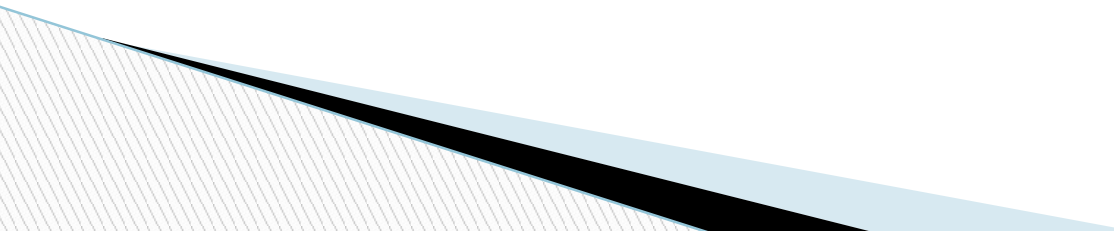
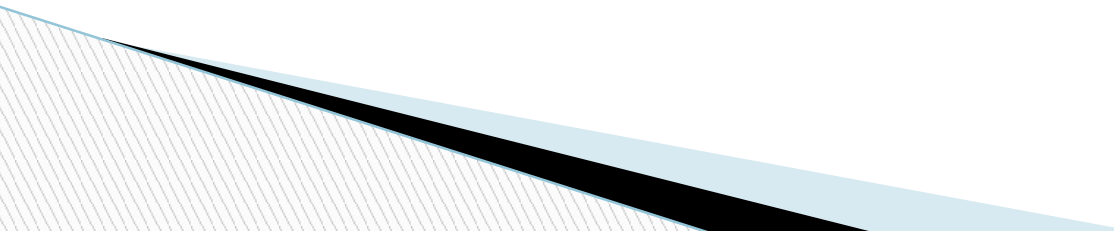


Great Britain



Geographical Position and Natural Resources

- The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is a sovereign state located off the northwestern coast of continental Europe. It comprises the island of Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) and the northeastern one-sixth of the island of Ireland (Northern Ireland). The UK is separated from France by the English Channel.
- 

- The total area of the United Kingdom is approximately 245,000 square kilometers. England is the largest country of the United Kingdom. Scotland is second largest, accounting for about a third of the area of the UK. Wales and Northern Ireland are much smaller.
- 

Natural resources

- The UK has a variety of natural resources including coal, petroleum, natural gas, limestone, chalk, gypsum, silica, rock salt, china clay, iron ore, tin, silver, gold, lead. North Sea oil and gas have supplied much of the UK's energy needs in recent decades.

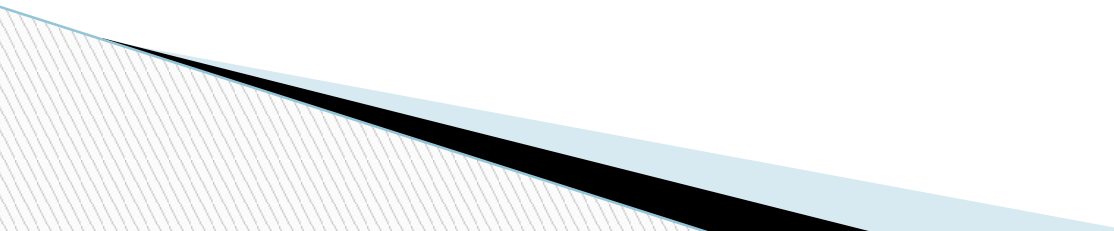
Climate

- The climate in Great Britain is mild, humid and changeable, due to the influence of the Gulf Stream. British people say: “Other countries have a climate, in England we have weather.”
- The longest river is the River Severn (354 km). The largest lakes are Lough Neagh(382 km²), Loch Lomond(71 km²). The deepest lake is Loch Morar (309 metres).

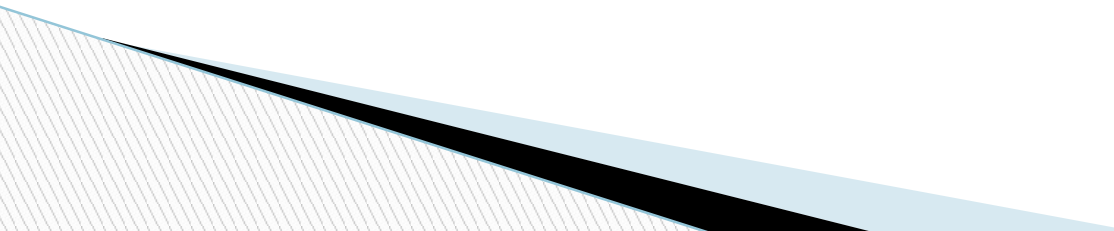
Population

- The population of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is over 57 million people. Only London's population is over 7 million. The population lives mostly in towns and cities.

The Queen

- The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy: Queen Elizabeth II is the official Head of State. The Queen rules symbolically; and power belongs to Parliament. But the Queen 'opens' Parliament each year. She and her immediate family undertake various official, ceremonial and representational duties.
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Government Structure and Bodies

- The Constitution of the United Kingdom consists mostly of a collection of written sources, including statutes, judge-made law, and international treaties. The UK has a parliamentary government based on the Westminster system. The Parliament of the United Kingdom meets in the Palace of Westminster.
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The Parliament


House of Commons

A system of election:
UK is divided into 650 constituencies → Each constituency elects one Member of Parliament → General Elections

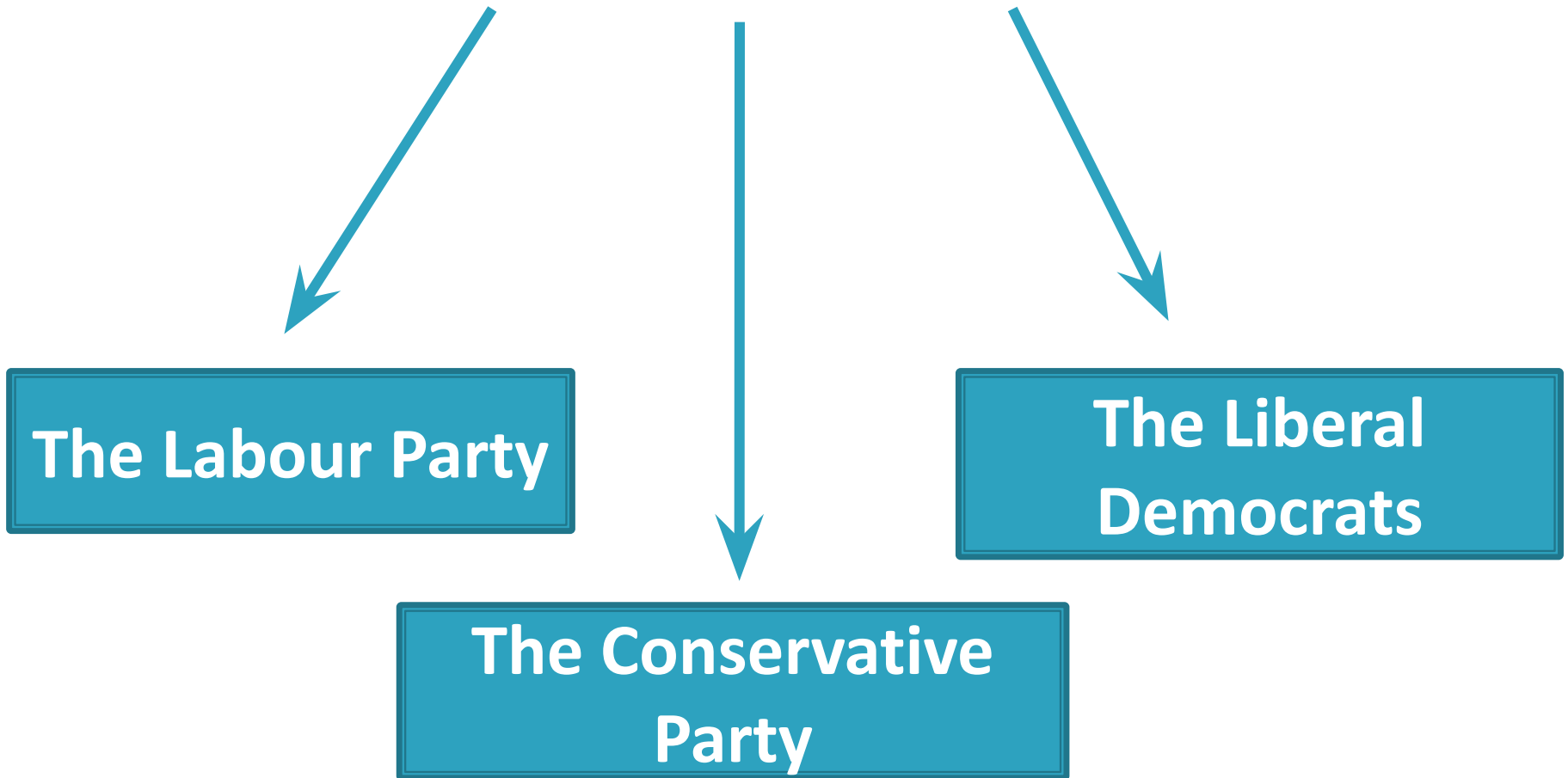
House of Lords

- ① Appointed;
- ② made up of people who have inherited family titles;
- ③ 675 members;
- ④ the main job is to 'double check' new laws

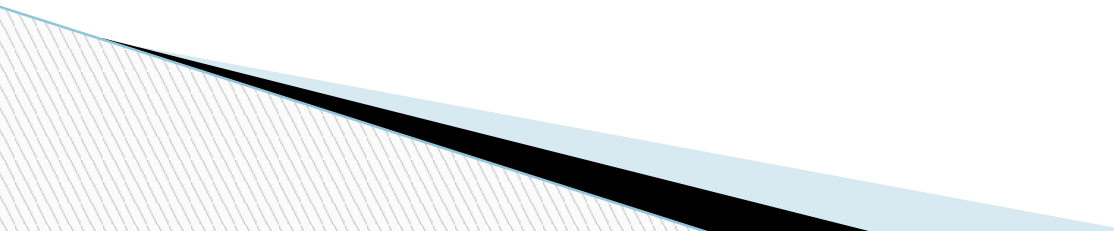
The Prime Minister

- The position of Prime Minister, the UK's head of government, belongs to the Member of Parliament who obtains the confidence of a majority in the House of Commons, usually the current leader of the largest political party in that chamber.
 - The executive power is exercised by the Prime Minister and Cabinet, all of whom become Ministers of the Crown.
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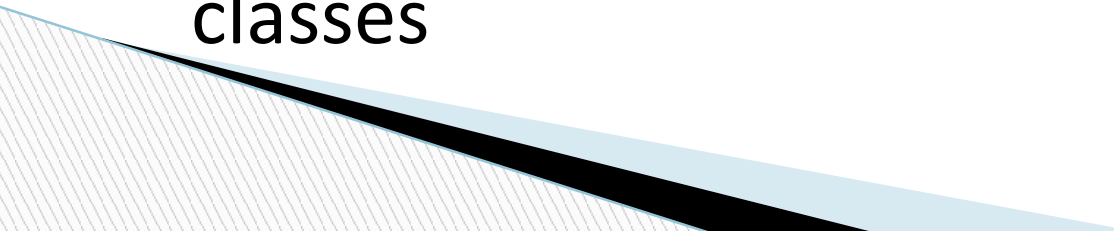
Major Political Parties



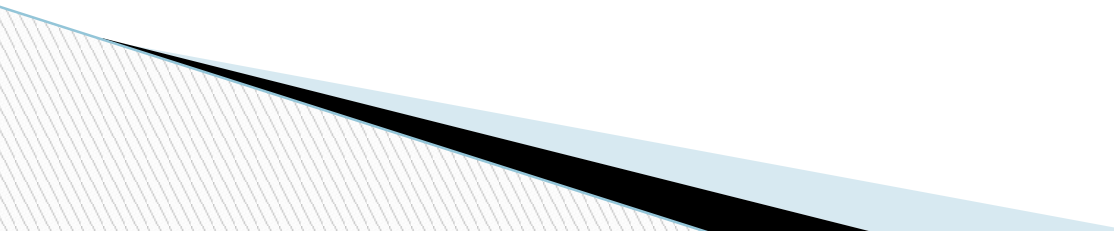
The Labour Party

- Labour has 13 members in the European Parliament
 - has historically been a left-of-centre one
 - Tony Blair modernized the party by moving to the centre
 - It emphasizes social justice, equality of opportunity, economic planning and the state ownership of industries and services
 - It was supported by the trade unions, the working class and some of the middle class
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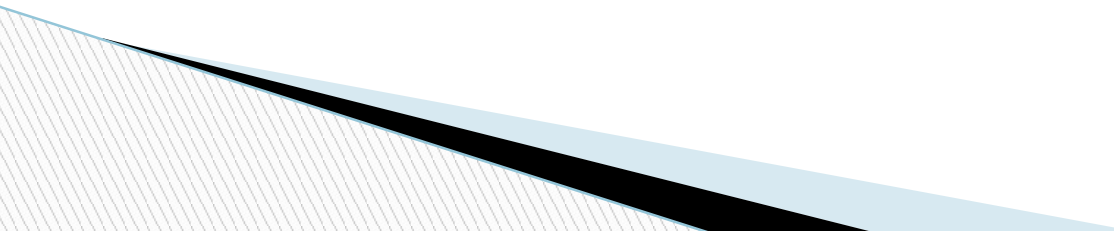
The Conservative Party

- Its current leader is Prime Minister David Cameron
 - is a right-of-centre party
 - emphasizes personal, social and economic freedom, individual ownership of property and shares and law and order
 - The party's support comes mainly from business interests and the middle and upper classes
- 

The Liberal Democrats

- the third-largest party in the UK Parliament
 - promote social liberalism, seek to minimise state intervention in personal affairs: they oppose what they call the 'nanny state'
 - support multilateral foreign policy
 - the most pro-EU of the three main parties
 - have strong environmentalist values by favouring renewable energy
- 

International organizations

- Today the United Kingdom is one of the world's most globalised countries. The capital, London, is a major financial centre for international business and commerce and is one of three "command centres" for the global economy.
 - The United Kingdom is also a member of the G8, the Commonwealth of Nations, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Trade Organisation, and the European Union.
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**Thank you for
attention!**

