



НАРОДНАЯ УКРАИНСКАЯ АКАДЕМИЯ

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**POLITICAL SYSTEMS
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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**ПОЛИТИЧЕСКИЕ СИСТЕМЫ
ВЕЛИКОБРИТАНИИ И
СОЕДИНЕННЫХ ШТАТОВ АМЕРИКИ**

**POLITICAL SYSTEMS
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Учебное пособие
для студентов IV–V курсов
факультета «Референт-переводчик»

*Рекомендовано
Советом факультета «Референт-переводчик»*

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Навчальний посібник для студентів 4–5-го курсів факультету «Референт-перекладач» містить тексти та завдання з теми «Політичні системи Великої Британії та Сполучених Штатів Америки». Вправи та тексти ґрунтуються на сучасному аутентичному матеріалі.

Посібник призначений для навчання на рівні перекладацьких відділень і факультетів вищих навчальних закладів.

Змиева, Ирина Владимировна.

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Пособие предназначено для обучения на уровне переводческих отделений и факультетов высших учебных заведений.

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THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF GREAT BRITAIN

Text 1.

UNITED KINGDOM

The Crown

The Crown is the supreme power in the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary. The sovereign is also the head of the established Church of England and is commander in chief of the armed forces. In practice, however, the present queen, Elizabeth II, acts only on the advice of her ministers and cannot reject or ignore their advice.

These restrictions on the powers of the sovereign are the result of several centuries of confrontation and interaction between the sovereign and Parliament. In effect the United Kingdom is governed by her majesty's government in the queen's name.

The queen still has several significant functions. She calls and dissolves Parliament, and she opens a new session with a speech from the throne. This speech is not written by her, however, but by the government in power, and it outlines the government's policy for the forthcoming session of Parliament. Similarly, the queen confers honours – in the form of peerages, knighthoods, and decorations – that are given on the advice of the government and that often reward people for services to the political party in power. She can award some honours herself, however – such as the Order of the Garter. She appoints judges, army officers, diplomats, and officials of the Church of England also on advice.

Although the queen has in fact little authority of her own, she is kept informed of events and is sometimes consulted by the government in power. The queen has the advice of a Privy Council, which consists of ministers of the government and other persons recommended by the government in power. In the event of an inconclusive national election, the queen may be required to choose a new Prime Minister.

In addition to her other functions the queen is head of the Commonwealth, which consists of a number of states that formerly belonged to the British Empire. The Commonwealth includes such countries as Australia, Canada, and New Zealand and a number of smaller states such as Jamaica, the Bahamas, and Fiji. The queen is represented in these countries by governors-general, who are not members of the United Kingdom government and who act independent of it. The United Kingdom government cannot interfere in the affairs of a Commonwealth country, except in the case of such dependencies as the Falkland Islands and Gibraltar, which have not achieved complete independence from the United Kingdom.

The history of the monarchy plays a large part in the history of the British Isles. The present sovereign is a descendant of Sophia – the Electress of Hanover – whose son came to the British throne in 1714 as George I. Sophia was the nearest Protestant descendant of James I, her grandfather. The Act of Settlement

in 1701 provided for the accession to the throne of Sophia and her heirs in order to ensure a Protestant monarchy. By this act all sovereigns must be members of the Church of England. The act also strictly limited the role of the sovereign in the government of the country. In 1917 the royal family dropped their German titles and took the name of the House of Windsor because of the unpopularity of everything German during World War I.

The queen and her family members are largely supported by the state. Parliament annually approves allowances for members of the royal family. The queen's private expenditures come partly from her own funds and partly from an inheritance known as the Duchy of Lancaster. The Prince of Wales receives revenues from another estate - the Duchy of Cornwall.

VOCABULARY – 1

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| the legislature | Законодавча влада | Законодательная власть |
| the executive | Виконавча влада | Исполнительная власть |
| the judiciary | Судова влада | Судебная власть |
| The sovereign | Монарх | Монарх |
| commander in chief | Головнокомандувач збройними силами | Главкомандующий вооруженными силами |
| Church of England | Англiканська церква | Англиканская церковь |
| Restriction on the power | Обмеження влади | Ограничение власти |
| The Commonwealth | Спiвдружнiсть | (Британское) Содружество |
| To call and dissolve Parliament | Скликати й розпустити парламент | Созывать и распускать парламент |
| Government in power | Уряд при владi | Правительство, находящееся у власти |
| Inheritance | Успадкування | Наследование |

Text 2.

Government

The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy. Queen Elizabeth II is the head of state, but a cabinet of senior politicians called ministers actually governs the country. The Prime Minister is the head of the government. Parliament is the chief lawmaking body. It consists of the monarch, the House of Commons, and the House of Lords.

The constitution of the United Kingdom is not one document, as are the constitutions of many other countries. Much of it is not even in writing, and so the country is often said to have an unwritten constitution.

Some of the written parts of the country's constitution are laws passed by Parliament. Some written parts come from such historic documents as Magna Carta, which dates from 1215. Other written parts come from common law, a body of laws and judgements based on people's customs and beliefs and on ancient royal practice.

The unwritten parts of the constitution include many ideas and practices that British society has developed over the years. They include the cabinet system of government and the relationship between the Cabinet and the monarch.

The monarchy in Britain can be traced back almost 1,200 years. The monarch must approve all bills passed by Parliament before they can become laws. The monarch may reject a bill, but no monarch has done so since the early 1700's.

The Prime Minister is usually the leader of the political party that has the most seats in the House of Commons. The king or queen appoints the Prime Minister after each general election. The monarch asks the Prime Minister to form a government – that is, to select ministers to head governmental departments and to hold various offices. The Prime Minister selects about 100 ministers. From them, the Prime Minister picks a special group of about 20 ministers to make up the Cabinet.

The Cabinet watches over the general conduct of the government and decides what steps will be taken to deal with matters of government. The Cabinet decides what new laws and what amendments to existing laws will be introduced to Parliament. The Prime Minister chairs the Cabinet. Ministers who head the most important government departments are always included in the Cabinet. These departments include the Treasury, the Home Office, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Department of Health, and the Ministry of Defence.

The largest political party in the House of Commons that opposes the party in power is called Her (or His) Majesty's Opposition. The head of that party is the leader of the opposition. The leader is elected by his or her fellow party members but is paid a salary from government funds. The opposition has the duty of criticising the government in power and standing ready to set up a new government. For this reason, the leading members of the opposition party are popularly referred to as the Shadow Cabinet.

Parliament makes the laws of the United Kingdom. The British Parliament has been called the Mother of Parliaments because many of the world's legislatures have copied features from it. Of the two houses that make up Parliament, the House of Commons, often called simply the Commons, is by far the more powerful.

Courts of the United Kingdom operate under three separate legal systems – one for England and Wales, one for Northern Ireland, and one for Scotland. The system in Northern Ireland resembles that of England and Wales. Scotland's system differs in many ways from the other two. However, all the systems have

some features in common. In each system, some courts hear only criminal cases and other courts handle only civil cases. Decisions made by lower courts may be appealed to higher courts.

In all three systems, the House of Lords is the highest court of appeal in civil cases. It is also the highest court of appeal in criminal cases, except in Scotland. In Scotland, people convicted of a crime may appeal their case to the High Court of Justiciary. They have no further appeal to the House of Lords.

The monarch appoints all British judges on the advice of the government. Judges serve until retirement, and thus they are free from political pressure.

VOCABULARY – 2

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Constitutional monarchy | Конституційна монархія | Конституционная монархия |
| Senior politicians | Політики вищого рангу | Политики высшего ранга |
| Govern | Урядувати | Управлять |
| Lawmaking body | Законодавчий орган | Законодательный орган |
| the House of Commons | Палата громад | Палата общин |
| the House of Lords | Палата лордів | Палата лордов |
| Magna Carta | Велика Хартія вільностей | Великая Хартия вольностей |
| Seat | Місце (в парламенті) | Место (в парламенте) |
| General election | Загальні вибори | Всеобщие выборы |
| to form a government | Сформувати уряд | Сформировать правительство |
| Amendment | | Поправка |
| To introduce a bill | Вносити законопроект | Представить законопроект |
| To chair the Cabinet | Очолювати кабінет | Возглавлять кабинет |
| the Treasury | Міністерство фінансів | Министерство финансов |
| the Home Office | Міністерство внутрішніх справ | Министерство внутренних дел |
| the Foreign and Commonwealth Office | Міністерство закордонних справ та у справах Співдружності | Министерство иностранных дел и по делам Содружества |
| Department of Health | Міністерство охорони здоров'я | Министерство здравоохранения |
| the Ministry of Defence | Міністерство оборони | Министерство обороны |
| the Shadow Cabinet | Тіньовий кабінет | Теневой кабинет |
| Legislature | Законодавча влада | Законодательная власть |

Text 3.

Parliament

The House of Commons

Each member represents a voting district called a constituency. Members of the House of Commons are elected from geographical constituencies determined by population, and each MP represents approximately 60,000 people. Four permanent boundary commissions exist, one each for England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. Their purpose is to keep the constituencies equal and the boundaries fair. The commissions review the constituencies every 8 to 12 years and recommend changes based on population shifts. The last review was done in 1995. Following the 1997 election, there were **659 constituencies** in the United Kingdom: 529 in England, 72 in Scotland, 40 in Wales, and 18 in Northern Ireland (*Compare: 650 MPs till 1997*). A member does not have to live in the constituency he or she represents. Members of the Commons have no fixed terms. They are chosen in a general election, in which the whole nation votes. A general election must be held at least every five years. But an election may be called anytime by the Prime Minister. Almost all British citizens 18 years old or older may vote. Certain groups that are denied the right to vote, however, include members of the House of Lords, some detained mental health patients, sentenced prisoners, and those convicted of corrupt or illegal election practices in the previous five years. In addition, certain persons are excluded from standing for election to the House of Commons. They include peers; clergy from the Church of England, the Church of Scotland, the Church of Ireland, or the Roman Catholic Church; people sentenced to more than a year in prison; and those with unpaid bankruptcy bills.

The House of Lords, often called the Lords, was once the stronger house of Parliament, but today it has little power. It can delay, but not defeat, any bill that the Commons is determined to pass. The House of Lords had about 1,200 members. The people do not elect them. Nearly 800 members are dukes, earls, countesses, and other hereditary peers and peeresses. Their right to sit in the Lords is handed down, with their title, usually to their oldest sons. The 2 archbishops and 24 of the bishops of the Church of England have seats in the House of Lords. The members also include about 20 law lords, who are judges appointed for life to handle legal matters that come to Parliament. The remaining members are life peers and peeresses, given the rank of baron or baroness in honour of some outstanding accomplishment. Their titles do not descend to their children. In 1999 the full membership of the House of Lords decreased by almost half as more than 650 hereditary peers were stripped of their seats by the House of Lords Act.

The functions of Parliament are to make laws, to appropriate money for various state purposes, and to provide a forum for debate. Debates in the House of Commons are controlled by the speaker.

Legislation is initiated by the introduction of bills in either house. In general most bills are introduced by the government, though members may introduce their own bills. Finance bills can only be introduced in the Commons. A bill is given three readings in the house in which it is introduced; if passed, it is sent to the other house, where it is submitted to the same procedure. If a bill is passed by both houses, it becomes law. In theory the sovereign has a right to veto a bill, but this has not occurred since the 18th century. Likewise the House of Lords has little power to stop or delay bills that have been passed by the Commons. It is hoped that the members of the Lords – often senior political figures who have been knighted for their services – will use their experience to suggest amendments to a bill. The Lords cannot interfere with a money bill or with a bill that has been passed by the Commons in two consecutive sessions. There has been talk of abolishing the House of Lords because of its limited role and because its members are not elected and represent, at least in part, an aristocracy that no longer plays a major role in British life. No action has been taken, however, except to limit further the power of the Lords.

There are a number of committees appointed by the House of Commons to conduct various kinds of business. Some of these committees are permanent; others – the select committees – are appointed temporarily to examine special matters.

VOCABULARY – 3

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a constituency | Виборчий округ | Избирательный округ |
| Vote | Голосувати | Голосовать |
| The Prime Minister | Прем'єр-міністр | Премьер-министр |
| Delay a bill | Відкладати законопроект | Откладывать законопроект |
| Defeat a bill | Відхилити законопроект | Отклонить законопроект |
| Pass a bill | Схвалити законопроект | Принять законопроект |
| Elect | Вибирати | Избирать |
| hereditary peers (peeresses) | Спадкові пери (переси) | Наследственные пэры (пэрессы) |
| Life peers | Довічні пери | Пожизненные пэры |
| Descend a title | Передати титул у спадщину | Передать титул по наследству |
| Reading | Читання (законопроекту) | Чтение (о законопроекте) |

Text 4.

Political Parties of Great Britain

Members of the House of Commons belong to one of the British political parties. The party that wins the majority of parliamentary seats forms a government with the party leader as Prime Minister. Of the remaining parties, the one with the largest number of seats becomes the official opposition.

The two largest political parties in the United Kingdom are the Conservative Party and the Labour Party. The Conservative Party developed from the Tory Party, which began in the late 1600's. It has always been one of the main parties in Britain. The Labour Party began in 1900. Much of its support comes from labour unions, called trade unions. For many years, another party, called the Liberal Party, was the Conservative Party's chief opponent. It developed from the Whig Party, which emerged in the late 1600's. But by the mid-1930's, the Liberal Party had become much smaller than either the Conservative or the Labour party.

In 1981, a number of members of the British Parliament in the moderate wing of the Labour Party quit that party and established the Social Democratic Party. The Social Democratic Party and the Liberal Party then formed an alliance. Each party supported candidates of the other in elections. In addition, the two parties worked together for common goals in Parliament. In 1988, the two parties officially merged to form the Social and Liberal Democratic Party, now called the Liberal Democrats.

Other parties in Britain include nationalist parties in Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. These parties favour independence from the United Kingdom.

The party in power in the early 1990s was the Conservative Party, led by John Major, who was selected in November 1990 to replace Margaret Thatcher as Prime Minister. Thatcher was the longest continuously serving prime minister in the 20th century. The Conservatives held power since 1979.

The Labour party was the largest minority party in the government of the late 1980s. Its leader was Neil Kinnock. The Labour party advocates socialism and supports the nationalisation of basic industries and services. In general it opposes the power of big business. Many of its members would like to abolish the House of Lords and the annual awards of titles and honours. The party supports higher rates of unemployment compensation, old-age pensions, and other forms of welfare. It was responsible for the establishment in 1948 of the United Kingdom's free medical service, known as the National Health Service. The party gains much of its support from the trade unions, but it has been troubled with internal divisions and decreasing numbers of trade-union members. It lost many votes in the 1987 election because of its controversial defence policy, which called for partial British unilateral disarmament. The main

strongholds of Labour support are in the industrial north of England, in Scotland, and in southern Wales.

The Social Democratic party (SDP) is an offshoot of the Labour party. Its members regard Labour and its policies as too left-wing. The SDP allied with the Liberal party in order to attract voters in the 1987 elections but gained fewer votes than it had hoped.

There are small nationalist parties in Scotland and Wales – the Scottish National party and the Welsh Nationalist party, Plaid Cymru. In Northern Ireland there are several parties, including the Ulster Unionist party, the Ulster Democratic Unionist party, and the Social Democratic and Labour party. There are also some small far-left parties in Britain – such as the Communist party, the Socialist Workers' party, and the Workers' Revolutionary party – which play no real role in present-day politics.

VOCABULARY – 4

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Trade unions | Профспілки | Профсоюзы |
| Offshoot | Відгалуження | Ответвление |
| Left-wing/right-wing | Ліве/праве крило | Левое/правое крыло |
| Frontbenchers/ Backbenchers | Передньо-/задньо- Стільничники | Переднескамеечники/ заднескамеечники |

EXERCISES

I. *Be ready to discuss the following questions:*

1. What are the three branches of the national government?
2. The Parliament: the House of Commons and the House of Lords.
3. The Prime-Minister and his/her Cabinet.
4. The Judiciary.
5. Main Political Parties.

II. *Match the words and phrases in column A with their definitions in column B.*

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Anglican Church | A group of approximately 20 senior members chosen by the prime minister to help run the country. They meet once a week to discuss government policy and also coordinate the work of big government departments. |
| Bill | A member of the House of Lords who has been chosen or nominated by a party leader. All party leaders can recommend people for such peerage, but their appointment is made by the reigning King or Queen. |
| Black Rod | A local constituency election when people vote for the person they wish to represent them as their MP in parliament. This election is held whenever a seat in the |

| | |
|------------------|--|
| | House of Commons becomes available, for example, if the sitting MP resigns, dies or is expelled for breaking the rules. |
| By-election | A law that has been passed by parliament and which has been given Royal Assent by the King or Queen. |
| Cabinet | A member of the House of Lords whose seat is inherited from their family. The House of Lords Act, 1999 reduced to 92 the number of such persons sitting in the House of Lords. |
| Chief whip | A person who counts the votes in the House of Commons and the House of Lords after a division. |
| Coalition | A proposal for a new law which is debated by parliament. |
| Constituency | A proposal for a new law which is debated by parliament. |
| Democracy | A voting district |
| Division | An MP who controls debates in the House of Commons. |
| General election | Is usually the party with the most MPs in the House of Commons. Its job is to run the country, as well as to put into practice its own ideas and plans contained in its manifesto. The prime minister is the head of it. |
| Government | Is where all the MPs sit. It is a large chamber with rows of benches, which face each other, with the government on one side and the opposition party on the other. |
| Hereditary peer | It is usually held every four or five years, when every body in the country gets the chance to vote for the party they want to be the government. |
| House of Commons | Someone who is elected by constituency members to represent their views in the House of Commons. He/she is to support his/her own political party in the battle between the different sides in parliament. |
| House of Lords | Sometimes called the Upper House, it revises and approves bills, which are sent to it from the House of Commons. It also the highest Court of Appeal, which hears appeals from the High Court and from the country and crown courts. |
| Hung parliament | The leader the party that wins the general election. It is his/her job to choose the most talented people in the party to run the government and put the party manifesto into practice. |
| Laws | The monarch's agreement to make a bill into an Act of parliament. |
| Legislation | The most important whip in each party, responsible for |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| | making sure that government bills pass through parliament successfully. He/she is not allowed to speak during debates. |
| Life peer | The MPs or peers who are responsible for organising party members in the House of Commons and the House of Lords. They act as a channel of communication between the leaders and members in each House, and also make sure that the government gets support from its own side of parliament. |
| Member of parliament | The name for government by the people. It is usually carried out through elected representatives, such as MPs, and also through the freedom of speech and the press. |
| Minister | The name given to a law-making assembly. |
| Monarch | The name given to the smaller political parties in the House of Commons who are opposed to the governing party. |
| Opposition | The reigning King or Queen. |
| Parliament | The rules by which a country is governed. |
| Prime minister | The senior people in the main opposition party in parliament. It is like a government in waiting. It has its own set of policies and is ready to run the country if the acting government suddenly loses a general election. |
| Royal assent | The title of the person who is responsible for accommodation, security and other domestic services in the House of lords. He or she wears a distinctive black costume and takes part in an unusual ceremony during the opening of parliament. |
| Shadow cabinet | The two archbishops and 24 bishops of the Anglican Church who sit in the House of Lords. |
| Speaker | This is the official Church of England, which was started 500 years ago when King Henry VIII decided to break away from the control of the Catholic pope in Rome. |
| Spiritual peers | This is when no single party has a majority of the seats in the House of Commons after a general election, and government hangs in the balance. In that case the role of monarch becomes more significant as they may be asked to choose a party leader to become prime minister and lead a minority government. Alternatively, two or more parties may form a coalition so that together they have a majority of seats. |
| Teller | Usually a senior MP or member of the House of Lords who is appointed to decide government policy. |

| | |
|-------|--|
| Whips | When MPs vote in parliament. The MPs divide by walking through one of two doors into what is called the division lobby. There is a "yes" lobby and a "no" lobby. Clerks and tellers count the MPs voting yes or no and the results are announced in the House. |
|-------|--|

III. Match the phrases in column A with their equivalents in column B.

| | |
|---|--|
| There are three organs of government in the constitution: the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary. | До виконавчої влади належать члени Кабінету та інші міністри, які визначають і спрямовують політику країни, а також урядові установи та місцеві органи влади. |
| The legislature consists of Parliament, which is the supreme authority in the country. | До її складу входять спадкові пери, тобто ті, хто має титул за правом народження або успадкування; довічні пери, які отримали титул від монарха, але не можуть передати його у спадщину; архієпископи та найважливіші єпископи англіканської церкви. |
| The executive consists of the Cabinet members and other ministers who make and direct the policy of the country, along with government departments and local authorities. | До складу палати громад входять 659 членів – 529 з Англії, 72 з Шотландії, 40 з Уельсу та 18 з Північної Ірландії. |
| The judiciary determines common law and also interprets statutes. | Законопроект підлягає трьом читанням в палаті, де його було внесено; якщо там його підтримають, він надсилається до іншої палати, де він підлягає такій самій процедурі. |
| The sovereign is also the head of the established Church of England and is commander in chief of the armed forces. | Засідання Кабінету проводяться за зачиненими дверима з суворим додержанням режиму таємності. |
| The queen confers honours – in the form of peerages, knighthoods, and decorations – that are given on the advice of the government and that often reward people for services to the political party in power. | Згідно з конституцією, існує три гілки влади: законодавча, виконавча та судова. |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>The queen is head of the Commonwealth, which consists of a number of states that formerly belonged to the British Empire.</p> | <p>Королева обдаровує відзнаками: званнями перів, рицарів, орденами, – все це за порадою уряду, що у такий спосіб нерідко винагороджує заслуги окремих осіб перед правлячою партією.</p> |
| <p>The House of Commons consists of 659 members – 529 from England, 72 from Scotland, 40 from Wales, and 18 from Northern Ireland.</p> | <p>Королева очолює Співдружність, яку складають колишні колонії Британської Імперії.</p> |
| <p>The United Kingdom is divided into a number of constituencies, each of which returns one member to Parliament.</p> | <p>Міністри - члени Палати Громад мають парламентського секретаря, якій відповідає на запитання, що виникають у палаті.</p> |
| <p>The party that wins the majority of parliamentary seats forms a government with the party leader as prime minister.</p> | <p>Монарх є одночасно главою офіційної англійської церкви та головнокомандувачем збройних сил.</p> |
| <p>The Social Democratic party (SDP) is an offshoot of the Labour party.</p> | <p>Об'єднане Королівство поділено на певну кількість виборчих округів, кожний з них обирає до Парламенту одного депутата.</p> |
| <p>These include hereditary peers, or nobles by inheritance or birth; life peers, or individuals with nonhereditary titles conferred by the Crown; law lords; and archbishops and senior bishops of the Church of England.</p> | <p>Органом законодавчої влади є Парламент – верховна влада країни.</p> |
| <p>A bill is given three readings in the house in which it is introduced; if passed, it is sent to the other house, where it is submitted to the same procedure.</p> | <p>Партія, що виборола більшість місць у Парламенті, формує уряд. Лідер партії обіймає посаду прем'єр-міністра.</p> |
| <p>The prime minister is the main representative of the government and recommends the appointment of some senior judges and of senior clergy of the Church of England.</p> | <p>Прем'єр міністр є головним представником уряду. Він рекомендує (королеві) призначення деяких вищих суддів та провідників англійської церкви.</p> |
| <p>Meetings of the Cabinet are held in private, and strict secrecy is</p> | <p>Соціал-демократична партія (СДП) є відгалуженням від лейбористської</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| maintained. | партії. |
| Ministers who sit in the House of Lords have a parliamentary secretary who answers questions raised in the Commons. | Судова гілка влади застосовує звичайне право та тлумачить (парламентські) закони. |

IV. Find the English equivalents of the following words:

конституционная монархия, править, место (в Парламенте), поправка, созвать правительство, выбирать, избиратель, отложить, наследственные пэры и пэрессы, архиепископ, правое/левое крыло партии, договор (соглашение), председательствовать, партия, находящаяся у власти, проводить выборы, вести переговоры, партийная принадлежность, радикально настроенные члены партии, партийная чистка, проект конституции, законопроект, политическая фракция, политические разногласия, число избирателей, принявших участие в голосовании, избиратель, предвыборная компания, поставить на голосование, подтасовка результатов голосования, партия, находящаяся у власти, рядовые члены партии.

V. Give the explanation of the following words:

the supremacy of Parliament; separation of powers; the Executive; a player, the Legislature; the Judiciary; the constituency; by-election; rank and file; veto; backbencher/frontbencher; the Cabinet; Commonwealth; constitution; a ballot; to vote by secret ballot; to elect by showing hands, amendment, agenda, bicameral, bill, faction, lame duck, left wing/right wing, suffrage, the Shadow Cabinet.

VI. Translate the words given in Russian into English:

The British (Парламент) consists of 3 elements – (монарх), (Палата общин), (Палата лордов). (Палата лордов) no longer plays an active role in (управлении) of the country. (Палата лордов) consists of (принцы крови), (наследственные лорды), (пожизненные лорды) , 2 (архиепископ) and 24 senior bishops of the Church of England. The latter are called (духовные лорды). The powers of (Палата лордов) (ограничены), and nowadays the function of the non-elected House is to act as (палата) of revision of the (законодательство) presented by (Палата общин).

VII. All the words below can be divided into 3 groups. What is in common between them?

The Parliament, the throne, the Government, executive, legislative, judiciary, the Speaker, the Cabinet, the Monarch, the Commonwealth, the House of Lords, the House of Commons, the Supreme Court of Last Resort, the Lord Chancellor, backbenchers, frontbenchers, hereditary peers, a political party, the queen, the Prime-Minister, Whitehall, 10 Downing Street, Westminster Palace, commander-in-chief, the Shadow Cabinet, voters, Tony Blair, Elizabeth II.

VIII. *Study the text. Correct all the mistakes made.*

UNITED KINGDOM

Government

The United Kingdom is an absolute monarchy. Queen Elizabeth II is the head of state, but a cabinet of senior politicians called secretaries actually governs the country. The Prime Minister, the head of the Parliament, is appointed only by the queen. Parliament is the chief law-carrying body. It consists of the monarch, the Cabinet, the House of Commons, the House of Lords.

The constitution of the United Kingdom is one document, as are the constitutions of many other countries. It was adopted in 1215.

The monarch must approve all bills passed by Parliament before they can become laws. The monarch may reject a bill, but no monarch has done so since the early 1700's.

The Prime Minister is usually the leader of the Conservative Party. The Prime Minister chairs the Parliament. Ministers who head the most important government departments are always included in the House of Lords.

The House of Commons has 200 members, elected from the four divisions that make up the United Kingdom. Each member represents a voting district called an electorate.

The House of Lords, often called the Lords, is the strongest chamber of Parliament. It can defeat any bill that the Commons is determined to pass. The House of Lords also has about 200 members. The people elect them every 20 years.

The two largest political parties in the United Kingdom are the Conservative Party and the Liberal Party. The Conservative Party developed from the Whig Party, which began in the late 1600's. The Liberal Party is the Conservative Party's chief opponent. It developed from the Tory Party, which emerged in the late 1600's.

THE ELECTION SYSTEM

IX. *Put each of the following words or phrases in its correct place in the passage below*

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Proportional representation | Constituents |
| Member of parliament | Constituencies |
| Call an election | Polling stations |
| House of Commons | By-election |
| Stand for election | Eligible |
| General election | Deposit |
| Polling day | Campaign |
| Canvassing | Turn-out |
| Secret ballot | |

Middleford. Election Results.No. of registrated voters: 100.000

Mr.G. Smith (Labour) 30.000 votes

Mrs. R. Green (Conservative) 25.000 votes

Miss L. Jones (Independant) 10.000 votes

Mr. W. Woods (Communist) 5.000 votes

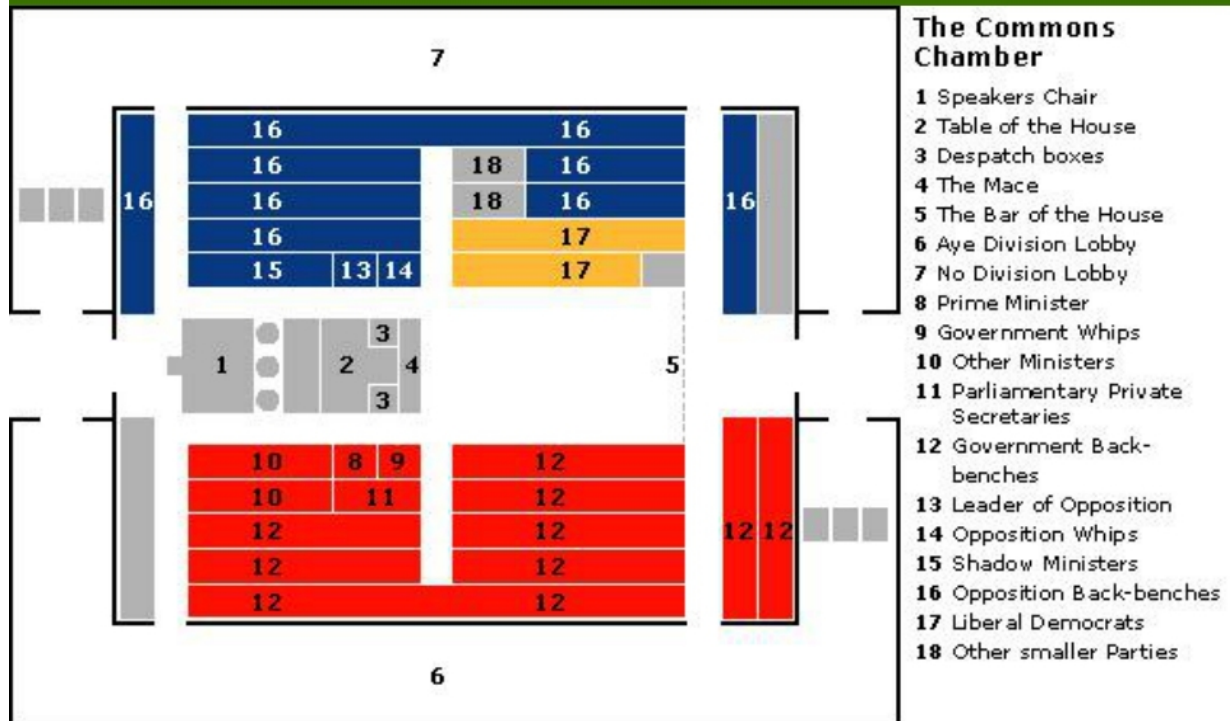
A ... has just taken place all over the United Kingdom. These must take place every five years unless the Prime Minister decides to ... earlier. Above is the result in Middleford, one of the approximately 659 ... into which the country is divided for this purpose. ... was last Thursday, when the election ... and door-to-door ... stopped and the people of Middleford went to the ... to make their choice in a ... from the four candidates (anyone over the age of 21 ... on payment of a ... of £500, which is returned if he or she receives at least 5 % of the votes cast). Voting is not compulsory and the number of people ... to vote in Middleford (everyone over 18) was 100.000, so the ... was 70 %. Now Mr Smith will become the ... for Middleford which means he will represent the people of Middleford in the ... in London. If he should die or be forced to give up his seat, the people of Middleford will have to vote again in a ... to replace him. It is a very simple system and Mr. Smith will try to represent all his ... fairly whether they voted for him or not. However, the fact remains that most voters in Middleford voted for candidates (and parties) other than Mr. Smith and their votes are now lost. It is seats which are important in Parliament not votes and it is easy to see why the smaller parties would like a system of ... in which the number of votes they won was reflected in the number of seat they received in Parliament.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

X. *Look at the picture and put each of the following words or phrases in its correct place in the passage below*

Cabinet, Backbenchers, Prime Minister, Ministers, Debates, Benches, Budget, Speaker, Front bench, Opposition, Foreign Secretary, Shadow Cabinet, Home Secretary, Leader of the Opposition, Chancellor of the Exchequer

The Commons Chamber



This is the House of Commons where Members of Parliament take their seats on the green leather ... according to their party and position. One of them is chosen to be the ... who acts as a kind of chairman of the ... which take place in the House. In front of him on his right sit the MPs of the biggest party, which forms the government, and facing them sit MPs of the parties who oppose them, the The leaders of these two groups sit at the front on each side. MPs without special positions in their parties sit behind their leaders at the back. They are called The leader of the government, the ... sits on the government ... , of course, next to his or her The minister responsible for relations with other countries is called The one responsible for law and security is called The one who deals with financial matters and prepares the annual ... speech on the economic state of the country is called Opposite this group sits the ... (the main person in the largest party opposing the government) and the ... each member of which specialized in the particular area of government.

The picture below shows a view of the House of Commons from the Public Gallery. Match each of the following people or group of people on the picture with these terms.

Backbenchers
Cabinet
Opposition

Government
Prime Minister
Speaker

Leader of Opposition
Shadow Cabinet



XI. Translate into Ukrainian:

1. The Prime-Minister was forced to admit in the House of Commons that Britain had rejected the Argentine offer to negotiate the Falklands' crisis.
2. The amendment was rejected by the majority of the Security Council.
3. The Foreign Secretary was questioned in the House of Commons about the attitude of the British Government to the sentences on Nazi war criminals.
4. In the Social-Democratic parties of the America over many years left-wing groups of militant fighters had been growing up.
5. The Tory government would have the British people believe that the US missiles would strengthen the country's security.
6. The President accused the Congress controlled by the Democrats of failing to meet the need for reform in the US.
7. The Prime Minister will arrive on Friday when he will address the House of Commons.
8. The Tory card castle of illusions of the British Empire's glorious future lay in ruins.

XII. Complete the table

| Name | Conservative Party | Labour Party | Liberal Democratic Party | Other Parties |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Also known as | the Tory | | | |
| Current leaders | | Tony Blair | | |
| Main support | | | Middle class | |
| Colour | | | | Green |

XIII. *Render in English:*

1. Великобритания - парламентарная монархия. Единого конституционного акта не имеет: неписаная конституция. 2. Статутарную основу конституции Великобритании составляют несколько важнейших актов: Великая хартия вольностей, Петиция о праве, Хабеас корпус акт, "Билль о правах", Вестминстерский статут, Акт о народном представительстве, Акт о реформе палаты лордов и другие. 3. Глава государства - король (королева). Королевская власть является пожизненной и передается по наследству прямым потомкам монарха по мужской линии, а в случае их отсутствия - по женской линии, согласно старшинству. 4. Король (королева) считается верховным носителем исполнительной власти, главой судебной системы, верховным главнокомандующим вооруженными силами, светским главой англиканской церкви и главой содружества. 5. Королю принадлежит право назначения премьер-министра, министров, судей, дипломатов, офицеров армии, флота и авиации, епископов и архиепископов, губернаторов, заключения международных договоров, объявления войны и заключения мира. 6. Король созывает парламент на сессии, которые открываются его тронной речью, распускает палату общин, санкционирует законопроекты, принятые парламентом; обладает правом помилования, жалует пэрство, баронство, рыцарство и другие почетные звания. 7. Фактически, король - лишь номинальный глава государства (царствует, но не управляет); королевские полномочия и прерогативы почти полностью находятся в руках исполнительной власти - кабинета министров. 8. Формально высшим органом королевского правления считается Тайный совет, в состав которого пожизненно входят особо почетные лица. 9. Высший орган законодательной власти - парламент, который состоит из короля, палаты лордов и палаты общин. 10. Общенациональное представительное учреждение Великобритании - нижняя палата - Палата общин, которая состоит из 659 депутатов. 11. Срок полномочий палаты Общин - 5 лет. По закону избранным в палату общин может быть каждый британский подданный, достигший 21 года, однако исключения из этого декларированного правила довольно широки. 12. Депутат парламента получает жалованье. Избрание депутатов палаты общин проводится таким образом: избранным считается тот кандидат, который набрал голосов больше, чем каждый из его противников в отдельности. 13. Для выдвижения кандидата необходимо заявление об этом нескольких избирателей и внесение залога в 150 фунтов стерлингов (залог не возвращается, если кандидат соберет менее 1/8 общего количества голосов, поданных по данному избирательному округу).

GLOSSARY

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a constituency | Виборчий округ | Избирательный округ |
| Amendment | Поправка | Поправка |
| Church of England | Англiканська церква | Англиканская церковь |
| Commander in chief | Головнокомандувач збройними силами | Главкомандующий вооруженными силами |
| Constitutional monarchy | Конституційна монархія | Конституционная монархия |
| Defeat a bill | Відхиляти законопроект | Отклонить законопроект |
| Delay a bill | Відкладати законопроект | Откладывать законопроект |
| Department of Health | Міністерство охорони здоров'я | Министерство здравоохранения |
| Descend a title | Передати титул у спадщину | Передать титул по наследству |
| Elect | Вибирати | Избирать |
| Frontbenchers/backbenchers | Передньо-/задньо-стілничники | Переднескамеечники/заднескамеечники |
| General election | Загальні вибори | Всеобщие выборы |
| Govern | Правити, урядувати | Управлять |
| Hereditary peers (peeresses) | Спадкові пери (переси) | Наследственные пэры (пэрессы) |
| Lawmaking body | Законодавчий орган | Законодательный орган |
| Left-wing/right-wing | Ліве (праве) крило | Левое/правое крыло |
| Legislature | Законодавча влада | Законодательная власть |
| Life peers | Довічні пери | Пожизненные пэры |
| Magna Carta | Велика хартія вільностей | Великая хартия вольностей |
| Offshoot | Відгалуження, відокремлення | Ответвление, отделение |
| Pass a bill | Схвалити законопроект | Принять законопроект |
| Reading | Читання (законопроекту) | Чтение (о законопроекте) |
| Seat | Місце (в парламенті) | Место (в парламенте) |
| Senior politicians | Політики найвищого рангу | Политики высшего ранга |
| The Commonwealth | Співдружність | (Британское) Содружество |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| The executive | Виконавча влада | Исполнительная власть |
| The Foreign and Commonwealth Office | Міністерство закордонних справ та у справах Співдружності | Министерство иностранных дел и по делам Содружества |
| The High Court of Justiciary | Верховний карний суд Шотландії | верховный уголовный суд Шотландии |
| The highest court of appeal | Вищий апеляційний суд | Высший апелляционный суд |
| The Home Office | Міністерство внутрішніх справ | Министерство внутренних дел |
| The House of Commons | Палата громад | Палата общин |
| The House of Lords | Палата лордів | Палата лордов |
| The judiciary | Судова влада | Судебная власть |
| The Ministry of Defence | Міністерство оборони | Министерство обороны |
| The Prime Minister | Прем'єр-міністр | Премьер-министр |
| The Shadow Cabinet | Тіньовий кабінет | Теневой кабинет |
| The Treasury | Міністерство фінансів | Министерство финансов |
| To chair the Cabinet | Очоловати кабінет (міністрів) | Возглавлять кабинет |
| To form a government | Сформувати уряд | Сформировать правительство |
| To introduce a bill | Внести законопроект | Представить законопроект |
| Trade unions | Профспілки | Профсоюзы |
| Vote | Голосувати | Голосовать |

THE POLITICAL SYSTEM OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Text 1.

Government of the United States

The government of the United States represents, serves, and protects the American people at home and abroad. Because the United States is a nation of great wealth and military strength, the actions of its government affect all parts of the world.

The Constitution of the United States establishes the basic structure of the U.S. government. The Constitution creates a federal system, in which political power is divided between the national government and the governments of each state. The national government is sometimes called the federal government. The Constitution also creates three separate branches of government – legislative,

executive, and judicial – to share the work of creating, enforcing, and interpreting the laws of the nation. The branches are represented by Congress, the President, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

The national government of the United States is the country's largest government system. It employs about 3 million civilian workers and approximately 11/2 million military personnel. Each year, it collects about \$1 trillion in taxes from American citizens and corporations to help finance its work.

The national government also deals with the governments of other nations. It works in dozens of international organizations that promote co-operation among nations. Many of these organizations are associated with the United Nations. The government also operates numerous diplomatic and military posts around the world.

VOCABULARY – 1

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Affect | Впливати | Влиять |
| Basic structure | Базова структура | Базовая структура |
| Federal system | Федеральна система | Федеральная система |
| To enforce | Виконувати (про закон) | Исполнять (о законе) |
| Civilian workers | Цивільні службовці | Гражданские служащие |
| Military personnel | Військовослужбовці | Военнослужащие |
| United Nations | Організація Об'єднаних Націй | ООН (Организация Объединенных Наций) |

Text 2.

Principles of American government

Constitutional authority.

The national government gets its authority from the American people through a written document – the Constitution of the United States. The Constitution defines the goals of the national government and what it can and cannot do.

According to the Constitution, the national government's purpose is to "establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty..." The Constitution grants the national government strong powers to work toward these goals. The government has direct authority over all citizens. It can collect taxes and pay debts, borrow money, negotiate with other governments, regulate trade between the states and with other countries, create armed forces, and declare war. It can also create and enforce all laws that are "necessary and proper" to carry out its constitutional goals and powers.

The Constitution also limits the authority of the government. It forbids certain laws and actions. The Bill of Rights in the Constitution describes certain basic freedoms and rights of all Americans and forbids the government to violate those rights. For example, the government must respect the people's freedoms of speech, religion, press, and peaceful assembly.

American citizens can change the Constitution. An amendment may be proposed by Congress or by a national convention called by Congress. The amendment becomes part of the Constitution after being ratified (approved) by the legislatures of three-fourths of the states or by conventions in three-fourths of the states. There have been 27 amendments to the Constitution.

Separation of powers.

Three separate branches share the powers of the United States government. The Constitution ensures that the branches remain separate by forbidding members of Congress from serving in another branch. In addition, executive and judicial officials may not serve in Congress. The Constitution provides that the vice president officially preside over the Senate, one of the two bodies of Congress. However, the Senate presidency is mostly a ceremonial role, and the vice president rarely appears in Congress.

Each state has its own constitution, its own laws, and its own legislative, executive, and judicial branches. In general, state laws and activities must not conflict with the U.S. Constitution, acts of Congress, or U.S. treaties. The states take the lead in such areas as education, public safety, and consumer and environmental protection. Through the years, however, the role of the federal government has increased in these and other state government activities.

Representative democracy.

The United States government relies on the consent of the people. The people elect a certain number of their fellow citizens to represent them in making laws and in other matters. Federal, state, and local laws regulate elections.

Political parties play an important role in elections. They select candidates to run for public office, provide opposition to the party in power, and raise funds to conduct election campaigns. They also inform voters about public affairs and about problems they believe need government action.

The United States has a two-party system – that is, it has two major political parties, the Democratic and the Republican. Members of these two parties hold almost all the offices in the national and state governments.

Minor political parties in the United States rarely elect candidates to government offices. These parties serve chiefly to express discontent over problems that the major parties may have neglected. Often, one or both of the major parties moves toward solving such a problem. Then the third party may disappear or be absorbed by a major party.

VOCABULARY – 2

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Constitutional authority | Конституційна влада | Конституционная власть |
| General welfare | Загальний добробут | Общее благосостояние |
| Declare war | Оголошувати війну | Объявлять войну |
| Armed forces | Збройні сили | Вооруженные силы |
| Forbid | Забороняти | Запрещать |
| Bill of Rights | Біль про права | Билль о правах |
| Amendment | Поправка | Поправка |
| Convention | Конвенція (договір, угода); З'їзд партії | Конвенция (договор); съезд партии |
| Ratify | Ратифікувати | Ратифицировать (одобрять) |
| Congress | Конгрес | Конгресс |
| Senate | Сенат | Сенат |
| Senate presidency | Головування в Сенаті | Председательство в Сенате |
| The consent of the people | Згода народу | Согласие народа |
| To run for public offices | Висувати свою кандидатуру на виборах до державних структур | Выставляют свою кандидатуру на выборах в государственные структуры |
| To conduct election campaign | Проводити виборчу кампанію | Проводить избирательную кампанию |
| To express discontent | Виказувати незадоволення | Выражать недовольство |
| The Democratic party | Демократична партія | Демократическая партия |
| The Republican party | Республіканська партія | Республиканская партия |

Text 3.

Three branches of power

The legislative branch

Congress creates, abolishes, and changes federal laws, which govern the nation. Congressional lawmakers also play an important role in establishing public policy – what the government does or says in response to political issues.

Organization. Congress consists of two chambers – the Senate and the House of Representatives. The two chambers have about equal power. Voters in each

state elect the members of each chamber, or house. The Senate has 100 members, 2 from each state, who serve six-year terms. About a third of the seats come up for election every two years. The House of Representatives, usually called simply the House, has 435 members. House members, or representatives, serve two-year terms. The number of representatives from each state is based on the state's population. Each state has at least one representative. The Senate and House meet in separate wings of the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

Elections are held in November of even-numbered years. The members start each two-year Congress the following January. Beginning with the First Congress (1789-1791), each Congress has been numbered.

The legislative branch includes several agencies that provide Congress with information and services. For example, the General Accounting Office audits (closely examines) the financial records of various departments and agencies of the federal government and reports its findings to Congress. Other support agencies of Congress include the Congressional Budget Office, the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress, and the Government Printing Office.

In addition, each senator and representative has a personal staff to advise him or her on issues, answer mail from voters, handle publicity, and help in other ways. There are also staffs that assist committees in Congress and aides (assistants) for each house.

Functions. Making laws is the main job of Congress. During each two-year Congress, senators and representatives introduce up to 10,000 bills. In that period, Congress passes, and the President signs into law, about 600 bills.

Congress makes laws on all kinds of matters. Some laws are major policy decisions, such as taxing and spending measures. Others deal with administrative details, such as employee benefits or the purchase of land. Still others are commemorative laws, which honour a group, person, or event. In 1914, for example, Congress honoured mothers with a law that declared the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. All of these laws are called public laws if they apply to people in general. Congress also passes a few private laws that apply to specific individuals, such as immigration cases.

Congress does more than make laws. It investigates the actions of the executive branch and makes sure the laws are carried out. Congress also reviews the election, qualifications, and ethical behaviour of its own members. It can remove federal officials from office, including members of Congress, for serious offences. The House brings impeachment (misconduct) charges against an official, and the Senate tries the official.

Each chamber of Congress has some independent duties. The Senate approves or rejects the people that the president appoints to certain high-level federal positions. It also approves or rejects treaties that the president makes. All legislation that deals with taxes or spending must start in the House.

In addition, senators and representatives spend much time serving their constituents – the people who elected them. They answer individuals' questions or requests, meet with visitors, and inform the public of issues. They often travel to their home states to appear at public events, study area problems, and talk with voters and local officials. In addition, legislators, usually with the help of their parties, conduct their own election campaigns, including fund-raising.

Committee system. Congress does much of its work through committees. The House has 19 standing (permanent) committees, each with authority over bills in a certain area, such as agriculture or banking. The Senate has 16 standing committees. Most standing committees have subcommittees to handle particular topics. In addition, each house may form temporary special committees or select committees, usually to conduct investigations. Joint committees – made up of members from both the House and the Senate – handle mainly research and administrative details. Most legislators serve on several committees and subcommittees.

When committees or subcommittees study bills, they may hear testimony from experts and other interested people. Committees work out amendments to the bills and other details and recommend bills to the full House or Senate for passage.

Party leadership has an important influence on Congress. Democratic and Republican members of Congress choose official party leaders for each house. Party leaders plan the legislative strategy of the party, communicate their party's position on issues to other members, and encourage members to vote along party lines. When voting on major legislation, senators and representatives weigh their party loyalty against their own judgement or the interests of their constituents. On less important bills, legislators usually vote according to their party's position.

In each house, the majority party – that is, the party with the most members – chooses one of its members to lead the entire chamber. The House chooses a speaker, and the Senate chooses a president pro tempore (temporary president) to serve in the Vice President's absence. In addition, majority-party members head congressional committees.

Each party in the House and Senate also elects a floor leader and an assistant leader called a whip. The floor leaders, known as majority leaders or minority leaders depending on their party, and the whips work for passage of their party's legislative program.

In the House, the majority party has strong control over the agenda. The Speaker and the majority leader schedule the House's business and co-ordinate the committees' work on bills. House debate rules are formal and rigid, designed to let the majority have its way.

In the Senate, a smaller and less formal body, the majority party has less control. Debate rules allow senators opposed to a bill to make filibusters – long

speeches or other tactics designed to slow down or block the legislative process or force the bill's sponsors to compromise on its content or abandon the bill.

The lawmaking process weeds out bills that lack sufficient support. At every stage in the process, a bill's backers must bargain for the support of their fellow lawmakers. A bill is debated by one or more committees and, if approved, by the full House or Senate. Both houses must approve a bill in exactly the same form before it is sent to the President. If they adopt different versions of a bill, a conference committee, made up of committee leaders from both houses, may be formed to work out the differences.

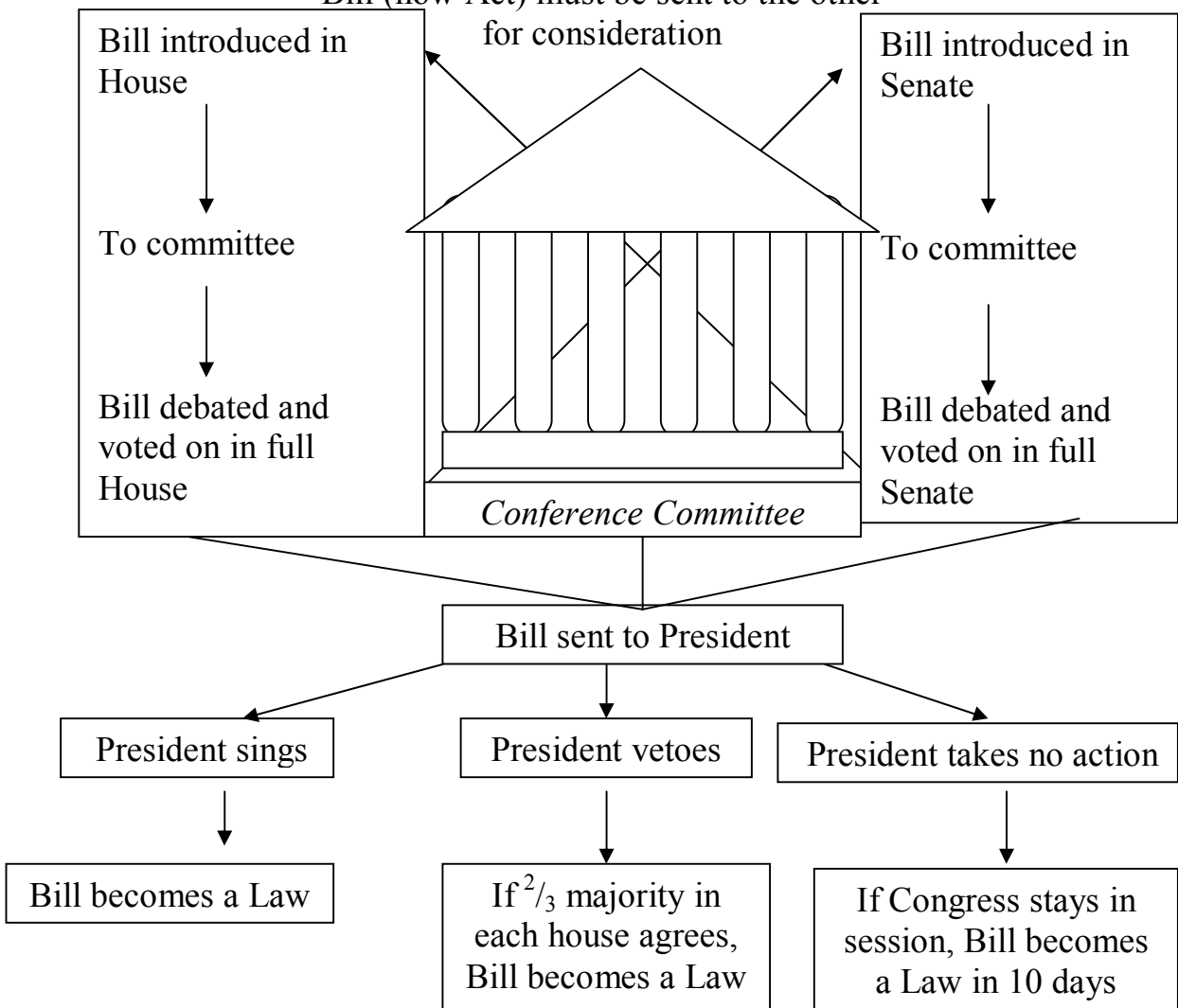
VOCABULARY – 3

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|---|---|--|
| Abolish | Скасовувати | Аннулировать, отменять |
| Public policy | Державна політика | Государственная политика |
| The House of Representatives | Палата представників | Палата представителей |
| The Capitol | Капітолій | Капитолий |
| Agency | Служба, управління | Служба, управление |
| General Accounting Office | Головне лічильне управління | Главное счётное управление |
| Congressional Budget Office | Бюджетна комісія Конгресу | Бюджетная комиссия Конгресса |
| Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress | Науково-дослідний центр бібліотеки Конгресу США | Научно-исследовательский центр библиотеки Конгресса США |
| Personal staff | Штат співробітників (президента, сенатора) | Штат сотрудников (президента, сенатора) |
| Handle publicity | Проводити рекламну кампанію | Проводит рекламную кампанию |
| Commemorative law | Закон про вшанування пам'яті | Закон об увековечении памяти |
| Standing committee | Постійний комітет | Постоянный комитет |
| Joint committee | Об'єднаний комітет | Объединенный комитет |
| President pro tempore | Тимчасово виконуючий обов'язки президента | Временно исполняющий обязанности президента (председателя) |
| Whip | Організатор партійної фракції (у Конгресі) | Организатор партийной фракции (в Конгрессе) |

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Agenda | Порядок денний | Повестка дня |
| Coordinate | Координувати, узгоджувати | Координировать, согласовывать |
| Filibuster | Флібустьєрство (тактика провалювання законопроектів шляхом усілякого відтягування моменту прийняття рішення) | Флибустьєрство (тактика проваливания законопроектов путем всяческого оттягивания момента принятия решения) |
| To weed out | Відбирати, відсіювати | Отбирать, отсеивать |
| A bill's backer | Той, хто підтримує законопроект | Тот, кто поддерживает законопроект |
| Conference committee | Узгоджувальний комітет | Согласительный комитет |

HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

If passed by one house,
Bill (now Act) must be sent to the other



The executive branch

The executive branch carries out federal laws. It also creates and enforces regulations based on the laws. The President is the head of the executive branch. Fourteen executive departments and about 80 agencies handle the everyday work of administering laws and programs.

The presidency. The President is elected to serve a four-year term. The 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, approved in 1951, provides that no one can be elected to the presidency more than twice.

A nationwide presidential election is held every four years in November. The people of each state elect delegates to the Electoral College. The delegates, or electors, then choose the President and Vice President based on the popular votes in the states they represent. If no candidate receives a majority of Electoral College votes, the House elects the President and the Senate selects the Vice President. If the President dies, is removed from office, or becomes unable to perform the duties of office, the Vice President takes over the presidency until the next election. The President lives in the White House in Washington, D.C., and has offices there.

The President has many roles and duties. As chief executive, the President enforces federal laws, directs the preparation of the federal budget, and appoints many high-ranking officials. As commander in chief of the armed forces, the President directs foreign and national security affairs. As chief diplomat, the President negotiates treaties with other countries. As legislative leader, the President recommends laws to Congress and works to win their passage. The President may veto bills approved by Congress. The threat of a veto can influence the way Congress develops a bill.

In 1996, Congress passed a law that would enable the President also to veto some individual items in spending bills. The law called for the new power, known as the line-item veto, to go into effect by Jan. 1, 1997. The law would expire after eight years unless Congress renewed it.

Congress has the power to restrain most of the President's powers. Congress must approve the federal budget and the President's legislative plans. It can override a President's veto of a bill by a vote of a two-thirds majority of the members present in each house. In effect, line-item vetoes would also be subject to override by a two-thirds majority. Also, all treaties and high-level appointments by the President require Senate approval.

For many Americans and people around the world, the President represents the United States government. Presidents can use their visibility in the news media to create public support for their policies. However, their visibility is a double-edged sword. People often blame Presidents for problems, such as an economic depression or a foreign crisis, that the President may not have caused and can do little to solve.

The Executive Office of the President consists of a number of staff agencies that provide the President with information, ideas, and advice. One agency, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), helps plan the federal budget. The OMB also advises the President on proposed laws and regulations. Another key unit, the White House Office, includes the President's personal aides, policy advisers, speechwriters, and lawyers.

Executive departments and agencies carry out laws and create and enforce detailed regulations based on laws. Congress creates departments and agencies, and it controls the basic structure and authority of each. The Office of Management and Budget and Congress control the funding of departments and agencies. Presidents cannot create, eliminate, or reorganise departments or agencies without the approval of Congress.

Executive departments are vast organizations that conduct a wide range of government activities. Each is divided into bureaus, divisions, offices, or other units. The President, with the approval of the Senate, appoints the head of each department. The department heads form the President's Cabinet, an informal advisory group that helps the President.

Independent agencies. The executive branch includes dozens of agencies that perform government functions. These agencies are called independent agencies because they are not part of an executive department. Some independent agencies, such as the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Peace Corps, carry out programs or provide services. Others, called regulatory agencies or regulatory commissions, enforce laws dealing with aspects of American economic life. For example, the Federal Trade Commission works to protect consumers from unfair trade practices.

Government corporations are independent agencies that resemble businesses. They conduct commercial activities, perform services, or raise funds. For example, the U.S. Postal Service provides mail services.

Control of departments and agencies. Except for high-level officials appointed by the President, executive departments and independent agencies are made up of permanent staffs of civil service workers. They establish their own ways of carrying out programs and policies. Departments and agencies may be influenced by powerful interest groups. For example, the Forest Service, a division of the Department of Agriculture, manages the national forests. It must juggle the often-conflicting needs of such groups as campers, environmentalists, ranchers, and logging companies. In addition, departments and agencies must cooperate with Congress, especially with the committees that write their laws and approve funds for their programs.

Because of these influences, Presidents may find it difficult to push departments and agencies and their programs in new directions. To have an effect, Presidents may find it necessary to create wide public support for their policies. They can also influence departments and agencies by shaping the

federal budget to reflect their goals and by making sure their policies are reflected in new regulations.

VOCABULARY – 4

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|--|--|--|
| The Electoral College | Колегія вибірників | Коллегия выборщиков |
| The Vice President | Вице-президент | Вице-президент |
| The White House | Білий дім | Белый Дом |
| High-ranking officials | Високопоставлені урядовці | Высокопоставленные чиновники |
| The line-item veto | Постатейне вето | Постатейное вето |
| To override a veto | Подолати вето | Аннулировать вето |
| OMB (Office of Management and Budget) | Адміністративне та бюджетне управління США | Административное и бюджетное управление США |
| Independent agencies | Відомства у складі уряду США, незалежні агенції | Ведомства в составе правительства США, самостоятельные управления |
| NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) | НАСА (Національне управління з питань дослідження космічного простору) | НАСА (национальное управление по авиации и исследованию космического пространства) |
| The Peace Corps | Корпус миру | Корпус мира |
| Federal Trade Commission | Федеральна торгівельна комісія | Федеральная торговая комиссия |
| US Postal Service | Поштова служба США | Почтовая служба США |
| To create public support | Створювати підтримку в суспільстві | Создавать поддержку (политики правительства) в обществе |

The judicial branch

There is a Supreme Court of the United States, the members of which are appointed for life by the President with Senate approval, and federal courts which are created by Congress.

The Supreme Court is composed of nine judges, who are called justices. It is the highest court in the nation. It interprets the laws and reviews them to determine whether they conform to the US Constitution. If the majority of justices rule that the law in question violates the Constitution, the law is declared

unconstitutional and becomes invalid. This process is known as judicial review. All low courts follow the rulings of the Supreme Court.

Federal Courts have the power to rule on both criminal and civil cases. Criminal action under federal jurisdiction includes such cases as treason, destruction of government property, violating a contract, or making libellous statements.

The Bill of Rights guarantees a trial by jury in all criminal cases. A jury is a group of citizens – usually 12 persons – who make the decision on a case.

State courts handle criminal and other cases that do not come under federal jurisdiction. Most state judges are elected for limited terms.

VOCABULARY – 5

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Supreme Court | Верховний суд | Верховный суд |
| Justice | Суддя | Судья |
| Judicial review | Судовий контроль | Судебный контроль |
| Federal jurisdiction | Федеральна юрисдикція | Федеральная юрисдикция |
| Treason | Державна зрада | Государственная измена |
| To violate a contract | Порушувати договір | Нарушать договор |
| To make libellous statements | Робити наклепницькі заяви | Делать клеветнические заявления |

Text 4.

Checks and Balances

The division of government among three separate but equal branches provides for a system of checks and balances. Each branch checks and limits the power of the other branches. For example, although Congress makes laws, the president can veto them. Even if the president vetoes a law, Congress may check the president by overriding his veto with a two-thirds vote.

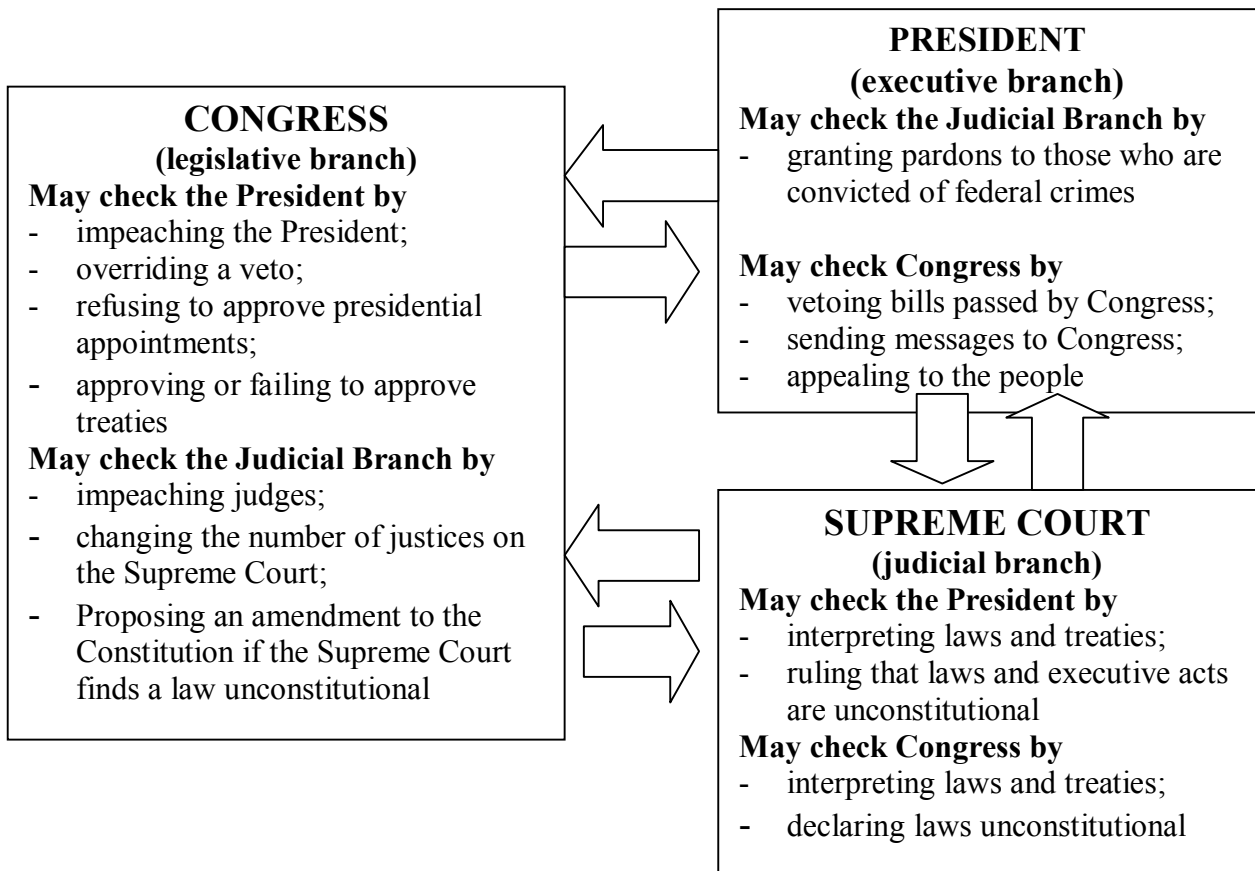
The Supreme Court can overturn laws passed by Congress and signed by president. The selection of federal and Supreme Court judges is made by the other two branches. The president appoints judges, but the Senate reviews his candidates and has the power to reject his choices. With this system of checks and balances, no branch of government has superior power.

By dividing power among the three branches of government, the Constitution effectively ensures that government power will not be usurped by a small power group or a few leaders.

VOCABULARY – 6

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A system of checks and balances | Система стримування та противаг | Система сдерживания и противовесов |
| To check and limit | Контролювати та обмежувати | Контролировать и ограничивать |
| A two-thirds vote | Кваліфікована більшість | Квалифицированное большинство |

CHECKS AND BALANCES



EXERCISES

I. Be ready to discuss the following topics:

1. Three branches of power.
2. The system of checks and balances.
3. The Constitution of the USA.
4. How a bill becomes a law.

II. Match the words and phrases in column A with their definitions in column B.

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Bicameralism | A bill that has been passed by one of the cambers and sent to the other |
| Bill of Rights | A legislative committee established for a limited period of time and for specific purpose |

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Binding primary | A list of topics for discussion |
| Bureaucracy | A normally closed meeting of a political or legislative group to select candidates, plan strategy, or make decision regarding legislative matters |
| Calendar Wednesday | A procedure in the House whereby a committee chairman can bypass the Rules Committee and bring proposed legislation directly to the floor for consideration |
| Caucus | A regular legislative committee that considers legislation within its designated subject area; the basic unit of deliberation in the House and Senate |
| Closed rule | An informal group of advisers to whom the president turns for counsel and guidance |
| Coattail effect | An officeholder whose term is coming to an end |
| Confederation | Each legislator's yes or no vote is recorded as the clerk calls the names of the members alphabetically |
| Coup d'etat | Extreme or militant devotion to one's country |
| Double jeopardy | Group of people with common interests, usually in opposition to the aims or principles of a large group or the public |
| Electoral College | Having a legislative assembly composed of two chambers or houses |
| Faction | League of independent states |
| Hopper | A mahogany box at the Speaker's podium where a bill is put |
| Item veto | Power of the courts to declare actions of the legislative and executive branches invalid or unconstitutional |
| Jingoism | Primary election in which the candidates for election as delegates to a presidential nominating convention pledge themselves to a certain candidate and are bound to vote for that person until released from the obligation |
| Judicial review | Prior cases whose principles are used by judges as the bases for their decisions in present cases |
| Kitchen Cabinet | Provision by the House Rule Committee limiting or prohibiting the introduction of amendments during debates |
| Oversight | Result of voters casting their ballots for president or governor and "automatically" voting for the remainder of the party's tickets |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Precedents | Sudden, forcible overthrow of a government |
| Roll-call vote | The complex structure of offices, tasks, rules, and principles of organization that are employed by all large-scale institution to coordinate the work of their personnel effectively |
| Select committee | the effort by Congress, through hearings, investigations and other technique, to exercise control over the activities of executive agencies |
| Standing committee | The first ten amendments to the US Constitution, ratified in 1791. They ensure certain rights and liberties |
| Act | The power to veto specific provisions of a bill. Although some state governors possess this power, the President of the USA does not, and must accept or veto a bill in its entirety |
| Agenda | The president electors from each state who meet in their respective state capitals after the popular election to cast ballots for president and vice president |
| Lame duck | Trial more than once for the same crime. The Constitution guarantees that no one shall be subjected to it |

III. Match the phrases in column A with their equivalents in column B.

| | |
|--|--|
| The US Constitution was adopted in 1787 and at that time it reflected the political beliefs of the young American bourgeoisie. | ... та вирішив приєднатися до партії, яка отримала перемогу. |
| Since the adoption of the Constitution 27 amendments have been introduced. The first 10 amendments are known as the Bill of Rights (1791). | 5 стаття Конституції гарантує право Конгресу пропонувати поправки до Конституції більшістю в дві третини голосів. |
| The 5 th article of the Constitution provides that Congress may, on a two-thirds vote of both houses, propose amendments to the Constitution. | Виконавчу владу покладено на президента при терміні перебування на посаді у 4 роки. Він обирається разом із віцепрезидентом (на такий саме термін) виборцями з кожного штату. Кількість виборців з кожного штату залежить від кількості сенаторів та конгресменів, що представляють цей штат в Конгресі. |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>The executive power is vested in a president, who holds office for 4 years, and is elected, together with a vice president for the same term, by electors from each state, equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the state may be entitled in the Congress.</p> | <p>З моменту прийняття Конституції до неї було додано 27 поправок. Перші 10 відомі як Біль про Права (1791).</p> |
| <p>The presidential election is held every leap year. Technically, this is an election of presidential electors, not of a president directly; the electors thus chosen meet and give their votes at their respective state capitals on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December next following their election.</p> | <p>Коли губернатор Е. Джеррі несправедливо перерозподілив виборчі округи в штаті Массачусетс аби його партія одержала безперечну перемогу, він перекроїв мапу штату. Такі незаконні маніпуляції відомі як "джеррімандерінг" (або передвиборні махінації).</p> |
| <p>If no candidate has a majority or if the successful candidate fails to qualify, then by the 20th amendment, the Vice President acts as a President until a president qualifies.</p> | <p>Конгресменом може бути людина не молодше 25 років, що протягом останніх 7 років є громадянином США, та є мешканцем штату, від якого обирається.</p> |
| <p>Senators must be not less than 30 years of age; must have been citizens of the USA for 9 years, and be residents in the states for which they are chosen.</p> | <p>Конституцію Сполучених Штатів було прийнято 1787 року, й на той час вона відбивала політичні переконання молоді американської буржуазії.</p> |
| <p>Congressmen must be not less than 25 years of age; must have been citizens of the USA for 7 years, and be residents in the states for which they are chosen.</p> | <p>Президентські вибори проводяться кожний високосний рік. Формально це обирання виборців, а не самого президента. Виборці потім збираються та голосують у столицях своїх штатів першого понеділка після другої середи в грудні, за місяць по їх обранні .</p> |
| <p>When Governor E. Gerry unfairly redistributed voting districts in Massachusetts to assure his party an overwhelming victory, he reshaped the county map. Such illegal manipulation has been known as gerrymandering.</p> | <p>Сенатори повинні мати вік не менше 30 років, громадянство США протягом не менше як 9 останніх років та мешкати в тому штаті, від якого обираються.</p> |
| <p>The term “filibustering” is a dilatory</p> | <p>Термін "флібустьєрство" означає</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| strategy often used by a minority party to obstruct legislative action. | тактику провалювання законопроектів (на спосіб якомога довше відтягувати прийняття закону), що використовується партією, яка програла вибори. |
| ... and decided to hop aboard the bandwagon. | Якщо жоден кандидат не отримає більшості, або переможець не в змозі обійняти посаду, тоді, згідно з 20 поправкою, віце-президент виконує обов'язки президента, доки президент отримає можливість зайняти посаду. |

IV. Explain the following words and word-combinations.

Bill of Rights, ballot, calendar, committee, checks and balances, caucus system, a case of a tie, Electoral College, electorate, franchise, hopper, impeachment, initiative, lobby, to mark up, off year, oval office, quorum, quota, red tape, split ticket, straight ticket, suffrage.

V. Translate into English:

федеральная система, собирать налоги, платить долги, объявлять войну, запрещать, система сдерживания и противовесов, вице-президент, охрана окружающей среды, баллотироваться в Конгресс, выбирать президента и вице-президента на общенациональных выборах, иметь право голоса, сделать клеветническое заявление, находиться в ведении законодательства штата, получить подавляющее большинство голосов, баллотироваться на пост президента от какой-либо партии, первичные выборы, исполнять свои должностные полномочия и обязанности, победившая сторона, устраивать obstruction, предвыборные махинации, недовольство, вотум недоверия, осуществлять политику.

VI. Study the text. Correct all the mistakes made.

US Government

The operation of the US government is based on the US Constitution, which was adopted by the House of Lords in 1879.

The national government is composed of three branches: the executive, the legislative, and the judicial. Certain powers are given to each branch, but the Senate headed by the President has unlimited power. The system of "limits and controls" is clearly illustrated by the president's relations with the other branches.

The president is the head of the three branches. His title is inherited (ex. George Bush and George Bush junior).

US parliament called Congress is composed of two houses: the House of Senators and the House of Deputies. The first house has 100 members, two from each state, they are elected for two years. The House of Deputies has 651 members who are elected for six-year term.

The head of the judicial branch is the president. He is the chief justice of the Supreme Court of the USA. The president and 12 other justices appointed for life decide whether a bill is constitutional.

VII. Render in English:

Президентські вибори

Президентські вибори посідають особливе місце в політичному житті країни й у формуванні штатів державного апарату. Президент обирається населенням країни на термін у чотири роки шляхом непрямих виборів - через колегію вибірників. Одночасно з ним обирається також віцепрезидент, що є другою після президента посадовою особою в країні і за конституцією - головою сенату.

Першим формальним етапом президентських виборів є висунування кандидатів на пост президента. З цією метою у 26 штатах діє система так званих первинних виборів ("праймеріз"), на яких виборці затверджують кандидатури, які були висунуті партійними організаціями штатів. Існує кілька видів "праймеріз":

- закриті "праймеріз", при яких участь у висунуванні кандидатів приймають тільки партійні виборці, причому кожна партія складає свій власний список кандидатів, за який голосують виборці даної партії. Щоб узяти участь у закритих "праймеріз", виборець повинен довести свою приналежність до даної партії;
- відкриті "праймеріз" не вимагають від виборця підтвердження партійної приналежності. Але й за цією системою виборець голосує за кандидатів тільки однієї партії - він опускає в урну список лише тієї партії, за яку він голосує.

VIII. Render in English:

Конгрес

Конгрес є двохпалатним парламентом. Нижня палата конгресу - палата представників - обирається у складі 435 осіб терміном на 2 роки. Обраним у палату представників може бути будь-який громадянин США, який має цей статус не менше семи років, досяг 25-літнього віку і мешкає в межах штату, від якого він балотується. Спікер палати має дуже широкі повноваження - він відкриває і закриває засідання палати, підписує вихідні від неї документи, оголошує її рішення, ставить на обговорення запропоновані депутатами питання, керує обговоренням, надає слово, робить призначення в непостійні комітети і має деякі інші повноваження.

До верхньої палати конгресу - сенату - обираються 100 осіб, по 2 від кожного штату. Сенат оновлюється кожні 2 роки на 1/3 (термін повноважень кожного сенатора - шість років), що дає йому певні переваги перед палатою представників. Сенаторами можуть бути обрані особи, які досягли 30-літнього віку, мають громадянство США протягом не менше дев'ятох років і мешкають у межах відповідного штату.

IX. Render in English:

Верховний суд США

Верховний суд, за конституцією, є вищою апеляційною інстанцією і судом першої інстанції у справах (американських) послів, консулів і повноважних представників, а також у справах, де однією з сторін є штат. Суд складається з дев'яти судей, призначуваних довічно президентом "за порадою і згодою Конгресу".

Традиційно Верховний суд США є найбільш консервативною з трьох гілок влади. Правлячі кола використовують його як свого роду "останній бастион" на шляху прогресивних перетворень і реформ, оскільки він може скасувати будь-який закон конгресу або рішення виконавчої влади, визнавши його не відповідним конституції.

X. Render in English:

1. Конституція США - это старейшая писаная буржуазная конституция, в отличие от неписаной, например, в Англии. 2. Со времени принятия конституции в нее было внесено 27 поправок. Первые 10 поправок известны как "Билль о правах" (1791). 3. Только в 1920 г. была принята поправка, предоставившая избирательное право женщинам. Последняя 27-я поправка, устанавливающая равноправие женщин, до сих пор не ратифицирована. 4. В основе государственного устройства - принцип разделения трех властей, т.е. формальной независимости друг от друга законодательной, исполнительной и судебной властей. 5. Президент США обладает правом вето в отношении законов конгресса. Для преодоления вето требуется 2/3 голосов в каждой из палат. 6. Под предлогом не конституционности Верховный суд США может фактически отменять решения конгресса и президента. 7. Вступление президента на пост автоматически дает ему полномочия произвести замену 500 "политических постов", включая 80 высших правительственных постов.

GLOSSARY

| English variant | Ukrainian variant | Russian variant |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| A bill's backer | Той, хто підтримує законопроект | Тот, кто поддерживает законопроект |
| A system of checks and balances | Система стримування та противаг | Система сдерживания и противовесов |
| A two-thirds vote | Голосування кваліфікованою більшістю | Голосование квалифицированным большинством |
| Abolish | Анулювати, скасовувати | Аннулировать, отменять |
| Affect | Впливати | Влиять |
| Agency | Служба, управління | Служба, управление |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Agenda | Порядок денний | Повестка дня |
| Amendment | Поправка | Поправка |
| Armed forces | Збройні сили | Вооруженные силы |
| Basic structure | Базова структура | Базовая структура |
| Bill of Rights | Біль про права | Билль о правах |
| Civilian workers | Цивільні службовці | Гражданские служащие |
| Commemorative law | Закон про вшанування пам'яті | Закон об увековечении памяти |
| Conference committee | Узгоджувальний комітет | Согласительный комитет |
| Congress | Конгрес | Конгресс |
| Congressional Budget Office | Бюджетна комісія Конгресу | Бюджетная комиссия Конгресса |
| Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress | Науково-дослідний центр бібліотеки конгресу США | Научно-исследовательский центр библиотеки конгресса США |
| Constitutional authority | Конституційна влада | Конституционная власть |
| Convention | Конвенція | Конвенция (соглашение) |
| Coordinate | Координувати, узгоджувати | Координировать, согласовывать |
| Declare war | Оголошувати війну | Объявлять войну |
| Federal jurisdiction | Федеральна юрисдикція | Федеральная юрисдикция |
| Federal system | Федеральна система | Федеральная система |
| Federal Trade Commission | Федеральна торговельна комісія | Федеральная торговая комиссия |
| Filibuster | Флібустьєрство (тактика провалювання законопроектів шляхом усілякого відтягування моменту прийняття рішення) | Флибустьерство (тактика проваливания законопроектов путем всяческого оттягивания момента принятия решения) |
| Forbid | Забороняти | Запрещать |
| General Accounting Office | Головне лічильне управління | Главное счётное управление |
| General welfare | Загальний добробут | Общее благосостояние |
| Handle publicity | Проводити рекламну кампанію | Проводит рекламную кампанию |
| High-ranking officials | Високопоставлені | Высокопоставленные |

| | урядовці | чиновники |
|--|--|--|
| Independent agencies | Відомства у складі уряду США, незалежні агенції | Ведомства в составе правительства США, самостоятельные управления |
| Joint committee | Об'єднаний комітет | Объединенный комитет |
| Judicial review | Судовий контроль | Судебный контроль |
| Justice | Суддя | Судья |
| Military personnel | Військовослужбовці | Военнослужащие |
| NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) | НАСА, державне управління з питань дослідження космічного простору | НАСА (Национальное управление по аэронавтике и исследованию космического пространства) |
| OMB (Office of Management and Budget) | Адміністративне та бюджетне управління США | Административное и бюджетное управление США |
| Personal staff | Штат співробітників (президента, сенатора) | Штат сотрудников (президента, сенатора) |
| President pro tempore | Тимчасово виконуючий обов'язки президента | Временно исполняющий обязанности президента |
| Public policy | Державна політика | Государственная политика |
| Ratify | Ратифікувати | Ратифицировать (утверждать) |
| Senate | Сенат | Сенат |
| Senate presidency | Головування в Сенаті | Председательство в Сенате |
| Standing committee | Постійний комітет | Постоянный комитет |
| Supreme Court | Верховний суд | Верховный суд |
| The Capitol | Капітолій | Капитолий |
| The consent of the people | Згода народу | Согласие народа |
| The Democratic party | Демократична партія | Демократическая партия |
| The Electoral College | Колегія вибірників | Коллегия выборщиков |
| The House of Representatives | Палата представників | Палата представителей |

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| The line-item veto | Постатейне вето | Постатейное вето |
| The Peace Corps | Корпус миру | Корпус мира |
| The Republican party | Республіканська партія | Республиканская партия |
| The Vice President | Вице-президент | Вице-президент |
| The White House | Білий Дім | Белый Дом |
| To check and limit | Контролювати та обмежувати | Контролировать и ограничивать |
| To conduct election campaign | Проводити виборчу кампанію | Проводить избирательную кампанию |
| To create public support | Створювати підтримку в суспільстві | Создавать поддержку в обществе |
| To enforce | Виконувати (про закон) | Исполнять (о законе) |
| To express discontent | Виказувати незадоволення | Выражать недовольство |
| To make libellous statements | Робити наклепницькі заяви | Делать клеветнические заявления |
| To override a veto | Подолати вето | Преодолеть вето |
| To run for public offices | Висувати свою кандидатуру на виборах до державних структур | Выставляют свою кандидатуру на выборах в государственные структуры |
| To violate a contract | Порушувати договір | Нарушать договор |
| To weed out | Відбирати, відсіювати | Отбирать, отсеивать |
| Treason | Державна зрада | Государственная измена |
| United Nations | ООН (Організація Об'єднаних Націй) | ООН (Организация Объединенных Наций) |
| US Postal Service | Поштова служба США | Почтовая служба США |
| Whip | Організатор партійної фракції (в Конгресі) | Организатор партийной фракции |

Table 1

POLITICAL SYSTEMS

| | UK | USA |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Government (type) | Constitutional monarchy | Federal republic (a union of 50 states) |
| Head of state | Queen (Elizabeth II) | President (Barack Obama) |

| | | |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Head of government | Prime Minister (Theresa May) | President (Barack Obama) |
| Parliament | Parliament | |
| | The House of Lords (675 members non-elected: 2 archbishops, 24 senior bishops, 20 law lords, hereditary peers, life peers) | The House of Commons (659 members elected for 5 years (one from each constituency)) |
| | | Congress |
| | | The Senate (100 member - 2 from each state elected for 6 years) |
| | | The House of Representatives (450 members (congressmen) elected every 2 years (one from each constituency)) |
| elections | Once in five years | Presidential - once in 4 years; To the House - once in 2 years; To the Senate - once in 6 years |
| Parties | The Conservative Party (used to be the Tory Party (1600s)); The Labour Party (1900); The Liberal Democratic Party (the Liberal used to be the Whig Party (1600)) | The Democratic Party; The Republican Party |

Table 2

THREE BRANCHES OF POWER

| | UK | USA |
|--------------------|--|---|
| Legislative | Parliament | Congress |
| Executive | Prime Minister and the Cabinet (about 20 ministers) | President and the Cabinet (13 secretaries) |
| Judicial | The House of Lords (20 law lords) – the highest court of appeal; British judges are appointed by the monarch | The Supreme Court (9 judges appointed by the President for a life term) |

Table 3

POLITICAL PARTIES

Study the table. Suggest the same one for the USA and Ukraine.

| | Conservative | Labour | Liberal-democratic |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Also known as | Tory Party | – | Whig Party |
| Colour | Blue | Red | Yellow |
| Current Leader | Theresa May | Jeremy Corbyn | Tim Farron |

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Main support | Church, aristocracy, landed gentry | Trade unions | Middle class |
| Programme <i>(according to General Election 2001 Study Pack)</i> | To lower taxes, cut crime and protect the countryside | To create wealth and jobs for everybody, improve the National Health Service and cut class sizes in schools | To high taxes to pay for better public services, to give greater freedom for every one and to protect the environment |

APPENDIX 1

RESOURCE PACK

Supplementary Texts for Rendering and Discussion

Text 1 *The Cabinet*

The Cabinet is the committee at the centre of the British political system and is the supreme decision-making body in government.

Every Tuesday during Parliament, Secretaries of State from all departments and some other ministers meet in the Cabinet room in Downing Street to discuss the big issues of the day. Meetings are currently attended by 22 paid ministers and one unpaid minister appointed to Cabinet, and six other invited ministers and peers.

Government Cabinets have met in the same room since 1856, when it was called the Council Chamber.

The Prime Minister chairs the meetings, selects its members, and also recommends their appointment as ministers by the Monarch. The Secretary of the Cabinet is responsible for preparing records of its discussions and decisions.

History of Cabinet

The modern history of the Cabinet began in the 16th Century with the Privy Council, a small group of advisers to the Monarch.

Sir Robert Walpole the first Prime Minister, held occasional meetings of the King's Ministers – Cabinet – but not in its modern form.

The 1832 Reform Act emphasised the need for government to have the confidence of Parliament as well as the Monarch and for it to act coherently.

William Pitt (1783-1801) established the right of the PM to ask ministers to resign. So the conventions of collective Cabinet responsibility and Prime Ministerial control developed. This enabled Ministers to stand together against Parliament under clear leadership.

Up to 1916, a letter written by the PM to the Monarch was the only recorded decisions of Cabinet. In 1916 the 'War' Cabinet Secretariat and the post of Cabinet Secretary was created. The basic system has survived since then.

Change of meeting day

When Gordon Brown became Prime Minister in June 2007, the regular day the Cabinet meets was changed from Thursday to Tuesday. While the Cabinet had met on a Thursday since 1963, it had met on other days before.

Between 1955 and 1963, Cabinet meetings were held on both Tuesdays and Thursdays. From 1945 to 1955, they were held on Mondays and Thursdays, and before the Second World War, they were usually held on Wednesdays.

Mr Brown chose to move the meetings to Tuesday because Parliament does not meet until the afternoon that day, so members would not have to leave longer meetings early because of Commons engagements.

Powers of Cabinet

The Cabinet has no legal powers, they are held by Secretaries of State. But it has collective responsibility to Parliament so all members are bound to support Cabinet decisions even if they were not present.

Cabinet Committees and Cabinet Secretariat

Much of the work of Cabinet is delegated to Committees.

The Prime Minister decides who sits on the Committees and what they are responsible for. Some of the Committees exist for short periods to deal with a particular issue.

Since 1992 the membership of Cabinet Committees has been published. Decisions taken in Committee have full Cabinet authority and may not be brought to full Cabinet.

The Secretariat calls meetings, circulates papers, prepares the agenda (under the PM's direction), writes and circulates the conclusions, and keeps them.

Text 2 '10 Downing Street'

History of the Building

Behind the quiet façade of this famous black door lie many secrets. Number 10 has been the setting for violent riots, passionate protest and surprising activities. It has been the nerve centre of the British Government through two World Wars. Pioneering policies have been developed inside its walls and world-changing meetings have been chaired by Britain's greatest leaders.

It is used as a busy office and workplace for the Prime Minister and the staff employed to support him in his role. Not least it is also home to the PM and his family.

Downing Street began its association with the office of the Prime Minister in 1730. That the house is still being used today by Gordon Brown is down to the refusal of first-ever PM Robert Walpole to accept the house as a personal gift. Instead he insisted it be used by future "First Lords of the Treasury".

During its history the house has undergone major development to be turned into a grand residence fit for the most powerful politician in the country.

Number 10 Downing Street has never been busier than it is today. It is an office for the Prime Minister, a meeting place for the Cabinet, a venue for state events and a home for the Prime Minister's family.

While in office, prime ministers traditionally live with their families in Downing Street in the private flat on the second floor.

'Living above the shop', as [Margaret Thatcher](#) described it, has sometimes made it difficult for prime ministers to separate family life and work, but it does allow him or her to keep fully in touch with events as they develop.

Fortunately, prime ministers no longer have to furnish the whole house themselves. Until the twentieth century, prime ministers who lived in Downing Street used to bring their own households with them - bedding, crockery and furniture. They would arrange their possessions in the state rooms on arrival and move them out when they left office.

Prime ministers today have an opportunity to select the art that hangs on the walls of Number 10. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries prime ministers brought their own paintings to display in the house.

[Ramsay MacDonald](#) was the first prime minister not to have a personal art collection and began the convention of borrowing from national collections to make the prime minister's residence into a showcase for traditional and modern British art and craftsmanship.

Entertaining at Number 10

Nearly every week Number 10 is the venue for official functions including meetings, receptions, lunches and dinners.

It isn't only heads of state and official dignitaries who visit – functions are held for people from all areas of UK society, including notable achievers, public service employees and charity workers.

Receptions tend to be informal gatherings. Drinks and canapés are served, as guests wander through the historic state rooms enjoying the art and historic objects on display. The Prime Minister and other hosts circulate to meet as many people as possible.

Lunches and dinners are more formal events. The [Small Dining Room](#) will sit a maximum of 12, and the [State Dining Room](#) up to 65 around a large, U-shaped table.

The dining table is laid with items from the state silver collection – a range of modern silverware pieces commissioned by the Silver Trust to promote modern British craftsmanship.

Before the Government Hospitality Fund was set up in 1908, prime ministers employed their own servants for entertaining at Number 10.

Nowadays members of Government Hospitality work together with the Prime Minister's social team to arrange functions, checking guest lists, printing invitation cards and menus, working out the seating plans, and plan the meal.

All the attention to detail ensures that guests enjoy a memorable visit to a remarkable house.

Text 3

Консерватори – найстаріша і найдосвідченіша з усіх сучасних британських партій. Її політичне обличчя формувалося впродовж 50-ти років, починаючи з 70-х років минулого століття – шляхом поступового зближення Тори, що представляла інтереси держави ("корони") і землевласників, з Вігами, виразниками інтересів промислового капіталу. В сучасній діяльності партії і нині можна прослідкувати суперечності, характерні для Вігів-Торі. Торі покладають великі надії на сильну державу у підтриманні соціального порядку, однак диференціюють її роль. Торі-авторитаристи розглядають державу як інструмент закону і порядку, що діє за допомогою поліції, суду, релігійних установ. Торі-патерналісти вбачають в державі інструмент економічного вдосконалення за допомогою захисту вітчизняної індустрії і переймання проблемами добробуту. Під впливом депресії 1929-1934 року, військово-економічного планування і перемоги лейбористів 1945 року сформувалась впливова група прогресивних Торі, так звана, Група Однієї Нації, що розглядала державу передусім в якості регулятора економіки, а вже потім - охоронця моральних і культурних норм.

Діяльність сучасних консерваторів постійно піддається гострій критиці, дедалі частіше звучать вимоги негайної відставки уряду. Як вважають чимало критиків і навіть самі міністри, вони вже "вичерпали" себе і втратили спроможність діяти.

Нині, напевне, Консервативна партія вповні демонструє свій консерватизм, неспроможність на швидку адаптацію до мінливих умов. Найхарактерніше це проявляється, коли усталені національні традиції не відповідають вимогам сучасної економіки.

Text 4

Ставлення лейбористів до співробітництва ЄС зазнало суттєвих змін з початку 80-х років, коли їх позиція стосовно Співтовариства була загалом негативною. Нині лейбористська партія виступає, хоча і неодногосно, за розвиток співробітництва з європейськими партнерами, за перехід до єдиної європейської валюти, та Центрального Європейського Банку, надання широких повноважень Європейському Парламенту. Більше того, Лейбористська партія відкрито засуджувала позицію консервативного уряду, котрий до останнього часу зводив з підписанням Маастрихтського

договору (1991), утримавшись, зрештою, від підписання Європейської Соціальної Хартії.

Аналізуючи діяльність Лейбористської партії, її зовнішню єдність і консолідацію, не можна не враховувати того, що нині вона перебуває в опозиції і, звичайно, використовує будь яку можливість у боротьбі проти своїх політичних опонентів, нерідко спекуюючи на їх внутрішніх суперечках.

Зростання впливу Лейбористської партії з початку століття пов'язане з кількома тенденціями її програмних положень. Одна з них і, напевне, найзначиміша – дедалі більша прихильність до ідей соціальної і економічної рівності, покращання життєвого рівня бідніших прошарків населення. Ідеї суспільної власності на засоби виробництва і економічного планування не нові, однак вони активно пропагувалися Лейбористською партією. Інша тенденція відбита в ідеї урядового і державного регулювання ринкових процесів, необхідного для досягнення поставлених соціально-економічних завдань. Лейбористська партія, як жодна інша пропагувала зміцнення ролі держави в соціально-економічних процесах.

Думається, не випадково, ріст авторитету Лейбористської партії пов'язаний з широкою підтримкою її ідей серед робітничих прошарків її населення у першій половині ХХ століття, коли тоталітарні і соціалістичні гасла себе ще не вичерпали і були досить популярними з огляду своєї неординарності і її новизни.

Нині лейбористи активно пропагують свої підходи розв'язання головних соціально-економічних проблем Великобританії. Ці підходи ґрунтуються на принципі соціальної справедливості в економічній, соціальній і політичній сферах. Лейбористи обстоюють оновлення Великобританії, формулювання нового політичного курсу країни.

Text 5

Constitution of the United States (1787)

By the mid-1780s, the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation had become clear to many observers. In their reaction to what they considered the authoritarian government of George III, the framers of the Articles had deliberately created a weak government, although they believed that it had sufficient powers to govern. That assumption proved false. Among its other defects, the Articles of Confederation gave the Congress no power to tax or to regulate commerce among the states, it lacked both executive and judicial branches, and amending the Articles required unanimity of all the states.

James Madison of Virginia, working with the blessing of George Washington, led the drive to get Congress to call a convention for the express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation. But once the delegates had gathered in Philadelphia in the summer of 1787, they took the bit in their teeth

and decided to draft an entirely new document, one that would meet what they perceived to be the current and future needs of the country.

Government under the Constitution remained federal in nature, that is, power was shared between the states and the national government. But where under the Articles the states had been the dominant force, under the Constitution the national government would be supreme. The framers saw both state and national governments as active participants in the political process.

One of the key features in the Constitution, and one that would become a critical factor in the nineteenth century, is that the source of sovereignty, the source of the authority for the document, is the citizenry. "We the People of the United States" ordain and establish the Constitution. This is a direct link to the Declaration of Independence, which declared that governments derive their legitimacy from the consent of the governed.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the Constitution was how extensively it implemented the prevailing notions of separation of powers. Clear lines divided the legislative, executive and judicial branches. In a sharp departure from their experience under the Articles, the framers put a great deal of power in the hands of the president. At the same time, a system of checks and balances ensured that no one branch of the government would dominate the others.

In the debate over ratification of the Constitution that took place in the fall and winter of 1787-88, proponents of the new document – called Federalists – claimed that not only would it remedy the defects of the Articles of Confederation, but it would provide a strong yet limited government that would ensure the peace and security of the new nation. Those opposed to the Constitution – known as Anti-Federalists – operated at a disadvantage, because they recognized and admitted that the government under the Articles had not been a success. They did, however, demand that as a price of ratification a bill of rights should be added. The Federalists believed that no such listing was necessary, because as a government of limited powers, the new government would have no authority to invade the rights of the citizens. But as Thomas Jefferson explained to James Madison, "A bill of rights is what the people are entitled to against every government on earth, general or particular, and what no just government should refuse, or rest upon inferences."

With the ratification of the Constitution, the new government met in the spring of 1789, and Congress immediately adopted and sent to the states a series of proposed amendments. The states ratified ten of them by 1791, and these have since been known as the Bill of Rights. Other amendments have followed, a few of them primarily technical in nature, but for the most part they have expanded the democratic nature of American society – by abolishing slavery, widening the suffrage or making government more responsive to the people, as in the direct election of senators.

The Constitution has served the people of the United States admirably for over 200 years, in part because the framers were wise enough to recognize that they could not foresee every problem. Those who followed them thus had the ability to take the document and adapt it to new needs and new conditions.

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И СОЕДИНЕННЫХ ШТАТОВ АМЕРИКИ**

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