Edexcel Government & Politics for AS: Scheme of Work

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Subject Topics are fixed but Resources & Tasks are suggested and not intended to preclude individual inspiration or further development

Elections

Topic	Key content	Key Question	Suggested activities
	Elections and democracy — a knowledge and understanding of how and why elections promote democracy, and of the limitations of this democratic role.	**What is the purpose of an election?**	**McNaughton p89-90** **Starter:** Pupils brainstorms the reasons for having an election **Main:** Pupils create a headline for each purpose. The teacher asks one pupil to read out a headline. Other pupils have to say which purpose this is. **Plenary:** Which is the most important purpose of an election? Pupils rank purposes and discuss reasons.
	Elections in the UK — a knowledge and understanding of the workings of the voting systems used for elections to the House of Commons, to devolved bodies and local authorities, and to the European Parliament, and an awareness of their implications for party representation and government.	**How does the First Past The Post system work?**	**McNaughton p90-91** **Starter:** Pupils watch Blackadder clip of election / clip of past General Election count **Main:** Pupils draw picture / diagram of how FPTP work **Plenary:** Pupils match key terms to definitions
	Debating electoral systems — a knowledge and understanding of the advantages and disadvantages of the UK electoral systems and, in particular, of the benefits or otherwise of changing the Westminster electoral system.	**What are the key effects of FPTP?**	**McNaughton p92-94** **Starter:** Pupils summarise working of FPTP system in 20 words **Main:** Pupils look at data tables and extract general conclusions **Plenary:** Pupils place conclusions

	(Extended questions will not be set on particular electoral systems, except for the simple plurality system.)		into 'Good for democracy' / 'Bad for democracy' groups
		What are the problems with using FPTP?	**McNaughton p112-113** **Starter:** Student activity p113 **Main:** Summarise main problems of FPTP from bullet points p112-113. Give each a score out of ten for severity of problem. **Plenary:** 'Should FPTP be reformed?' Plan answer to question.
		What other electoral systems have been used in the UK? (1)	**McNaughton p98-105** **Starter:** Pupils design their own electoral system **Main:** In groups pupils put together presentation on one system used in UK **Plenary:** Groups present their system to rest of the class
		What other electoral systems have been used in the UK? (2)	**McNaughton p98-105** **Starter:** 'Articulate' game on electoral systems **Main:** List of numbered statements. Pupils place in venn diagram. **Plenary:** Past exam question
		What are the key effects of other electoral systems?	**McNaughton p114-117** **Starter:** **Main:** Pupils complete data input table **Plenary:** Answer key question
		Should the FPTP system be reformed?	**McNaughton p118-119** **Starter:** Pupils brainstorm on reasons to reform / keep FPTP system **Main:** Card sort on arguments for / against reform **Plenary:** Pupils place themselves on an imaginary line around the classroom depending on their overall conclusions regarding

			reform
		Mock exam using questions on p121	