**Unit 2, Topic 3: Prime Minister & Cabinet**

***Reminder:*** *The key objective of noting is educating yourself, support your own learning and focusing in on the key points that will enable you to do these two things.*

1. What are the three main roles of the executive? (pp.182-183)

*e.g.* ***Proposing Legislation***

* *The executive introduces proposals for new and amended laws.*

*etc. …*

1. What are the three main powers of the executive? (pp. 183-185)

1. **Extension task 1\*:** What are the arguments in favour of ending the royal prerogative to deploy armed forces? Are these arguments stronger than the ones for retaining the power? *(\*Come on people – let’s flex those Level III-type analysis skills!)*
2. Define the concept of ministerial responsibility (pp.185-187)
3. Define the concept of Collective ministerial responsibility (p.187)
4. Explain **two** examples of exceptions to collective responsibility (p.188)
5. Complete the task in the ‘Pause and reflect’ box on page 189 (Table 2.1.)
6. Of the six bullet pointed factors listed on pages 190-191 into why prime ministers select their ministers, which three do you consider are the most important – and why?
7. The book lists five factors that affect the relationship between the prime minister and the cabinet (pp. 192-193), using the five factors as sub-headings, write how these apply to Theresa May’s premiership since the June general election.

*e.g.* ***The prime minister’s ability to set the agenda:***

*Since the 2016 Brexit referendum outcome and since losing her majority in June’s election, May’s ability to set the agenda has been lost against the over-riding issue of Brexit and the divisions within her party and cabinet.*

*etc…*

1. **Extension task 2:** Having read the case studies on John Major & Tony Blair (pp.196-202), write an essay plan to answer the question – There is little doubt that Blair was a more successful prime minister than Major. Do you think that this was due more to their personal characteristics or to the different circumstances they faced? *(Go on! … I dare you!!)*