**Comparative Politics ~ Supreme Court & Civil Rights**

**Focus for these notes:**

*Edexcel AS & A level Politics* (text book), pp.458-461

Photocopies, Bennet, *US Govt. & Politics (5th ed),* 2017, pp. 225-229,

Politics Review, Vol 23 #2 (Nov 2018), pp.10-13. & Vol. 28 #3 (Feb 2019), pp. 30-33.

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| **Origins** |
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| **Appointments, membership & tenure** |
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| **Membership of the Supreme Courts** | |
| **US Supreme Court** | **UK Supreme Court** |
| **Powers & roles of the Supreme Courts compared** | |
| **US Supreme Court** | **UK Supreme Court** |

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| **Independence of the Supreme Courts Compared** | |
| **US Supreme Court independence** | **UK Supreme Court independence** |
| **How effective are rights protected by the judiciary in the UK & USA?** | |
| **Rights protection - USA** | **Rights protection - UK** |
| **How effective are rights protected by the judiciary in the UK & USA?** | |
| **Rights protection - USA** | **Rights protection - UK** |
| **The effectiveness of interest/pressure groups in the protection of civil rights** | |
| **Arguments for UK groups being less effective** | **Arguments for UK groups being more effective** |

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| **Theoretical approaches to Civil Rights & the Supreme Courts** |
| **Rational** |
| **Cultural** |
| **Structural** |

**Practice questions (12 markers):**

1. *Examine the levels of independence of the Supreme Court in the US & the UK.*
2. *Examine the ways in which US & UK civil rights are similar.*
3. *Examine the ways in which the members of the US & UK Supreme courts are appointed.*
4. *Examine the role of pressure groups in the protection of rights in the USA & the UK.*
5. *Analyse the differences in the powers of the US and UK Supreme Courts.*
6. *Analyse the effectiveness of the protection of rights in the USA and the UK.*