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Level 6 – 8th July 2024

UK elects 22-year-old as a Member of Parliament

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

A 22-year-old has been elected as a Member of Parliament (MP) in the UK's general election on Thursday. Sam Carling won the seat for North West Cambridgeshire by the slimmest of majorities. Mr Carling, from the Labour Party, narrowly beat the incumbent Conservative Party candidate by 39 votes. He will now sit in Parliament in Westminster and represent the interests and concerns of the people in his Cambridge seat. At Westminster, he will be called the "baby of the House". This is the unofficial title given to the youngest MP. Carling, a science graduate from Cambridge University, called his victory a "political earthquake". He hopes his achievement will spur on young people to enter politics, and "tackle apathy".

Mr Carling said his interest in politics was sparked by the social and economic decline he saw in the UK. He grew up in what he described as "a very deprived area" in the north of England. This is an area the Conservative Party had promised to "level up" and turn into a "northern powerhouse". However, these lofty promises went unkept. Carling said: "I saw a lot of things getting worse around me. I was concerned about shops closing on local high streets that used to be a thriving hub and are basically now a wasteland." He hopes the newly-elected Labour Party will undo 14 years of Conservative misrule, scandal, sleaze and corruption. Britain's public services are in chaos and people are worse off than they were 14 years ago.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c16jpl6707eo>
<https://www.msn.com/en-ie/news/other/meet-the-new-baby-of-the-house-labour-mp-sam-carling/ar-BB1pwcuf>
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/article/2024/jul/06/labour-sam-carling-22-first-mp-born-in-21st-century>

WARM-UPS

1. POLITICIANS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about politicians. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

member of parliament / election / majority / incumbent / candidate / vote / apathy / politics / economic decline / deprived area / level up / wasteland / scandal / sleaze

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. AGE LIMIT: Students A **strongly** believe there should be age limits on who can become a politician; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. CONCERNS: How would you address these concerns if you were a politician? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What To Do	Why?
Crime		
Health		
Education		
Jobs		
Technology		
Foreign relations		

5. CANDIDATE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "candidate". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. PUBLIC SERVICES: Rank these with your partner. Put the most important public services at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Education
- Emergency services
- Healthcare
- Housing
- Refuse collection
- Security
- Social care
- Tax collection

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1. slimmest | a. Not caring about something. |
| 2. majority | b. A person who currently has a job or position. |
| 3. incumbent | c. To encourage someone to do something. |
| 4. candidate | d. The thinnest or smallest. |
| 5. spur on | e. To try to deal with a problem or difficult task. |
| 6. tackle | f. More than half of a group. |
| 7. apathy | g. A person who is trying to get a job or position. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 8. sparked | h. Growing and doing well. |
| 9. deprived | i. A central place where people go or things happen. |
| 10. lofty | j. In a worse situation than before. |
| 11. thriving | k. Not having something needed. |
| 12. hub | l. Dishonest or immoral behaviour. |
| 13. sleaze | m. Noble; high-minded. |
| 14. worse off | n. Started something suddenly. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. The article says Sam Carling is the UK's youngest ever politician. **T / F**
2. Sam Carling won his seat by a huge margin. **T / F**
3. Sam Carling will be given the nickname "baby of the House". **T / F**
4. Sam Carling graduated with a law degree from Cambridge University. **T / F**
5. Sam Carling grew up in a very poor area of England. **T / F**
6. The Conservative Party did not level up the north of England. **T / F**
7. Sam Carling is happy that wastelands are now thriving retail hubs. **T / F**
8. The article says people are better off than they were 14 years ago. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. elected | a. vowed |
| 2. slimmest | b. worries |
| 3. incumbent | c. initiated |
| 4. concerns | d. current |
| 5. apathy | e. disorder |
| 6. sparked | f. indifference |
| 7. deprived | g. flourishing |
| 8. promised | h. voted in |
| 9. thriving | i. disadvantaged |
| 10. chaos | j. narrowest |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. by the slimmest of | a. graduate |
| 2. represent the interests and concerns | b. unkept |
| 3. a science | c. area |
| 4. a political | d. of the people |
| 5. tackle | e. and corruption |
| 6. sparked by the social and | f. apathy |
| 7. what he described as a very deprived | g. thriving hub |
| 8. these lofty promises went | h. earthquake |
| 9. streets that used to be a | i. economic decline |
| 10. misrule, scandal, sleaze | j. majorities |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

A 22-year-old has been (1) _____ as a Member of Parliament (MP) in the UK's general election on Thursday. Sam Carling won the seat for North West Cambridgeshire by the (2) _____ of majorities. Mr Carling, from the Labour Party, narrowly beat the (3) _____ Conservative Party candidate by 39 votes. He will now sit in Parliament in Westminster and (4) _____ the interests and concerns of the people in his Cambridge seat. At Westminster, he will be called the "baby of the House". This is the (5) _____ title given to the youngest MP. Carling, a science graduate from Cambridge University, called his victory a "political (6) _____ ". He hopes his achievement will (7) _____ on young people to enter politics, and "tackle (8) _____".

slimmest
represent
earthquake
spur
elected
apathy
incumbent
unofficial

Mr Carling said his interest in politics was (9) _____ by the social and economic (10) _____ he saw in the UK. He grew up in what he described as "a very (11) _____ area" in the north of England. This is an area the Conservative Party had promised to "level up" and turn into a "northern powerhouse". However, these (12) _____ promises went unkept. Carling said: "I saw a lot of things getting worse around me. I was concerned about shops closing on (13) _____ high streets that used to be a thriving (14) _____ and are basically now a wasteland." He hopes the newly-elected Labour Party will (15) _____ 14 years of Conservative misrule, scandal, (16) _____ and corruption. Britain's public services are in chaos and people are worse off than they were 14 years ago.

local
decline
sparked
undo
lofty
sleaze
deprived
hub

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

- 1) A 22-year-old has been elected as a Member of Parliament (MP) in the _____
 - a. UK's general elation
 - b. UK's general elision
 - c. UK's general erection
 - d. UK's general election
- 2) Sam Carling won the seat for North West Cambridgeshire by the _____
 - a. slimmest of majority
 - b. slimmest of minorities
 - c. slimmest of measures
 - d. slimmest of majorities
- 3) Mr Carling, from the Labour Party, narrowly _____
 - a. beat the incumbent
 - b. beat their incumbent
 - c. beat a incumbent
 - d. beet the incumbent
- 4) a science graduate from Cambridge University, called his victory _____
 - a. a political earthquake
 - b. a political earth-shattering
 - c. a political earthworm
 - d. a political earthliness
- 5) spur on young people to enter politics, _____
 - a. and tackle empathy
 - b. and tackle telepathy
 - c. and tackle apothecary
 - d. and tackle apathy
- 6) Mr Carling said his interest in politics was sparked by the social _____
 - a. and economic incline
 - b. and economic decline
 - c. and economic recline
 - d. and economic on cline
- 7) he saw in the UK. He grew up in what he described as a _____
 - a. very depraved area
 - b. very deprived area
 - c. very deep private area
 - d. very depravity area
- 8) turn into a "northern powerhouse". However, these lofty _____
 - a. promises went unkempt
 - b. promises went unkept
 - c. promises went un-crept
 - d. promises went non-kept
- 9) I was concerned about shops closing on local high streets that used to be _____
 - a. a thriving chub
 - b. a thriving shrub
 - c. a thriving hub
 - d. a thriving hubbub
- 10) undo 14 years of Conservative misrule, scandal, _____
 - a. sneeze and corruption
 - b. seize and corruption
 - c. squeeze and corruption
 - d. sleaze and corruption

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

A 22-year-old has (1) _____ a Member of Parliament (MP) in the UK's general election on Thursday. Sam Carling won the seat for North West Cambridgeshire by the (2) _____. Mr Carling, from the Labour Party, narrowly (3) _____ Conservative Party candidate by 39 votes. He will now sit in Parliament in Westminster and represent the (4) _____ of the people in his Cambridge seat. At Westminster, he will be called the "baby of the House". This is the unofficial title given to the youngest MP. Carling, a science graduate from Cambridge University, called his (5) _____ earthquake". He hopes his achievement will spur on young people to enter politics, (6) _____.

Mr Carling said his interest in (7) _____ by the social and economic decline he saw in the UK. He grew up in what he described as "a (8) _____" in the north of England. This is an area the Conservative Party had promised to "level up" and turn into a "northern powerhouse". However, (9) _____ went unkept. Carling said: "I saw a lot of things getting worse around me. I was concerned about shops closing on local high streets that used to be (10) _____ and are basically now a wasteland." He hopes the newly-elected Labour Party will undo 14 years of Conservative misrule, (11) _____ corruption. Britain's public services (12) _____ and people are worse off than they were 14 years ago.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

1. When was the UK's general election?
2. By how many votes did Sam Carling beat the incumbent MP?
3. What unofficial title will Sam Carling be given?
4. What did Mr Carling graduate in?
5. What does Mr Carling want to tackle among young people?
6. What kinds of decline got Mr Carling interested in politics?
7. Where did Mr Carling grow up?
8. What did the Conservatives promise to turn the north of England into?
9. What did Mr Carling say a thriving hub had now become?
10. What does Carling want to undo besides misrule, scandal and corruption?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

- 1) When was the UK's general election?
 - a) last Friday
 - b) last weekend
 - c) last Thursday
 - d) last Tuesday
- 2) By how many votes did Sam Carling beat the incumbent MP?
 - a) 39
 - b) 38
 - c) 37
 - d) 36
- 3) What unofficial title will Sam Carling be given?
 - a) House Baby
 - b) Baby of the House
 - c) Westminster Baby
 - d) Baby of Parliament
- 4) What did Mr Carling graduate in?
 - a) economics
 - b) politics
 - c) law
 - d) science
- 5) What does Mr Carling want to tackle among young people?
 - a) crime
 - b) the ball
 - c) apathy
 - d) many problems
- 6) What kinds of decline got Mr Carling interested in politics?
 - a) a decline in standards
 - b) social and economic
 - c) inflation
 - d) moral decline
- 7) Where did Mr Carling grow up?
 - a) the south west
 - b) in the middle of England
 - c) London
 - d) in the north of England
- 8) What did the Conservatives promise to turn the north of England into?
 - a) a thriving hub
 - b) a northern powerhouse
 - c) a shopping paradise
 - d) an industrial heartland
- 9) What did Mr Carling say a thriving hub had now become?
 - a) a retail centre
 - b) a wasteland
 - c) a great success
 - d) a no-go zone
- 10) What does Carling want to undo besides misrule, scandal and corruption?
 - a) sleaze
 - b) immigration policies
 - c) voting ages
 - d) reforms

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

Role A – Education

You think education is the most essential public service. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their services aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): tax collection, refuse collection or emergency services.

Role B – Tax Collection

You think tax collection is the most essential public service. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their services aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): education, refuse collection or emergency services.

Role C – Refuse Collection

You think refuse collection is the most essential public service. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their services aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): tax collection, education or emergency services.

Role D – Emergency Services

You think emergency services is the most essential public service. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their services aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): tax collection, refuse collection or education.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'politician' and 'election'.

politician	election

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• general• slimmest• 39• interests• baby• spur	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sparked• area• level• hub• undo• worse
---	---

POLITICIANS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

Write five GOOD questions about politicians in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

POLITICIANS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'politician'?
3. What do you think of the politicians in your country?
4. Would you be a good politician?
5. Are young or old politicians best?
6. Would you vote for a 22-year-old candidate?
7. What do you know about British politics?
8. What do you think of national elections?
9. What attributes are needed to be a good politician?
10. How important is it for young people to get involved in politics?

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POLITICIANS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'election'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Is there any social and economic decline in your country?
15. How can leaders level up deprived areas?
16. Why don't politicians keep their promises?
17. What do you know about American politics?
18. What political scandals do you know of in your country?
19. What sleaze and corruption do you know of in your country?
20. What questions would you like to ask the young politician?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

A 22-year-old has been (1) _____ as a Member of Parliament (MP) in the UK's general election on Thursday. Sam Carling won the (2) _____ for North West Cambridgeshire by the slimmest of majorities. Mr Carling, from the Labour Party, narrowly beat the (3) _____ Conservative Party candidate by 39 votes. He will now sit in Parliament in Westminster and represent the interests and concerns of the people in his Cambridge seat. At Westminster, he will be called the "(4) _____ of the House". This is the unofficial title given to the youngest MP. Carling, a science graduate from Cambridge University, called his (5) _____ a "political earthquake". He hopes his achievement will spur on young people to enter politics, and "tackle (6) _____".

Mr Carling said his interest in politics was (7) _____ by the social and economic decline he saw in the UK. He grew up in what he described as "a very deprived area" in the north of England. This is an area the Conservative Party had promised to "level (8) _____" and turn into a "northern powerhouse". However, these lofty promises went unkept. Carling said: "I saw a lot of things getting worse around me. I was concerned about shops closing on local (9) _____ streets that used to be a thriving (10) _____ and are basically now a wasteland." He hopes the newly-elected Labour Party will undo 14 years of Conservative misrule, scandal, (11) _____ and corruption. Britain's public services are in chaos and people are worse (12) _____ than they were 14 years ago.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) erection | (b) elated | (c) belated | (d) elected |
| 2. | (a) bench | (b) chair | (c) sofa | (d) seat |
| 3. | (a) incubator | (b) incumbent | (c) cucumber | (d) ambient |
| 4. | (a) infant | (b) kid | (c) baby | (d) newborn |
| 5. | (a) victorious | (b) victor | (c) victory | (d) Victorian |
| 6. | (a) apathy | (b) telepathy | (c) empathy | (d) sympathy |
| 7. | (a) spanked | (b) sparked | (c) sparkled | (d) speckled |
| 8. | (a) up | (b) off | (c) down | (d) to |
| 9. | (a) low | (b) high | (c) up | (d) down |
| 10. | (a) hob | (b) hug | (c) hub | (d) hum |
| 11. | (a) squeeze | (b) sneeze | (c) sleaze | (d) seize |
| 12. | (a) out | (b) on | (c) in | (d) off |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

Paragraph 1

1. by the slimmest of irotmesija
2. the umeinbnc Conservative Party candidate
3. He will now sit in nmltaeriPa
4. This is the fianfiuloc title
5. a political akqteuaher
6. enter politics, and tackle hupaat

Paragraph 2

7. sparked by the social and economic leniecd
8. a very evirpdde area
9. high streets that used to be a nvihigtr hub
10. are basically now a laswaetdn
11. misrule, scandal, eelasz and corruption
12. Britain's public services are in asohc

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () victory a "political earthquake". He hopes his achievement will spur on young people to enter politics, and "tackle apathy".
- () concerns of the people in his Cambridge seat. At Westminster, he will be called the "baby of the House". This is the unofficial
- () by 39 votes. He will now sit in Parliament in Westminster and represent the interests and
- () high streets that used to be a thriving hub and are basically now a wasteland." He hopes the newly-
- () majorities. Mr Carling, from the Labour Party, narrowly beat the incumbent Conservative Party candidate
- () and corruption. Britain's public services are in chaos and people are worse off than they were 14 years ago.
- () Mr Carling said his interest in politics was sparked by the social and economic decline he saw in the UK. He grew
- (**1**) to "level up" and turn into a "northern powerhouse". However, these lofty promises went
- () unkept. Carling said: "I saw a lot of things getting worse around me. I was concerned about shops closing on local
- () up in what he described as "a very deprived area" in the north of England. This is an area the Conservative Party had promised
- () elected Labour Party will undo 14 years of Conservative misrule, scandal, sleaze
- () title given to the youngest MP. Carling, a science graduate from Cambridge University, called his
- (**1**) A 22-year-old has been elected as a Member of Parliament (MP) in the UK's general
- () election on Thursday. Sam Carling won the seat for North West Cambridgeshire by the slimmest of

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

1. the candidate . incumbent He narrowly Conservative Party beat
2. the of Represent the people . and interests concerns
3. to unofficial youngest given the MP . The title
4. earthquake . a called graduate victory The political his
5. spur to people It'll enter young politics . on
6. by decline Sparked he economic the saw .
7. very up He deprived a in grew area .
8. up . level party the area An to promised
9. basically wasteland . hub is now a A thriving
10. are worse were . People they off than

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

A 22-year-old has been *erected* / *elected* as a Member of Parliament (MP) in the UK's general election on Thursday. Sam Carling won the *seat* / *chair* for North West Cambridgeshire by the slimmest of *majority* / *majorities*. Mr Carling, from the Labour Party, narrowly beat the *incumbent* / *incubator* Conservative Party candidate by 39 votes. He will now sit *in* / *on* Parliament in Westminster and *prevent* / *represent* the interests and concerns of the people in his Cambridge seat. At Westminster, he will be called the "baby of the House". This is the unofficial *entitled* / *title* given to the youngest MP. Carling, a science graduate from Cambridge University, called his *vitriol* / *victory* a "political earthquake". He hopes his achievement will *spur* / *spar* on young people to enter politics, and "tackle *apathy* / *empathy*".

Mr Carling said his interest *in* / *on* politics was *sparked* / *sparkled* by the social and economic decline he saw in the UK. He grew up in what he described as "a very deprived *arena* / *area*" in the north of England. This is an area the Conservative Party had *promised* / *premised* to "level up" and turn into a "northern powerhouse". However, these *lefty* / *lofty* promises went unkept. Carling said: "I saw a lot of things getting worse around me. I was *cornered* / *concerned* about shops closing on local *low* / *high* streets that used to be a thriving *hub* / *hob* and are basically now a wasteland." He hopes the newly-elected Labour Party will *redo* / *undo* 14 years of Conservative misrule, scandal, sleaze and corruption. Britain's public services are in chaos and people are worse *on* / *off* than they were 14 years ago.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

22-year-old has been elected as Member of Parliament (MP) on the UK's general election on Thursday. Sam Culling won the seat for North West Cumbria by the slimmest of margins. Mr Culling, from the Labour Party, narrowly beat the incumbent Conservative Party candidate by 39 votes. He will now sit in Parliament in Westminster and represent the interests and concerns of the people in his Cumbria seat. At Westminster, he will be called the "baby of the House". This is the youngest MP. Culling, a school graduate from Cumbria university, called his victory a "political earthquake". He hopes his chamberment will spur on young people to enter politics, and "take the path".

Mr Culling said his interest in politics was sparked by the scandal and economic decline he saw on the UK. He grew up in what he described as "a very deprived area" in the north of England. This is in the Conservative Party he'd promised to "level up" and turn into "northern powerhouse". However, this lefty promises went unkept. Culling said: "I saw a lot of things getting worse around me. I was concerned about shops closing in local high streets that used to be thriving hubs and are basically now wastelands." He hopes the newly-elected Labour Party will end 14 years of Conservative misrule, scandal, slumps and corruption. Britain's public services are in chaos and people are worse off than they were 14 years ago.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

a 22-year-old has been elected as a member of parliament mp in the uk's general election on thursday sam carling won the seat for north west cambridgeshire by the slimmest of majorities mr carling from the labour party narrowly beat the incumbent conservative party candidate by 39 votes he will now sit in parliament in westminster and represent the interests and concerns of the people in his cambridge seat at westminster he will be called the baby of the house this is the unofficial title given to the youngest mp carling a science graduate from cambridge university called his victory a political earthquake he hopes his achievement will spur on young people to enter politics and tackle apathy

mr carling said his interest in politics was sparked by the social and economic decline he saw in the uk he grew up in what he described as a very deprived area in the north of england this is an area the conservative party had promised to level up and turn into a northern powerhouse however these lofty promises went unkept carling said i saw a lot of things getting worse around me i was concerned about shops closing on local high streets that used to be a thriving hub and are basically now a wasteland he hopes the newlyelected labour party will undo 14 years of conservative misrule scandal sleaze and corruption britains public services are in chaos and people are worse off than they were 14 years ago

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2407/240708-member-of-parliament.html>

A 22-year-old has been elected as a Member of Parliament (MP) in the UK's general election on Thursday. Sam Carling won the seat for North West Cambridgeshire by the slimmest of majorities. Mr Carling, from the Labour Party, narrowly beat the incumbent Conservative Party candidate by 39 votes. He will now sit in Parliament in Westminster and represent the interests and concerns of the people in his Cambridge seat. At Westminster, he will be called the "baby of the House". This is the unofficial title given to the youngest MP. Carling, a science graduate from Cambridge University, called his victory a "political earthquake". He hopes his achievement will spur on young people to enter politics, and "tackle a pathy". Mr Carling said his interest in politics was sparked by the social and economic decline he saw in the UK. He grew up in what he described as "a very deprived area" in the north of England. This is an area the Conservative Party had promised to "level up" and turn into a "northern powerhouse". However, these lofty promises went unkept. Carling said: "I saw a lot of things getting worse around me. I was concerned about shops closing on local high streets that used to be thriving hubs and are basically now a wasteland." He hopes the newly-elected Labour Party will undo 14 years of Conservative misrule, scandal, sleaze and corruption. Britain's public services are in chaos and people are worse off than they were 14 years ago.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. POLITICIANS: Make a poster about politicians. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. AGE LIMIT: Write a magazine article about requiring politicians to be a minimum age. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on politicians. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how politicians can be better. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d 2. f 3. b 4. g 5. c 6. e 7. a
8. n 9. k 10. m 11. h 12. i 13. l 14. j

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 F 5 T 6 T 7 F 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. j	3. d	4. b	5. f
6. c	7. i	8. a	9. g	10. e

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Last Thursday
2. 39
3. Baby of the House
4. Science
5. Apathy
6. Social and economic
7. In the north of England
8. A northern powerhouse
9. A wasteland
10. Sleaze

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. He narrowly beat the incumbent Conservative Party candidate.
2. Represent the interests and concerns of the people.
3. The unofficial title given to the youngest MP.
4. The graduate called his victory a political earthquake.
5. It'll spur on young people to enter politics.
6. Sparked by the economic decline he saw.
7. He grew up in a very deprived area.
8. An area the party promised to level up.
9. A thriving hub is basically now a wasteland.
10. People are worse off than they were.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. d 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)