

**Year: 8**  
**Term: 2b**  
**Topic: Votes for Women in the United Kingdom**

Key Concepts		W2	
<b>W1</b>			
<b>Democracy</b>	A system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state.	<b>Suffragettes</b>	Activists in the British WSPU, led by Emmeline Pankhurst, who used methods such as hunger strikes.
<b>Suffragists</b>	People who support the extension of suffrage, especially to women.	<b>Vote</b>	A formal indication of a choice between two or more candidates or courses of action. Usually expressed through a ballot or a show of hands.
<b>Election</b>	A formal and organised choice by vote of a person for a political office or other position.	<b>NUWSS</b>	The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies – an organisation of women's suffrage societies in the UK.
<b>WSPU</b>	The Women's Social and Political Union, led by Emmeline Pankhurst.	<b>Campaign</b>	A series of operations intended to achieve a goal, confined to a particular area or style of fighting.

### Causes

<b>Actions of the suffragettes</b>	The violent and public acts of protests of the suffragettes put pressure on the government to grant women the vote.
<b>Actions of the suffragists</b>	The long term peaceful methods used such as newspapers, letters, petitions and propaganda persuaded the government to grant women the vote.
<b>The role of Emily Davison</b>	The publicity of the death of Davison had made her a martyr for the cause of women's suffrage, which brought global attention to the movement.
<b>First World War</b>	The contribution of women to the war effort, such as working in factories, made many people believe that woman had earned the right to vote.

### Key Dates

<b>W4 - 1832</b>	Mary Smith presented the first women's suffrage petition to Parliament. The Great Reform Act was passed.
<b>1867</b>	A petition was presented to Parliament by MP John Stuart Mill to get women included in the Second Reform Act It failed. The Second Reform Act was passed and gave the vote to working class men.
<b>1884</b>	An amendment to the Third Reform Bill, to include women in the vote, was rejected.
<b>1897</b>	The NUWSS formed.
<b>1903</b>	Emmeline Pankhurst set up the WSPU with her daughters Christabel and Sylvia.
<b>1905</b>	The militant campaign began. 'Deeds, not words' was adopted as a slogan.
<b>W5 - 1908</b>	300,000-500,000 people attended a mass rally in Hyde Park. The Prime Minister did not respond. The suffragettes smashed windows in Downing Street and chained themselves to railings.
<b>1909</b>	Hunger strikes and force-feeding began.
<b>1913</b>	The 'Cat and Mouse' Act was passed. Emily Davison died after being hit by the King's horse.
<b>1914</b>	WWI began. Campaigning stopped.
<b>1917</b>	Electoral Reform Bill passed.
<b>1918</b>	Representation of the People Act is passed.
<b>1928</b>	Amendment to the RPA of 1918.

### W3 - Key Individuals

<b>John Stuart Mill</b>	A member of the Liberal Party, he was the first MP to call for women's suffrage. He first presented a petition in 1866.
<b>Millicent Fawcett</b>	She was a moderate campaigner. She wanted to improve women's opportunities for higher education and in 1875 co-founded Newnham College, Cambridge. She was president of the NUWSS from 1897-1919.
<b>Emmeline Pankhurst</b>	She was a suffragette. She founded the WSPU, which became known for its physical confrontations.
<b>H. H. Asquith</b>	The Liberal Prime Minister of the UK from 1908 to 1916. He opposed votes for women throughout his time as Prime Minister. He did eventually come around to support women's suffrage in 1917, by which time he was out of office.

### Quotes

<b>1999, Time</b>	Referring to Emmeline Pankhurst – ' <i>She shaped an idea of women for our time; she shook society into a new pattern from which there could be no going back.</i> '
<b>Emmeline Pankhurst, 'My Own Story'</b>	<i>Men make the moral code and they expect women to accept it.</i>
<b>Emmeline Pankhurst, speech in 1908</b>	<i>We are here, not because we are law-breakers; we are here in our efforts to become law-makers.</i>