

## Section A – Key Vocabulary

- **Local Elections:** elections held for councillors to local councils, held on a fixed date in May after the fixed term of office has expired.
- **Democracy:** A system of government by the entire population or a majority of eligible citizens.
- **Voter Turnout:** the percentage of voters who actually vote against the total number who are registered to vote.
- **Voter Apathy:** a lack of interest by citizens in the electoral and political process.
- **Electoral Commission:** a government-established body that monitors and oversees all UK elections and referendums.
- **The Opposition:** the name given to the largest party in the Commons not in power. It is made of MPs representing parties not in the government.

## Section B – Voting and elections facts

### Who can stand for election?

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- British Citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth or the Republic of Ireland.
- You cannot stand for more than one constituency.

### You cannot stand for election if you are:

A Civil Servant; police; in the armed forces; a government nominated director of a commercial company; a judge; peer in the House of Lords (including bishops known as the Lords Spiritual).

### Who can vote in elections?

- A British Citizen or a member of the EU or Commonwealth living in the UK.
- Anyone 18 and over can register to vote.
- Not suffering any legal incapacity to vote

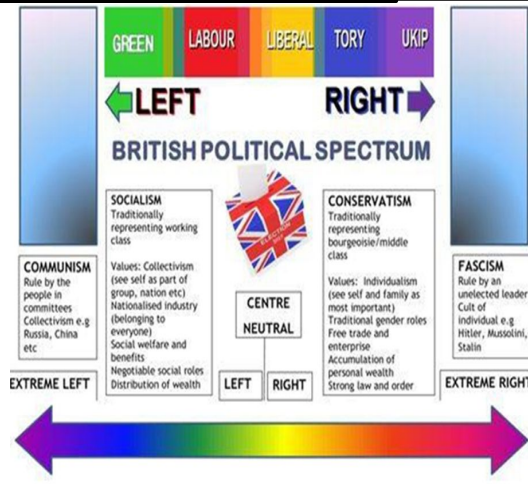
In Scotland the voting age for local and Scottish Parliament is 16.

### Who cannot vote in elections?

- Members of the House of Lords.
- People in prison
- Anyone found guilty in the last 5 years of illegal practices in connection with an election.
- Anyone been detained under certain sections of the Mental Health Act.



## Section C – Political Parties



## Section D – Writing Task

**Extended Writing:** Do you agree with the Scotland voting age of 16? Can you explain why? Should the U.K introduce the same law? Use the writing frame below if necessary.

### Writing Frame:

In my opinion, voting when you are 16 is / is not a good idea because ...  
On the one hand I agree that....because.  
On the other hand, I think that .....  
In conclusion, people should vote.....because .....

## Section D – 2019 Elections

**Political Parties:** a group of people who share a common ideology and political beliefs and wishes to win elections in order to carry out their ideas.

**Prime Minister:** the Head of the Government. The Prime Minister is the leader of the largest party in the House of Commons and is an elected MP.

### Last Elections Results

