

Task Four: Making a Case

Now I would like you to make a case for and against a particular issue. Politics at A level will require you to make judgements about issues.

You need to create a for/against case for the issue of: *should we lower the voting age from 18 to 16?*

This will require you to write at least three paragraphs, but if you like you can write more. You can use websites like this: <https://yougov.co.uk/topics/politics/articles-reports/2012/02/15/and-against-lowering-voting-age> or Google search “for and against [issue]” to get more information about the issue at hand. I’ve written a sample paragraph below – I’m interested in you ARGUING your case with evidence!

Some, who think we should extend the vote to 16- and 17-year-olds, say that it may lead them to understand political issues more if they have to research them. If under-18s have to make choices on issues like taxes, the NHS and the size of the army, they would have to research them, so this will improve their understanding and they will make good choices. However, this argument doesn’t hold water because over-18s as it is rarely research political issues – if we don’t have adults researching taxes, the NHS or the size of the army before elections why would we expect children to? Therefore, this is not a good argument for extending the vote to 16- and 17-year-olds.

Write your paragraphs below. Again, this is about trying the task, not about how much or the level of exam-specific detail.