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

Party Policies and Ideas

Topic	Key content	Key Question	Suggested activities
Party Policies and Ideas	Nature of political parties — a knowledge and understanding of political parties, of their distinctive features and of their key functions within the political system.	**What are the main features of political parties today?**	**McNaughton p48-49** **Starter:** Pupils write definition of political party **Main:** Using definition p48 highlight / spider diagram to pick out key features. Develop with text. **Plenary:** Rank features in level of importance. Discuss reasons
	Traditions and policies of parties — a knowledge and understanding of the central ideas, traditions and policies of the major UK political parties, and the development of party policies in recent years and of factors that influence ideological and policy development, including policy and ideological differences within parties. (Although extended questions will not be set solely on political traditions, they may be set on sub-traditions such as 'new' Labour or 'Thatcherism'.)	**What are the key functions of political parties**	**McNaughton p49-51** **Starter:** 'Articulate' to revise features of parties **Main:** Storyboard key functions – draw sketch of each function **Plenary:** Paragraph summarising the main functions of parties. Within this highlight significant functions.
	Comparing party policies and ideas	**What do the terms 'left' and 'right' mean in a political sense?**	**McNaughton p52-53** **Starter:** What does 'left' and 'right' mean? Pupils add words /

	— a knowledge and understanding of similarities and contrasts between the ideas and policies of the major parties and of the ideological relationship between and amongst them.		phrases on whiteboard **Main:** Pupils place cards on 'left' / 'right' line **Plenary:** Where would you place the main political parties on this line?
		How do the terms 'left' and 'right' apply in 2009?	**McNaughton p52** **Starter:** **Main:** Using party websites place policies on 'left' 'right' axis. Add information from p52. **Plenary:** How much of a 'left / right' divide is there in British politics today?
		How have conservative ideas changed over the last 100 years?	**McNaughton p53** **Starter:** Pupils look at timeline of conservatism. What sort of interests do conservatives seek to defend? **Main:** Graph changes of conservative thought on economic / social issues **Plenary:** How has the Conservative Party changed 1840-2009 (Refer to table p53)
		What are the are the core of traditional conservatism? (1)	**McNaughton p54-59** **Starter:** Draw a 'conservative' **Main:** Pupils split into groups and prepare class activity on one aspect of traditional conservative thinking **Plenary:**
		What are the beliefs are the core of traditional conservatism? (2)	**McNaughton p54-59** **Starter:** Groups set up activities from previous lesson around classroom. **Main:** Pupils then move around classroom undertaking activities prepared by other groups **Plenary:** Group discussion on questions arising from activities

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		What would you include in an exhibition about the New Right? (1)	**McNaughton p60-63** **Starter:** Brainstorm what makes a good museum exhibition **Main:** Pupils use links on New Right to find information and build exhibition on New Right ideas **Plenary:**
		What would you include in an exhibition about the New Right? (2)	**McNaughton p60-63** **Starter:** **Main:** Presentation of exhibitions to rest of class **Plenary:**
		How does the New Right and traditional Conservatism compare?	**McNaughton p63** **Starter:** New Right bingo game **Main:** Word link **Plenary:**
		Is David Cameron's Conservative Party traditionalist or New Right?	**McNaughton p63-67** **Starter:** **Main:** Place cards on spectrum Traditionalist /New Right **Plenary:**
		What were the core values behind 'Old' Labour?	**McNaughton p68-72** **Starter:** **Main:** Pupils answer structured questions on 'Old Labour' values **Plenary:** Discuss answers
		How would you persuade the electorate to vote for 'Old' Labour? (1)	**McNaughton p68-72** **Starter:** **Main:** Pupils prepare party political broadcast to persuade people to vote for 'Old Labour' **Plenary:**
		What was New Labour and the Third Way?	**McNaughton p** **Starter:** Pupils shown electoral data from 1979-92. Why did Labour need to change? **Main:** Create spider diagram. Add summaries of Third Way policies around definition **Plenary:** Speculate on ways in

			which the Third Way differs from Old Labour and the New Right
		How did 'New Labour' and the 'Third Way' differ from Old Labour and the New Right?	**McNaughton p** **Starter:** Venn diagram. Denote which would be New Right / Old Labour / Third Way **Main:** Using table p74-75 summarise how New Labour differed from Old Labour **Plenary:** Which was the Third Way most like: New Right or Old Labour? Mark each policy out of 10 for both New Right and Old Labour. Give an overall judgement
		What is liberalism?	**McNaughton p78-79** **Starter:** **Main:** **Plenary:**
		What are the core values that liberals hold?	**McNaughton p79-81** **Starter:** **Main:** Storyboard core values – a sketch of each **Plenary:** Tick / cross those that pupils agree / disagree with
		How far to Liberal Democrat policies adhere to core liberal values?	**McNaughton p81-83** **Starter:** **Main:** Data input table. Pupils compare policies to core values and mark out of 10 for similarity **Plenary:** Overall judgement
			Starter: Word link. Pupils draw lines from policy phrases to correct ideology / party **Main:** **Plenary:**
		What other parties are there in the UK? (Possible Homework)	**McNaughton p83-84** **Starter:** **Main:** Read and note p83-84 **Plenary:**

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		What the differences between consensus and adversarial politics?	**McNaughton p84-86** **Starter:** Summarise definitions **Main:** Card sort on issues (use boxes p86) **Plenary:** To what extent is British politics in 2009 an adversarial system?
			Suggested activities
		Mock paper using questions p87	