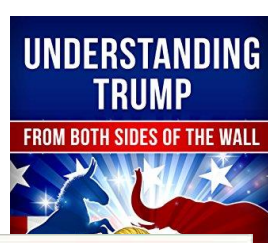
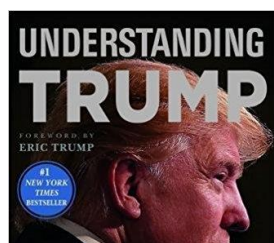
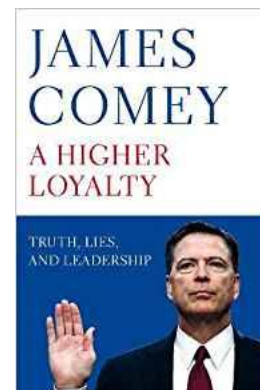
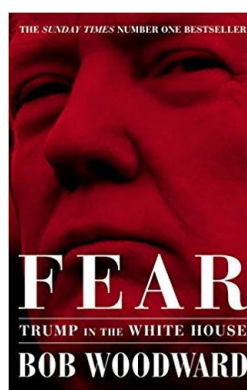
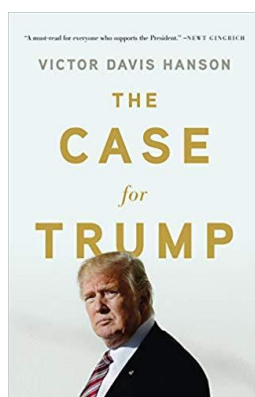
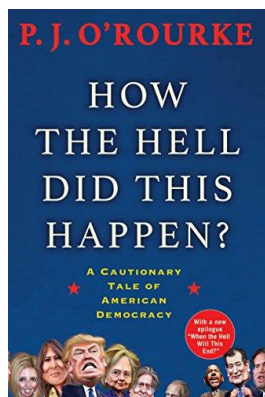
Task Five- Book Review

As you know, the importance of background reading in Politics is essential. It can be the difference between getting the grade you are currently looking at and the grade you need.

Below is a list of worthwhile books for you to read. I've even made it easy for you by linking the relevant page in Amazon (**other booksellers are available – or try your local library!**) You need to read **at least one** of these books over the summer. If you'd prefer, you may choose an equivalent book.

You will then need to complete a brief (500 word) review, containing a short summary of the book and its main ideas. This should also include a short piece of reflective writing on the book, such as what you found particularly interesting about it. The list is US and Trump centric but feel free to cover any political book you wish, if you are not sure it is a political book then please ask within the department.

Click on the book for a hyperlink to the relevant Amazon page...



GETTING READY FOR POLITICS A-LEVEL



The politics department would love for you to use this time over the coming weeks and months to get interested in Politics. Start to develop your interest in the subject and build your general political knowledge. The following are suggestions, they are not compulsory, but we would love for you to engage in any that you find interesting.

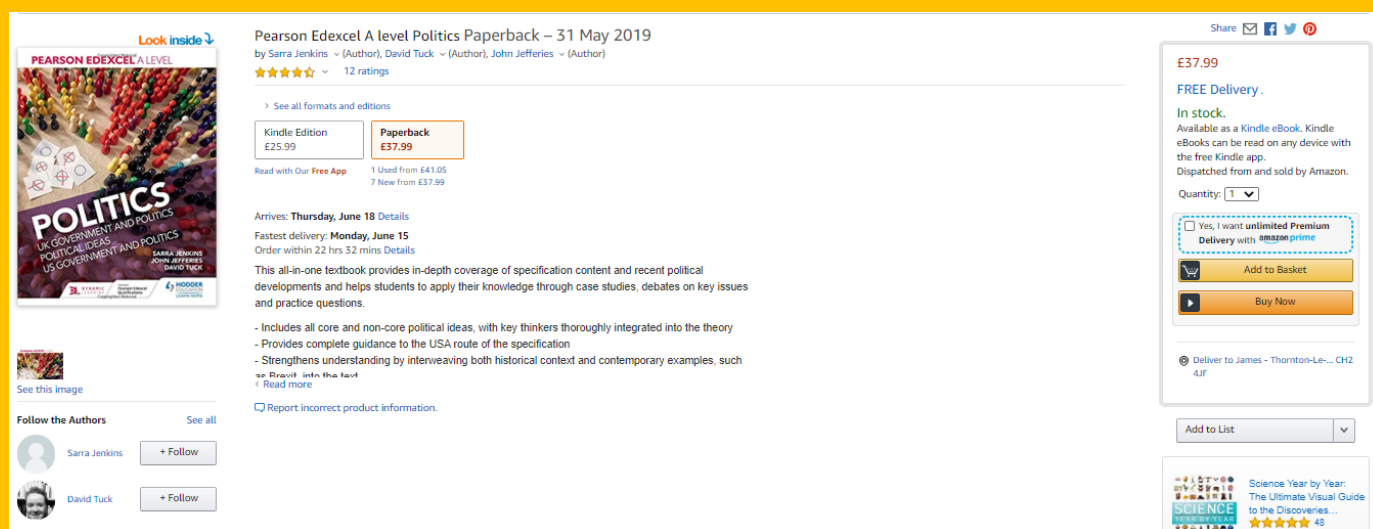


	Stitcher – A-level politics podcast Beyond Westminster BBC politics podcasts The Westminster Hour Politics.co.uk podcasts	Guardian ‘politics weekly’ podcasts Going the way of the dodo 10 of the best podcasts Takes from the lobby Learn out loud podcasts
--	---	--

	iPlayer Climate Change Playlist World economic forum videos Politics Live – BBC iPlayer The Andrew Marr Show The Politics Show	Question Time BBC Parliament Cabinet Confidential Globalisation if Good – Johan Norberg
--	--	--

You should see the Political Gogglebox list that we have added to your Edmodo group to support you.

The following book is the best at giving a detailed overview of all of the units you will study at year 12 and year 13, including units on Political ideology and US Politics. There are other textbooks available for this course – But this is the best. An image has been attached below. Purchasing books is not compulsory and the department will have enough copies to support teaching of this but some students have decided to purchase copies to encourage independent learning. It is though incredibly expensive so please in no way feel any obligation.



Pearson Edexcel A level Politics Paperback – 31 May 2019
by Sarra Jenkins ~ (Author), David Tuck ~ (Author), John Jefferies ~ (Author)
★★★★☆ 12 ratings

> See all formats and editions

Kindle Edition £25.99	Paperback £37.99
--------------------------	-----------------------------

Read with Our **Free App** 1 Used from £41.05 7 New from £37.99

Arrives: **Thursday, June 18** Details
Fastest delivery: **Monday, June 15**
Order within 22 hrs 32 mins Details

This all-in-one textbook provides in-depth coverage of specification content and recent political developments and helps students to apply their knowledge through case studies, debates on key issues and practice questions.

- Includes all core and non-core political ideas, with key thinkers thoroughly integrated into the theory
- Provides complete guidance to the USA route of the specification
- Strengthens understanding by interweaving both historical context and contemporary examples, such as Brexit into the text

Report incorrect product information.

£37.99
FREE Delivery.
In stock.
Available as a Kindle eBook. Kindle eBooks can be read on any device with the free Kindle app. Dispatched from and sold by Amazon.

Quantity: 1

☐ Yes, I want unlimited Premium Delivery with **amazon prime**

Add to Basket
Buy Now

Deliver to James - Thornton-Le... CH2 4JF

Add to List

Science Year by Year: The Ultimate Visual Guide to the Discoveries...
★★★★★ 48

If you have any further questions while you are enjoying your Summer holiday, my email address can be seen below ☺

Mr Fearon, Head of History and Politics

fearonj@uptonhigh.co.uk