

Election 2010 - what the main parties say they will do



Conservative Party	Labour Party	Lib Dems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin spending cuts in 2010 to cut most of the UK's debt within five years • Real increases in health spending • Allow charities, trusts, voluntary groups and co-operatives to set up new Academy schools and to run other public services • Scrap ID card scheme • Recognise marriage in the tax system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wait until 2011 to cut spending in order to halve debt in four years • Increase spending on NHS services and schools but cut spending in other areas from 2011 • Make sure that 60% of any tax increases will only affect the richest 5% of earners • Bring back link between the state pension and earnings from 2012 • Guarantee all 16 – 17 year olds a place in education or training • Guarantee people aged 18-24 a job, work experience or training if they are unemployed for more than six months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and cut £15 billion of less important spending to protect services while lowering the debt at least as fast as Labour • Raise the threshold at which people start paying income tax • Bring in a mansion tax on the value of properties over £2m. • Scrap ID card scheme • Replace the Council Tax with a Local Income Tax • Introduce a written constitution and single transferable vote (STV) system for all UK elections.



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Answer these questions about the text.

Use a separate sheet of paper or a computer.

Give your answers in complete sentences.

1. How does each party say it will reduce the debt we are in?
2. What does the Labour party say it will do about education?
3. What does the Conservative party say it will do about health?
4. What do the Lib Dems say they will do about the Council tax?
5. What do the parties say about ID cards?
6. Which party do you think has the best policies and why?

What do these words from the text mean? Look them up in the dictionary but put the meanings into your own words. Then put them into alphabetical order:

co-operatives

guarantee

identify

threshold

scrap

constitution

transferable



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You are now going to do some writing.
Think about this question.

What would you do if you were elected to run this country?

You might like to think about these things:

- How would you pay back the country's debts?
- What would you do about health and education?
- What would you do about taxes?
- What about young people and families?
- How would you help the environment?

1. First make a plan for your writing.



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2. Now write a first draft of your writing.

Don't worry too much about spelling, punctuation and grammar yet.
Just get some ideas down.

If I won the election, I would

3. You are now ready to write out your final draft.

Ask for a new sheet of paper or use a computer.
Check your writing carefully for mistakes.



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Functional English criteria (relevant areas are highlighted)

Entry 3 skill standard	Entry 3 Coverage and range Ofqual (2009), p9.
Speaking, listening and communication Respond appropriately to others and make some extended contributions in familiar formal and informal discussions and exchanges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the main points of discussions • Use techniques to clarify and confirm understanding • Give own point of view and respond appropriately to others' point of view • Use appropriate language in formal discussions/exchanges • Make relevant contributions, allowing for and responding to others' input
Reading Read and understand the purpose and content of straightforward texts that explain, inform and recount information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the main points of texts • Obtain specific information through detailed reading • Use organisational features to locate information • Read and understand texts in different formats using strategies/techniques appropriate to the task
Writing Write texts with some adaptation to the intended audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan, draft and organise writing • Sequence writing logically and clearly • Use basic grammar including appropriate verb-tense and subject-verb agreement • Check work for accuracy, including spelling

References

Ofqual (2009), *Functional Skills criteria for English: Entry 1, Entry 2, Entry 3, level 1 and level 2*.
<http://www.ofqual.gov.uk>

Teaching Notes

I quickly put these tasks together for my E3 group. The final writing task was designed to help them practise for the Edexcel Literacy E3 writing test.

Rachel Emmett
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