Year 8 PDC Vocabulary List

(Tier 2 and Tier 3)



Absolute monarch – a form of monarchy where a single person usually the King or Queen is the independent ruler.

Analyse – examine (something) methodically and in detail, typically in order to explain and interpret it.

Compare – estimate, measure, or note the similarity or dissimilarity between.

Constitutional monarchy – system of Government in which a monarch shares power with an elected Parliament or a governing body. The monarch does not have overall power over decisions about the country.

Democracy – a system of Government where the people elect representatives to make decisions and form laws.

Describe – to give a detailed account.

Discrimination – the unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of ethnicity, age, sex or disability.

Employment – the state of having a paid job.

Equality – is having equal opportunities and rights. It is being treated fairly regardless of gender, age, race, disability, sexual orientation etc.

Evaluate – form an idea of the amount, number, or value of; assess.

Explain – to make something clear or easy to understand by describing or giving information/examples about it.

Groomer – a groomer is someone who tries to build a relationship with a child or vulnerable person, often online, who really intends to exploit them or hurt them in some way

Groupthink – the practice of thinking or making decisions as a group, resulting typically in unchallenged, poor quality decision-making.

Habit – a settled or regular tendency or practice, especially one that is hard to give up.

House of Commons – where the elected group of MPs (members of Parliament) meet. They have been voted for by the people of the UK.

Inequality – is when people aren't given equal opportunities and rights. They are treated unfairly and experience discrimination.

Legalisation – The process of making something legal to use.

Manifesto – what the party promises to do if elected.

Medical drugs – these are drugs used to diagnose, cure, treat or prevent disease.

Menstrual cycle – the monthly process of eggs being released (ovulation), having a chance to be fertilized and then being discarded with uterus lining if not fertilized.

Mindfulness - a mental state achieved by focusing one's awareness on the present moment, while calmly acknowledging and accepting one's feelings, thoughts, and bodily sensations, used as a therapeutic technique.

Online gambling – online gambling is any kind of gambling conducted on the internet. This includes virtual poker, casinos and sports betting.

Online gaming – the action or practice of playing gambling games on the internet.

Performance enhancing drugs – these improve a person's performance in sport. Anabolic steroids increase muscle size and stimulants increase heart rate.

PMS – pre-menstrual syndrome, the name given to the collection of emotional and physical symptoms biological females encounter on the days leading to their periods.

Recreational drugs – these are drugs which are used for fun. Some are legal and others are illegal. They can be split into hard and soft, with hard being thought of as more harmful.

Reform – changes to make something better.

Religious prejudice – having prejudice thoughts about a certain type of people because of their religious beliefs, dress and appearance.

Self-employment – the state of working for oneself as a freelance or the owner of a business rather than for an employer.

Vaping – the action or practice of inhaling and exhaling vapour containing nicotine and flavouring produced by a device designed for this purpose.

Voluntary work – to work for an organisation without being paid.

Wellbeing – the state of being comfortable, healthy or happy.