General facts

Britain has no written constitution, so the government system is based on traditions, laws and documents. Unlike for example the US who has a written constitution, parts of the constitution in the US are known as the bill of rights. The most important document is the Magna Carta dating all the way back to 1215. The Magna carta limits the power of the monarch and allows the Parliament to take part in political decision making. Today the Monarchs power is mostly symbolic, but queen Elizabeth 2nd is the leader of the commonwealth of nations. The commonwealth is an organization existing of former British colonies. Britain is a parliamentary democracy this means that the political power is held by an elected parliament that represents the people because the people votes for a political party with the same ideology as themselves. The leader of the majority party in the house of commons becomes prime minister, Theresa May is the sitting prime minister in Briatin. The Palace of Westminster is the house of the parliament and it is where the House of commons and house of lords discusses politics.

The parliament:

Consists of two houses, the house of lords and the house of commons.

The house of lords: The house of lords is made up of people who inherited the power from the noble/peer in their family. They have very little power, but have the right to reject bills two times, but must agree the third time.

House of commons: The political power in Britain rests mainly in the house of commons. The house of commons is the main lawmaking body, in addition it grants money and levies taxes. General elections are held at least every fifth year. There are many different constituencies, one person is elected from each constituency to represent that constituency in the house of commons that person becomes an MP. Therefore, the 650 MPs sitting in the parliament is changed from each election held. There are many different political parties in the UK and the leader of the party with most MPs in the house of commons becomes prime minister. The prime minister appoints the cabinet ministers. Each cabinet minister has their own field of responsibility for example the minister of defense has the responsibility to make sure that the UK is protected and prepared for attacks from other countries and the minister for health and social care needs to make sure that people in the UK have the opportunity for health care and social care. There are always an opposition party, the part who sits in opposition must be ready to take over the tasks of the government at any given time in case the majority party steps down. Therefore, the opposition party is ready with all the cabinet ministers already pointed out. The house of commons monitors the government very closely and they do not hesitate to criticize the cabinet ministers if they do something wrong, the cabinet ministers will then have to defend themselves in the house of commons.

The government:

The government runs the state affairs on a day to day basis. The government also proposes legislations and budgets to the parliament (house of commons). It is the governments job to put laws into effect once they have been passed on by the parliament. The current sitting government is the conservative party. The leader is Theresa May she is also the prime minister. The conservative party wants for example a free economic market that is not monitored by the government. They want more private services. They want to cut the income taxes. Capping the immigration is also important and they currently have an annual limit on how many immigrants that are allowed into the UK.

The opposition party with the 2nd most EMPs in the parliament is the labor party. The labor party wants more public services, higher taxes than the conservative party and they want to build more affordable homes and more council homes, a council home is a home provide by the government with low rents for those who have low incomes. Their current leader is Jeremy Corbin.

There are also many more parties in the UK and 10-12 parties have seats in the house of commons (included labor and conservative) Some examples are the Scottish nationalist party (wants Scotland to become an own state), the Liberal Democrats (Wants to keep UK in the European single market, even though they are not a part of the EU like Norway for example who participates with exceptions) and the Greens (Very concerned about climate changes and the state of our earth).

US:

* The us is a republic
* The power is divided into three branches (the divide of powers): The judicial, Executive and legislative.
* 2 parties
* Vote for a president

UK:

* Parliamentary Democracy
* House of lords
* House of commons
* 650MPs
* 12 parties
* Vote for a party leader