

Government and Politics of the USA and Comparative politics Term 1

Topic/Content	Objectives/Skills	Homework	Assessment	Success Criteria	Stretch & Challenge (Thirst for Learning)
1) The constitutional framework of the US Government- Key principles of the US constitution	-To learn and understand the key principles of the US Constitution; Fundamental Law Entrenchment Separation of Powers Checks and Balances Federalism To compare the US Constitution with the UK Constitution	Essay –‘The US Constitution is no longer fit for purpose’ Discuss(30 marks) Activity pages 45-45	‘The US Constitution is not as flexible as the UK Constitution ‘Analyse and evaluate this statements’ (25 marks)	GCE Grades A* -E	Active learning exercise pages 44-45 Watch a series of video based ‘Crash Course US Politics on Youtube, Watch the series on ‘US Presidents’ on Youtube. Research into a particular constitutional amendment. Source exercise on page 56.(Exam Focus)
2) The Amendment process	To understand the way that Constitutional amendments are made in the US . To understand that there are interpretive and informal amendments.	To get pupils to research a particular amendment (11-27) in order to present to the rest of the class.			
3) The Federal System of government and federal state	To understand the debates concerning federalism at the time of the original constitution. To understand the different powers given to the three branches under federalism eg) Enumerated and reserved To learn and the understand the different phases of federalism eg)	Activity page 44			

relations	Dual, New Federalism, Co-operative etc.				
4) The Bill Of Rights and the protection of civil liberties	To understand the importance of the Bill of Rights and how it has affected the protection of rights in the US.	Essay – To what extent have rights been adequately protected in the USA?			
5) Comparative analysis of the US and UK Constitutions.	Students will need to understand and apply the three theoretical approaches to the US constitution. -structural -rational -cultural	Qs) 6) Explain and analyse three ways in which structural theory could be used to study the constitution of the UK and US (9 marks) 7) Explain and analyse three ways in which cultural theory could be used to study the constitutions			

		of the UK and US(9 marks)			
6) Key similarities and differences between the US and UK Constitutions.	To analyse key similarities and differences between the UK and US constitutions.	Essay – ‘The US Constitution allows for a greater degree of decentralisation than the UK Constitution’ Analyse and evaluate this statement ‘ (25 marks)			