







DOC.1 THE RESULTS OF THE UK 2015 GENERAL ELECTION

Share of MP seats in the House of Commons

	CONSERVATIVE 331 seats - 50.9%
	LABOUR 232 seats - 35.7%
	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT 8 seats - 1.2%
SNP 56 seats 0.6% UKIP 1 seat 0.1%	

Share of the UK vote

	TORY 36.9 %
	LABOUR 30.4 %
	LIB. DEM. 7.9 %
UKIP 12.6 % SNP 4.7%	

DOC.2 New Prime Minister Theresa May has made Boris Johnson, the former London mayor who led the Brexit campaign, foreign secretary in her new government. Earlier, after returning from Buckingham Palace, where she was formally appointed as prime minister by the Queen, Mrs May made a speech from outside 10 Downing Street.



Queen Elizabeth II, UK's head of state, confirmed Theresa May as the new PM.

She paid tribute to her predecessor, who resigned after losing the EU referendum - one year after leading the Conservative party to its first election win in 23 years. After David Cameron's resignation, Mrs May emerged as the "unity" party candidate to succeed him.

Laura Kuenssberg, BBC political editor, *BBC NEWS*, 13 July 2016.

DOC.3 Under the 2011 Fixed Term Parliaments Act, a general election is supposed to take place every five years on the first Thursday in May. As the most recent general election was in 2015, the next one was scheduled for May 2020.

But an election can be called ahead of schedule for two reasons - if there is a vote of no confidence in the current government or if MPs vote for an early election by a two-thirds majority.

Theresa May chose the second option, which was overwhelmingly passed by Westminster by 522 votes to 13, because the end of the Brexit negotiations is a deadline set for March 2019. Under the Fixed Term Parliaments Act, that's when the Tories would be starting to prepare for a general election the following year.

'PM Theresa May calls snap election for June 8th', *BBC NEWS*, 20 April 2017.

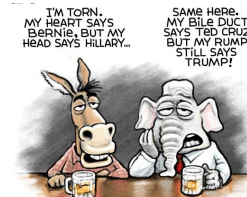
The INDEPENDENT

The Brexit Election

- "Extraordinary U-turn" from May as she sets out to make hard Brexit unstoppable
- Corbyn's Labour faces disaster on 8 June with polls showing historic Tory lead
- But Remainers insist: this is final chance to save Britain from 'disastrous deal'

Report, analysis and comment from JOE WATTS, JOHN BENTON, ANDREW GIBBY, BEN COU, HOLLY BATES, TIE HARRISON, TOM PECK, JOHN STONE & MORE

DOC.4 THE US ELECTION YEAR



Party primaries, Steve Sack, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, 3 February 2016.

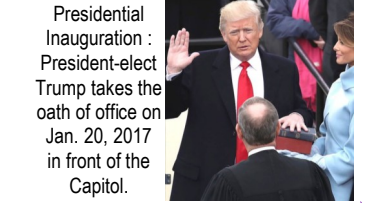


The two presidential tickets at their party convention, July 2016.



Donald Trump's victory tweet, 9 Nov. 2016

Donald J. Trump [@realDonaldTrump](#) · 48m
Such a beautiful and important evening! The forgotten man and woman will never be forgotten again. We will all come together as never before
12:36 PM - 9 Nov 2016

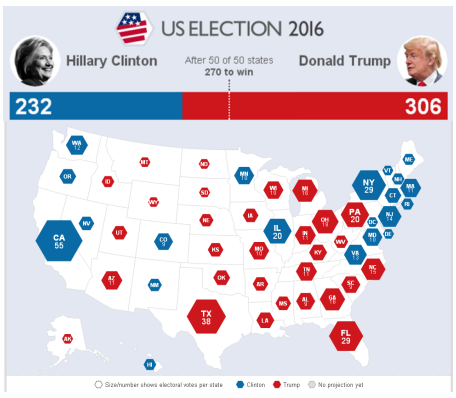


Presidential Inauguration : President-elect Trump takes the oath of office on Jan. 20, 2017 in front of the Capitol.



DOC.5 And so in the pages of American history, a new and astonishing chapter has been written. A man with no experience of government in any shape or form, and who's never held elected office, is the next president of the USA. He's confounded his critics and detractors.

He may have lost the symbolically important popular vote with 47% to Clinton's 48% but Mr Trump will go to the White House with huge power - the presidency, a Republican Congress with control of both the House of Representatives and Senate. He's got the means to deliver. His government nominations will be swiftly confirmed in the Senate. He'll be able to get his appointee to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court. He won't have the deadlock that Barack Obama his Democrat predecessor had to contend with for 8 years. He's promised to make America great again. Now he's got to deliver.



US Election Results 2016: Trump victory writes new chapter in US history, Jon Sopel, *BBC NEWS*, 9 Nov. 2016.

Questionnaire :

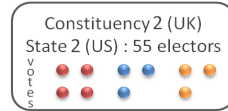
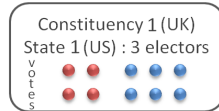
- 1. Political regimes** Docs 2 & 5. What are the differences between the British and US heads of state ? Consequently what are the definitions of a monarchy and a republic?
Docs 2 & 5. Who is the head of government in each country? What are the differences and similarities between British and US heads of government ?
- 2. Political powers** Docs 1, 2, 3 & 5. Which players (individual or institutions) hold the executive, legislative and judicial powers to implement, make and apply the law in the UK and the USA ? Associate one building to each player.

- 3. Major elections** Docs 1 & 5. What are the main political parties in the UK and the USA (name, associated colour, right-wing or left-wing party)?
Docs 3 & 5. When are presidential and general elections held in the USA and in Britain ? Consequently how long are presidential and PM terms ?
Docs 1 & 5. What were the results of the 2016 US presidential election and of the 2015 UK general election ? What are the differences with the French electoral system ?
Docs 2 & 3. Explain all the political consequences of the Brexit referendum held in the UK on 23 June 2016.
Docs 4 & 5. Explain precisely how Donald Trump became president of the USA.

POLITICS ◀ POLITICAL POWER in the UK & the US ▶

4. Electoral system : Docs 1 & 5. Knowing that there are 538 electors in the electoral college, convert the number into the percentage of electors for each candidate. Now compare it with the percentage of the popular vote : what do you notice ? Then compare the share of the seats and the share of the votes in the UK GE : what do you notice again ?

What would be the results of the elections shown below in the UK and the US ? What would happen in France ?



Constituency 0
State 0 (15 electors)

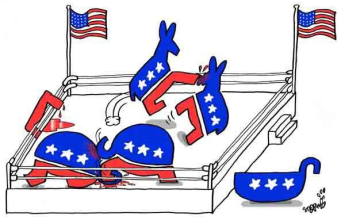
Candidate X
35% of the vote

Candidate Y
34% of the vote

Candidate Z
25% of the vote

Mock oral : Historic elections

• The 2008 US historic presidential election :



The presidential nomination, Stéphane Peray, February 6, 2008.

Obama wins historic US election

Democratic Senator Barack Obama has been elected the first black president of the United States, prompting celebrations across the country.

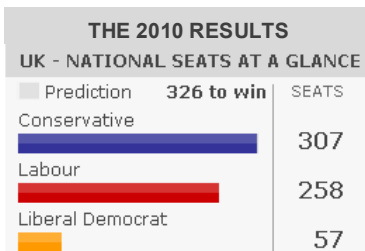


His rival John McCain accepted defeat, and called on his supporters' goodwill.



BBC News, Wednesday, 5 November 2008

• The 2010 UK unusual general election



David Cameron and Nick Clegg lead coalition into power



Britain entered unknown political territory last night when the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats formed the first coalition government in Britain since 1945, with Tory David Cameron serving as the country's PM and LibDem Nick Clegg becoming his deputy.

Mr Cameron was formally appointed by the Queen just minutes after Labour Gordon Brown met her to give his resignation.

BBC News, Wednesday, 12 May 2010