

Candidate 4 evidence

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(1b)	<p>and Scotland,</p> <p>In the UK, there are multiple ways in which parliament can hold the government to account, each with varying levels of success. Under the voting system First Past the Post, these methods also become less powerful. Methods that will be discussed in this essay include Prime Ministers and First Ministers Question Time, The House of Lords, Committees, and motions of no confidence in the Prime Minister and other ministers.</p>	
	<p>Prime Minister and First Ministers Question Times (PMQs) and (FMQs) are one way in which parliament can hold the government to account. These are events which take place in the House of Commons, and the Scottish Parliament for FMQs and are when MPs get to ask the Prime Minister questions on possible problems or inequality in their conduct, and also possible issues that are present in their constituency.</p>	

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	<p>These happen once a week every week, with the PMQ on a Tuesday and the FMQ on Mondays. These Question times are effective in enforcing holding the government to account as they allow MPs concerns to be voiced, and the actions of the government to be criticised and justified. Despite this there are some flaws in the system, for example the Prime Minister is aware of the questions already the majority of the time, meaning that she has had help and assistance in creating strong counterpoints, which takes away from the responsibility put on her to be be in touch with her own policy. The effect of First Past the Post also means that the opposition is less strong range of parties and therefore views, is reduced, meaning that less people have their views/concerns voiced in the PMQ/FMQ's.</p>

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	<p>ethnic minorities in the House of Lords, meaning that the House does not represent the UK population, and therefore may be inaccurately acting in a way which many citizens may disagree with. It is</p> <p>Another important thing ^{with} the House of Commons Lords is that it doesn't exist in the Scotland. Instead, Scotland relies of on the committee system to hold the government to account. It In many ways this is unsuccessful primarily because the vast majority of committee members are all MSPs. This means that in an SNP majority government the majority of committee members will also be SNP, and therefore far less likely to deny/ debate in the ^{their} own parties practice.</p> <p>A third way that parliament can hold government to account is through the use of</p>

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	<p>'motions of no confidence'. These are when the a group of MPs decide that the government Prime Minister is not doing their job well enough, and that they do not have confidence in in the PM to carry out the wishes of the citizens and parliament. This is effective as any MP can put forward a motion of no confidence, and if it succeeds in getting a majority vote in parliament, the prime minister is obligated to resign and has 6 weeks to find a new party leader (if the the motion is put forward by their own party) or announce a general election. This checks the power of the government as it means the PM has to do what is in the interests of the public and parliament, or they will get someone else. The flaw with this system is that under the FPTP voting system, the majority party normally</p>	

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	<p>manages to overturn the motion. An example of this is the 2018 motion of no confidence in Theresa May, which was defeated, largely to because of the motion being rejected by the conservatives. This or has resulted in many motions being put forward, but only a tiny amount passing with the last motion of no confidence being passed in 1969, leading to the end of the Labour government and the Conservatives coming into power.</p>	
	<p>view that the</p> <p>Overall, the ^ parliament is able has little success in holding the government to account has little basis, as there are a number many ways in which the power and decisions made by the government can be checked, queried about, and refused. The biggest drawback to this power could be argued to be the FPTP system, as it gives in adequate power to the majority party and limits the extent to which the government can be checked.</p>	

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	In the UK there are various non-	
	custodial approaches to crime which are	
	successful to different extents. These include	
	community service, fines, and	
	Community service is is one non-custodial	
	response to crime. This is when an offender	
	commits time to working in the community	
	doing various manual jobs. Community	
	service is effective in rehabilitating offenders,	
	and results in lower reoffending rates, from	
	46% in a prison sentence to just over 30% in	
	community service. This may may be for a	
	number of reasons, one being that the	
	lack of fulltime allows you to stay in the	
	community with your family, and you are	
	able to keep your job etcetera. A downside	
	of community service if the is is very often	
	not-completed, with results in further	

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	investigation and often adds to the	
	serving time. Community service is also far	
	less pricey, with an average community	
	order costing under £4000 a year, compared	
	to prison sentences, where each offender	
	costs over £35,000/year to keep in	
	custody.	
	In conclusion, non-custodial responses	
	to crime are successful to an extent.	

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3a	<p>In the USA there is a system of checks and balances which stops governmental decision making to be dominated by one branch of the political institutions, in most cases. In the USA there are 3 branches of government, the judicial, the legislative, and the executive branches. In this essay I will discuss the extent to which these branches can check each other.</p>
	<p>The judicial branch is composed of the Supreme and federal every courts, which handle the most serious crimes in the USA. The supreme court is made up of 9 justices and one Head justice, who ^{who} all serve for life or until the retirement. The judicial branch has power over the legislative branch, and the executive branch, as it can s rule legislation passed by congress.</p>

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	to be unconstitutional, and can also rule	
	the president to be acting unconstitutionally,	
	the judicial branch is also powerful as the	
	justices of the supreme court serve for life	
	and cannot be removed, meaning that they	
	are less likely to be exert their	
	power to aid any party in order to stay	
	in power, which is prevalent in the legislative	
	branch. The power of the judicial branch is	
	effective as it ensures that everyone in government	
	acts acts according to the constitutional law	
	and does not pass laws that infringe of the	
	rights of the the american public.	
	The legislative branch is the second branch	
	of government, and is made up of 2 different	
	institutions. The House of Representatives is	
	one of them, containing 435 members, with	
	the amount of representatives from each state representing	

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	<p>the population eg. California State has 44 representatives. These representatives are elected every 2 years. The other institution is the Senate, which contains 100 members, 2 from each state. Both of these institutions the senators are elected every 6 years, and 1/3 of them every 2 years. The legislative branch is also in charge of creating, voting, and passing legislation, and serves as the main decision making body of the US government. The legislative branch has power over the judicial branch, as it has to pass vote in new justices into the supreme court. This is effective in allowing the senators and representatives, and by extension the public, to approve of new justices, and make sure that the justices are appropriate for the position. The legislative branch is also</p>

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	<p>able to check the power of government the executive branch, by voting on laws and new legislation put forward by the president, and also referring the presidential veto. They also have the power to impeach the president, if they are he isn't acting constitutionally. One feature in the extent of power the legislative branch has is the cabinet, where instead of the 2/3's majority needed to usually pass a law/legislation, the President only needs a simple majority in congress. The This was commonly referred to as the 'nuclear decision decision' and was passed under Obama's government in 2013, to ensure that cabinet members could be agreed on. This is a flaw as it means that it only takes the majority party, (at present the republicans) voting for a the cabinet member to pass.</p>	

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	<p>The third branch of the government is the executive, which is composed of the President and Vice President, the cabinet, and the civil service. The president has the power to use the presidential veto, giving him power over the legislative branch, and he can also put forward new legislation for congress to approve. The executive branch can also exert power over the judicial branch, as the President can put forward new justices when one leaves the court, and can also pardon federal crimes. The president is also the commander-in-chief of the armed forces, which gives him immense power in foreign affairs as well as being head of state. The cabinet also has substantial power as each cabinet member is in charge of a different area of society.</p> <p>eg</p>

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	Overall, in the USA it can be argued	
	that the extent to which government	
	decision making is dominated by one branch	
	of government is minimal, except in	
	exceptional circumstances like the nuclear	
	decision!	