

Citizenship Summer Revision

Use flashcards or “Look, Cover, Write, Check” to learn the keyword and the definition.

Keyword	Definition
Act	A law passed by Parliament
Asylum seeker	Someone who says s/he is a refugee, but it has not yet been proven
Business rates	Are paid by all local businesses. The amount they pay depends on the rent that would be charged for the office, shop or factory the business uses
Census	An official count of the population to find out about the changes taking place
Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)	An organisation that offers free advice on consumer and other legal matters
Community	A group of people who are in close contact and who share common interests and values
Community cohesion	Creating a community where there is a sense of belonging for all communities and people's different backgrounds are valued
Commonwealth	A voluntary group of independent countries, some of which were former British colonies
Consumer	A person who buys goods or services for their own use
Convention	An agreement (often between governments)
Council	A group of people who are elected to look after the issues of the local area
Council tax	Is paid by all the citizens of the area. The amount that each person pays will depend on the value of the house they live in. People who live in bigger houses will pay more than those who live in smaller houses
Declaration	A document setting down aims and intentions
Democracy	Government by the people, either directly or through elected representatives
Discrimination	The unfair treatment of groups of people with particular characteristics
Diversity	The range of different groups that make up the population
Economy	This is made up of all the organisations that provide goods and services, and all the individuals and organisations that buy them

Economic migrant	A person who travels from one country or area to another in order to improve their standard of living
Emigration	Leaving your homeland to live in another country
Ethnic	Someone's cultural background
European Union	A group of 28 countries which work together in fields such as the environment, social issues, the economy and trade
Harassment	Repeatedly threatening, humiliating or pestering someone
Homophobic	Fearing or hating gay, lesbian, trans or bisexual people

Human rights	Things that people are morally or legally allowed to do or have
Identity	Who or what someone is
Identity card	A card, usually given by the government/official organisation, that establishes someone's identity
Immigration	Coming to another country to live there
Inclusive education	Schooling that involves everyone, regardless of ability or non-disability
Integration	Bringing different groups of people together in society
Legal right	A right that is protected by law
Magna Carta	A charter of rights which the English barons forced King John to sign in 1215
Mayor	A member of the council who is selected to be its representative on ceremonial occasions; in some areas they are also the elected leader
Minority	A small part of a large group of people
Multiple identity	When a person feels like they have more than one identity
Neighbourhood	A local area which people live as neighbours, sharing living space and interests
Political rights	Rights to take part in elections and other democratic activities
Racism	The idea that some people of different origins are not as good as others
Refugee	A person who has been forced to leave their country
Respect	Show consideration for someone's feelings, wishes or rights
Rule of law	A country is governed by law and all residents must obey the law – so no one is above the law
Trade unions	An organisations that look after the interests of a group of employees

Trading Standards Department	An official body that enforces consumer based law
Tolerant	Being open minded and accepting
United Nations	An international organisation that tries to encourage peace, cooperation and friendship between countries
Victimisation	Discriminating against someone unfairly

Theme B key words

Keyword	Definition
Act of Parliament	A law passed by Parliament
Assembly	A body of people elected to decide on some areas of spending in a region
Back benchers	MPs who do not hold office in the government or opposition, they sit on the back benches in the House of Commons
Black Rod	Looks after the Palace of Westminster as the 'Houses of Parliament' is known
Bill	A proposal to change something into law
British constitution	The laws and conventions which set down how the UK is governed.
Budget	The process each year when the Chancellor of the Exchequer explains how the government will raise and spend its money
Canvassing	When the people try to persuade others to vote for their party in an election
Cabinet	A group of MPs who head major government departments. It meets weekly to make decisions about how government policy will be carried out. Senior Ministers from the Lords are also represented
Constituency	The area represented by an MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer	The member of government who is responsible for the country's finances
Closed-list system	A form of proportional representation in which a party puts forward a list of candidates in the order they will be elected
Coalition	A government made of more than one party. It is formed when no one party has enough seats to form a government
Devolution	The transfer of power from central to regional government.
Direct democracy	A form of democracy in which everyone votes on every decision in a referendum.
The executive	Makes policy and puts it into practice. It is made up of the Prime Minister, Cabinet, and Civil Service

First past the post	An electoral system where voters have one vote in their constituency and the candidate with the most votes wins a seat in Parliament. The party with the most seats in Parliament form then form the government
Front benchers	MPs who hold office in the government or opposition. They sit on the front benches of the House of Commons
General election	An election for a new government. In the UK, these take place every five years.
Green Paper	This puts forward ideas that the government wants discussed before it starts to develop a policy.
Government revenue	The money raised by the government.
House of Commons	The more powerful of the two parts of the British Parliament.

	Its members are elected by the public.
House of Lords	The House of Lords are either appointed or the role is hereditary
Hustings	A meeting at which candidates in an election speak to the voters.
Judicial review	A review carried out by the High Court to decide whether a decision made by a public body has been made properly
The judiciary	Makes judgments about the law. It is made up of judges and magistrates in court
The legislature	Make laws. It is made up of the House of Lords and House of Commons
MEP	A Member of the European Parliament
Opposition	Political parties that are not in power
Parliamentary inquiry	An enquiry set up to investigate actions taken by government departments and public bodies
Parliamentary sovereignty	Parliament is the top legal body and can pass new laws or stop old laws
Prime Minister	The leader of the majority party in the House of Commons and the leader of the government
Proportional representation	An electoral system in which the number of seats a party wins is roughly proportional to its share of the votes in an election
Referendum	A vote by the whole electorate on a particular issue
Representative democracy	A form of democracy in which people elect a representative to make decisions for them

Select committee	One of the committees that check and report on the work of government departments
Secretary of State	An MP who is in charge of a government department such as health or defence
Shadow Cabinet	MPS from the main opposition party who 'shadow' MPs who head major government departments
Speaker	The MP elected to act as chairman for debates in the House of Commons
White Paper	This puts government policy up for discussion before it becomes law.

Theme C keywords

Keyword	Definition
Barrister	Undergo a long legal training too, but they spend most of their time in court representing their clients. They are the only lawyers qualified to speak in all types of court
Case law or precedent	Once a decision has been made in a court it becomes law in all future cases containing the same material facts and must be followed by all lower courts
Civil law	This covers disputes between individuals or groups. Civil law cases are often about rights
County court	A local court that has limited powers in civil cases
Community sentence	A sentence which allows people to continue to live in the community under certain conditions
Criminal law	This deals with offences such as murder and drug dealing. These cases are between the Crown Prosecution Service (acting for all citizens) and the offender
Crown court	Courts held in towns in England and Wales where judges hear more serious criminal cases
Discharge	Not being sentenced for a minor crime, it can be conditional
High Court	The court where judges hear cases on serious crimes
Judge	A person who decides questions of law in a court
Jury	A group of people who decide if someone is guilty in a court of law
Magistrates' court	A court held before two or more public officers dealing with minor crimes
Mediator	Acting as a go-between between people in dispute in order to resolve the problem
Mitigating factors	Reasons why an offender might be given a lighter sentence

Neighbourhood watch	A scheme in which members of the community take responsibility for keeping an eye on each other's property to prevent crime
Office for National Statistics	The organisation that collects data about what is happening in the UK
Ombudsman	An official who is appointed to investigate individuals' complaints against a company or an organisation
Probation officer	If an offender is given a community sentence, they will work with a local probation officer. They are professionally qualified and it is their job to write reports on offenders and supervise them in the community when they've been sentenced
Recorder	A barrister or solicitor of at least 10 years' experience, who acts as a part-time judge in a crown court
Reoffend	To commit a crime more than once
Rehabilitation programmes	Programmes which help people to overcome problems so they can avoid committing crimes in future
Restorative Justice	A system of criminal justice which aims to rehabilitate offenders through meeting and talking to victims and the community

Small claims court	A local court, which hears civil cases involving small amounts of money
Solicitor	All solicitors must pass law exams, because among other things, they can give legal advice to people who have to go to court. Some solicitors also speak in court on behalf of their clients
Special constable	A volunteer police officer
Sue	To make a claim against someone or something
Tribunals	These are set up to resolve certain types of disputes, such as employment issues
Youth court	A court that deals with young offenders
Youth justice system	The part of the justice system that deals with young people
Youth offenders	Offenders between the ages of 10 and 17