

Government and Politics Reading List

This is an optional reading list for the summer. You are not expected to read/listen to it all, but I would highly recommend you try and engage with some of it. You will still be expected to keep a journal of political events (instructions in your transition work and in a screenshot on next page).

| <u>Books</u> | <u>News</u> |
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| <p><i>As well as the textbooks you are given, you may choose to dip into one of these texts to develop your knowledge and understanding:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G. Stoker: Why Politics Matters (Pgrave 2017) • B. Crick: In Defence of Politics (Continuum 2005) • J. Rentoul: Tony Blair: Prime Minister (Little Brown & Company 2008) • B Coxall, L Robins and R Leach: Contemporary British Politics (Palgrave Macmillan, 2003) | <p><i>It is essential that you read reputable broadsheet newspapers in order to keep up-to date with current affairs. You can look at articles on their websites:</i></p> <p>The Times: http://www.timesonline.co.uk</p> <p>The Independent: http://www.independent.co.uk</p> <p>The Guardian: http://www.guardian.co.uk</p> <p>The Telegraph: http://www.telegraph.co.uk</p> <p>Another useful website for up to date political news stories is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/politics/ • https://www.lbc.co.uk/ |
| <u>Magazines</u> | <u>Podcasts</u> |
| <p><i>Magazines are a great way to catch the news weekly or monthly. They have a much wider analysis than newspapers.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Spectator • The Economist • The Week • Private Eye • Total Politics Magazine • New Statesman | <p><i>Highly recommend podcasts. Great way to catch the news when you're on the go.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brexitcast • The high low • The Times Red Box Podcast • Reasons to be cheerful with Ed Miliband • UnHerd • Anxious and Insecure • The New Statesman Podcast |

Screenshot of 'political diary' task:

Part 1: What is Politics?

A huge part of your course will be to keep up to date with political events as they happen. You will mainly need to look out for events in UK politics and USA politics.

Task (45mins): I would like you to update a diary of political events by noting down at least 3 political events each month. To start you will create a back log from November 2019. I will do the first one for you.

November 2019

- *Members of the UK House of Commons vote to elect a new Speaker of the House, replacing the retiring John Bercow. The Labour Party's Sir Lindsay Hoyle defeats Chris Bryant in the fourth and final ballot.*
- *Nigel Farage announces that his Brexit Party will withdraw its candidates in the 317 seats that the ruling Conservative Party won in the last general election. The move is expected to increase the chances of a Conservative majority in parliament.*
- *Former Mayor of New York City Michael Bloomberg announces he's running for the presidency as part of the Democratic ticket.*

December 2019

January 2020

February 2020

March 2020

April 2020

You will also need to do one each month until we are back at school in Y12!

Useful websites to use:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/politics> – 24 hour news

<https://www.lbc.co.uk/> - good radio shows about politics

<https://www.channel4.com/news/> - good news channel for longer stories