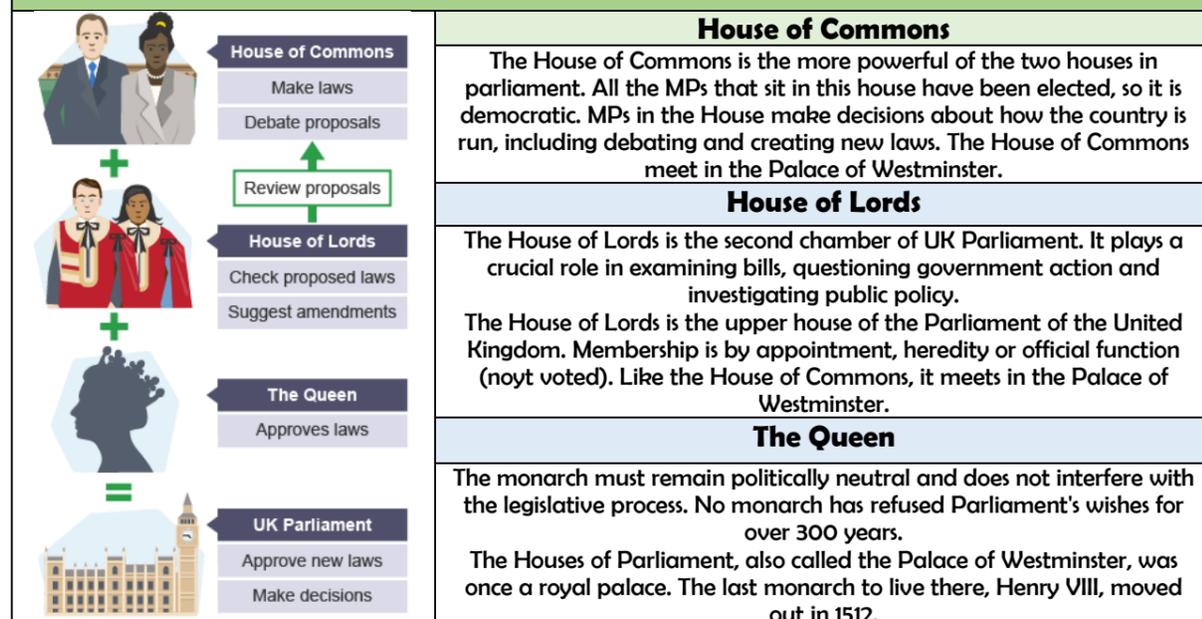




Power of Parliament - Democracy KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



UK Parliament



Role of an MP

There are 650 elected Members of Parliament (MPs) They have all been elected to represent a part of the country known as a constituency. People that want to be MPs will have to campaign in their local area to try to gain votes. MPs have two major roles.

1 – Representing constituents in their local constituency by listening to their problems and trying to make the local area better.

2 – Working on UK law and policy in the House of Commons (London)
Both jobs are equally important. There is an election at least every 5 years, MPs can remain in post if they continue to get lots of votes or they may lose their position if they don't get enough votes.
The Prime Minister then selects 22 MPs to form a cabinet.

Justice Secretary Deputy Prime Minister Dominic Raab		Education Secretary Nadhim Zahawi		
Home Secretary Priti Patel		Health and Social Care Secretary Sajid Javid		
Foreign Secretary Liz Truss		Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak		
Defense Secretary Ben Wallace		Environment Secretary George Eustice		
Prime Minister Boris Johnson				

Key Vocabulary

- canvassing
- constituency
- constituents
- General Election
- House of Commons
- Prime Minister
- opposition
- suffrage
- suffragette
- Act of Parliament
- freedom of speech
- freedom of thought
- human right
- government
- House of Commons
- House of Lords
- equality
- equity
- cabinet
- secretary

Suffrage

The right to vote has been a long-fought battle. Just over 100 years ago, women fought for equal political rights to men, they were successful in 1918. A suffragette was a member of an activist women's organisation in the early 1900s; who, under the banner "Votes for Women", fought for the right to vote in public elections. The term refers in particular to members of the British Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU), a women-only movement founded in 1903 by Emmeline Pankhurst, which engaged in direct action and civil disobedience. The suffragette campaign was suspended when World War I broke out in 1914. After the war, the Representation of the People Act 1918 gave the vote to women over the age of 30 who met certain property qualifications. Ten years later, women gained electoral equality with men when the Representation of the People (Equal Franchise) Act 1928 gave all women the right to vote at age 21. Unfortunately, to this day it can still be very difficult for women to vote, due to safety issues or social status.

Throughout history, there have also been many civil rights movements, notably in South Africa (Nelson Mandela) and America (Martin Luther King) to ensure black people have equal political rights. Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela (18 July 1918 – 5 December 2013) was a South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, political leader and philanthropist who served as the first president of South Africa from 1994 to 1999. He was the country's first black head of state and the first elected in a fully representative democratic election. His government focused on dismantling the legacy of apartheid by tackling institutionalised racism and fostering racial reconciliation. Ideologically an African nationalist and socialist, he served as the president of the African National Congress (ANC) party from 1991 to 1997. Martin Luther King Jr. (January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968) was an American Baptist minister and activist who became the most visible spokesman and leader in the American civil rights movement from 1955 until his assassination in 1968. King participated in and led marches for blacks' right to vote, desegregation, labor rights, and other basic civil rights. King was one of the influential leaders in the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott.



Pictures of the Houses of Parliament

Democracy Timeline

1215 King John signs the great charter of freedom and laws, establishing the beginnings of parliament.	1259 The King's Council, or 'Parliament' begin to meet in the King's bedroom.	1529 Following a disagreement with the Catholic Pope, Henry VIII sets up The Church of England, and Parliament's importance grows.	1893 New Zealand are the first country to allow women to vote.	1907 The first female MPs in the world were elected in Finland.	1912 Women have the vote in Britain.	1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott	1962 Nelson Mandela was arrested and imprisoned for 27 years.	1969 The voting age is lowered from 21 to 18. Saudi	2015 Saudi Arabia allow women to vote.
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