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Activity: Media

How laws are made

Learning objective

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- explain the process of parliamentary law-making in the UK.

Using the link below, complete questions 1 to 17 that follow.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DZ-IDLgISnc>

1. What is the first process in creating a law?
2. What are the two types of bill?
3. Briefly explain the difference between Government Bills and Private Members Bills.
4. Why are Government Bills likely to take priority and to be passed by Parliament?
5. Briefly explain what happens in the consultation stage.
6. Using the example of twenty-four hour drinking, who would be consulted about the proposed Bill?
7. What is a Green Paper?
8. What is the purpose of the First Reading of the Bill?
9. Why is the Second Reading of a Bill more important? What happens at this reading?
10. What happens at the Committee Stage?
11. What is the Report Stage?
12. What happens in the Third Reading and where does the Bill go after that stage?
13. How does the Committee Stage in the House of Lords differ from that in the House of Commons?
14. What has to happen to a Bill if the Lords make changes to it?
15. What happens to a Bill once both the House of Commons and the House of Lords have agreed on it?
16. Why should the Monarch agree a Bill that is passed to them?
17. Briefly outline the example of a Government Bill that was blocked by the House of Commons.