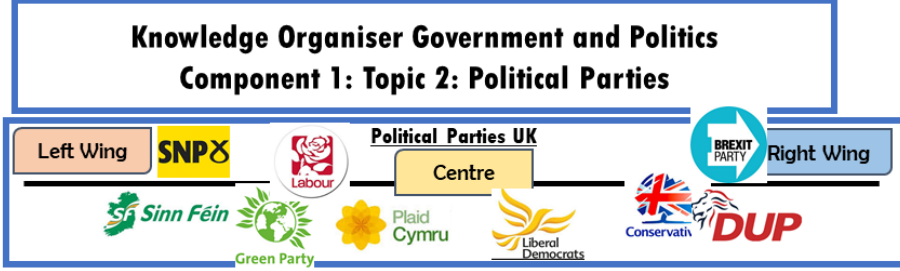


# Y12 Term 3 Politics — Political Parties



**POLITICAL IDEOLOGY**

Ideology refers to a set of ideas on how a government and society should function. Ideology encompasses ideas on society, the economy, politics, the environment and all policy areas. The ideas are cohesive and comprehensive



	PARTIES	PRESSURE GROUPS
Seek election/ power?	✓	✗
Seek influence?	✓	✓
Accountable to members?	✓	✗
Do not usually elect leaders	✗	✓
Broad selection of policies	✓	✗
Representative function?	✗	✓
Educative function?	✓	✓
Civil Disobedience?	✗	✓
Ideologically based?	✓	✓✗

**SIMPLE IDEOLOGY**

**LEFT WING: (SOCIALISM)** Idea in basic right to equality of opportunity- redistribution of wealth from those with resources via taxation and high public spending.

**CENTRE: (LIBERALISM):** Idea that freedom and rights are most important, gov power should be limited and people should have rights protected- do not advocate for gov intervention in public spending etc.

**RIGHT WING: (CONSERVATISM):** Idea that people should be inherently unequal because some work harder than others. Believe in low taxes for "hardest working" and low public spending to encourage people to help themselves rather than rely on gov. "handouts"

**Key Words**

SOCIALISM	CONSERVATISM	LIBERALISM
FASCISM	COMMUNISM	ECOLOGISM
NAITONALISM	SOCIAL POLICY	ECONOMIC POLICY
PUBLIC SPENDING	IDEOLOGY	PARTISAN
MANIFESTO	MANDATE	ELECTIONEERING
FISCAL POLIC	TAXATION	KEYNESIAN
ECONOMICS	LAISSEZ-FAIRE	PARTY FACTION
POLICY	THATCHERITE	1922 COMMITTEE
ONE NATION CONSERVATIVE	OLD LABOUR	NEW LABOUR
THIRD WAY	CORBYNITE	LAW AND ORDER
AUTHORITARIAN	SOCIAL JUSTICE	EQUALITY OF OPP
REDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH	ADVERSARIAL POLITICS	CONSENSUS POLITICS
DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS	BLUE LABOUR	TRIBUNE GROUP
SOCIAL LIBERALS	NORTHERN RESEARCH GROUP	ERG GROUP
ORANGE BOOK GROUP	SOCIAL LIBERALS	FUNDING
PARTISAN DEALIGNMENT		

**Reforms Passed by the Blair Government Regarding Party Funding**

- Independent electoral commission set up to supervise party spending on election campaigns.
- The amount a party could spend was capped at £30,000 in a constituency.
- Donations above £5000 (nationally) or £1000 within a constituency had to be declared and parties had to publish details of donations at regular intervals.
- Donations from individuals not on UK electoral register were banned.

However despite these reforms- 2006-7 cash for peerages scandal caused renewed debate about the issue of party funding.

A 2007 report by civil servant Sir Hayden Phillips proposed moving towards a system where parties were funded by taxation but so far no recommendations have been taken on. The Lib Dems, the smaller "3<sup>rd</sup>" party have accused Lab/ Tories of being bankrolled by wealthy in exchange for power.

Although MPs are paid from public taxation (£81,932) and their expenses also come from the public purse but Parties must get their funds from private donors, members and fund raising. However there is a special state Provision to support the activities of the opposition parties called short money. Party funding is controversial since there is suspicion that donations come at a "cost" (policy decisions or cash for honours EG Blair and peerages and the Ecclestone donation scandal).

**REFORM PARTY FUNDING?**

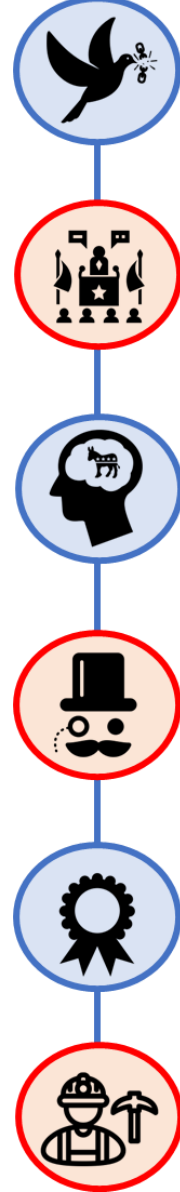
- Public funding would mean far less money for schools, Hospitals, transport etc.
- State funding based on share of the vote would mean Smaller parties were significantly disadvantaged, FPTP Disadvantages them enough already.
- People would object to their taxes being used to Fund parties they do not support or feel reflects their views- especially true of extremist parties such as Brexit Or BNP.
- Rich firms or individuals can influence politicians Anyway via lobbyists and donations to think tanks so It doesn't matter so much if they fund parties
- State funding could lead to calls for state regulation This could possibly reduce party independence

- +Parties play an important democratic role including educating the electorate therefore they deserve state funding.
- +Public funding would remove disparity in resources For different size parties.
- +If the state matched donations by party members, it might encourage participation by the public and recruitment to parties
- +It would prevent or limit the potentially corrupt influence of private backers on party policy
- +It would provide greater transparency and lead to less mistrust and disenchantment of citizens

**Timeline Development Lab/ Cons Party**

- 1812- Tory Party formed following a Conservative ideology
- 1846 Party split over Corn Laws
- 1874 Disraeli united the party and won a majority in the Commons.
- 1890s Conservatives (Unionists) emerged dominant faction
- 1900 Labour Party formed to represent newly enfranchised working class men.
- 1945 Labour won first majority gov and built the NHS and rebuilt housing destroyed by war
- 1964-1978 Labour defeated Conservatives often but strains on economy, mass inflation, unemployment etc led to unrest and Thatcher elected by landslide 1979 ushering in the NEW RIGHT- Labour moved LEFT
- 1997 Blair elected with landslide after relaunching Labour as a Third Way party
- 2010 Cameron revolution- coalition gov with Lib Dems began 15 years of Tory rule- SNP cost Labour vital seats in Scotland.

**Make sure you learn party developments in depth**



# Y12 Politics Term 3—Political Parties



## Knowledge Organiser Government and Politics Component 1: Topic 2: Political Parties



### Party Features

- Broad range of policies- clearly written in manifesto
- Shared ideology/ beliefs- coherent and cohesive
- Attempt to win power
- Organised with formal structure and elected leaders
- Work within political system and are accountable



### Party Functions

1. To contest elections and try to win power- to form a govt or shadow govt in opposition.
2. To formulate policy and create a manifesto
3. To provide a platform for ideas and representing people's views also giving people ability to participate
4. To educate electorate about issues and the status of UK
5. To recruit future leaders as PM, ministers, shadow ministers, office holders etc



### The Party System

The party system refers to how many parties can affect policy and compete in the political system. This often (but not always) relates to the electoral system. For many years FPTP guaranteed UK was a 2 party system where it was essentially a race between Conservatives and Labour. However modern developments such as Devolution and Partisan Dealignment have resulted in the emergence of a 3 party (some say 2.5 party system) with the Lib Dems and SNP winning a considerable number of seats. The Devolved Powers have more of a multi-party system as they have more PR used in their elections.



### Factors effecting party success

1. Strength of Leadership
2. Factions within a party
3. The mass media
4. Social media

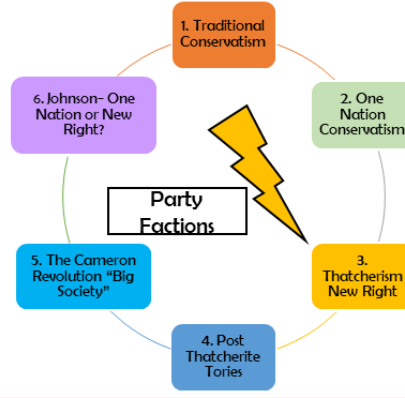
To what extent do factions determine the success or failure of a party? Make sure you can answer this question- have a good look at 2019 of an example- the factions within the Labour Party undeniably played a role in Corbyn's defeat as well as the media coverage- there was a great deal of anti-Corbyn bias in The mass media.



### POLITICAL PARTIES



### Conservative Party Evolution



### PARTY FACTIONS

#### Conservatives

- Tory Reform Group (One nation- L of Party)
- Conservative Voice (Grassroots Centre right)
- The Bruges Group (Pro Brexit)
- ResPublica (Red Tories)
- Bright Blue (Pro Cameron)
- Free Enterprise Group (Liberal)

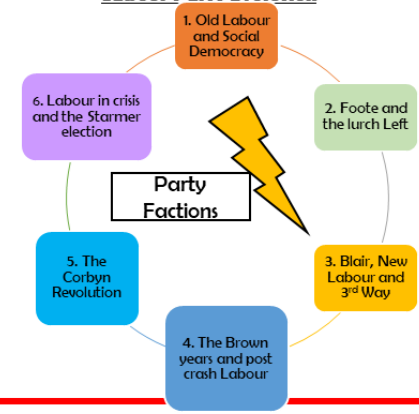
#### Labour

- Momentum (grassroots Left-wing Corbyn support)
- Labour First (oppose Corbyn- "right" of party labour ideas)
- Progress (represents new labour ideas)
- Compass (opposition to Blair)
- Tribune Group (soc dems)

#### Lib Dems

- Orange book group- return to Liberal economics
- Social Libs more advocacy of social ideas of Rawls
- Public spending and equality of opportunity

### Labour Party Evolution



### HAVE PARTIES ABANDONED TRADITIONAL IDEOLOGY?

+There is still a clear divide between Conservatives, Labour and the Lib Dems. Labour favours more public Spending and higher taxes for the wealthy, the Conservatives favour tax cuts and reduced public Spending. The Lib Dems favour constraints on govt Power (Bill of Rights) and a free market economy.

-Labour moved further to the left under Jeremy Corbyn

-The Conservatives have moved further to the right Under Boris Johnson (Pro Brexit, anti immigration, Universal credit)

-The Lib Dems have taken a more progressive stance Since Clegg left as leader-wishing to distance from Con

-Although Labour had rewritten clause IV under Blair And moved to the centre- Corbyn vowed to nationalise Transport and guaranteed everyone a right to a home, A living wage and free healthcare for all by increasing Investment in NHS and social care

-Labour began as a social democratic party. Belief in state owned industry, transport and healthcare. Blair's reform of Clause IV brought a new class of politicians to the party who sought to embrace the modern globalised economy and favoured Deregulation. Also cut ties with trade unions.

Although party moved back to the Left under Corb, the factions remain. Large no of Blairites in the party

Similar story with Conservatives- Thatcherite New Right ideology was a move futter to the right (soc pol) and liberal ec pol. Since Cameron revolution which moved party closer to the centre on issues like gay marriage, he also maintained some of thatcherite policies e.g. trade unions, universal credit and privatisation of elements of NHS, May and Johnson have only continued this.

Can you name 10 policies from the 2019 manifestos of 3 largest parties? (Need a range).

### Smaller Parties

Smaller parties such as UKIP, Brexit, Greens and the SNP have demonstrated they are increasingly important in recent years. As they offer an alternative to Labour/ Conservatives- the larger parties have had to modify their policies to try and appeal to their lost voters. Centralisation of the larger parties has led to UKIP, Brexit party and Greens picking up millions of votes. Furthermore increased nationalism in Scotland due to devolution, has given the SNP the majority of votes in Scotland and a sizeable chunk of Westminster seats.

Whilst these smaller parties may never win control of Parliament- they have clearly had an impact on the policies of the larger parties. The Conservatives and Labour have both moved away from the centre and towards the right and left respectively, partly in an attempt to court some of the voters who have gone to the smaller parties.