

Волинський державний університет імені Лесі Українки

**Самостійна робота  
з англійської мови**  
для студентів I-го, II-го курсів  
історичного факультету  
спеціальності «Політологія»

Укладачі:

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іноземних мов гуманітарних  
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загальноосвітньої школи № 23  
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Методична розробка з англійської мови містить добірку текстів з політології та вправи до них.

Для студентів першого і другого курсів денної та заочної форми навчання історичного факультету.

## **Preface**

This manual is intended for the individual work of the students of the first and second years of study majoring in “political science”.

The purpose of the book is to familiarize the students with the present system of government in Ukraine, Great Britain and the USA, and the work of their most well-known political leaders.

This manual contains texts intended for the improvement of various skills, such as reading, comprehension and oral expression.

In the book there are also various exercises which we hope will help the students to increase their knowledge of English grammatical structures and professional vocabulary.

## The State

A state is a form of human association distinguished from other social groups by its purpose, the establishment of order and security; its methods, laws and their enforcement; its territory, the area of jurisdiction or geographic boundaries and, finally, by its sovereignty.

The history of the state began in ancient Greece. Plato and Aristotle wrote of the *polis*, or city-state, as an ideal form of association in which the whole community's religious, cultural, political and economic needs could be satisfied. The city-state was seen by Aristotle as the means of developing morality in human character. The Greek idea corresponds more closely to the modern concept of the nation, whereas the Roman *res publica*, or commonwealth, is more similar to the modern concept of the state. The *res publica* was a legal system whose jurisdiction extended to all Roman citizens, securing their rights and determining their responsibilities.

It was not until the 16th century that the modern concept of the state emerged in the writings of Niccolo Machiavelli (Italy) and Jean Bodin (France). Machiavelli gave prime importance to the durability of government, focusing on the strength of the ruler. For Bodin, rule must comply with morality to be durable.

It created a climate for the ideas of 17th-century reformers like Locke in England and Rousseau in France. Rousseau considered that the state owed its authority to the general will of the people. For him, the nation was sovereign and the law was none other than the will of the people as a whole. Influenced by Plato, Rousseau recognized the state as the environment for the moral development of humanity.

For Locke, the state began with the need for protection. Locke said that the state is the social contract by which individuals agree not to infringe on each other's rights to life, liberty and property.

The 19th-century German philosopher Hegel saw the state as the culmination of moral action, where freedom of choice had led to the unity of the rational will.

In the 20th century concepts of state ranged from anarchism, in which the state was considered to be unnecessary and even harmful, to the welfare state, in which the government was held to be responsible for the survival of its members.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. What does the term “state” imply?
2. Where did the history of the state begin?
3. What is a *polis*?
4. What is the difference between the Greek and the Roman ideas of the state?
5. When did the modern concept of the state emerge?
6. Who gave prime importance to the durability of government?
7. What 17th-century reformers do you know about?
8. How did Hegel develop the idea of freedom in the state?
9. What is anarchism?
10. What do you know about the welfare state?

**Ex. 2. Translate into Ukrainian:**

To distinguish, law, geographic boundaries, community, to satisfy, citizen, modern, government, morality, to consider, environment, need, protection, to infringe, will, culmination, rational, harmful, unnecessary, responsible.

**Ex. 3. Translate into English:**

Держава, суверенітет, стародавній, республіка, визначати, подібний, угода, законодавство, право, обов'язок, розвивати, захищати, влада, вибір, свобода, створювати, підкорятися, власність, анархізм, поняття.

**Ex. 4. Match the following pairs of phrases:**

1. Aristotle believed that	<i>a) from anarchism to the welfare state.</i>
2. Machiavelli thought that	<i>b) the state was the culmination of moral action, where freedom of choice had led to the unity of the rational will.</i>
3. Bodin stated that	<i>c) rule must comply with the morality to be durable.</i>
4. Locke said that	<i>d) the state owed its authority to the general will of the people.</i>
5. Rousseau proposed that	<i>e) the city-state was the means of developing morality in the human character.</i>
6. Hegel considered that	<i>f) prime importance should be given to the durability of government.</i>
7. Twentieth-century concepts of the state ranged	<i>g) the state is the social contract by which individuals agree not to infringe on each other's rights to life, liberty and property.</i>

**Ex. 5. Make sentences using the following words and word combinations:**

1. Ancient Greece / the history / began / of the state / in.
2. Wrote / of *polis* / Plato and Aristotle.
3. An ideal form / is / of association / the city-state / for Aristotle.
4. A legal system / was / the *res publica*.

5. Emerged / in the 16th century / of state / the modern concept.
6. Prime importance / gave / Machiavelli / of government / to the durability.
7. The state / recognized / as the environment / Rousseau / of humanity / for the moral development.
8. A climate / of the 17th-century reformers / created / it / for the ideas.
9. Begins / for Locke / for protection / with the need / the state.
10. Concepts / ranged / in the 20th century / to the welfare state / from anarchism / of state.

## **Monarchies**

The ancient distinctions that could be made between monarchies, tyrannies, oligarchies, and constitutional governments, as well as most other traditional classifications of political systems, do not correspond very accurately to modern political realities. A king may be a ceremonial dignitary, as in the parliamentary democracies of Western Europe, or he may be an absolute ruler, as in one of the emerging states of North Africa, the Middle East, or Asia. In the former case his duties may be little different from those of an elected president in many republican parliamentary regimes; in the latter, his role may be much the same as that of countless dictators and strongmen in autocratic regimes throughout the less-developed areas of the world. It may be said of the reigning dynasties of modern Europe that they have survived only because they never possessed or else failed to retain effective governing powers. Royal lines have survived only in those European countries in which royal power was greatly reduced prior to the 20th century, or in which royal absolutism had never firmly established itself. More apparently successful dynasties, such as the Hohenzollerns in Germany, the Habsburgs in Austria-Hungary, and the Romanovs in Russia, which continued to rule as well as to

reign at the opening of the 20th century, paid with the loss of their thrones.

Today in countries such as Great Britain, the Netherlands and Denmark, the monarch is the ceremonial head of state, an indispensable figure on all major official occasions and a symbol of national unity and of the authority of the state, but he/she is almost entirely without power. The monarchy in the parliamentary democracies of modern Europe has been reduced to the status of a dignified institutional facade behind which the functioning mechanisms of government – cabinet, parliament, ministers, and parties – go about the tasks of ruling.

The 20th century has also seen the demise of most of the hereditary monarchies in the non-Western world. Thrones have toppled in Turkey, in China, in most of the Arab countries, in the principalities of India, in the tribal kingdoms of Africa, and in several countries of Southeast Asia. The kings who maintain their position do so less by the claim of legitimate blood descent than by their appeal as popular leaders responsible for well-publicized programs of national economic and social reform or as national military chieftains. In a sense, these kings are more like ‘monocrats’ than monarchs, and their regimes are little different from other forms of one-man rule found in the modern world.

### **Ex 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. Is the ancient distinction between monarchies, tyrannies, oligarchies and constitutional governments very descriptive of contemporary political life?
2. What duties does a monarch have in the parliamentary democracies of Western Europe?
3. What duties does he (she) have in emerging states of North Africa, the Middle East or Asia?
4. Why have the reigning dynasties of modern Europe survived?
5. In what countries have royal families survived? Why?
6. Why were the most successful German, Austrian and Russian royal dynasties fated to lose their thrones?



7. Are the contemporary monarchs of Great Britain and Netherlands without power?

8. Why can some kings outside Western Europe be considered to be monarchs rather than monarchs?

**Ex. 2. Translate into Ukrainian. Make sentences of your own with the following word combinations:**

Ancient distinction, absolute ruler, emerging states, republican parliamentary regime, countless dictators, reigning dynasty, ceremonial head of state, national unity, to pay with the loss of their thrones, demise of hereditary monarchies, principalities of India, tribal kingdom, ceremonial dignitary, absolute ruler, royal absolutism.

**Ex. 3. Make sentences with the following words and word combinations:**

1. No longer /of political life / traditional classifications / of political systems / are / very descriptive.

2. An absolute ruler / may be / in emerging states / may be / a king /of Asia.

3. Today / the ceremonial head of state / the monarch / is / in Great Britain.

4. The monarch / a symbol / is / of national unity / in Netherlands.

5. The demise / of the hereditary monarchies / has seen / the 20th century / of the non-Western world.

6. Thrones / in Turkey and China / in the 20th century / toppled.

## **Oligarchy**

In the Aristotelian classification of government, there were two forms of rule by the few: aristocracy and its debased form, oligarchy. Although the term *oligarchy* is rarely used to refer to contemporary political systems, the phenomenon of non-responsible rule by small groups has not vanished from the world. Many of the classical conditions of oligarchic rule were found until recently in those parts

of Asia in which governing elites were recruited exclusively from a ruling caste – a hereditary social grouping set apart from the rest of society by religion, kinship, economic status, prestige, and even language. In the contemporary world, in some countries that have not experienced the full impact of industrialization, governing elites are still often recruited from a ruling class – a stratum of society that monopolizes the chief social and economic functions in the system. Such elites have typically exercised power to maintain the economic and political status quo.

The simple forms of oligarchic rule associated with pre-industrial societies are, of course, rapidly disappearing. Industrialization produces new, differentiated elites that replace the small leadership groupings which once controlled social, economic, and political power in the society. The demands of industrialization lead to recruitment on the basis of skill, merit, and achievement rather than on the basis of inherited social position or wealth. New forms of oligarchic rule have also made their appearance in many advanced industrial societies. Although governing elites in these societies are no longer recruited from a single class, they are often not subjected to effective restraints on the exercise of their power. Indeed, in some circumstances, the new elites may use their power to convert themselves into a governing class whose interests are protected by every agency of the state.

Oligarchic tendencies of a lesser degree have been detected in all the great bureaucratic structures of advanced political systems. The growing complexity of modern society and its government thrusts ever greater power into the hands of administrators and committees of experts. Even in constitutional regimes, no fully satisfactory answer has been found to the question of how these bureaucratic decision makers can be held accountable and their powers effectively restrained without, at the same time, jeopardizing the efficiency and rationality of the policy-making process.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. What were two forms of rule by the few in the Aristotelian classification of government?

2. Is the term “oligarchy” often used to refer to contemporary political systems?
3. Has the phenomenon of irresponsible rule by small groups vanished from the world?
4. Where were many of the classical conditions of oligarchic rule found until recently?
5. What caste were governing elites recruited from in some countries of Asia?
6. Are the simple forms of oligarchic rule associated with pre-industrial societies disappearing now?
7. Have new forms of oligarchic rule appeared in many advanced industrial societies recently?
8. How may the new elites use their power?
9. Have some oligarchic tendencies been detected in the great bureaucratic structures of advanced political systems?

**Ex. 2. Ask questions for which the following sentences provide answers:**

1. There were two forms of rule by the few in the Aristotelian classification of government.
2. The term “oligarchy” is rarely used in contemporary political systems.
3. The phenomenon of irresponsible rule by small groups has not vanished from the world.
4. In some countries governing elites were recruited exclusively from a ruling caste.
5. A ruling class is a stratum of society that monopolizes the chief social and economic functions in the political system.
6. The simple forms of oligarchic rule are rapidly disappearing.

## Democracy

Democracy literally means “rule by the people” (from the Greek *demos*, “people”, and *kratos*, “rule”). The term has three basic senses in contemporary usage: (1) a form of government in which the right to make political decisions is exercised directly by the whole body of citizens, acting under procedures of majority rule, usually known as direct democracy; (2) a form of government in which the citizens exercise the same right not in person but through representatives chosen by and responsible to them, known as representative democracy; and (3) a form of government, usually a representative democracy, in which the powers of the majority are exercised within a framework of constitutional restraints designed to guarantee all citizens the enjoyment of certain individual or collective rights, such as freedom of speech and religion, known as liberal, or constitutional, democracy.

Modern concepts of democratic government were shaped to a large extent by the ideas and institutions of medieval Europe, notably the concept of divine, natural, and customary law as a restraint on the exercise of power. Highly significant was the practice by European kings of seeking approval of their policies – including the right to levy taxes – by consulting the different “estates”, or group interests, in the realm. Gatherings of representatives of these interests were the forerunners of modern parliaments and legislative assemblies. The first document in which such concepts and practices can be observed is the Magna Carta of England, granted by King John in 1215.

Also of fundamental importance were the profound intellectual and social developments of the Enlightenment and the American and French revolutions, notably the emergence of concepts of natural rights and political equality. Two seminal documents of this period are the American Declaration of Independence (1776) and the French Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen (1789).

Representative legislative bodies, freely elected under (what eventually became) universal suffrage, became in the 19th and 20th centuries the central institutions of democratic governments. In many

countries, democracy also came to imply competition for office, freedom of speech and of the press, and the rule of law.

Numerous authoritarian and totalitarian states, notably the communist nations of the 20th century, adopted outwardly democratic governments that nonetheless were dominated by a single authorized party without opposition. States with Marxist ideologies asserted that political consensus and collective ownership of the means of production (i.e., economic democracy) were sufficient to ensure that the will of the people would be carried out.

**Ex. 1. Answer the questions:**

1. What does the term “democracy” literally mean?
2. What are the basic meanings of the word “democracy”?
3. What ideas and institutions were modern concepts of democratic government shaped by?
4. What gatherings were the fore-runners of modern parliaments and legislative assemblies?
5. What was “the Magna Carta”?
6. When was the American Declaration of Independence adopted?
7. What bodies became the central institutions of democratic government in the 19th and 20th centuries?
8. What governments did numerous authoritarian and totalitarian states adopt?
9. What did states with Marxist ideologies assert?

**Ex. 2. Translate into English:**

1. Сучасні концепції демократичного уряду сформувалися під впливом ідей середньовічної Європи.
2. Сучасні парламенти та законодавчі збори походять від зборів представників різних прошарків населення.
3. Французька Декларація прав людини та громадянина була прийнята у 1789 році.
4. Законодавчі органи, що обиралися на загальних виборах, стали у IXI – XX століттях основними органами демократичних урядів.

5. Представницька демократія – це форма уряду, у якій громадяни здійснюють своє право приймати політичні рішення через представників, що обираються народом і є відповідальними перед ним.

**Ex. 3. Complete the sentences:**

1. Democracy literally means...
2. Direct democracy is...
3. Representative democracy is...
4. Constitutional democracy is...
5. The Magna Carta was granted by ...
6. ...became the central institutions of democratic governments in the 19th and 20th centuries.
7. In many countries democracy also came to imply...
8. Outwardly democratic governments in authoritarian and totalitarian states adopted were dominated by...
9. States with Marxist ideologies asserted...

## **Constitutional Government**

Constitutional government is defined by the existence of a constitution – which may be a legal instrument or merely a set of fixed norms or principles generally accepted as the fundamental law of the policy – that effectively controls the exercise of political power. The essence of constitutionalism is the control of power by its distribution among several state organs or offices in such a way that they are each subjected to reciprocal controls and forced to cooperate in formulating the will of the state. In the contemporary world constitutional governments are generally democracies, and in most cases they are referred to as constitutional democracies or constitutional-democratic systems, in that they combine constitutionalism and democracy.

In all such systems, political parties are key institutions, for they are the agencies by which majority opinion in a modern mass

electorate is mobilized and expressed. Indeed, the history of the political party in its modern form coincides with the development of contemporary constitutional-democratic systems. The essential functions of political parties in a constitutional democracy are the integration of a multitude of interests, beliefs, and values into one or more programs or proposals for change and the nomination of party members for elective office in the government. In both functions, the party serves as a link between the rulers and the ruled, in the first case by allowing the electorate to register an opinion on policy, and in the second, by giving the people a chance to choose their rulers. Of course, the centralized, autocratically-directed, and ideologically orthodox one-party systems of totalitarian regimes perform neither of these functions. The two major types of constitutional democracy in the modern world are exemplified by the United States and Great Britain. The United States is the leading example of the presidential system of constitutional democracy; Britain (although its system is sometimes referred to as a cabinet system, in recognition of the Cabinet in the government) is the classic example of the parliamentary system. The U. S. presidential system is based on the doctrine of the separation of powers and distinguishes sharply between the personnel of the legislature and of the executive, whereas the British parliamentary system provides for the integration or fusion of legislature and executive. In the U. S. system the separation of legislature and executive is reinforced by their separate election and by the doctrine of checks and balances that provides constitutional support for routine disagreement between the branches; in the British system the integration of legislature and executive is reinforced by the necessity for their constant agreement, or for a condition of "confidence" between the two, if the normal processes of government are to continue. In the U. S. system reciprocal controls are provided by such devices as the presidential veto of legislation, the Senate's role in ratifying treaties and confirming executive nominations, congressional appropriation of funds and the executive ability to declare war, and judicial review of legislation; in the British system the major control device is the vote of "no confidence" or the rejection of legislation that is considered vital.

**Ex. 1. Answer the questions:**

1. What is constitutional government defined by?
2. What is “a constitution”?
3. What is the essence of constitutionalism?
4. What forms of government does the contemporary political systems combine?
5. What is the role of political parties in such systems?
6. What political institution serves as a link between the rulers and the ruled?
7. What countries are the two major types of constitutional democracy exemplified by?
8. What doctrine is the U.S. presidential system based on?
9. What devices are reciprocal controls provided by in the U. S. system?
10. What is the major control device in the British system?

**Ex. 2. Complete the sentences:**

1. The essential functions of political parties in constitutional democracy are...
2. The U. S. is the leading example of...
3. In the U. S. system the separation of legislature and executive is reinforced by...
4. Britain is the classic example of...
5. In the British system the integration of legislature and executive is reinforced by...
6. The essential functions of political parties in constitutional democracy are...
7. ...perform neither of these functions.
8. British political system is sometimes referred to as...



**Ex. 3. Complete the text with the words and word combinations from the box:**

*the will of the majority; framework; exemplify; institutionalization; an absolute ruler; to have nothing in common; fusion; symbol of unity; presidential and parliamentary systems; an institutional facade; emerging states; separation; a ceremonial dignitary; to integrate a multitude of interests; a link; elective office; lacking in power; strata of society; an indispensable figure; proceed hand in hand; legal instrument*

It is commonplace in the contemporary world that political systems with the same type of governmental machinery often function differently. Therefore it is very important that the work of the analyst investigating governmental structures should ... with the close examination of the actual facts of the political process.

Within the ... of the same governmental structure some institutions can play roles of entirely opposite significance. Thus parliament may be an effective part of a political system, or may be just... . A constitution may be a ..., affecting the political life profoundly, or it may ... with the facts of political processes, being just a piece of paper. Functions of a monarch may vary from ... under autocratic regimes of the ... in Africa and Asia to ..., who is considered ... in all great official occasions in Europe. In Great Britain, for example, the Queen provides a historically valid ... – a sort of ... between all ..., though entirely ... .

In contemporary constitutional democracies ... is expressed in free elections and ... of political parties. Their essential functions are ... into programs and to nominate party members for ... in the government. The U. S. and Great Britain ... the two major types of constitutional democracy: ... respectively. While the U. S. presidential system is based on the principle of ... of legislative and executive powers the British parliamentary system provides for their... .

**Ex. 4. Make the sentences of words and word-combinations:**

1. Defined / by the existence of / constitutional government / is / a constitution.
2. Constitutionalism / the contemporary / combine / political systems / and democracy.
3. A link / serves as / the party / the rulers / between / the ruled / and.
4. Britain / the classic example of / is / the parliamentary system.
5. Separation of powers / is based on / the U.S. presidential system / the doctrine of.
6. The fusion / the British parliamentary system / of legislature / provides for / and executive.
7. Vital / in the British system / the rejection / is considered / of legislation.
8. Constitutional governments / democracies / are / in the contemporary world / generally.
9. The agencies / are / political parties / majority opinion / by which / mobilized and expressed / is.
10. Referred to / sometimes / the British political system / is as a cabinet system.

## **Dictatorship**

Dictatorship is a form of government in which one person or a small group possesses absolute power without effective constitutional limitations. The term *dictatorship* comes from the Latin title *dictator*, which in the Roman Republic designated a temporary magistrate who was granted extraordinary powers in order to deal with state crises.

With the decline and disappearance in the 19th and 20th centuries of monarchies based on hereditary descent, dictatorship became one of the two chief forms of government in use by nations throughout the world, the other being constitutional democracy. Rule by dictators has taken several different forms. In Latin America in the 19th century, various dictators arose after effective central authority had collapsed in the new nations recently freed from Spanish colonial rule. These

*caudillos*, or self-proclaimed leaders, usually led a private army and tried to establish control over a territory before marching upon a weak national government. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna in Mexico and Juan Manuel de Rosas in Argentina are examples of such leaders.

Later 20th-century dictators in Latin America were different. They were national rather than provincial leaders and often were put in their position of power by nationalistic military officers, as was Juan Peron of Argentina. They usually allied themselves with a particular social class, and attempted either to maintain the interests of wealthy and privileged elites or to institute far-reaching left-wing social reforms.

In the new states of Africa and Asia after World War II, dictators quickly established themselves on the ruins of constitutional arrangements inherited from the Western colonial powers that had proved unworkable in the absence of a strong middle class and in the face of local traditions of autocratic rule. In some such countries, elected presidents and prime ministers captured personal power by establishing one-party rule and suppressing the opposition, while in others the army seized power and established military dictatorships.

The communist and fascist dictatorships that arose in various technologically advanced countries in the first half of the 20th century were distinctively different from the authoritarian regimes of Latin America or the postcolonial dictatorships of Africa and Asia. Nazi Germany under Adolf Hitler and the Soviet Union under Joseph Stalin were the leading examples of such modern totalitarian dictatorships. The crucial elements of both were the identification of the state with a single mass party and of the party with its charismatic leader, the use of an official ideology to legitimize and maintain the regime, the use of terror and propaganda to suppress dissent and stifle opposition, and the use of modern science and technology to control the economy and individual behaviour. Soviet-type communist dictatorships arose in central and eastern Europe, China, and other countries in the wake of World War II, though most of them (as well as the Soviet Union itself) had collapsed by the last decade of the 20th century.

The two systems, however, may be distinguished in several ways. Fascism, in its National Socialist form, was primarily a

counterrevolutionary movement that mobilized middle- and lower middle-class groups to pursue nationalistic and militaristic goals and whose sole principle of organization was obedience to the Führer. By contrast, Soviet Communism grew out of a revolutionary theory of society, pursued the goal of revolutionary overthrow of capitalist systems internationally, and employed the complex bureaucratic structures of the Communist party as mechanisms of governmental organization. Western constitutional democracies have provided examples of another type of contemporary dictatorship. In the 20th century, during times of domestic or foreign crisis, even most constitutional governments have conferred emergency powers on the chief executive, and in some notable cases this provided the opportunity for duly elected leaders to overthrow democracy and rule dictatorially thereafter. The proclamation of emergency rule, for example, was the beginning of the dictatorships of Hitler in Germany, Benito Mussolini in Italy, Kemal Atatürk in Turkey, Józef Piłsudski in Poland, and António de Oliveira Salazar in Portugal.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. What is the origin of the term “dictatorship”?
2. What forms of government very typical in the world in the 19th and 20th centuries?
3. What features characterized the 19th-century dictators of Latin America?
4. Were the later 20th-century dictators in Latin America different?
5. Were the communist and fascist dictatorships different from the postcolonial dictatorships of Africa and Asia?
6. What were the crucial elements of the communist and fascist dictatorships?
7. What theory did Soviet Communism grow out of?
8. What dictatorships do you know about?

**Ex. 2. Complete the following sentences:**

1. Dictatorship is a form of government...
2. The term “dictatorship” comes from...

3. In the 19th and 20th centuries dictatorship became...
4. ...dictators were national rather than provincial leaders.
5. ...dictatorship were distinctively different from the authoritarian regimes of Latin America.
6. The proclamation of emergency rule was the beginning of the dictatorships of...

**Ex. 3. Make questions related to the italicized words:**

1. In the 19th and 20th centuries dictatorship became one of the chief forms of government.
2. After World war II dictators quickly established themselves on the ruins of constitutional arrangements.
3. In some countries presidents and prime ministers captured personal power by establishing one-party rule.
4. Fascism was primarily a counterrevolutionary movement.
5. Soviet Communism grew out of a revolutionary theory of society.

## **The System of Government of Ukraine**

Ukraine is a sovereign state. The Declaration of Ukrainian Independence was proclaimed on August 24, 1991 by the Ukrainian Parliament. Our state consists of 24 regions and one autonomous republic, the Crimea.

The Ukrainian government consists of the legislative, executive and judicial branches. Each of them exercises its authority within the limits prescribed by the Constitution and in accordance with the laws of Ukraine. The sole organ of legislative authority in Ukraine is the Parliament – the Supreme Rada of Ukraine. According to the Declaration only the Supreme Rada can speak on behalf of the whole Ukrainian people. No political party, public organization or separate person has the right to do so. The Declaration states that Ukraine guarantees the supremacy of its Constitution throughout the territory of the

country. The sequence of events by which Ukraine moved from the adoption of the Declaration of the State Sovereignty to the adoption of its Constitution was complicated.

In June 1996 the Supreme Rada adopted the new Constitution of Ukraine. According to it Ukraine is a parliamentary republic with a president as head of state.

The highest legislative body is the Supreme Rada. It is a one-chamber parliament, which is presided over by the Speaker. It is made up of 450 national deputies who are elected by secret ballot for a five-year term. To be elected a deputy, an individual must be a citizen of Ukraine, must have attained at least the age of 21 years and must have resided in Ukraine for at least five of the previous years.

The head of state is the President, who is elected by the citizens of Ukraine for a five-year term. He cannot be elected for more than two terms. The President is the highest official of the Ukrainian state, vested with supreme executive authority. He exercises it through the government, the Cabinet of Ministers which is accountable to him, and through a system of central and local organs of state executive authority. The highest organ within the system of the executive authority is the Cabinet of Ministers. The head of the Cabinet of Ministers is the Prime Minister, who is appointed by the President of Ukraine upon the consent of more than one-half of the deputies of the Supreme Rada of Ukraine.

The Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court and regional courts constitute the judicial branch of the government.

Now Ukraine has entered a new phase of its development; it is a democratic state, ruled by the law.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. When was the Declaration of Ukrainian Independence proclaimed?
2. What branches does the government consist of?
3. What is the sole organ of legislative authority?

4. When did the Supreme Rada adopt the new Constitution of Ukraine?
5. Who can be elected a deputy?
6. What term is the President of Ukraine elected for?
7. Can the President of Ukraine be elected for more than two terms?
8. Who is the Prime Minister appointed by?
9. What institutions make up the judicial branch?
10. What is the Cabinet of Ministers?

**Ex. 2. Match the pairs:**

authority	єдиний орган
in accordance with	таємне голосування
sole organ	забезпечувати верховенство
on behalf of	бути підзвітним
secret ballot	влада
to ensure supremacy	державний суверенітет
to be accountable	згідно з
one-chamber	однопалатний
state sovereignty	від імені

**Ex. 3. Complete the following text using the words and word combinations provided in the box:**

Laws executive five years judicial the President development the Cabinet of Ministers legislative
--

The Ukrainian government is made up of three branches: ... , which consists of the Supreme Rada, ... , headed by the President, and ... , which is represented by the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court and regional courts. ... is the head of state of Ukraine. He is elected for a term of ... with no more than two full terms.

The Supreme Rada's main function is making ... . It adopts the state budget and supervises its implementation. ... is the highest body of the executive power. It carries out the enacting of the Constitution, as well as the acts of the President, and carries out national programs on the economic, technological and cultural ... of Ukraine.

**Ex. 4. Make sentences using the following words and word combinations:**

1. A sovereign state / Ukraine / is.
2. Consists / the Ukrainian government / of three branches.
3. The Parliament / the sole organ / in Ukraine / is / of legislative authority.
4. The new Constitution / in June 1996 / of Ukraine / adopted / the Supreme Rada.
5. Is / the Supreme Rada / of legislative power / the highest body.
6. 450 National Deputies / of Ukraine / the Supreme Rada / consists of.
7. Is / of the state / the head / the President.
8. A five-year term / is / the President / for / elected / by the citizens / of Ukraine.
9. Supreme executive authority / is vested / the President / with.
10. A new phase / now / has entered / of its development / Ukraine.



## **The Constitution of Ukraine**

The Constitution of Ukraine was proclaimed and confirmed on June 28, 1996 by the Supreme Rada. On the basis of it Ukraine is a sovereign, independent, and democratic state, based on the rule of law. Ukraine is a unitary state with single citizenship.

The national language of Ukraine is Ukrainian. The national symbols of our country are the National Emblem, the national flag and the national anthem of Ukraine. The National Emblem is a golden trident on a blue shield. The national flag is in the form of a rectangle with two equal horizontal stripes, the upper blue and the lower golden yellow.

The land, air, space, mineral resources, water and other resources are the property of the Ukrainian people. Ukraine is a republic. The people are the only source of power, which is exercised directly and through the national and local governments. The Constitution of Ukraine is the foundation of the country's political system, its laws, its freedoms and the duties of its citizens.

According to the Constitution every person has the right to the free development of his or her personality, but also has obligations before society.

The Constitution guarantees the right to life, non-interference in private and family life, personal inviolability and the inviolability of one's dwelling, free choice of residence, work, vacation time, education, social security, housing, health protection, medical care and medical insurance, and a safe and healthy environment. There are no privileges or restrictions based on race, skin colour, political or other beliefs, gender, ethnic or social origin, property ownership, position, place of residence, language or religion.

All citizens have equal constitutional rights and freedoms and are equal before the law. Citizens of Ukraine perform military service in compliance with the law.

The defence of the homeland and respect for the state symbols are duties of all citizens. Every individual must pay

taxes punctually and in the amount determined by the law. No person may damage the environment or anything which forms a part of the nation's cultural heritage.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. When was the Constitution of Ukraine proclaimed?
2. Is Ukraine a unitary state?
3. What are the state symbols of our country?
4. Can you describe the national flag of Ukraine?
5. Who is the only source of power in our country?
6. Are all Ukrainian citizens equal before law?
7. What does the Constitution of Ukraine guarantee?
8. What are the rights of the citizens of Ukraine?
9. What are their duties?
10. Are there any privileges or restrictions based upon the colour of skin, gender or language?

**Ex. 2. Translate into English:**

1. Згідно з Конституцією Україна є суверенною, незалежною і демократичною державою. 2. Національний герб – це золотий тризуб на блакитному тлі. 3. Національний прапор – полотно з блакитною та золотисто-жовтою смугами. 4. Конституція є основою законів країни. 5. Кожна людина має право на вільний розвиток особистості. 6. Кожна людина має обов'язки перед суспільством. 7. Захист Батьківщини – обов'язок громадян України.

**Ex. 3. Make sentences using the following words and word combinations:**

1. On June 28, 1996 / was proclaimed / of Ukraine / by the Supreme Rada / the Constitution of Ukraine.
2. Of Ukraine / the state language / Ukrainian /is.
3. The only source / in Ukraine / the people / are / of power.

4. The right / of his or her personality / every person / according to the Constitution / has / to free development.
5. Rights and freedoms / equal / have / all citizens.
6. In compliance / perform / citizens of Ukraine / with law / military services.
7. Must / every person / taxes / pay.
8. The environment / no person / may / and cultural heritage / damage.
9. Before society / has / obligations / every person.
10. Establishes / of Ukraine / the Constitution / the country's political system.

**Ex. 4. Ask questions for which the following sentences provide answers:**

The Constitution of Ukraine was adopted by the Supreme Rada of Ukraine on June 28, 1996.

1. The Constitution consists of fifteen chapters.
2. The Constitution of Ukraine is the highest legal authority.
3. Chapter One of the Constitution is about the general principles of Ukrainian statehood.
4. Chapter Two is devoted to the human rights and freedoms of the citizens of Ukraine.
5. Every person has the right to freedom of thought and speech.
6. The state places a number of duties upon its citizens.

## **Mykhailo Hrushevsky – the first President of Ukraine**

Mykhailo Hrushevsky was born in 1866. His father was an inspector of public schools in the northern Caucasus. He made it possible for his son to gain an excellent education. Mykhailo Hrushevsky graduated with honours from a classical academic secondary school in Tbilisi. He completed his education at the

University of Kyiv under the supervision of the prominent Ukrainian historian Volodymyr Antonovych.

At that time a chair of Ukrainian history was founded at the Lviv University in Galicia (then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire). Antonovich recommended his best student Hrushevsky to be a teacher at the University.

Beginning in 1894, the young scholar read a general course of Ukrainian history which became his life's work. He wrote that he traced events in Ukraine from the history of the Kyiv Rus and to his own time, on a national-state foundation.

While in Lviv, Hrushevsky created a strong school of history, teaching such distinguished scholars as Ivan Kripiakevych and Myron Korduba.

The first of ten volumes of Hrushevsky's "History of Ukraine-Rus" appeared in print in 1898. The year before that, he became the president of the Shevchenko Research Society. In the roughly twenty years of his presidency, he edited 112 volumes of the "Society's Papers" dealing with various subjects of Ukrainian studies.

Jointly with Ivan Franko, Volodymyr Hnatiuk and Osyp Makovei Hrushevsky launched the publication of "Literaturno-Naukovy Visnyk", which brought writers from different parts of Ukraine together.

Along with his scholarliness, Hrushevsky engaged in energetic political activity. He was among the leaders of the National Democratic Party of Halychyna (1899), the Association of Ukrainian Progressives (1908), the Ukrainian Party of Socialist Revolutionaries and the President of the Central Rada (1917 – 1918). In 1919 he emigrated to Austria, from where he then moved to Prague. In 1924 the Ukrainian government permitted him to return to Kyiv to continue his research work.

Mykhailo Hrushevsky died in 1934.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. When was Mykhailo Hrushevsky born?
2. What was his father's profession?

3. What did Mykhailo Hrushevsky do after graduating from a classical academic secondary school?
4. Where did Hrushevsky create a strong school of history?
5. When did Hrushevsky's "History of Ukraine-Rus" appear in print?
6. How long was Mykhailo Hrushevsky the President of the Shevchenko Scientific Society?
7. When did M. Hrushevsky become the President of Central Rada?
8. What country did he emigrate to in 1919?

**Ex. 2. Write which events correspond to each of these dates:**

1894    1919    1866    1917 – 1918    1924    1899    1908

**Ex. 3. Complete the following sentences:**

1. M. Hrushevsky's father was
  - a) a doctor;
  - b) an inspector of public schools;
  - c) a famous writer.
2. M. Hrushevsky graduated from a classical gymnasium in
  - a) Kyiv;
  - b) Prague;
  - c) Tbilisi.
3. Hrushevsky completed his education at Kyiv University under the guidance of
  - a) Volodymyr Antonovych;
  - b) Ivan Kripyakevych;
  - c) Volodymyr Hnatyuk.
4. Mykhailo Hrushevsky became the President of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in
  - a) 1889;
  - b) 1897;
  - c) 1898.
6. In 1919 the first President of Ukraine emigrated to
  - a) Poland;

- b) Austria;
- c) France.

**Ex. 4. Ask questions for which the following sentences provide answers:**

1. Mykhailo Hrushevsky was born in 1866 in the family of an inspector of public schools.
2. Mykhailo Hrushevsky studied under the supervision of the prominent Ukrainian historian Volodymyr Antonovych.
3. Mykhailo Hrushevsky worked as a teacher at the University of Lviv in Galicia.
4. The exhaustive study of Ukrainian history was Mykhailo Hrushevsky's lifetime work.
5. "Literaturno-Naukovy Visnyk" united writers from different parts of Ukraine.
6. Mykhailo Hrushevsky died in 1934.

**Ex. 5. Make questions related to the italicized words:**

1. Mykhailo Hrushevsky received his education in *a classical academic secondary school*.
2. In 19th century *Galicia* was a part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.
3. Mykhailo Hrushevsky studied in *Tbilisi*.
4. The first of ten volumes of Hrushevsky's "History of Ukraine-Rus" appeared in print in *1898*.
5. *M. Hrushevsky* was the President of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

## **Ukraine's International Relations**

Ukraine has close relations with many countries in the world. It sets direct contacts with many foreign countries signing agreements and treaties. Nowadays the political life is giving fresh grounds for the relations of mutual understanding between Ukraine and the USA, Great Britain, Canada and other

countries. The reason for the new type of relations is that many countries want to have broader economic ties with Ukraine.

A lot of Ukrainians emigrated to the USA, Canada, Great Britain, Australia and other countries of the world in different times. The Ukrainian nation had lost a great number of its sons and daughters during the tragic and disputable years of its history. It is known that every third Ukrainian lives beyond his native land. The greatest number of people of Ukrainian ancestry (almost 2 million) live in the USA, one million live in Canada, 30,000 in Great Britain and 40,000 in Australia.

A large Ukrainian immigration to Great Britain began in 1947. The greatest part of them living in England, reside in such cities as Nottingham, Lancashire, Coventry and Manchester. The biggest social organizations of Ukrainian immigrants are the *Union of Ukrainians in Great Britain* and the *British Ukrainian Society*.

Cultural relationships with Ukraine are being preserved by the international *Slavonic Society*. Immigrants in Great Britain are also organized into communities.

They are doing their best to help their homeland. In 1947 the *Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain* was founded. It is the biggest social association in Western Europe. Since Ukraine gained its independence in 1991 representatives of the association have participated in all the important political events. It set up an Assistance Fund for Ukraine, and donates money to various important causes. It has given assistance to the Central Scientific Library of the Academy of Sciences in Kyiv. It has also promoted assistance to Ukrainian students in British universities.

Many Ukrainians outside Ukraine are interested in the life of the land of their forefathers. The main goal of the *Ukraine Society* (the Society for Cultural Relations with Ukrainians Abroad) is to preserve their mother tongue and culture for themselves and for their children. *The Ukraine Society* lays a strong foundation for humanitarian, cultural and tourist contacts between our country and Ukrainian ethnic groups abroad. At present the Society maintains cultural, scientific and business ties

with all Ukrainians who live abroad but want to have contacts with Ukraine, irrespective of their political views or religion.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. How many Ukrainians live outside their homeland?
2. Where do most of the Ukrainian emigrants live?
3. What are the biggest social organizations of Ukrainian immigrants in Great Britain?
4. When was the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain founded?
5. What is the biggest social association in Western Europe?
6. What Fund does the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain have?
7. What kind of assistance do such organizations promote for Ukraine?
8. What programme does the Ukraine Society include?

**Ex. 2. Match the following phrases:**

to set up direct contacts	кожен третій
agreements and treaties	надавати допомогу
mutual understanding	предки
economic ties	угоди та договори
every third	проживати
strong foundation	основна мета
to reside	встановлювати прямі зв'язки
community	економічні зв'язки
assistance fund	взаєморозуміння
to promote assistance	зберігати рідну мову
forefathers	Фонд допомоги
main goal	міцна основа



to preserve the mother tongue	громада, спільнота
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**Ex. 3. Ask questions for which the following sentences provide answers:**

1. Ukraine has close relations with many countries in the world.
2. The greatest part of Ukrainian immigrants lives in the United States.
3. In 1947 the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain was founded.
4. Many Ukrainian immigrants are interested in the life of the land of their forefathers.
5. The main goal of the Ukraine Society is to preserve their mother tongue and culture for themselves and for their children.

**Ex. 4. Ask questions in relation to the italicized words:**

1. Many Ukrainians emigrated to *the USA, Canada, Great Britain, Australia and other countries*.
2. The mass Ukrainian immigration to Great Britain began in 1947.
3. *40,000* Ukrainians live in Australia.
4. The biggest social organizations of Ukrainian immigrants are the *Union of Ukrainians in Great Britain* and the *British Ukrainian Society*.
5. *The Ukrainian emigrants* do their best to help their homeland.

**Ex. 5. Replace the infinitive in brackets with the correct tense form:**

Now Ukraine (to be) a sovereign state. Ukraine (to be) a member of the United Nations and (to participate) in the work of many international organizations. We (to have) economic ties with Canada, the USA, Great Britain and other countries. Many foreign embassies (to operate) in Kyiv. Scientific and cultural cooperation (to be) very important. We (to exchange) students

and teachers with Canada and the USA. Ukrainian orchestras, pop and opera singers and ballet dancers (to be) warmly received in foreign countries. Many tourists (to visit) Ukraine every year.

We (to have) several political projects with the United States and Canada. Large plants such as the Cherkasy joint-stock company “Azot” and the Gorlivka chemical plant “Stirol” (to sell) their products on the international market.

Many people who (to be) Ukrainians by origin (to live) abroad but (not to lose) their connection with Ukraine.

## **Ukraine as a member of the Council of Europe**

Ukraine’s entrance into the Council of Europe was a natural development and one for which history prepared the way. Ukraine has always been part of Europe both in geographical and political terms.

In May 1949 the Council of Europe was established by ten founding countries (Belgium, Great Britain, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, France and Switzerland). Thirty European countries including Ukraine have now become members of this organization. Thus the Council of Europe changed from a closed western European organization into one of the most authoritative and representative organizations of the world.

It was on September 26, 1995 that the Council of Europe’s Parliamentary Assembly voted in favour of Ukraine’s admission into its ranks and on November 10, 1995 the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers formalized the membership of our country by a special declaration. It is significant that it happened on the same date that the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948.

As a member of Council of Europe, Ukraine takes part in the solution of the problems which are on the agenda of the

Community – in particular problems of a humanitarian, legal, or economic nature.

Within the framework of Council of Europe no fewer than one hundred conventions and agreements have been concluded among the member states. One example is the Convention on the Protection of the Human Rights and Basic Liberties, which was signed in Rome in 1950. By virtue of this, Ukraine received access to the European Court on Human Rights in Strasbourg, a significant achievement of civilization.

The nations of the world consider Ukraine's activities within the Council of Europe to be an important factor in European security and development.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. Was Ukraine's entrance into the Council of Europe a natural process?
2. When was the Council of Europe established?
3. What were the founding countries?
4. How many countries are members of the Council of Europe now?
5. When did Ukraine become the member of the Council of Europe?
6. Did the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers formalize the membership of our country on November 10, 1995?
7. What document was signed in Rome in 1950?
8. How does the world view the activity of Ukraine within the Council of Europe?

**Ex. 2. Complete the following sentences:**

1. Ukraine has always been...
2. In May 1949...
3. The Council of Europe changed from...
4. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted on...
5. Being a member of Council of Europe, Ukraine...

9. Within the framework of Council of Europe...
10. By virtue of the Convention on the Protection of the Human Rights and Basic Liberties, Ukraine...

**Ex. 3. Make up questions for the following answers:**

1. In May 1949.
2. Belgium, Great Britain, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, France and Switzerland.
3. Thirty European countries.
4. It was on September 26, 1995.
5. The Convention on the Protection of the Human Rights and Basic Liberties.

## **The System of Government of Great Britain**

The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy, which means that the sovereign reigns but does not rule. The continuity of the English monarchy has been interrupted only once, in 1649 – 1659, during the Cromwell republic. Succession to the throne is hereditary but only for Protestants in the direct line of descent. The monarch has a number of roles and serves formally as the head of state, the head of the executive, legislative and judicial branches, the commander-in-chief of the armed forces and the “supreme governor” of the Church of England. The monarch is expected to be politically neutral and is not to make political decisions. In fact, he/she acts on the advice of the Ministers and cannot make laws, impose taxes or spend public money. In this sense, contemporary Britain is governed by Her Majesty’s Government in the name of the Queen. Nevertheless, the monarch still performs some important executive and legislative duties including opening and dissolving Parliament, signing bills which have been passed by both Houses, holding audiences with the Prime Minister and fulfilling international duties as the head of state.

The monarch, in contrast to politicians, is a permanent part of the British political system and therefore often has a greater knowledge of domestic and international politics. The present sovereign is Queen Elizabeth II, who was crowned in Westminster Abbey in 1953. Arguments against the monarchy as a continuing institution in British life maintain that it is out-of-date, too expensive and undemocratic, while those who support the monarchy suggest that it has developed and adapted to modern requirements and that it demonstrates stability, is not subject to political manipulation and performs an important ambassadorial function in Britain and abroad. In general, the British public shows considerable affection for the Royal family.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. What does the term “constitutional monarchy” mean?
2. When was the continuity of the English monarchy interrupted?
3. What roles does the monarch perform?
4. Is the monarch expected to be politically neutral?
5. Can the monarch make laws?
6. What executive and legislative duties does the monarch perform?
7. Who is the present sovereign of Great Britain?
8. Where and when was she crowned?
9. Does the British public like the Royal Family?

**Ex. 2. State whether the following statements are true or false and correct the false ones:**

1. The United Kingdom is an absolute monarchy.
2. The continuity of the English monarchy has never been interrupted.
3. Cromwell’s republic lasted for ten years.
4. The monarch is the Commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

5. The monarch has the right to impose taxes and spend public money.

6. Britain's Queen fulfils international duties as the head of state.

7. Temporary politicians have often a greater knowledge of domestic and international politics than the monarch.

**Ex. 3. Replace the infinitives in brackets by the correct tense forms:**

The United Kingdom (to be) a monarchy: the head of state (to be) the Queen.

There (not to be) any significant revolutionary movement in Britain. The monarchy (to survive) but (not to have) power. Parliament (to establish) its rights in the seventeenth century when power gradually (to pass) to the ministers.

The powers of the Queen (not to be) defined precisely. In practice, the sovereign (to reign) but (not to rule).

## **Formation of the Government. The Cabinet**

The party which wins the most seats in a general election forms the government in Britain. The leader of the winning party becomes prime minister. As leader of his political party and leader of the country, the prime minister is powerful because he generally has the support of a majority in the House of Commons and can choose his ministers and government. The committee of ministers chosen by the prime minister is called the Cabinet, which is made up of a selection of representatives from the House of Commons and occasionally some members of the House of Lords. Each member of the Cabinet is a minister responsible for a government department: for example, the Secretary of State for Education and Science is responsible for all the schools, universities and teachers in Britain. It is the Cabinet which in

reality runs the country. Its meetings are held in the Prime Minister's office at his residence at 10 Downing Street. The Cabinet works as a team and all ministers must accept the decisions of the group. The ministers must always agree in public, because they are collectively responsible for the decisions they make. If one minister cannot agree with all the others, he usually resigns from the Cabinet. Cabinet meetings are held in private and the details of their proceedings must remain secret for at least 30 years.

Margaret Thatcher tried to change this Cabinet style and was finally forced to resign when the other ministers did not agree with her. Cabinet ministers cannot do as they please, however. They are responsible to Parliament and must answer questions of backbenchers in the House of Commons. Even the Prime Minister must answer questions every Tuesday and Thursday in the Commons – this is called Prime Minister's Question Period. Everyone wants to know what has been decided behind the closed doors of the Cabinet Room.

**Ex.1. Answer the following questions:**

1. Why are Prime Ministers powerful?
2. Who is the Cabinet made up of?
3. Where does the Cabinet meet?
4. Are the Cabinet meetings held in private?
5. What did Margaret Thatcher try to do?
6. Why was Mrs. Thatcher forced to resign?
7. Whose questions must Cabinet ministers answer?
8. When must the Prime Minister answer the questions?

What is this time called?

9. What does every Englishman want to know?

**Ex. 2. Complete the following sentences using the suitable words and word combinations from the text:**

1. The party which wins the most seats in the general election forms ... in Britain.
2. The leader of the winning party becomes...

3. The Prime Minister chooses...
4. ...runs the country.
5. The team of ministers must always agree in public because...
6. If a minister cannot agree with all the others he usually...
7. ...is responsible for all the schools and universities in Britain.
8. Cabinet ministers are responsible to Parliament and must...

**Ex. 3. Translate into Ukrainian:**

Powerful, majority support, government department, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, to resign from the Cabinet, at least, backbencher, to run the country, a committee of ministers, senior, to be forced, to make up, to accept, the decisions of the group, in public, in private, Prime Minister's Question Period.

**Ex. 4. Ask questions for which the following sentences provide answers:**

1. The leader of the winning party becomes Prime Minister.
2. Prime Ministers are powerful because they usually have majority support in Parliament.
3. The committee of ministers is called the Cabinet.
4. The details of Cabinet meetings must remain secret for at least 30 years.
5. Margaret Thatcher was forced to resign because the other ministers could not agree with her.



## **Parliament**

The United Kingdom is a unitary, not a federal, state. All four countries of the kingdom are represented in the Parliament, which is the supreme legislative organ. Parliament first met in the 13th century. Britain does not have a written Constitution, but rather a set of laws. In 1689 Mary II and William III became the first constitutional monarchs. They could rule only with the support of the Parliament. Technically, Parliament is made up of three parts: the Monarch, the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

The monarch performs some important executive and legislative duties including opening and dissolving Parliament, signing bills passed by both Houses and fulfilling international duties as the head of the state.

Parliament consists of two separate chambers: the House of Lords and the House of Commons. The House of Lords is made up of hereditary and life peers. The House of Commons consists of 646 members. Although the Upper House is larger in membership – 724 members have the right to attend the sittings – nearly all the legislation is initiated in the House of Commons and presented to the Lords for approval. This is little more than a formality, however, for the powers of the House of Lords are strictly limited. Members of the House of Commons are elected, as a rule, at a general election. A general election must be held at least every five years. The party which wins sufficient seats forms the government; its leading members are chosen by the Prime Minister to fill ministerial posts. The party which wins the second largest number of seats becomes the official Opposition.

Parliament's main functions are debating, passing legislation and examining the actions of the government. Most of this work is carried out through a system of debates which is much the same in both Houses, except that in the House of Commons all speeches are addressed to the Speaker, who is elected at the beginning of each new Parliament to preside over the House. The

government party sits on the Speaker's right while the members of the Opposition sit on his left.

The Parliamentary session begins in November and, with recesses during holiday periods, lasts for about one hundred and sixty days.

**Ex. 1. Answer the questions:**

1. Is the United Kingdom a unitary or a federal state?
2. What is the supreme legislative organ?
3. What chambers does the British Parliament consist of?
4. Which chamber is larger in membership?
5. How are the members of the House of Commons elected?
6. How often must a general election be held?
7. What party forms the government?
8. What are the Parliament's main functions?
9. When is the Speaker elected?
10. When does the Parliamentary session begin?

**Ex 2. Translate into Ukrainian:**

Parliament is the seat of greatest authority in Britain. Parliament first met in the 13th century and its powers developed gradually. Britain does not have a written constitution, but rather a set of laws:

1215: the nobles forced King John to accept the Magna Carta.

1264: the first Parliament of nobles met.

1689: the Declaration of Rights was adopted. Mary II and William III became the first constitutional monarchs. They could rule only with the support of the Parliament. Since then the power of Parliament has grown under a number of Acts of Parliament.

**Ex. 3. Translate the following expressions into English. Make sentences of your own with them.**

Унітарна держава, верховний законодавчий орган, схвалення, основні функції, промова, суворо обмежений, як правило, виконувати, дебати (полеміка), королівство,

відвідувати, загальні вибори, опозиція, тривати, сесія парламенту.

**Ex. 4. Replace the infinitives in brackets by the correct tense forms:**

The British Parliament (to consist) of two houses, the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The members of House of Lords (not to be) elected. Until the reforms of 1999, most of them (to inherit) their seats from their fathers, people with titles. The House of Commons (to have) 646 seats. Members of Parliament who (to be) elected by the British public (to occupy) these seats. The Queen, the head of the state, (to open) and (to close) the Parliament.

## **Political Parties of Great Britain**

Until 1920 the two main parties were the Conservatives and the Liberals, but during the period following the First World War, the Labour Party replaced the Liberals as the second main party.

The Conservative Party is the party that was traditionally supported by the wealthy classes. More recently it has sometimes been called “the party of business directors”. The Conservatives are still often called by their old name of *Tories* by which they have been known since the late seventeenth century. The Conservatives and their allies were opposed to major changes in society; they upheld private enterprise and freedom from state control. The Labour Party believed actively in the pursuit of greater social and economic equality. In foreign affairs its members have been more “internationalists” than “nationalists”.

After its defeat in 1920 the Liberal Party began to decline and by 1950 it seemed to have lost all political influence, but it has usually been supported by at least one-tenth of the population.

Since 1945 the Conservatives and the Labour Party have been in power by turns. In 1964 the fourth Labour government was elected with a very small majority over the Conservatives. The situation forced the government to exercise a very cautious policy on all main issues of home as well as foreign policy. There were no radical changes. The precarious position of the Labour government forced the Prime Minister, Mr. Harold Wilson, to hold new elections in 1966. The Labour Party succeeded in getting a large majority of votes. However, the Labour government couldn't carry out its election promises. It was defeated in 1970 when a Conservative government was returned. The Conservatives were in office until 1998 when the Labour Party under Tony Blair was elected.

The Liberal Democrats, the third most powerful party in Great Britain (formed in 1988 by an alliance between the Liberals and the Social Democrats), went into the election declaring that they alone could unite the nation but they failed. Their manifesto differed little from that of the Tories.

The other political parties of Great Britain such as the Scottish Nationalist Party and Welsh Nationalists have managed to get some candidates elected in recent years.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. What political parties of Great Britain do you know about?
2. What are the main parties?
3. Which party is often called “the party of business directors”?
4. Why did the Liberal Party begin to decline?
5. What party won the elections of 1964?
6. Did the Labour Party succeed in getting a large majority of votes in 1966?
7. When was the Conservative government returned?
8. What is the third most powerful party in Great Britain?
9. Do you know some other political parties of Great Britain? What are they?

**Ex. 2. Change the following false statements to make them true:**

1. Until 1920 the Conservatives and the Labour Party were the main parties in Great Britain.
2. The Liberals are still often called by their old name of Tories.
3. In foreign affairs the members of the Labour Party were more “nationalists” than “internationalists”.
4. After the elections of 1920 the Liberal Party became the most influential party in Great Britain.
5. The fourth Labour government is known as the government of radical changes.

**Ex. 3. Make up questions corresponding to the following answers:**

1. The party of business directors.
2. After the defeat in 1920.
3. In 1964.
4. The third most powerful party in Great Britain.
5. The Scottish Nationalist Party and Welsh Nationalists.

## **The Leader of the Country**

How can one become the leader of a country? One way is to be born into a royal family. If you are a prince, especially the eldest son, then one day you can become a king. And in some countries, if you are the eldest daughter (a princess) and there are no sons, then some day you can become queen. Of course, today there are not many royal families, and those that still exist do not usually have the power to make laws and govern.

The more usual way to become the leader of your country, however, is to become a politician and then to become the leader of the most popular political party. In most countries where the

people elect their government, the voters usually vote for a person who belongs to one of the main political parties. This person is generally the candidate for the local region. The candidate who receives the most votes becomes the political representative for that region and takes a seat in the national Parliament or Assembly. The political party which wins the most seats then has the right to form a government and take power. The head of that political party then becomes the President (in such countries as Taiwan or Italy) or the Prime Minister (in Great Britain and Japan).

In some countries, such as France and the United States, the system is a little different. Every seven years in France and every four years in the United States there are presidential elections. At that time the people vote directly for the person that they want to become their President. This means that it is possible to become the President and yet not to be the leader of the most popular political party. Regional elections are independent of presidential elections.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. Can you describe how a person becomes a political leader in your country?
2. What countries have royal families?
3. What is the most common way to become the leader of a country?
4. Which political party has the right to form a government?
5. How often are presidential elections held in France?
6. Are regional elections in the USA independent from presidential elections?

**Ex. 2. Translate into English:**

1. Один спосіб стати лідером країни – народитися у королівській сім'ї.
2. Інший спосіб – стати успішним політиком у своїй країні.
3. Політична партія, яка здобуває найбільшу кількість місць, має право формувати уряд.
4. Лідер політичної партії, яка перемогла на виборах, стає

президентом чи прем'єр-міністром. 5. Президентські вибори у Сполучених Штатах Америки проводяться кожних чотири роки.

**Ex. 3. Complete the following sentences:**

1. If you are a prince or a princess...
2. In most countries where the people elect their government...
3. A person who belongs to one of the main political parties is usually...
4. The candidate who receives the most votes becomes...
5. In the USA the people vote directly...

## **Margaret Thatcher**

Margaret Thatcher was born in 1925. Her father had a grocer's shop but he was also very interested in local politics. Margaret was a good student and won a scholarship to Oxford to study chemistry. Then she worked as a research chemist until she met and married Denis Thatcher, a successful businessman. Then she decided to study law. She was already involved in politics and gave up law when she was elected to the Parliament in 1959. From 1970 to 1974 she was the Secretary of State for Education. In 1975 she became the leader of the Conservative Party, which was the official Opposition. In 1979 she defeated the Labour Party and took office as Britain's first woman Prime Minister.

Thatcher privatized publicly-owned industries and made cuts in state education, hospitals and welfare benefits. In early 1980's Britain was facing unemployment, inflation, and problems in Northern Ireland. In 1982 Britain became involved in an undeclared war against Argentina in the Falkland Islands. After the victory in the Falklands she had the image of a strong, authoritative leader. In the 1983 election campaign she won with a large majority of votes. In 1987 she won her third term as Prime

Minister, defeating the Labour Party which had lost some votes due to the newly-formed alliance with the Liberal Party.

On November 22, 1990 Mrs. Thatcher resigned. The “Iron Lady”, who believed it was her destiny to reshape the British nation, shed tears as she made her historic announcement. Three men were candidates for the post of Prime Minister, and John Major was became the winner.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. When was Margaret Thatcher born?
2. What did she study at the University?
3. Why did Margaret Thatcher give up law?
4. What were the major steps on her way to the post of Prime Minister?
5. What kind of a policy did Margaret Thatcher conduct?
6. What happened in 1982?
7. How long was Mrs. Thatcher British Prime Minister?
8. When did she resign?
9. Why did Margaret Thatcher have tears in her eyes as she made her historic announcement?
10. Who became the next Prime Minister?

**Ex. 2. Match the following events with the correct dates:**

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1975 | Margaret Thatcher was born.   |
| 1959 | Mrs. Thatcher became the leader of the Conservative Party which was the Opposition. |
| 1925 | Mrs. Thatcher beat the Labour Party and took office as Prime Minister.              |
| 1979 | Mrs. Thatcher resigned.   |
| 1987 | Margaret Thatcher was elected to the Parliament.                                    |
| 1990 | Mrs. Thatcher won her third term as Prime Minister.                                 |



### **Ex. 3. Translate into English:**

Стипендія, успішний, хімік-дослідник, “Залізна Леді”, міністр освіти, відмовитися (покинути), безробіття, голос (на виборах), заява, союз (блок), подати у відставку, змінити, галузі промисловості, що перебувають у державній власності, бути залученим, неоголошена війна.

### **Ex. 4. Complete the following sentences:**

1. Margaret Thatcher was born in
  - a) 1934;
  - b) 1925;
  - c) 1930.
2. Margaret won a scholarship to Oxford to study
  - a) law;
  - b) chemistry;
  - c) economics.
3. In 1970 Margaret Thatcher became
  - a) Prime Minister;
  - b) Secretary of State for Education;
  - c) the leader of the Conservative Party.
4. Mrs. Thatcher resigned on
  - a) November 22, 1990;
  - b) September 25, 1992;
  - c) October 17, 1990.

## **Tony Blair**

The victory of the Labour Party in 1997 general election was so great that it shocked everyone, including the members of the party and its leader, Tony Blair. His achievement was twofold: he had modernized his party and convinced the electorate that Labour was capable of governing Britain. He had persuaded the country that, at 44, he could be trusted, as Britain’s youngest Prime Minister in the 20th century.

Most commentators agree that Tony Blair's personal appeal played a decisive role in this victory. But they say his most important contribution has been his work to reform the Labour Party's image and structure.

When Blair became Labour leader in 1994, the party had been defeated in four general elections since 1979. The Conservatives, led by Margaret Thatcher and later by John Major, had convinced the electorate that Labour Party was not fit to govern.

The last defeat in 1992 convinced reformers within the party that it needed a new direction and new policies. In his campaign Tony Blair was able to show that he had the qualities which a "new" Labour Party needed: he was young, and he did not come from a traditional working class background, so he could appeal to middle class voters. He was committed to getting rid of old socialist policies like government intervention in industry and redistribution of wealth. Some members of the party saw this as a betrayal of the past but as the election result proved, it was the message many voters wanted to hear.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. Did the victory of the Labour party in general election of 1997 shock everyone?
2. Who became Britain's Prime Minister?
3. Why was Tony Blair's achievement twofold?
4. What played a decisive role in Tony Blair's victory?
5. What was Tony Blair's most important contribution?
6. When did Tony Blair become a leader of Labour Party?
7. Who had convinced the electorate that Labour was not fit to govern?
8. What qualities did Tony Blair have?
9. Did all members of the Labour Party approve of his policy? Why?
10. What did the election result prove?

**Ex. 2. Match the following pairs:**

personal appeal	перерозподіл багатств
to convince the electorate	здатний керувати
twofold achievement	відігравати вирішальну роль
capable of governing	зазнавати поразки
to play a decisive role	подвійне досягнення
an important contribution	позбутися чогось
to defeat	важливий внесок
a new direction	переконувати виборців
to get rid of something	новий напрямок
redistribution of wealth	особиста привабливість

**Ex. 3. Translate into Ukrainian:**

When the leader of the party who wins the elections becomes Prime Minister, his first job is to choose his Cabinet, consisting of the most important ministers in the government. The Prime Minister usually sits in the Commons, as most of the ministers do, where they all may be questioned and held accountable for government decisions. Some argue that the office of Prime Minister has become like an all-powerful presidency and, indeed, there is a greater emphasis today on prime ministerial government than the traditional constitutional notion of Cabinet government. Much depends on the personality of the leader.

**Ex. 4. Put questions corresponding to the italicized words:**

1. Tony Blair's personal appeal played an important role *in his victory* in 1997.
2. The Conservatives had *convinced the electorate* that Labour Party was not fit to govern.
3. Tony Blair became Prime Minister *at 44*.

4. *Tony Blair* was Britain's youngest Prime Minister.
5. Tony Blair managed to reform *the Labour Party's image and structure*.

## **External Affairs of Great Britain**

The United Kingdom is a member of many international organizations.

Britain is a member of the United Nations and one of the five permanent members of the Security Council. It follows the principles of the UN Charter and believes that all member states must maintain peace, assist developing countries effectively and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Great Britain is an active member of the European Union and NATO.

The UK is a founding member of the Council of Europe, which is open to any European parliamentary democracy that accepts the rule of law and the protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms. The member states co-operate on culture, education, sport, health, youth affairs and the improvement of the environment.

In addition, Britain is a member of the Commonwealth. The English Queen is recognized as the Head of Commonwealth. It has 50 members, nearly all of which were once British colonies. Membership in the Commonwealth gives Britain an opportunity to assist the development and stability of developing countries. In 1997 – 1998 British aid to developing countries was over £2,245 million.

The goal of the British aid programme is to:

- promote economic reform;
- promote good government;
- help developing countries to reduce poverty;
- promote better education and health;
- improve the status of women in developing countries;

and

- help developing countries to solve their environmental problems.

In addition to this, Britain gives bilateral technical assistance, including advice on privatization and the improvement of public services. Most British bilateral financial support for reforms consists of technical assistance to eight low-income countries in the Special Programme of Assistance for Africa, led by the World Bank.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. Is Britain a member of the United Nations?
2. Does Britain follow the principles of the UN Charter?

What are they?

3. What countries can be the members of the Council of Europe?
4. How many members does the Commonwealth consist of?
5. Who is recognized as the head of the Commonwealth?
6. What does the British aid programme try to do?
7. Does bilateral technical assistance includes advice on the improvement of public services?
8. Do low-income countries get financial support from Britain for reforms?

**Ex. 2. Match the pairs:**

Security Council	захищати права людини
to maintain peace	основні свободи
to protect human rights	співпрацювати у галузі культури
European Union	Рада Безпеки
to cooperate on culture	Євросоюз
fundamental freedoms	підтримувати мир

improvement of the environment	країни, що розвиваються
developing countries	сприяти покращенню освіти
to promote better education	покращення навколишнього середовища
bilateral assistance	країни з низьким доходом
low-income countries	двостороння допомога

## **The Political System of the United States**

The United States is the country which holds the leading position in the western world. The country that has been given many names – “Land of Opportunity”, “Melting Pot”, or “God’s Country” – is still referred to as a land of superlatives – “the richest”, “the greatest”, “the most...”.

In size the United States is not the biggest country. What makes the USA the leader of the western world is its economic, political and military dominance over other countries.

The United States of America is a democracy. But what do Americans mean when they use this word?

Abraham Lincoln, one of the best-loved and most respected of America’s presidents, said that the United States had a government “of the people, by the people and for the people”. He called the United States “a nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal”. No one has formulated a better way of describing the principles of the American political system as Americans understand it. The constitutional laws and traditions of the United States give the people the right to determine who will be the leader of their nation, who will make the laws and what the laws will be. The people have the power to change the system. The constitution guarantees individual freedom for all.

The government of the USA is divided into 3 branches: legislative (the U. S. Congress), executive (the President and his Administration) and judicial (the U. S. Supreme Court).

There are two main political parties in the USA – the Democratic (symbolized by a donkey) and the Republican (symbolized by an elephant). The U. S. President is both head of state and of government. He is elected for a 4-year term.

The Supreme Court consists of the Chief Justice and eight Associate Justices, who are appointed for life. The Supreme Court must decide whether or not a law passed by the Congress or an executive order of the president is constitutional.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. What is the United States of America often called?
2. Is the USA the biggest country in the world?
3. What makes the USA the leader of the western world?
4. Is the USA a parliamentary republic?
5. How many branches make up the U. S. government?
6. What are the main political parties in the USA?
7. What is the Supreme Court supposed to decide?
8. How many members are there on the Supreme Court?

**Ex. 2. Translate into English:**

“Країна можливостей”, “Плавильне горно”, “Земля, обрана Богом”, військова перевага, парламентська республіка, чотирирічний термін, виконавчі розпорядження Президента, західний світ, Верховний суд, провідна роль, найвищий ступінь, бути призначеним, головний суддя, помічники судді.

**Ex. 3. Complete the following sentences using the suitable words and word combinations from the text:**

1. The USA is often called...
2. In size the United States...
3. The government consists of three branches:...
4. The Democrat Party is symbolized by...

5. The Republican Party is symbolized by...
6. The US President is both...
7. He is elected for...
8. ...consists of the Chief Justice and 8 Associate Justices.
9. They are appointed...

## **The Principal Institutions of Government in the USA**

By the U. S. Constitution the government of the nation is entrusted to three separate authorities – the executive, the legislative and the judicial branches.

Executive power is vested in the president, who holds office for a term of four years and is elected together with the vice-president. Among the duties and powers of the president listed in the Constitution are the following: the president is commander-in-chief of the armed forces, he makes treaties and appoints ambassadors to foreign countries as well as other high officers of the United States. Within his competence there is also the responsibility for taking care that the laws be faithfully executed. From this one can see that the Constitution gives the president some measure of control over the military establishment, imposes upon him a responsibility for foreign policy and assigns to him the obligation to administer federal programmes.

The administrative business of the nation is conducted by secretaries who form the Cabinet. They are appointed by the President but their nomination must be confirmed by the Senate. The Cabinet is a kind of an advisory group to the president which has developed by custom rather than by the provisions of the Constitution. The vice-president likewise participates in Cabinet meetings. The Cabinet members are: the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney-General, the Postmaster General, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Labour and the Secretaries of Health, Education and Welfare. As chief executive officer, the President can remove any Secretary.



The Executive Office of the President is represented by a group of agencies. First of all, these are: the White House Office, the Bureau of the Budget, the National Security Council, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Council of Economic Advisers, and the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization. These are not advisory bodies but bodies which carry out administrative functions.

Legislative power in the USA is vested completely in the Congress. There are two chambers in the U. S. Congress – the Senate and the House of Representatives. Besides its legislative function, the Senate is entrusted with the power of ratifying or rejecting treaties made by the President.

**Ex.1. Answer the following questions:**

1. Who is the executive power in the USA vested in?
2. What presidential duties and powers are listed in the Constitution?
3. Who forms the Cabinet?
4. Who are the Secretaries appointed by?
5. What is the Cabinet?
6. Does the vice-president participate in the Cabinet meetings?
7. What are the Cabinet members?
8. Can the president remove Secretaries?
9. Who is the executive office of the president represented by?
10. What bodies carry out administrative functions?

**Ex. 2. Say whether the following are true or false:**

1. Executive power is vested in the vice-president.
2. The Secretary of State is commander-in-chief of the armed forces.
3. The president is responsible for foreign policy.
4. The administrative business of the nation is conducted by Secretaries.
5. The Cabinet is formed of Ministers.

6. Secretaries are appointed by the president.
7. The nomination of Secretaries must be confirmed by the Senate.
8. Legislative power in the USA is vested totally in the Senate.
9. The Senate and the House of Representatives are two chambers of the U. S. Congress.
10. The Senate has the power to ratify or reject all treaties made by the president.

**Ex. 3. Match the following pairs:**

to vest in	укладати угоди
duties and powers	міністр фінансів
to make treaties	міністр оборони
officer	виконавчий апарат
the Secretary of the Treasury	дорадчі органи
the Secretary of Defense	Головнокомандуючий збройних сил
the Secretary of Interior	наділяти
the Executive Office	Рада Національної Безпеки
the National Security Council	законодавча функція
advisory bodies	міністр внутрішніх справ
legislative function	обов'язки та повноваження
commander-in-chief of the armed forces	посадова особа

## **The Constitution and the Bill of Rights**

The Thirteen Colonies, which were soon to become the United States of America, first operated under an agreement called the Articles of Consideration (1781). It was soon clear that this loose agreement among states was not working well. The central federal government was too weak, with too few powers over defense, trade and taxation. In 1787, therefore, delegates from the states met in Philadelphia. They wanted to revise the Articles, but they did much more than that.

They wrote a completely new document, the Constitution, which after much argument, debate and compromise was finished in the same year and officially adopted by the thirteen states by 1790. This constitution—the oldest in the world—established the basic form of the government: three separate branches, each one having powers (“checks and balances”) over the others.

It specifies the powers and duties of each federal branch of government, with all other duties and powers belonging to the states. The Constitution has been repeatedly amended to meet the changing needs of the nation, but it is still the “supreme law of the land”. All governments and governmental groups must operate within its guidelines. The ultimate power under the Constitution is not given to the President (the executive branch), or to the Congress (the legislative branch), or to the Supreme Court (the judicial branch). It belongs to the people.

Americans were the first to take for themselves the liberties and rights that elsewhere were the privileges of elites. Americans determined that they would manage their own affairs in their own interests, electing their own representatives and making their own laws.

The first ten Constitutional Amendments were adopted in 1791 and are known collectively as the Bill of Rights. They are considered to be the fundamental rights of all American citizens. Among these rights are freedom of religion, speech and the press, the right of peaceful assembly and the right to petition the government to correct wrongs. Other rights guarded the citizens

against unreasonable search and arrest and established a system of justice guaranteeing legal procedures. This included the right of trial by jury—in other words, the right to be judged by one’s fellow-citizens.

The great pride Americans have in their Constitution comes from the knowledge that these ideals, freedoms and rights were not given to them by a small ruling class. They cannot be taken away by any government, court, official or law.

The federal and state governments, formed under the Constitution were thus designed to serve the people and to carry out the wishes of the majority and not the other way around. One thing they did not want their government to do is to rule them. Americans expect their government to serve them, and tend to think of politicians and governmental officials as their servants. This attitude remains very strong among Americans today.

Over the past two centuries the Constitution of the USA has also had considerable influence outside the United States. Several other nations have based their own forms of government on it.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. What meeting was held in Philadelphia in 1787?
2. What document was written at that meeting?
3. What did the Constitution establish?
4. What is the Bill of Rights?
5. What are the fundamental rights of all Americans?
6. Why are the Americans proud of their Constitution?
7. What were the federal and state governments designed for?
8. Has the Constitution of the USA had any influence on other nations?

**Ex. 2. Complete the text with the words and word combinations from the box. Translate the text into Ukrainian:**

veto	duties	“checks and balances”		
treaties	branches	bill	go into effect	nullify

The Constitution divided the national government into three parts, or ... . This division gives each branch certain ... and substantial independence from the others. It also gives each branch some authority over the others through a system of ... . Here are a few examples of how “checks and balances” work in practice.

If Congress passes a proposed law, or ... , that the president considers unwise, he can ... it. That means that the bill is dead unless two-thirds of the members of both the House and the Senate vote to enact it despite the President’s veto.

If a law is passed by Congress and signed by the president is later challenged in the federal courts as being contrary to the Constitution, the court can ... that law.

The president has the power to make ... with other nations and to make appointments to federal positions, including judgeships. The Senate, however, must approve all treaties and confirm the appointments before they can ... .

## **The U. S. Congress**

As we have seen, the U. S. Congress is composed of two houses, the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Senate represents the states, each state being guaranteed at least one senator. Beyond that, seats are apportioned among the states

according to their population. The U. S. Senate is composed of one hundred members, two being elected from each state. Senators are chosen for six years, one-third retiring or seeking re-election every two years. The two senators from the same state never finish their terms at the same time; one of them is called the *senior senator* and the other the *junior senator*.

The presiding officer of the Senate is the vice-president of the United States. He is not a member of the chamber over which he presides and sometimes is not a member of the party in power.

The work of the U. S. Congress is mostly done within different committees. The most important of the Senate committees are the Appropriations, Foreign Relations, Finance and Armed Services Committees. In the House of Representatives the most important are the Rules, Appropriations, Ways and Means, Judiciary and Agriculture Committees. The chairmen of these committees are considered to be the real ‘rulers’ of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Congress is the only branch of U. S. government that can declare war, put foreign treaties into effect and make federal laws.

To become a law, a bill must pass both the House and the Senate. After the bill is introduced in both bodies, it is studied by one or more committees, amended and discussed in the chamber of the House or Senate. If passed by one body, it goes to the other for consideration. When a bill passes the House and the Senate in different forms, members of both bodies meet in a conference committee to discuss the differences. Groups that try to persuade member of Congress to vote for or against a bill are called “lobbies”. They may try to exert their influence at almost any stage of the legislative process. Once both bodies have passed the same version of a bill it goes to the president for approval.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. How many houses are there in the US Congress? What are they?
2. What does the Senate represent?

3. How many members is the Senate composed of?
4. Are senators are chosen for five years?
5. Can two Senators from the same state finish their terms at the same time?
6. What are they called?
7. Is the vice-president always a member of the party in power?
8. Where is the work of the U.S. Congress done?
9. What are the most important Senate committees?
10. How does a bill become a law?

**Ex. 2. Translate into English:**

Становити (складати), відповідно до, йти у відставку, старший, молодший, палата, представник, голова Сенату, правляча партія, в основному, вважати, дійсний керівник, представляти, гарантувати, принаймні (хоча б), населення, комітет з асигнувань, бюджетна комісія, комітет з сільського господарства, комітет з судочинства.

**Ex. 3. Complete the following sentences:**

1. The U. S. Congress is composed of...
2. The Senate of the USA is composed of...
3. The presiding officer of the Senate is...
4. The most important of the Senate committees are...
5. The most important committees in the House of Representatives are...
6. The chairmen of the committees are considered...
7. Congress is the only branch of the U. S. government that...

## **Elections in the USA**

The U. S. Constitution includes some general provisions on the franchise. It sets forth certain requirements for candidates running for the post of president, vice-president, Senator or member of the House of Representatives. Requirements usually concern age, residence and citizenship. The candidates who meet all these requirements are considered to be eligible for office.

A residence qualification requires an individual to be a permanent resident in order to have the right to vote. The duration of the residence qualification is usually a few months, though it may vary substantially from state to state.

In addition to this, some states have a so-called literacy qualification (the voter must be able to read and speak English, and he (she) must know how to interpret the U. S. Constitution, etc.).

Finally it should be mentioned that in some states a poll tax is levied upon everyone who votes, and this certainly discourages poor citizens from voting. In this context, it is not surprising that not all Americans participate in elections, including congressional or presidential elections.

The voters are registered by clerks of counties or towns and by local election commissions. When registering, the voter must produce an identification card. This is done to prevent fraud. The administration of elections is vested in an election commission, which is ordinarily composed of two commissioners, one representing each of the major parties, and a third *ex officio* member, usually a sheriff, a county judge, or a clerk. Before holding primary or general election, the commission appoints election officers for each precinct and also arranges for polling places. After the ballots have been cast, they are counted and the results obtained are tabulated and returned to the election commission, which officially counts the precinct tally sheets.



**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. What does the U. S. Constitution set forth?
2. What do the requirements usually concern?
3. Who is considered to be eligible for office?
4. What does a residence qualification require?
5. What is meant by literacy qualification?
6. What is levied upon everyone who votes?
7. Who are the voters registered by?
8. What is done to prevent fraud?
9. Who is the administration of elections vested in?
10. What does the election commission do?

**Ex. 2. Match the following pairs:**

general provisions	вимога
on the franchise	посвідчення особи
clerk	загальні вимоги
identification card	брати участь у
polling place	постійне проживання
requirement	чиновник
citizenship	місце голосування
to participate in	суддя округу
county judge	з виборчого права
permanent residence	громадянство

**Ex. 3. Translate into Ukrainian:**

Voting is a right that many Americans take for granted, but in the 18th century it was a privilege granted only to free, white, property-holding males. It wasn't until 1860 that all white men became eligible to vote, and it would be another 10 years before

suffrage was guaranteed regardless of “race and colour”. Even then poll taxes and literacy tests kept Negroes from voting in some states.

Until the 20th century, women were thought to lack the intellectual capacity to vote (one exception being in New Jersey, where women were allowed to vote from 1776 to 1807). By the early 1900s the women’s suffrage movement, championed by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, gained ground and in 1920 the 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote. The Voting Rights Act, passed in 1965, provided increased protection for Negro voters. For the first time equality at the polls applied to all Americans.

## **The Political Parties in the USA**

There are two major political parties in the USA – the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. Other parties have occasionally challenged these two but without permanent success. One reason for their failure is that in order to win a national election a party must appeal to a broad base of voters and a wide spectrum of interests. Thus, the two major parties tend to be moderate in their programs, and there may often be little difference between them on some issues. Each has a conservative wing and each has a wing that is considered to be liberal. The conservative Democrats tend to be more conservative on racial issues, for example, than their Republican counterparts; the liberal Democrats are more radical on economic issues than the liberal Republicans. The national parties contest presidential elections every four years, but between their quadrennial national conventions, they are often little more than loose alliances of state and local party organizations.

In elections for president and vice-president, voters actually choose among electors committed to the support of a

particular candidate, a system called the Electoral College. Each state is allotted one electoral vote for each Senator and each Representative in Congress.

At the state level political parties reflect the diversity of the population. Large urban centres are more likely to support a Democratic ticket, whereas rural areas, small towns and suburban areas tend more often to vote Republican. In many states rural areas and smaller towns control the state legislatures, even though the more populous city areas provide the greater proportion of tax revenue. A Supreme Court ruling in 1964 sought to remedy this situation by ordering states to reapportion their legislatures more closely by population. Some states have traditionally given majorities to one particular party. Until the mid-20th century, for example, the 11 southern states of the old confederacy voted almost solidly for Democratic candidates; in other states, such as Maine and South Dakota, Republicans are more likely to win.

Municipal political parties have a pyramidal structure, based at the lowest level on districts or precincts. The leaders of these units are responsible to leaders who form the governing body of the municipal party. All of these party functionaries are responsible for getting their voters to the polls at election time. As society has become increasingly urban, politics and government have become more complex. Many problems of the cities, including the problems of transportation, housing, health and welfare, can no longer be handled entirely on the local level. Since even the states do not have the necessary resources, cities have often turned to the federal government for assistance.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. What are the two major political parties in the USA?
2. Do the two major parties have something in common? What is the difference between them?
3. Are the Democratic and Republican Parties moderate or radical in their programmes?

4. What is the "Electoral College"?
5. What areas are more likely to support a Democratic ticket?
6. Who tends to support the Republican Party?
7. What structure do the municipal political parties have?
8. What are the leaders of these units responsible to do?
9. Do you know what the result of urbanization of society is?

**Ex. 2. Match the following pairs:**

occasionally	кидати виклик
to challenge	чотирирічний
failure	відбивати
moderate	невдача
issue	збори
counterpart	час від часу, зрідка
quadrennial	різноманіття, різнорідність
convention	предмет обговорення, спірне питання
committed	відданий, прихильний
to allot	надавати, наділяти
to reflect	помірний, стриманий
diversity	густонаселений, багатолюдний
populous	протилежна сторона

**Ex. 3. Translate into English:**

Союз (зв'язок), колегія виборців, прибуток, шукати (намагатися, добиватися), перерозподіл, опікати, виправляти (виліковувати), околиці (межі), службова особа,

список (реєстрація) виборців, добробут, керувати (контролювати).

## **George Washington – the first President of the United States**

George Washington (1732 – 1799) won a lasting place in American history as the “Father of his Country”. For nearly twenty years he guided his country much as a father cares for a growing child.

Washington lived an exciting life in exciting times. As a boy, he explored the wilderness. When he grew older, he helped the British fight the French and Indians. Many times he was nearly killed. As a general he suffered hardships with his troops in the cold winters.

He lost many battles but led the American Army to a final victory. After he became President he successfully solved many problems facing his country.

Washington belonged to an old colonial family that believed in hard work, in public service and in worshipping God. George Washington was born in Westmoreland, Virginia, on February 22, 1732. His first American ancestor came to Virginia from England in 1657. Farming, land buying, trading, milling, and the iron industry were the means by which the family rose in the world. George’s father, Augustine, had four children by his first wife and six by his second wife, Mary Ball, George’s mother.

Of George’s early life little is known. His formal education was slight: no more than 7 or 8 years of school. Men, plantation life and the haunts of river, field and forest were his principal teachers. His favourite subject was arithmetic. He studied enough history and geography to know something of the outside world. But he never learned very much about literature, foreign languages and history.

At the age of 14 he began to work as a surveyor, making many trips into the wilderness areas of Virginia and Pennsylvania. His first military experience came in the French and Indian War (1754 – 1763), when he was sent on two missions deep into the Ohio County.

In 1759 Washington retired and married Martha Dandridge, a widow. He became a loving stepfather to Martha's two children. He was a progressive farmer for that time.

In 1760's the American colonists grew more and more angry at the taxes placed on them by Great Britain. In September, 1771 the Continental Congress met, where Washington had his first chance to meet and talk with leaders of other colonies. The members were impressed with his judgment and military knowledge. He was sent to attend the Second Continental Congress (1775) where he was elected a Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army. He proved himself a capable commander of the War of Independence.

In 1787 Washington was chosen the President of the Continental Convention and later he became the first President of the Republic (1789). He died after a two-day illness on December 14, 1799.

No other American has been honored more than Washington. The nation's capital, Washington D. C., was named after him. There the giant Washington Monument stands. The state of Washington is the only state named after a president.

**Ex. 1. Answer the questions:**

1. How long did George Washington guide his country?
2. What family did Washington belong to?
3. When did his first American ancestor come to Virginia?
4. How many children did George's father have?
5. What did George Washington study?
6. When did he begin to work?
7. When did George Washington retire?
8. Where did Washington have his first chance to meet and talk to leaders of other colonies?

9. When was Washington made president of the Continental Convention?

10. When did he die?

**Ex. 2. Match the events with the correct dates:**

1759	George Washington's first American ancestor came to Virginia from England.
1787	George Washington was elected a Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army.
1732	Washington retired and married Martha Dandridge.
1746	Washington was sent on two missions deep into the Ohio county.
1754 – 1763	George Washington was born in Westmoreland, Virginia.
1799	George Washington died after a two-day illness.
1771	Washington became the first President of the Republic.
1775	George Washington began to work as a surveyor.
1657	The first Continental Congress met.
1789	Washington was chosen the President of the Continental Convention.

**Ex. 3. Translate the following words into Ukrainian. Make up sentences of your own with them:**

Exciting life, final victory, to suffer hardships, to solve problems, hard work, ancestor, outside world, military experience, to retire, a loving stepfather, a widow, a growing child, taxes, a capable commander, the War of Independence, to honour.

**Ex. 4. Translate the following text into Ukrainian:**

As the first president, Washington was keenly aware that he was building a new institution and that his every act created a precedent. Although he respected the need to cooperate with others he was careful to protect the dignity and strength of the office. Once, while on visit to Boston, Washington was informed that John Hancock, the governor of Massachusetts, was ill and would be unable to call on the President. Believing that governors should defer to the office of the President, Washington cancelled his dinner engagement at the governor's mansion and proceeded to outwait Hancock. The next day an apologetic Hancock, carried by four men, appeared at Washington's door to pay his respects.

During his presidency Washington gave a notably broad interpretation to executive power. Although he stayed aloof from congressional politics, he was quite active in formulating legislation. Using his Secretary of the Treasury, Washington successfully steered his program of economic development through Congress. Washington also established a number of presidential roles and customs, including the practice of meeting with the heads of its executive departments. His response to international threats established a dominant role in foreign affairs for the presidency. Finally, by refusing to seek a third term, Washington eased fears that the presidency might become a monarchy, and in the process he created the precedent, not broken until 1940, of a two-term limit.

**John F. Kennedy**  
*(1917 – 1963)*

John F. Kennedy, who won the election of 1960, was at 43 the youngest man ever to win the presidency. On television, in a series of debates with his opponent Richard Nixon, he appeared



able, articulate and energetic. In the campaign, he spoke of moving aggressively into the new decade, for “the New Frontier is here whether we seek it or not”. In his first inaugural address he concluded: “Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country”. Throughout his brief presidency, Kennedy’s special combination of grace, wit and style sustained his popularity and influenced generations of politicians to come.

Kennedy wanted to exert strong leadership to extend economic benefits to all citizens. Even though the Democratic Party controlled both Houses of Congress, conservative Southerners resisted plans to increase federal aid to education, provide health insurance for the elderly and create a new Department of Urban Affairs. Kennedy’s policies were often limited and restrained.

One priority was to end a recession and restore growth. But Kennedy lost the confidence of business leaders in 1962, when he sought to roll back what the administration regarded as an excessive price increase in the steel industry. Though he succeeded in his immediate goal, he alienated an important source of support. When he later called for a large tax cut to provide capital and stimulate the economy, conservative opposition in Congress destroyed any hopes of passing the deficit measure.

The overall legislative record of the Kennedy administration was meagre. The president made some gestures toward civil leaders but did not embrace the goals of the civil rights movement until nearly the end of his presidency. He failed in his effort to aid public education and to provide medical care for the elderly.

He gained only a modest increase in the minimum wage. Still, he did secure funding for a space program, and established the Peace Corps to send men and women overseas to assist developing countries in meeting their own needs. Kennedy had planned an ambitious legislative program for the last year of his term. But then on November 22, 1963 he was assassinated while

riding in an open car during a visit to Dallas, Texas. It was a traumatic and defining moment for a generation, just as the death of Franklin Roosevelt had been.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. When did John F. Kennedy become the President of the USA?
2. Who was his opponent?
3. What did he speak about in his campaign?
4. What are Kennedy's famous words spoken about the country and its citizens?
5. Were Kennedy's policies often limited and restrained? Why?
6. Did Kennedy lose the confidence of business leaders in 1962?
7. Did Kennedy embrace the goals of the civil rights movement until the end of his presidency?
8. What is the Peace Corps?
9. When was John F. Kennedy assassinated?

**Ex. 2. Translate the following words into Ukrainian. Make up sentences of your own with them:**

To win the presidency, to conclude, grace, wit and style, economic benefits, priority, an important source of support, the civil rights movement, a modest increase, the Peace Corps, to be assassinated, a traumatic and defining moment.

## **The United Nations**

The United Nations was established by 51 nations in 1945. Its charter was signed on June 26, 1945 in San Francisco at the conclusion of the United Nations Conference and came into force on October 26, 1946. Since that time more than 100 countries have joined the United Nations.

Here is the opening of the Charter which sets forth the purposes of the United Nations:

“We, the peoples of the United Nations, determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours”.

There are six main organs of the UN: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice and the Secretariat.

The General Assembly is made up of all the members of the United Nations. Each member nation has one vote in the Assembly. The General Assembly is the place where issues are discussed.

The Security Council is made up of fifteen members. Five of them are permanent members and are known as the Big Five. They are the United States, England, France, Russia and China. Only the Security Council can order the UN to take action. To do this, nine members of the Security Council must vote for the action. These nine must include all of the Big Five. If one of the Big Five permanent members votes against an action, it is vetoed, or turned down.

The Economic and Social Council tries to improve education, science, working conditions and human rights.

The Trusteeship Council looks after colonies until they are ready to become new independent nations.

The International Court of Justice consists of 15 judges elected by the General Assembly and the Security Council; it sits at Hague, Netherlands. Its purpose is the peaceful settlements of

disputes in conformity with the principles of justice and international law.

The day-to-day work of running the United Nations is handled by the Secretariat. This is a staff of workers from all over the world. It is headed by the Secretary General who is elected by the UN members. The United Nations has its headquarters in New York City, where most of its meetings are held.

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. When was the United Nations established?
2. How many countries are members of the United Nations now?
3. What are the main purposes of the United Nations?
4. What are the main organs of the United Nations?
5. What are the permanent members of the Security Council?
6. What does the Economic and Social Council do?
7. Where does the International Court of Justice sit?
8. What is its purpose?
9. Whom is the Secretariat headed by?
10. Where is the headquarters of the United Nations situated?

**Ex. 2. Complete the following sentences:**

1. The United Nations was established...
2. The General Assembly is a place where...
3. The Big Five is...
4. The Trusteeship Council looks after...
5. The purpose of the International Court of Justice is...
6. The Secretariat is responsible for...
7. The Secretariat is headed by...
8. Most of the meetings of the United Nations are held in...

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