

Match up the key elements of the UK's democratic structures with their correct definition.

Term	Definition
Constitution	A set of important rules that describe how a country is run.
United Kingdom Parliament	The most powerful body in Parliament. It is where MPs discuss and debate policies and vote on legislation before it goes to the House of Lords.
House of Commons	The devolved governments of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, formed from parties elected in the devolved Parliaments or Assemblies. They are led by First Ministers. In Northern Ireland there is also a deputy First Minister.
Devolved administrations	Made up of the House of Commons, the House of Lords and the Monarch (sometimes referred to as the Crown).
House of Lords	Responsible for a range of vital services for people and businesses in a defined area including social care, schools, housing and planning and waste collection.
Local government	Made up of about 800 'peers'. Its main job is to 'double check' new laws and make sure they are fair and will work. Some legislation starts here and is then voted on by the Commons.
Ward	The party or parties (as with a coalition) that can command an overall majority in the House of Commons, i.e. more than half the members in the House of Commons after a general election.
Local councillor	People who represent their local community, so they must either live or work in the area. They can be from any political party and can also be completely independent of any political party.
The Monarch (sometimes referred to as 'the Crown')	Sits within the House of Lords and is usually appointed due to their knowledge and expertise. Responsible for checking laws and holding the government to account.
Member of Parliament	An area in your local authority. Local authorities are divided up into these. Each of these usually has two or three local councillors who are elected in local government elections.
Government	A geographical area of voters: each area elects one MP. There are currently 650 of these in the UK. The people in each area are called constituents.
Peer	The process in the UK which created a national Parliament in Scotland, a National Assembly in Wales and a National Assembly in Northern Ireland. This process gave the UK nations powers to make various decisions that had previously been made by the UK Parliament. The powers given to these nations has developed over time.
Constituency	The democratically elected national Parliament or Assembly that represents the interests of the people of Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland. They are empowered to make laws on devolved matters such as education and health. The elected Members are different to the Members of the UK Parliament.
Devolved Parliaments or Assemblies	Rarely attends Parliament but has significant duties to carry out including delivering a speech at the start of each Parliament and giving final sign off to bills (proposed new laws).
Devolution	Responsible for the day to day running of local services.
Elected mayor	Represents the interests and concerns of the people in their constituency and is involved in considering and proposing new laws to govern the country, and holding the government to account.