

NSG A-Level Politics: Summer Transition Work

Welcome to A-Level Politics! This transition work is designed to help you begin thinking like a politics student. A-Level Politics is exciting, dynamic, and deeply relevant to the world around you. By completing this pack of tasks over the summer, you'll develop essential skills and gain a head start for Year 12.

Introductory task

1. What is Politics?

Write a one-page/350 word answer to the question:

What is politics, and why does it matter?

Include examples from:

- UK politics (e.g., Parliament, elections)
- Global politics (e.g., international relations, conflicts)

Helpful sources:

[Parliament UK](#)

[BBC Politics](#)

[The Guardian Politics](#)

[The results of the 2024 General Election](#)

2. Current Affairs Diary (Ongoing Task)

Start an online/paper *Politics Journal* by tracking **3 political news stories** over the summer. For each story, write:

- A short summary (100–150 words)
- Your thoughts or opinions
- The source (e.g., BBC, Guardian, The Times). **Try to include a range of topics: domestic, international, and political debate.**

3. Political Ideologies: Introduction (Research Task)

Research the basic ideas of **three main political ideologies**: [Start your research here](#)

- Conservatism
- Socialism
- Liberalism

For each:

- Summarise the core beliefs (in 100–150 words)
- Name a major UK party that aligns with the ideology
- Mention a famous political figure associated with the ideology

4. Essay Practice (Extended Writing Task)

Write a short essay (around 500 words) answering the question:

The turnout in recent elections has been lowest in the 18-24 age group: How can young people be more motivated to get involved in politics in the UK?

Tips:

- Consider voting systems, representation, the role of Parliament, the House of Lords, and the teaching of politics in primary and secondary school
- Use examples from your own experience and observations

5. General task: get up to date with UK politics

Videos & Podcasts:

- [BBC Newsnight](#)
- [The rest is politics \(Rory Stewart and Alistair Campbell\)](#)

Deadline & Submission

Bring your completed work to your **first A-Level Politics lessons in September**. It will form the basis of your initial discussions and help your teacher gauge your starting point. You can submit it all electronically if you wish to (guidance will be given in September), or on paper if you prefer.