

100% Sheet Government and Democracy

Key Terms

Government- the group of people with the power and the authority to rule a country or area.

Democracy- A form of government where the people have a say in who rules them. The rulers can be questioned about their actions and decisions.

Dictatorship- A form of government where a small group of people or one person has power. Rulers can not be questioned and the people are very limited in what they can say about the government.

Local government- The group of people who are in charge of making decisions for a specific area e.g. the London Assembly and Sadiq Khan are in charge of making decisions for London.

National government- The group of people who are in charge of making decisions for the whole country e.g. the government led by Theresa May make decisions on NHS and the National Curriculum.

Member of Parliament (MP)- A person who has been elected by the people to represent them in Parliament.

Political party- a group of people who are share the similar views on how the country should be ruled.

Political Parties

The three main political parties in the U.K. are **Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrats.**

At the moment the Conservative party are in power, they are the government and they make political decisions, and their leader is **Theresa May.**

The leader of the Labour Party is **Jeremy Corbyn** and the leader of the Liberal Democrats is **Vince Cable.**

Political parties are all trying to become popular with the public so that they get voted into power and are able to become the government.



What is it like to live in a dictatorship?

Life for people living in a **dictatorship** is very hard. The ruler is often very strict and there are harsh punishments for those who criticise the government.

In a dictatorship the ruler will usually stay in power until they die or until they feel that they can no longer do the job well. Power is usually just given to someone who is already part of the government.

The people who live dictatorship either have no say on who rules them or the choices are extremely limited e.g. they may have to choose between two people from the same **political party.**

In a dictatorship, the people do not have many rights and they may not be allowed to do things such as use social media or openly criticise the government.



Representative or direct democracy

Representative democracy	Direct democracy
The people elect others to make political decisions on their behalf.	Everyone takes part in decision making.
Once the election has been held, the public rarely take part in decision making.	Is fairer because everyone is allowed to take part.
Can be positive because the representatives are usually political experts can make sensible decisions.	Can be harmful as not everyone knows enough about politics to make sensible decisions.



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