

POLITICS- SUMMER TASK: State of Chaos

The last decade of UK politics has been very turbulent, and a huge amount has happened.

Your understanding of the course will be hugely enhanced by understanding these events. Last year, the BBC produced the 3 part documentary series “State of Chaos”, which unpacked these events from the Brexit referendum onwards.

Your task is to **watch these 3 episodes**, and **make notes under the question headings for each of them**. We will be discussing these in September, so ensure that **you bring your notes with you to our first lesson** so I can check you have completed this.

Your notes can be reasonably brief, but **must be understandable to you** for when we discuss the episodes. You can either complete this on paper OR on computer, but if these are done on computer they should be printed out ready to hand in for checking.

EPISODE ONE- MAY TO JOHNSON

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001qgwt/laura-kuenssberg-state-of-chaos-series-1-1-mayjohnson>

Who are the Civil Service? How did many react to Brexit?
Why did Theresa May - a remainer - become PM? How did she approach building her government?
Why did May call the 2017 Election? Why did it go so wrong?
How did May plan to deal with Brexit after the election? Why did this prove so difficult and what kind of effects did this have on Parliament?
Why did May finally resign?
How did Boris Johnson approach the task of delivering Brexit?
How was the Prorogation of Parliament prevented? Was this bad or good for Boris?

EPISODE TWO- JOHNSON

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001qpbc/laura-kuenssberg-state-of-chaos-series-1-2-johnson?seriesId=unsliced>

Why was the result of the 2019 election so significant?
What kind of role did Dominic Cummings have within the Johnson Government?

Why did Sajid Javid resign as chancellor?

Why was the approach being taken by Johnson & Cummings to managing the civil service so controversial?

How did the government manage the crisis of the PM contracting COVID?

For what reasons did things start to go wrong for Johnson?

EPISODE THREE- Johnson to Truss

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001qwzt/laura-kuennsberg-state-of-chaos-series-1-3-johnsontruss?seriesId=unsliced>

What events led up to Johnson resigning as PM?

What qualities did Johnson have that suited the role of PM? What aspects of his character made him unsuitable?

For what reasons did many conservatives decide to support Truss?

What kind of group did she select to be in her cabinet?

Why did Truss sack Tom Scholar? Why was this controversial?

Why was the Kwarteng budget so controversial?

What events led Truss to resign as Prime Minister?