

DOC.1



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

Theresa May has appointed Boris Johnson, the former London mayor who led the Brexit campaign, foreign secretary in her new government.

Earlier, outside 10 Downing Street, after returning from Buckingham Palace where she was formally appointed prime minister by the Queen, Mrs May paid tribute to her predecessor David Cameron, who resigned after losing the EU Brexit referendum of June 2016. After his resignation, Mrs May was elected by the Conservative Party to succeed him.

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

DOC.2 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.

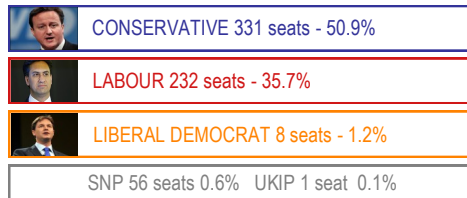
But an election can be called ahead of schedule for two reasons - if there is a vote of no confidence in the current government or if MPs vote for an early election by a two-thirds majority.

Theresa May chose the second option, which was passed by Westminster by 522 votes to 13, because the end of the Brexit negotiations is set for March 2019, when political parties would be starting to campaign for the 2020 general election.

'PM calls snap election', *BBC NEWS*, 20 April 2017.

DOC.3 THE RESULTS OF THE UK 2015 GENERAL ELECTION

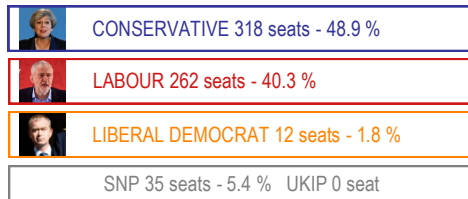
Share of the 650 MP seats in the House of Commons



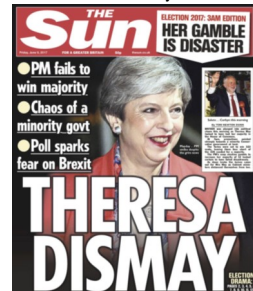
• The 2017 UK unusual GE

DOC.4 THE RESULTS OF THE UK 2017 GENERAL ELECTION

Share of the 650 MP seats in the House of Commons



DOC.5 The Sun, Friday June 9, 2017



QUESTIONNAIRE :

1. Political power

Doc.1. In the UK who is the head of state & why? Who is the head of government & why? Consequently who appoints the members of government, who actually holds power & what is the role of the other one?

Also use last year's political notions

Doc. 7. In the USA who is the head of state & why? Who is the head of government & why? What is the consequence? However, can the head of government appoint the members of his/her government freely & why?

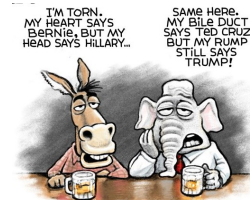
2. Political parties

Docs 1, 2 & 5 ; 6 & 7. What are the main political parties in the UK and the USA (name, associated colour, right-wing or left-wing party)? What is the political party of the current UK PM and the current US president?

3. Major elections

The UK general election. Doc.2. When are the UK general election held & what for? What are the exceptions? Doc.3 How did David Cameron become PM? Doc.1. Why did David Cameron resign? What is unusual about Theresa May becoming UK's PM?

The US presidential election. Doc.6. When is the US presidential election held? What are its different stages? Doc.7. What was unusual in Donald Trump's election?

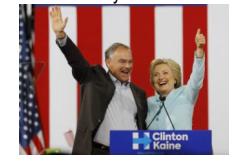


Party primaries, Steve Sack, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, 3 February 2016.

DOC.6. THE US ELECTION YEAR



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



JANUARY - JUNE

SUMMER

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

JANUARY

Presidential nomination

Presidential election

Donald Trump's victory tweet, 9 Nov. 2016

Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump · 43m  
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



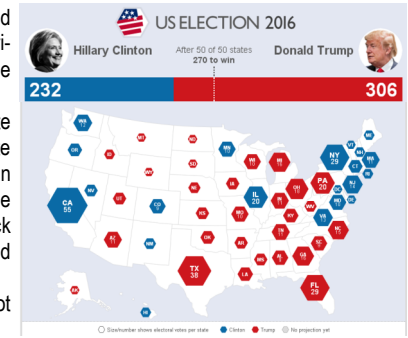
Presidential Inauguration : President-elect Trump takes the oath of office on Jan. 20, 2017 in front of the Capitol.

DOC.7 And so in the pages of American history, a new and astonishing chapter has been written. A man with no experience of government and who's never held elected office, is the next US head of state.

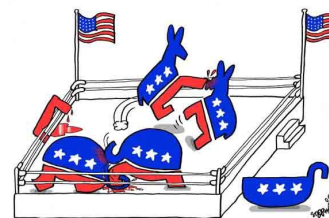
He may have lost the symbolically important popular vote with 47% to Clinton's 48% but Mr Trump will go to the White House with huge power - the presidency and a Republican Congress. As head of government, his nominations will be swiftly confirmed in the Senate. He won't have the deadlock that Barack 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.



• The 2008 US historic presidential election

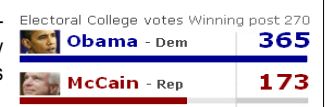


The presidential nomination, Stephen Peray, February 6, 2008.

Democratic Senator Barack Obama was elected the first black president of the United States, finally ending US Civil War. It prompted celebrations across a country born with the ugly birthmark of slavery.



In a hard-fought presidential race he decisively eliminated rival McCain's path to the White House.



"Obama wins historic US election", *BBC News*, 5 November 2008.