

W201 The Individual and the State

Questions on Parliamentary Sovereignty

1. Did sovereignty come first or did parliament come first?

2. Who had sovereignty in England before parliament did?

3. When did parliament first seriously lay claim to sovereignty?

4. When did sovereignty first become a legal and not just a political concept?

5. Has the sovereignty of parliament increased or decreased since 1900?
Try and think of three examples.

6. Why is a commitment to democracy not an explicit feature of the UK constitution?

7. Which statutes contain the UK constitution? Can you name three?

8. The following legal values underlie public law:
 - legal certainty
 - separation of powers
 - fidelity to established authority
 - democratic legitimacy
 - personal liberty
 - due process of law

with which two values do you most associate parliamentary sovereignty?