



### **AQA A-LEVEL US POLITICS**

# TEACHING YOU HOW TO THINK, NOT WHAT TO THINK

**PAUL JONES EDUCATION** 

## **GETTING ONTO THE RIGHT PATH**

Our end destination is to achieve the best possible grade but we need to understand where we are right now so we can plan. Give yourself a score out of ten for how you feel you are currently doing for each issue:

Working Out Where You Are	
O Interest in US politics:	
Staying up to date with current affairs:	/10 /10
© Engaging in wider reading:	/10 /10
• Knowledge and understanding of US politics:	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
O Being able to forge synoptic links:	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
O Understanding of exam questions:	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
• Ability to structure answers to exam questions:	
<ul> <li>Understanding of assessment objectives:</li> </ul>	/10 /10
Ability to meet timings and deadlines:	/ 10
O Current grades or scores in class:	/10 /10
Total score: /100	
o What do you feel is your greatest strength in A-level US politics?	

O Which area of US politics do you feel is most interesting to you?	
O What do you feel is your weakest area?	
O What might be the single most significant thing you could change or do to help improve your achievement?	
O If we assume no changes are made, what is your likely outcome?	

### **TESTING OURSELVES**

Okay, let's see how we feel about these little challenges. What are the first ten amendments of the US Constitution? O Give one way in which Congress can check the power of the president. O Give one example where Congress has used that method to check the president. O How effective do you feel that check against the president is?

# WHO DO YOU WANT TO BE?



### The Continuity Candidate 55

"I would like the best grade and outcome possible but feel I can get by just fine the way I am. I can just use the materials in class and tick the right boxes to get through my A-level. It would perhaps be nice to be able to get a richer understanding of the subject and explore new frontiers, but I'd prefer to stick with what I know, manage things as they are and see how it goes."

#### The Trailblazer ""

"I want to head out to some new frontiers in my learning because I love studying US politics. I may not get things right, but I am prepared to put the effort in and do what it takes to push my academic campaign as far as I can. I want to head out and explore, see what I can do and tackle whatever challenges come my way. I am resilient, ambitious and aspirational. I know that I can do better and want to strengthen my academic abilities."



- Are you happy and confident with where you are in your A-level studies on US government and politics?
- Do you feel that your knowledge is secure and that you could tackle A-level questions effectively?
- Are you in a stronger position with your studies now than you were a few weeks ago?
- · Do you already feel fulfilled and enriched in your studies?

If your answer to those questions is yes, then it seems to me that you perhaps already know your path. If the answer to those questions is no, then I could suggest an alternative approach....

### If you feel you are a trailblazer, then my suggestion is this....

Your A-levels are essential and will influence the next steps in your career.

US government and politics is a complex subject and the A-level examination is by no means easy.

This can be very stressful, but politics is a fascinating subject and I am here to help.

I am therefore offering you the opportunity to book a 20-minute session with me. In this session, we'll look at where you are with your studies and work out three things you can do now to begin making progress.

What is in this for me? Why am I offering this?

I love my subject and have several years' teaching experience. I have taught many students who are totally committed and keen to achieve the best possible outcome.

Sometimes, students are so eager to ensure they make clear progress that they want my help in the longer term.



If you want to listen to my advice in the session and then part ways so you can head out on your own, then that's fine. I'll have done my bit as an educational professional to assist.

BOOK A CALL

Associate Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, PhD, MRes, BA (Hons), PGCE.



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