

## **W201 The Individual and the State**

### **Questions on constitutions**

1. You have led a successful revolution in Ruritania and have overthrown the dictator.

You wish to create democratic government and introduce basic human rights.

You decide on a written constitution. List up to five measures you would want included.

2. Look back at the preamble to the US Declaration of Independence and analyse it by answering these questions:

1. Who or what has the sovereign power to create or alter the form of government?
2. Who or what is invoked as the underlying moral power?
3. Is there any link between the preamble and democracy?

3. Now compare the US and the UK constitutions. How does each deal with the following issues?

1. Can the legislature change the constitution?
2. If there is a conflict between the laws passed and the constitution how is this resolved?
3. Is the first duty of the courts to uphold the constitution or to uphold the laws?