



The Houses of Parliament in Britain.

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8 class

ONE WAY



Welcome to
the Palace of
Westminster

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Parliament sits in one building which is called the Palace of Westminster. It is also called the Houses of Parliament because there are two Houses: the House of Lords and the House of Commons.





In the House of Commons MPs, or Members of Parliament, make all the important decisions and work on bills, which later become new laws. The Prime Minister is in the House of Commons too.



Why are MPs more important?

Because they represent all the people in the country. We have to have a general election at least every 5 years. People vote for an MP, and the party which has the most MPs wins the election and forms the government. Their leader becomes the Prime Minister.



What about the House of Lords?

They are not elect. They are hereditary peers.



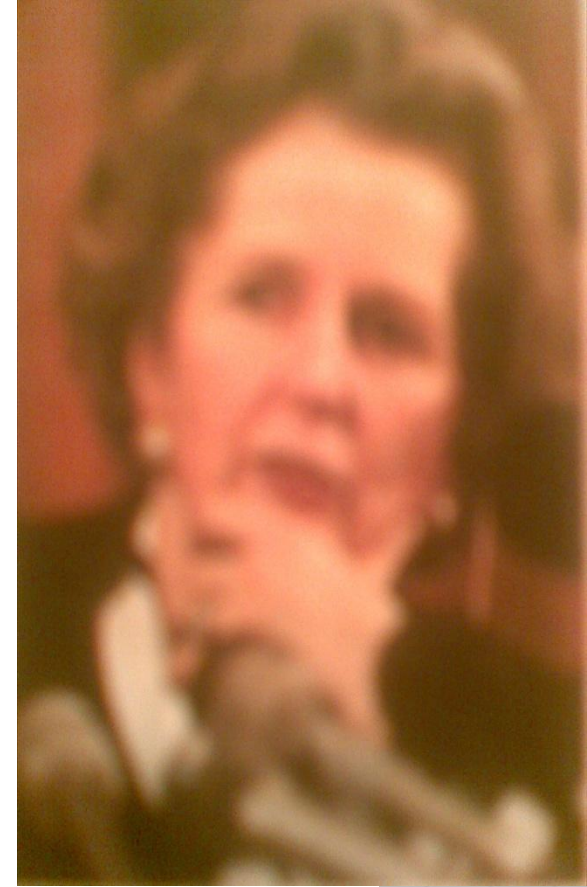
What's hereditary peers?

Some people in the House of Lords just inherit their places from their fathers and grandfathers. They are hereditary peers. It is tradition. In the past there used to be a lot of hereditary peers but it has changed and now most people in the House of Lords are life peers. They get the title “Lord” and “Lady” for their personal achievements, and their children can not inherit it. Some of them are very competent. For example, our famous ex - Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher



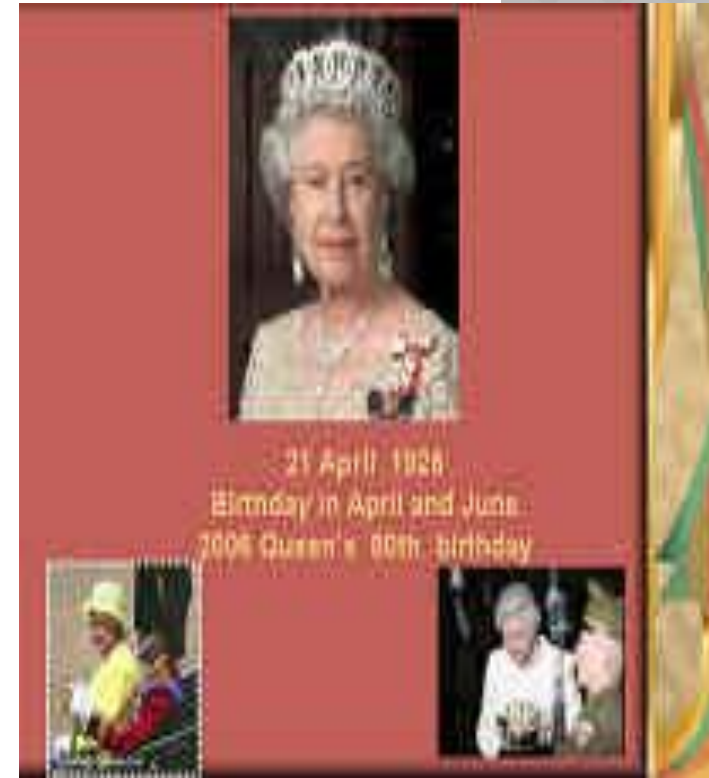
MARGARET THATCHER

“The Iron Lady” , was one of the UK’s most powerful and competent Prime Ministers, from 1979 to 1990. She took her place as Lady Thatcher in the House of Lords in 1992.



THE QUEEN.

The Queen is the head of state. She and the House of Lords have to approve the decisions of the House of Commons. Before a bill becomes law the Queen has to say: “ La Reine le veut ” (The Queen wishes it) . The Queen uses Norman French as part of tradition.





The end!

