

Democracy (introduction) – Knowledge organiser

Key words		Role of an MP	House of Commons
Canvassing	Persuading others to vote for you	<p>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:</p> <p>1 – Representing constituents in their local constituency by listening to their problems and trying to make the local area better.</p> <p>2 – Working on UK law and policy in the House of Commons (London)</p> <p>Both jobs are equally important.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>https://www.parliament.uk/education/teaching-resources-lesson-plans/what-is-the-house-of-commons/</p> <p>The House of Commons is the more powerful of the two houses in parliament. All the MPs that sit in this house have been elected, so it is democratic. MPs in the House make decisions about how the country is run, including debating and creating new laws.</p> 
Constituency	The area represented by an MP		
Constituents	The people in a constituency that an MP represents		
General election	An election for a new government		
House of Commons	The more powerful, elected, of British government		
Prime Minister	Leader of government (majority party)		
Opposition	Political parties that are not in power		
Suffrage	The right to vote in political elections		
Suffragette	A woman seeking the right to vote through organized protest		
Act of Parliament	Law passed by government		
Freedom of speech	Human Right allowing for people to state their opinion	Suffrage	Human Rights
Freedom of thought	Human Right allowing for people to be free to think what they like	<p>https://www.parliament.uk/education/teaching-resources-lesson-plans/votes-for-women-part1/</p> <p>https://www.parliament.uk/education/teaching-resources-lesson-plans/votes-for-women-part-2/</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Globally, it can still be very difficult for women to vote, due to safety issues or social status.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a document that describes 30 things that all humans should legally or morally have, rights that are universal.</p> <p>Just because citizens of a country can vote, this does not mean they have true democracy or good standards of Human Rights. For citizens to be able to take part in elections they need to be educated and informed (free from bias) Human Rights that specifically support democracy are freedom of thought and freedom of speech. Citizens need to be free to discuss politics and make their own opinions.</p>
Human Right	Things that all humans should legally or morally have.		