

A LEVEL POLITICS – READING LIST

An understanding of current affairs is crucial for any aspiring student of Politics, and so you should be ensuring that you read the news every day as well as reading books that will give you a deeper understanding of what is going on in the world of politics. In Y12 we are looking specifically at UK politics but in Y13 you will be studying global politics. Listed here are some introductory texts as well as some possible wider reading, although this list is not exhaustive.

Keep up to date with the news

The Week

(<http://subscription.theweek.co.uk/subscribe/>)

The Economist

(<https://subscriptions.economist.com/>)

The Guardian <http://www.guardian.co.uk/>

The Telegraph <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/>

The Independent <http://www.independent.co.uk/>

The Times <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/>

Financial Times <https://www.ft.com/>

BBC News <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/>

PoliticsHome <http://www.politicshome.com/uk/>

Labour List <http://labourlist.org>

Conservative Home

<http://www.conservativehome.com>

Be aware of your sources!

Try to read accounts of the same event from more than one source, to get a sense of different interpretations. A good one is to start with the Guardian, and then compare with the Telegraph coverage of the same stories.

What do you think?

Think about what you read. It can be helpful to look at one issue in more depth i.e. by reading about it in different newspapers and considering what your own opinion is.

General Reading:

Julian Knight *British Politics for Dummies*

Kenneth Minogue *Politics: A Very Short Introduction*

Tony Wright *British Politics: A Very Short Introduction*

Paul Wilkinson *International Relations: A Very Short Introduction*

Paul Kelly *The Politics Book*

Paul Collier *The Bottom Billion*

Anthony King *Who Governs Britain?*

British Politics & History:

Andrew Marr *A History of Modern Britain*

Anthony King *The Blunders of Our Governments*

Andrew Rawnsley *The End of the Party*

John Campbell *The Iron Lady*

John Murray and Anthony Sampson *Who Runs This Place?: The Anatomy of Britain in the 21st Century*

Global Politics:

Tim Marshall *Divided*

Thomas G Weiss *What's Wrong With the UN and How to Fix It*

Dambisa Moyo *Dead Aid*
Dharshini David *The Almighty Dollar*
Michael Luders *Blowback*
John Perkins *The New Confessions of an International Hitman*
Yuval Noah Harari *21 Lessons for the 21st Century*
Amy Chua *World on Fire*
Linda Fasulo *An Insider's Guide to the UN*

Web Links

- BBC – Politics section – http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/default.stm
- Democracy live – <http://news.bbc.co.uk/democracylive/hi>
- Tutor2u – www.tutor2u.net/revision_notes_politics.asp
- UK Parliament – www.parliament.uk
- 10 Downing Street – www.number-10.gov.uk/output/Page1.asp

BBC TV and Radio Programmes

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- BBC Parliament
- Politics Live
- Question Time
- Andrew Marr Show
- The Westminster Hour
- The Week in Westminster

Journals and Magazines

There are a number of magazines and journals which may contain articles relevant to all units of the specification. These include:

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- *Politics Review*, published by Philip Allan
www.philipallan.co.uk
- *Total Politics* www.magazine-group.co.uk
- *The New Statesman*
www.newstatesman.com
- *The Spectator* www.the-spectator-magazine.co.uk
- *The Economist* www.economist.com
- *Global Politics* www.global-politics.co.uk
- Prospect
<http://www.prospectmagazine.co.uk/>
- *The Week* <http://www.theweek.co.uk/>

Political Parties & Polling:

The Conservative Party

<http://www.conservatives.com/>

The Labour Party <http://www.labour.org.uk/>

The Liberal Democrats

<http://www.libdems.org.uk/>

UKIP <http://www.ukip.com/>

SNP <https://www.snp.org/>

Green Party <https://policy.greenparty.org.uk/>

UK Polling Data <http://ukpollingreport.co.uk/>

Podcasts

Talking Politics <https://www.talkingpoliticspodcast.com/>

A Level Politics Podcast <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/alevel-politics-podcast>

Politics Weekly <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/series/politicsweekly>

The Political Party <http://mattforde.com/>

Reasons to be Cheerful with Ed Miliband and Geoff Lloyd <https://www.acast.com/reasonstobecheerful>

Unherd <https://unherd.com/podcasts-and-video/>

Politics UK Podcast <http://www.politics.co.uk/podcast/>

Anxious and Insecure <https://anxiousandinsecure.com/>