

## Introduction to the UK – Quiz – Correction

1. Great Britain is composed of England, Scotland and Wales.
2. The United Kingdom is composed of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.



3. St Andrew's Cross, in the British flag, represents Scotland.



4. St Patrick's Cross, in the British flag, represents Ireland.



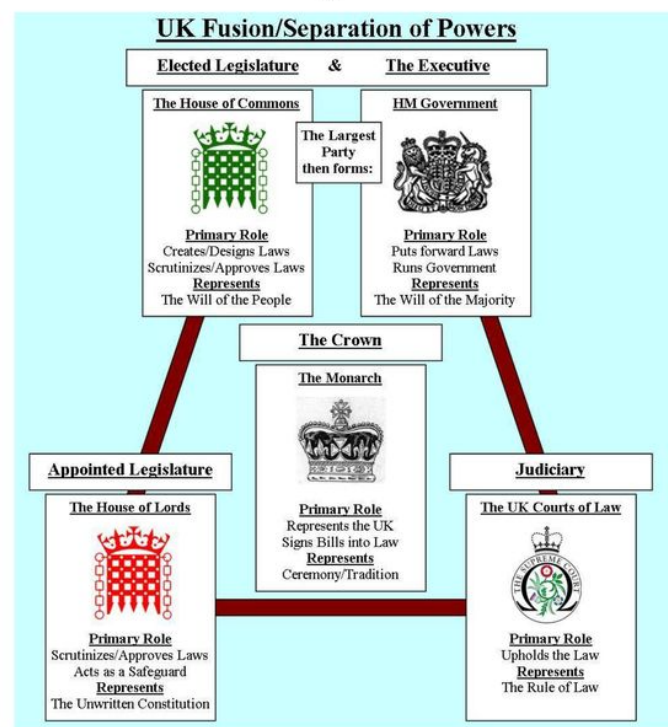
5. St George's Cross, in the British flag, represents England.
6. Wales was annexed to England in 1284 and formally incorporated in 1542.
7. Scotland was repeatedly invaded starting from the late 13<sup>th</sup> century and united to the UK in 1707.
8. Great Britain became The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland with the Act of Union of 1801.
9. The partition of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland occurred in 1921.
10. The term that is used to describe the 30 years or so of conflicts that, in Northern Ireland, opposed Protestant unionists (loyalists) and republicans is The Troubles. It was a violent sectarian conflict from about 1968 to 1998 in Northern Ireland between the overwhelmingly Protestant unionists (loyalists), who desired the province to remain part of the United Kingdom, and the overwhelmingly Roman Catholic nationalists (republicans), who wanted Northern Ireland to become part of the republic of Ireland.
11. The Troubles ended with the Good Friday Agreement in 1998.
12. At the 1926 conference Britain and the Dominions agreed that they were all equal members of a community within the British Empire. They all owed allegiance to the British king or queen, but the United Kingdom did not rule over them. This community was called the British Commonwealth of Nations or just the Commonwealth. Today, the Commonwealth consists of 54 countries, including the United Kingdom.

13. The referendum on Brexit happened in 2016 and resulted in 51.9% of the votes cast being in favour of leaving the EU, triggering calls to begin the process of the country's withdrawal from the EU, a process which ended in 2020.
14. The UK is both a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy. While the Monarch acts as Head of State, the ability to make and pass legislation resides with an elected Parliament. The UK is a parliamentary democracy where the elected British Government, the head of which is the Prime Minister, holds executive power.
15. The UK became a constitutional monarchy in 1689.

## England becomes a

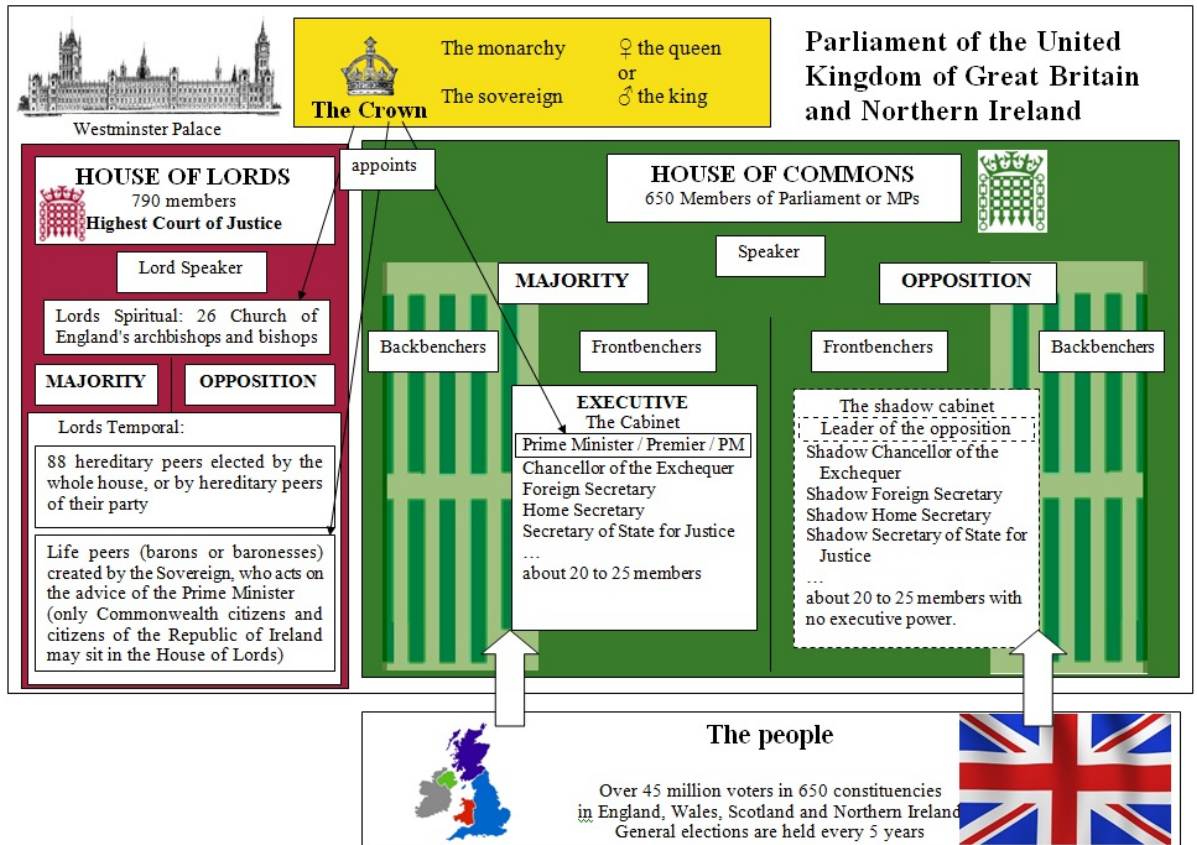
# *Constitutional Monarchy* (1689)

- After 1689 no monarch could rule without Parliaments consent
- **Cabinet** developed as a way to **share law making power** between the King and Parliament. Cabinet leaders called “ministers” ceremonially chosen by King (with consent of Parliament) and represent the majority party of Parliament.
- The leader of Parliament became known as the **Prime Minister**
- Foundation for the current government of England!

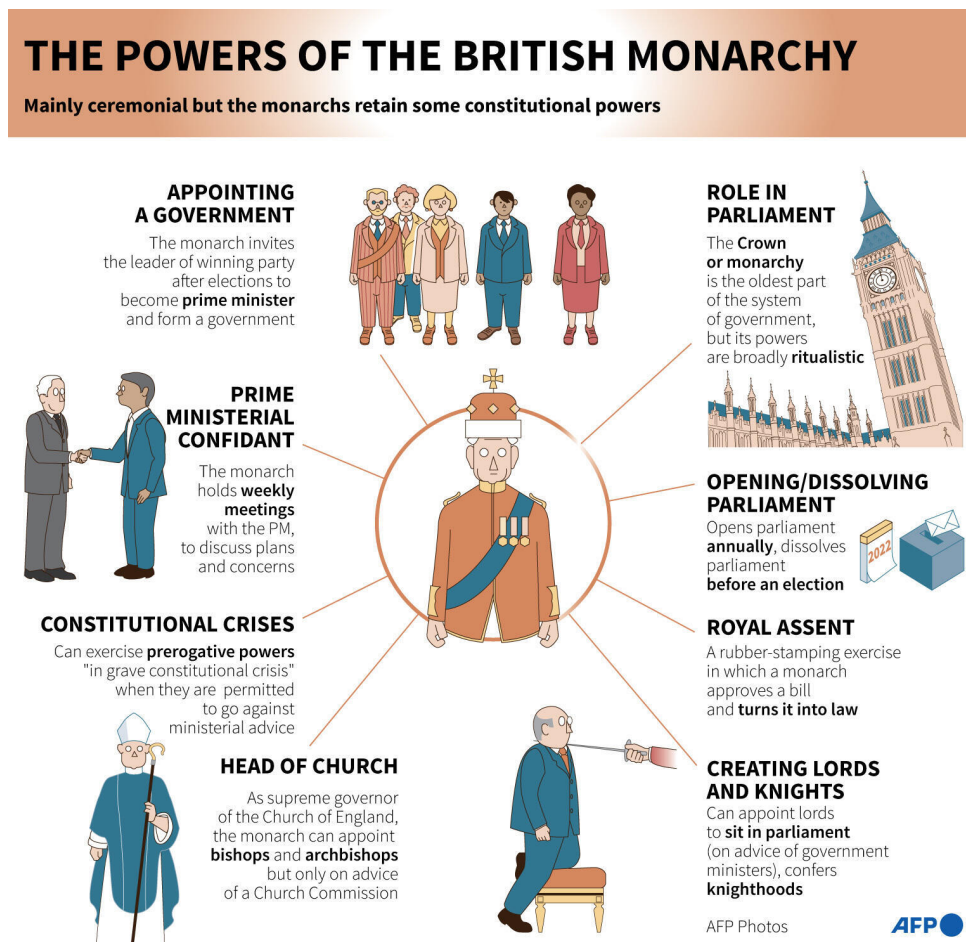


16. The decentralisation of governmental power from Westminster to the Scottish Parliament, the National Assembly of Wales and the Northern Ireland Assembly is called devolution.

17.



18. The powers of the British monarch:



19. The Monarch reigns, the Prime Minister rules.

20. The powers of the British PM:

## The Prime Minister: roles, responsibilities and key powers

Role	Description	Key powers	Limitations
<b>Chairperson</b>	The Prime Minister sets the agenda for the Cabinet and, by extension, for the wider government. (S)He dictates the order or policy meetings and decides what issues are discussed and when.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Setting the policy agenda</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Party</i></li><li>• <i>Public opinion</i></li></ul>
<b>Chief executive</b>	The Prime Minister appoints ministers, including to Cabinet posts, and determines how government departments should be organised. They are also the head of the Civil Service, which implements Government policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Patronage</i></li><li>• <i>Managing the machinery &amp; personnel of government</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Cabinet</i></li><li>• <i>Party</i></li></ul>
<b>Chief communicator</b>	The Prime Minister is the face of the Government--particularly in times of crisis. On issues such as Terrorism or Disasters they are the lead communicator on behalf of the Government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Influencing the National mood</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Public opinion</i></li></ul>
<b>Chief legislator</b>	The Prime Minister is the official overall spokesperson for the Government in Parliament. They answer questions in Parliament and can be decisive in pushing through legislation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Setting the legislative agenda</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Parliament</i></li><li>• <i>Party</i></li></ul>
<b>Chief diplomat</b>	As the head of the Government it is the Prime Minister that acts as the face of Britain Internationally, whether this is at the EU, NATO, UN or other organisations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Declare war</i></li><li>• <i>Sign treaties</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Britain's geopolitical and economic position</i></li></ul>

21. The main political party in power today is the Conservative Party (Tories).

22. The current PM is Rishi Sunak. He was Chancellor of the Exchequer under Boris Johnson and is the first British Asian PM.

23. The current Leader of the Opposition is Keir Starmer.

24. The current Speaker of the House is Lindsay Hoyle.

25. The current Foreign Secretary is David Cameron. David Cameron was appointed Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs on 13 November 2023. He was elevated to the House of Lords on 20 November 2023, as Lord Cameron of Chipping Norton. He was previously Prime Minister from May 2010 until July 2016.