

Module 2: The Constitution

Topic 1 Content: English Parliament

Introduction



Glover Mint: Welcome to WUSG News. Much like America itself, the American government can be directly traced to England. In order to understand the development of representative democracy in America, you must first know about the history of government in England. Assisting us with this episode is our sister news organization, WUKG News, reporting live all the way from London.

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WUKG News Introduction



Ginger James: Thank you very much for that lovely introduction Glover and Demi. I am Ginger James, here with my cohost, Johnny Englund. It is true that several American governmental practices have their basis in the government of England. It would be my pleasure to share a bit of information about English representative government with our American audience.

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Topic 1 Content: English Parliament

English Parliament

English Parliament

House of Lords House of Commons

Select a House from above

History of Parliament

- In 11th Century England, a council of nobles and religious leaders advised the king.
- Parliament's ultimate goal was to limit the power of the monarchs.
- The king's council evolved into a two-chamber, or bicameral, legislative body known as Parliament.

Ginger James: In 11th century England, a council of nobles and religious leaders advised the king. As the importance of this council grew, villages and towns began sending representatives to participate in it. Parliament's ultimate goal was to limit the power of the monarchs. The king's council evolved into a two-chamber, or bicameral, legislative body known as Parliament. These two chambers are known as the House of Lords and the House of Commons.

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House of Lords



English Parliament

House of Lords House of Commons

House of Lords

- The upper house of Parliament is known as the House of Lords.
- It is composed of nobles, aristocrats, and other wealthy Englishmen, who have a high social status.
- Its members are appointed and reflect the elite of British society.

Ginger James: The upper house of Parliament is known as the House of Lords. It is composed of nobles, aristocrats, and other wealthy Englishmen, who possess a high social status. Its members are appointed to their positions, and therefore are more representative of the elite members of British society.

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House of Commons

English Parliament

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House of Commons

- The lower house of Parliament is the House of Commons.
- Its members are elected by citizens of England.
- It is composed of local representatives, and is more of a representation of everyday citizens.

Ginger James: The lower house of Parliament is the House of Commons. Unlike the House of Lords, its members are elected by the citizens. Because of this, it is composed of local representatives, and is more of a representation of everyday English citizens.

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End of Episode



Johnny Englund: Thank you, Ginger, and thank you, America for viewing our broadcast. Until next time, this is Johnny Englund and Ginger James, wishing you a pleasant day.