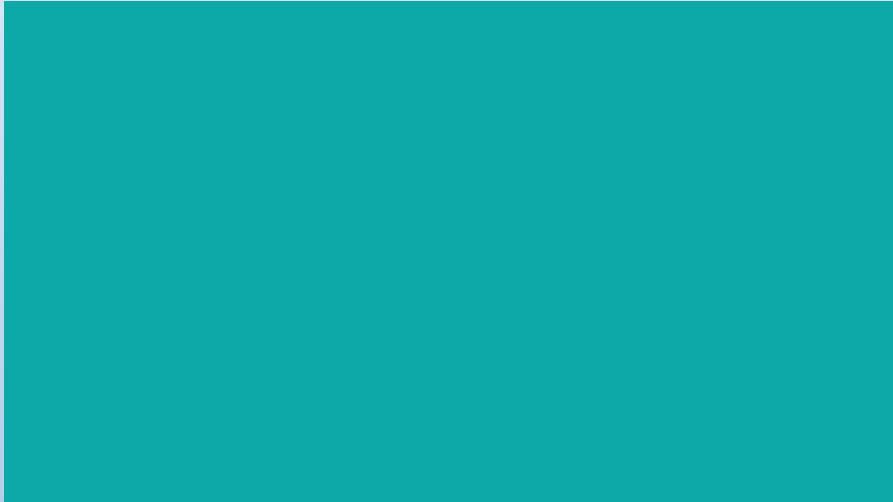


# The Advanced Democracies

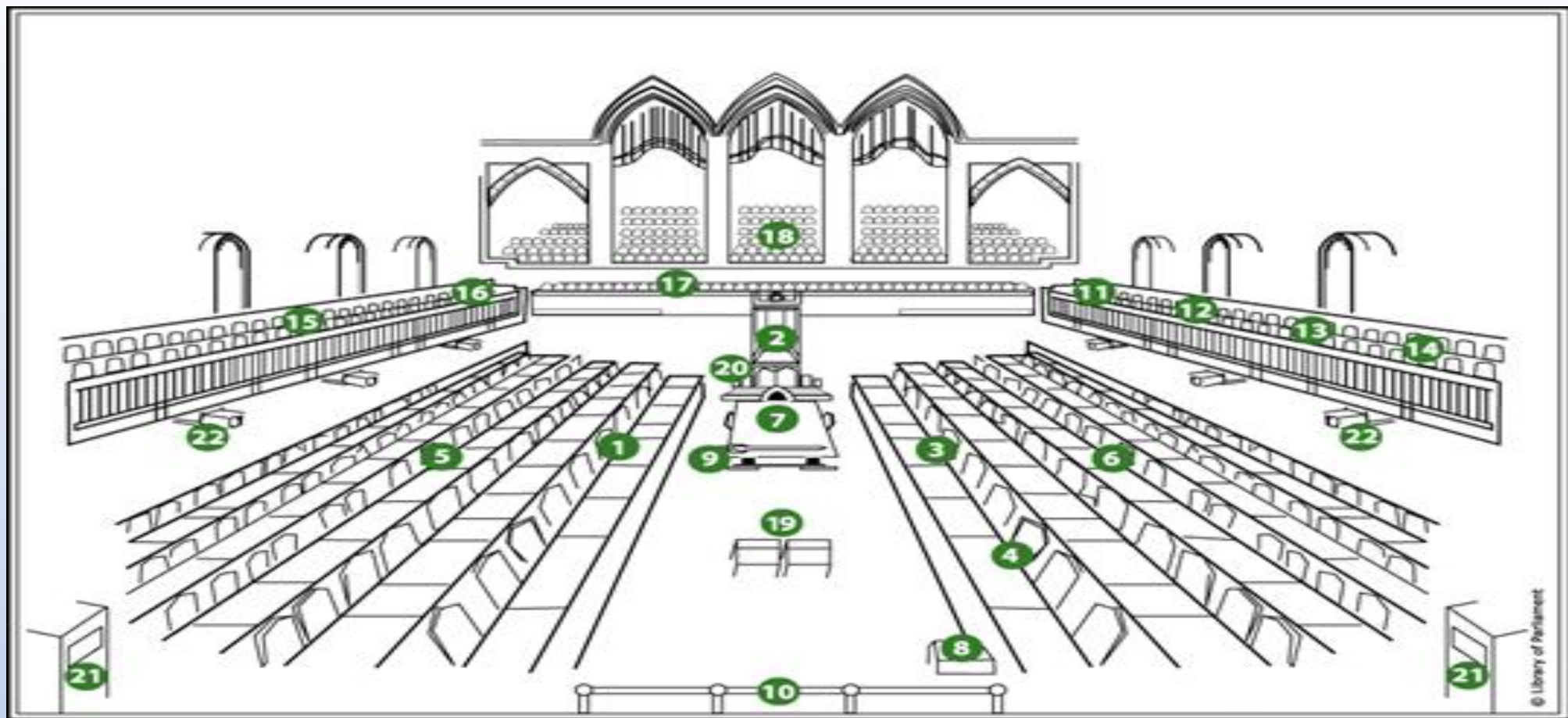
## Lesson 2.5 Parliamentary System



# The Parliament

- Little separation of power exists
  - Prime Minister and Cabinet chosen from Majority Party
  - Vote of no confidence within party can elect new leader
- Majority Party and “Loyal Opposition”
  - Shadow Government – Opposition members that sit opposite cabinet members
  - Back Benchers – MPs from third parties sit towards the back of the opposition





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- |  |                                |  |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| 1 Prime Minister                                   | 11 Senate Gallery              | 17 Press Gallery                         |
| 2 Speaker  | 12 Speaker's Gallery           | 18 Public Gallery                        |
| 3 Leader of the Official Opposition                | 13 Government Members' Gallery | 19 Proceedings and Verification Officers |
| 4 Leader of the second largest party in opposition | 14 Diplomatic Gallery          | 20 Pages                                 |
| 5 Government Members                               | 15 Opposition Members' Gallery | 21 Interpreters                          |
| 6 Opposition Members                               | 16 Officials' Gallery          | 22 T.V. cameras                          |
| 7 Clerk and Table Officers                         |                                |  |
| 8 Serjeant-at-Arms                                 |                                |  |
| 9 The Mace   |                                |  |
| 10 The Bar   |                                |  |



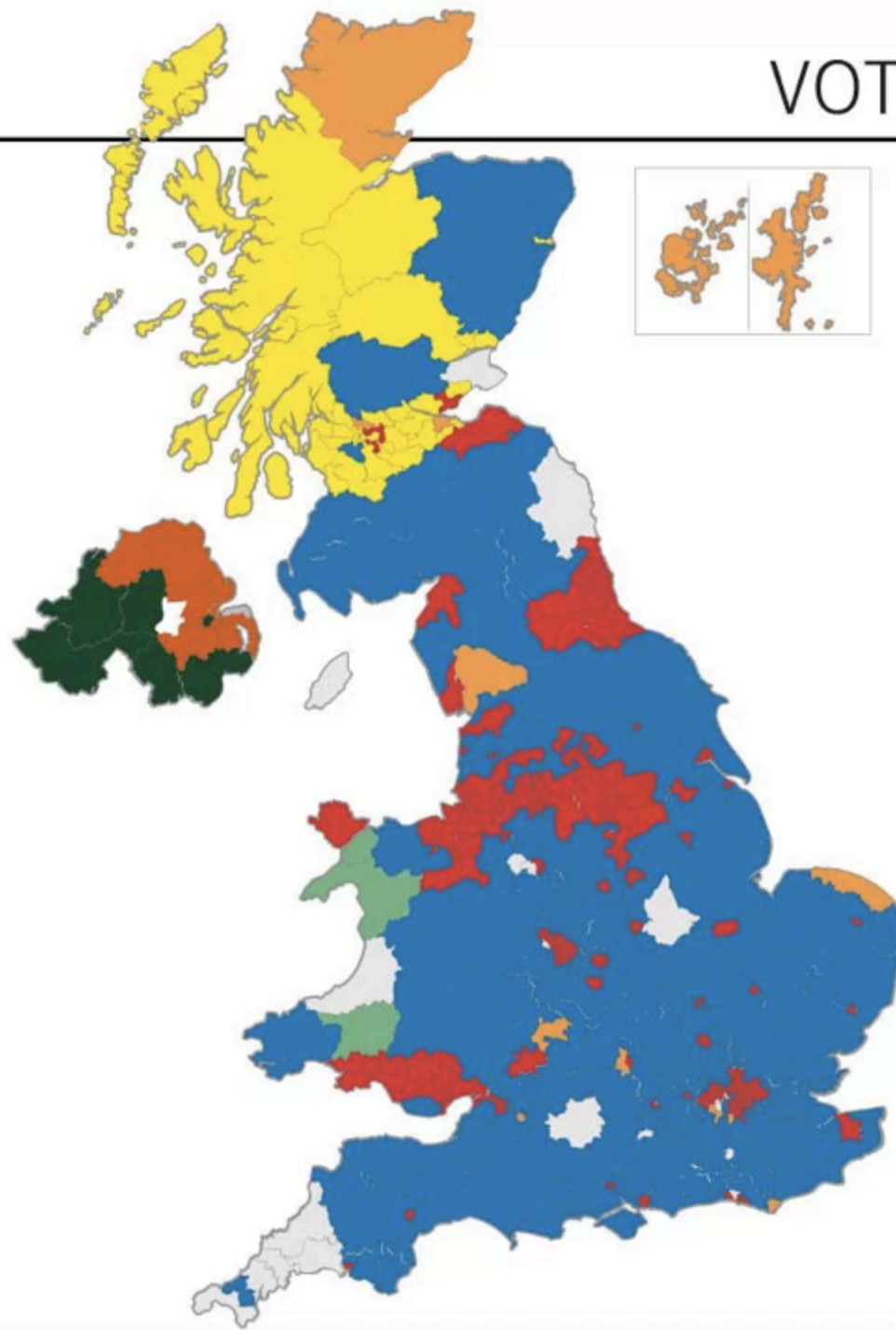
# Political Parties in Britain







- Conservative Party – Free trade, social conservatism, UK/US alliance
  - Winston Churchill, Margaret Thatcher, David Cameron, Theresa May
- Labour Party – Working class, Labor unions, Democratic Socialism
  - Tony Blair, Gordon Brown, Jeremy Corbyn
- Liberal-Democrats – Social Liberalism, Pro-European, Environmentalism
  - Nick Clegg
- Regional/Nationalist Parties
  - Sinn Fein – N. Ireland (Liberal)
  - Plaid Cymru - Wales
  - Scottish National Party – Scotland
  - Democratic Unionist Party – N. Ireland (Conservative) Supports Conservatives
  - British National Party – “Nativist” immigrant skeptic
  - UK Independence Party – Euro-skeptics – Pro-Brexit

# The result

VOTE  2017

Results in at 06:00  
632 out of 650 seats



- Key
- Lab 
  - Con 
  - Lib Dem 
  - Green 
  - Ukip 
  - Plaid Cymru 
  - SNP 
  - UUP 
  - Alliance 
  - DUP 
  - SDLP 
  - Sinn Fein 
  - Others 
  - Awaiting result 



# The Government

- Due to party discipline, the majority party acts as the government listening to debates, but making the laws they deem necessary.
- Question Hour – Weekly time of “spirited debate” within the House of Commons
  - Speaker of the House – Unbiased non-MP that presides the debate.
- Parliamentary Sovereignty – The Parliament’s decisions are final
  - No gridlock compared to US, but high concentration of power.



# House of Lords

- Very weak in comparison to House of Commons
  - May delay legislation and debate technicalities of proposed bills
- Hereditary Peers – Members who hold seats that were passed down by birthright
- Life Peers – Members who were appointed to nonhereditary position due to service to the country
- Ongoing debate over replacing hereditary members with elected ones.

