

‘Know’ - Parliamentary Law Making (powerful knowledge – chronological order)

UK Parliament is made up of **three branches**, House of Commons, House of Lords and the Monarch.
Monarch: King or Queen is bound to exercise powers and authority only within the limits prescribed by law. Monarch is the ceremonial figurehead – a theoretical source of executive power who does not actually exercise executive powers. Gives Royal Assent.
House of Commons: 650 constituencies and MP’s hold their seat for a 5 year term.
House of Lords: 92 Hereditary Peers, e.g. inherited, 700 life peers, appointed by commission and 26 most senior bishops in CoE. The remaining 92 peers will not pass down their title.

Green and White Papers: Green Paper is a consultative document issued by the government putting forward proposals for reform of the law and often inviting suggestions. White Paper is a document issued by the government stating its decisions as to how it is going to reform the law, this is information not consultation.

Four types of bills: Public Bills (matters of public policy affecting the whole country) , Private Bills (designed to create a law which will affect only individual people or corporations), Private Members Bills (Backbenchers from any political party can introduce a Bill), Hybrid Bills (cross between public and private)

Process for passing an act of Parliament: Bill drafted > First Reading > Second Reading > Committee Stage > Report Stage > Third Reading in Commons > same procedure in HoL > Royal Assent.

Influences on Parliament

- Political – political parties may have different ideas and manifestos about the laws in the country e.g. Hunting Act 2004
- Media – The media can highlight big public issues which may influence government to make change, e.g. Dangerous Dogs Act 2001
- Pressure Groups – Sectional promote a group of people, cause promote a general cause e.g. 2007 Smoking Ban
- Public Opinion – The views of the general public e.g. National Referendum in 2016.

Parliamentary Supremacy

Parliament cannot control the actions of its future self and the courts have no power to question the legality of an act of Parliament e.g. British Railways Board v Pickin 1974. There are two acts which give courts power to establish whether Parliament is acting unlawfully, these are Human Rights Act 1998 and European Communities Act 1972.
No longer subject to European Union since Brexit.



‘Show’ (deliberate practice and opportunity for feedback/upgrade in green and in exercise books)

If you are working at MASTERY you can:

- Knowledge is excellent and demonstrates a good understanding of the English legal system.
- Students are able to provide a logical and well developed response to the question
- Students are able to use examples within their writing and explain the significance of them



If you are working at ESTABLISHED you :

- Knowledge is good and demonstrates a good understanding of the English legal system.
- Students approach the question with logic, but there may still be a few errors or aspects not fully developed.
- Students may offer an example, but don’t manage to elaborate about it’s purpose or show a deeper understanding of it’s relevance

If you are working at EXPECTED you can:

- Knowledge is satisfactory and demonstrates a satisfactory understanding of the English legal system.
- Students offer one or two points about the topic, but fail to elaborate or offer examples to show understanding.

Curriculum Overview		
Common Misconceptions / high-level of skill <i>The House of Lords has equal power to the House of Commons in passing laws.</i> Clarification: While both Houses participate in the legislative process, the House of Commons has supremacy. Under the Parliament Acts 1911 and 1949, the House of Lords can delay most legislation but cannot permanently block it. For example, if the Lords reject a bill, the Commons can still pass it without Lords' consent after a delay. A bill becomes law immediately after it passes through Parliament. Clarification: Even after passing all stages in both Houses, a bill only becomes law once it receives Royal Assent. Although this is now a formality, it's still a separate and necessary final step in the process.		Pre-prepared “check for understanding” or hinge questions – 1) What is the first stage a bill goes through in the House of Commons? 2) What type of document is issued to invite discussion on proposed legislation before drafting a bill? 3) What is the final stage a bill must pass to become law? 4) What term describes Parliament's authority to make or repeal any law? 5) Name one limitation on parliamentary supremacy. 6) What is the purpose of a White Paper? 7) Which stage involves detailed examination of a bill by a committee? 8) Name two influences on Parliament
Cross-curricular emphasis – where does your curriculum re-enforce our cross-curricular themes ?		
British Values and Citizenship (Democracy, Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual respect and tolerance) <u>Rule of Law</u> - everyone, including the government, must obey the law, and no one is above it. It ensures fair legal processes, access to justice, and equal treatment.	Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural <u>Social and Moral</u> Abiding by the law fosters a stable and fair society by ensuring everyone is held accountable for their actions, allowing victims of wrongdoing to seek justice, and establishing a framework for acceptable behaviour. It promotes public order, it encourages cooperation, and helps maintain a sense of social equilibrium.	
Careers Solicitor, Barrister, Paralegal, Human Resources Officer, Compliance Officer, Legal Consultant, Court Clerk	Protected characteristics (Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage or civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Race, including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, Religion or belief, Sex ,Sexual orientation) The Law Commission seek to change rules that may not reflect protected characteristics and aim to improve this.	
Literacy (DART and Wider reading) / Oracy / Numeracy – activities Parliamentary Sovereignty and the Politics of Law Making https://ukconstitutionallaw.org/2021/10/18/michael-foran-parliamentary-sovereignty-and-the-politics-of-lawmaking/	Key terminology and definitions (tier 3 vocabulary) - Bill – A draft proposal for a new law or a change to existing law, which must pass through Parliament before becoming an Act. Green Paper – A preliminary report issued by the government to provoke discussion and invite feedback on potential legislation. White Paper – A formal document that sets out detailed policy proposals which are intended to become the basis for a bill. Committee Stage – The phase in the legislative process where a bill is examined in detail by a committee, with opportunities for amendments. Royal Assent – The final step in the legislative process where the monarch formally agrees to a bill, making it an official law.	
Extra Curricular opportunities:	Homework: Explain two influences on parliamentary law making. (5 marks) Explain two advantages of the parliamentary law-making process. (5 marks)	