THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP

I. Churchill’s Three Circles
II. The Development of the Special Relationship
III. Is It Really so ‘Special’?
IV. Should it continue?
Churchill’s ‘Three Circles’

• The Empire and Commonwealth
• The English-Speaking Peoples – mainly the US
• Europe

Churchill’s ‘Iron Curtain’ Speech at Westminster College, Fulton, MO (President Truman in the funny hat)
The Evolution of the Special Relationship

- Cooperation in the World Wars
  - Postwar Problems
- The Cold War and the development of NATO
- Suez, Vietnam, and the EEC
- Reagan and Thatcher
  - Cooperation in the Falklands
- 9/11 and the Iraq War
  - Blair’s 1999 Chicago Speech
  - ‘Doctrine of International Community’
- Cameron and Libya

What PMs have to do for the special relationship…
Is It Really So ‘Special’?

- Liberal international order
- Common heritage (language, culture, history, institutions)
- Defense and intelligence cooperation
- Economic Connections (trade and FDI)
  - Economic model
- Connections between Leaders, BUT....
- Geopolitical realities
  - From the North Atlantic to the Pacific Rim
DISCUSSION QUESTION:
Q: Is the continuation of an Anglo-American ‘special relationship’ in Britain’s best interest?