

ANSWER KEY
Comparative Politics Test # 2: Great Britain

1. Britain's Glorious Revolution (1688): *e. All of the above*
2. The British Prime Minister is sometimes referred to as an 'elective dictatorship' because:
c. There are no real checks and balances within the British system
3. In Great Britain, the Bill of Rights: *d. Specified the relations between Crown and Parliament, making Parliament dominant*
4. Which of the following was NOT an element of Britain's "collectivist consensus"?
c. The use of monetarist policies to control inflation
5. Which of the following is NOT one of the principles of the British constitution?
e. Federalism
6. **TRUE** – Although parliamentary sovereignty is an inviolable principle of the British constitution, European Union law takes precedence over acts of Parliament
7. The current leader of Britain's Conservative Party (the Tories) is David Cameron.
8. "New Labour" may be characterized as: *b. a "third-way" alternative to the collectivism of tradition Labour party politics and Thatcherism.*
9. The franchise (right to vote) in Britain: *d. Was slowly extended to all adults through a series of reforms over a*
10. The idea of collective responsibility in the British system implies:
a. Authority and legitimacy within the executive resides in the collective decision-making of the Cabinet
11. A series of strikes and labor disputes in 1978-79 that helped to bring down the Labour government and led to the election of Margaret Thatcher was known as:
b. The Winter of Discontent
12. The policy used by Margaret Thatcher and her Conservative government to combat the rampant inflation in Britain in the early 1980s was known as: *b. Monetarism*
13. **FALSE** – Party discipline (i.e., members of a party voting as instructed by the leadership) is higher in the US House of Representatives than in the British House of Commons.
14. **FALSE** -- The creation of a Scottish Parliament and Welsh National Assembly means that the UK is becoming a federal state.

15. The term United Kingdom refers to *d. England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.*
16. All of the following is TRUE about the House of Lords EXCEPT:
b. Bills rejected by the House of Lords must be passed by a ¾ majority in the Commons to become law
17. Tony Blair left office in June 2007 when
a. he resigned due to pressures within the Labour Party.
18. **FALSE** -- Someone who supports Northern Ireland becoming part of the Republic of Ireland is known as a 'Unionist'.
19. **TRUE** -- The Welsh Nationalists and Scottish Nationalist Parties are minor forces in nation politics, but are significant opposition parties in the Welsh National Assembly and Scottish Parliament, respectively.
20. The British Liberal Democrats: *e. All of the above*
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EXTRA CREDIT: "Rewarding pointless knowledge since 2000"

A. The United Kingdom flag consists of the crosses of the patron saints of three of the four components of the kingdom overlaid on each other. Name the saints (need all three for credit).

St. George (England)
St. Andrew (Scotland)
St. Patrick (Ireland)

What was the name of the restaurant at which Tony Blair and Gordon Brown had their famous meeting in 1994, where Brown agreed to support Blair's bid to be leader of the Labour Party in exchange for being named Chancellor of the Exchequer?

Granita (mentioned in class...)