| The Constitution - | |
|--------------------|--|
|--------------------|--|

Definition

"the set of laws rules and practices that create the basic institutions of the state and its component and related parts, and stipulate the powers of those institutions and the relationship between the different institutions and between those institutions and the individual"

The House of Lords Select Committee on the Constitution (2001)

Rasic laws that the state must abide by, and how much power each landing section will be given, and what they are able to do in terms of government

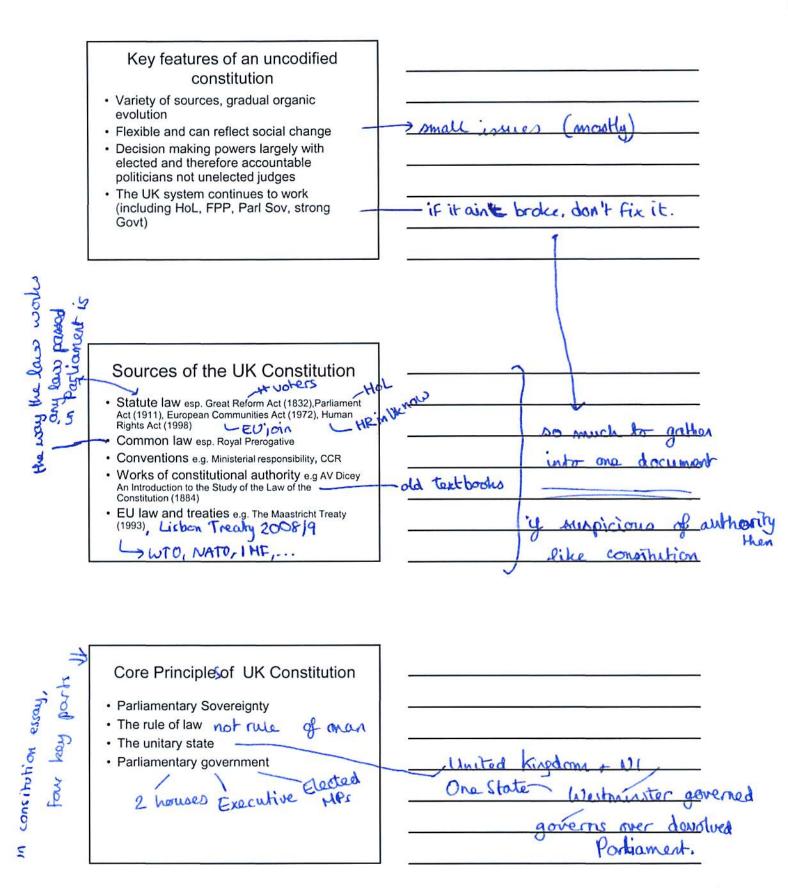
parts of state and powers/rules of the people.

Key features of a codified constitution

(implicitly weaknesses of the UK constitution)

- Single source
- The powers of the legislature and executive are clearly constrained
- · The location of sovereignty is clearly identified
- Judicial independence is codified
- · Basic individual rights are set out
- · Constitutional crises can be avoided
- · Amendment procedures are clear
- · entrenchment

| UK? | checks + bulances |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| convention | check |
| > separation of | f powers & dictatorship |



| Parliamentary Sovereignty Legislation cannot be overturned by higher authority The Westminster Parliament can legislate on any subject of its choosing No Parliament can bind its successors | unless disagree with EV laws if Britain Atoys in EU. |
|---|---|
| | |
| Constraints on PS | |
| The EU (over all law): 'pooled' sovereignty' and subsidiarity The Human Rights Act (1998) The manifesto and mandate (Salisbury Convention) For cannot present them from BUT: all Acts can be repealed enaching manifesto. | European (out of Human Kights > no Salisbury Convention due to Coalition agreemment. The |
| ingrice mires | wions oversion. |
| The Rule of Law Queen | CE CE |
| All are equal under the law Independent judiciary The individual is protected from arbitrary state action | Jang Lang To |
| taking a way trial | |
| sexperimentation etc, not abuse cases. | by buying people's houses and land. |

A Unitary State · Power is located at the centre (Westminster) · Devolved institutions do not have constitutionally protected autonomous powers · Contrast with a federal state/system Parliamentary Government • The Glorious Revolution (1689) supremacy of Parliament over the Crown · Government though Parliament within a constitutional monarchy · Ministers accountable to Parliament and to the electorate Parliament Act (1911) + (1949) · BUT: Parliamentary, Cabinet or PM Government? Constitutional reform - Quasi non gove mmental organisati Conservatives (1979-97) · Quangos and privatisation · Centralisation of Government · Erosion of civil liberties (unions and movement)

| Constitutional Reform since 1997 Devolution (changing voting systems, relationships, ministries) ECHR: Human Rights Act (1998) Freedom of Information Act (2000) Regional Development Agencies Closed Party list system for Euro Parl GLA and elected Mayor House of Lords Supreme Court Constitutional Reform since 1997 John Stripping Systems, relations of the property of the p | wind Cusk. |
|--|------------|
| The Future? | - |
| House of Lords | |
| Voting systems | |
| Voting Methods Northern Ireland | |
| Northern Ireland Referendums — ++ e-Petitions | - |
| Monarchy | |
| | |
| | |