

Political system of Great Britain

The royal family



Prince
Charles

Prince
William

Princess Diana

Queen Elizabeth

The introduction

- Britain is administered from the **Palace of Westminster** in London (also known as the Houses of Parliament)
- The head of the state is the **queen** (she opens and closes Parliament).
- In GB there is **constitutional monarchy**

The House of Commons



- MP-S are elected by the British public
- The House of Commons has 651 seats
- The chairman is called speaker

The House of Lords

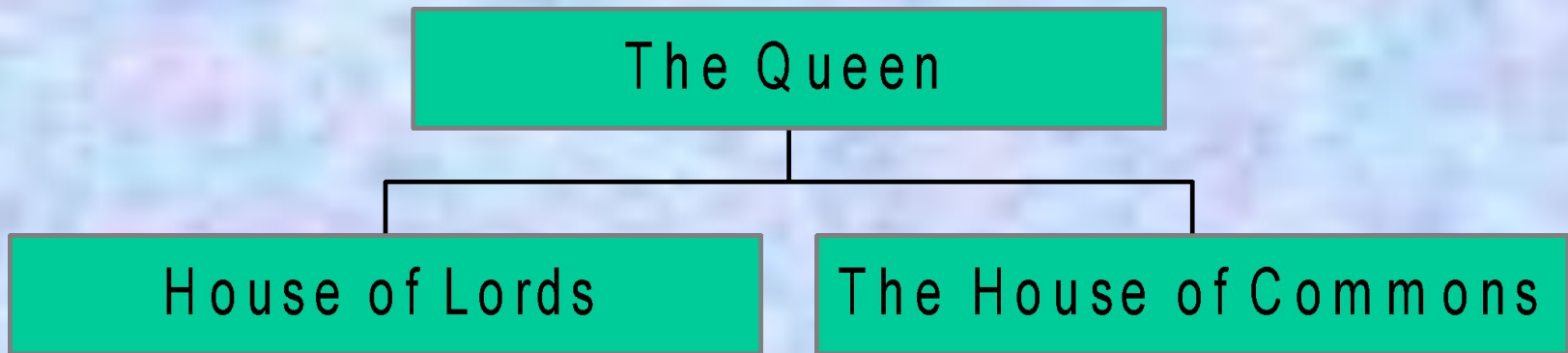


- Members are not elected, they inherit their seats from their fathers
- Members are called life peers

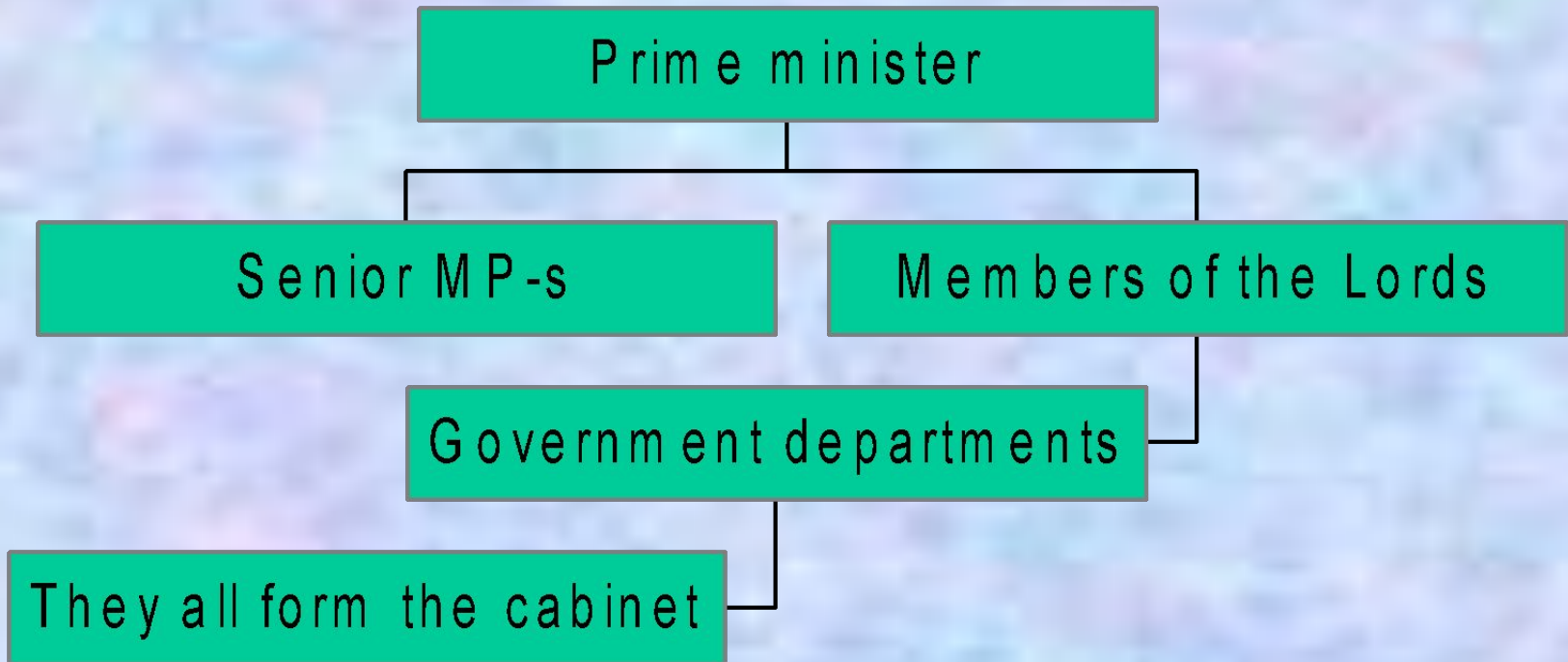
The Parties

The Labour Party	The Conservative Party	The Liberal Democrats
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• emerged at the end of the 19th century	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• came to power in 18th century	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formed in the late 1980s
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The leader is Tony Blair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• M. Thatcher was deposed as leader in 1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Close relations with Labour Party
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It returned to power in 1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is popular among older people	

Parliament



Government



Queen Elizabeth



Birth: 4.08.year 1900

Married : 1923

Died :30.03 2002

Elections...

- Are held every five years
- Voting is not compulsory and is from the age of 18
- The party which wins the most seats forms the government

The British flag



It is called **Union Jack** and it symbolises the union of England. Flag is made up of the crosses of the patron saints of England.

Five last prime ministers since...

- 1974-1976 Harold Wilson Labour
- 1976-1979 James Callaghan Labour
- 1979-1990 Margaret Thatcher Conservative
- 1990-1997 John Major Conservative
- 1997- Tony Blair Labour

The most important ministers...

Minister

- Chancellor of the Exchequer

Responsibility

- Government spending
- Presents the Budget annually in March
- Lives at 11 Downing street

11 Downing Street



The home of the
Chancellor of the
Exchequer

Foreign Secretary

Responsibility

- Relations with other countries

Home Secretary

Responsibility

- Internal relations
- The police
- Law and order
- Law courts

Do you know...

- What is the Cabinet?

The answer...



The Cabinet
is a
**committee of
ministers**

Queen Elizabeth II



Real name:

Elizabeth Alexandra
Mary Windsor

Birth: 21 April 1926
in London

Children: 3 sons, 1
daughter

Summary

- The term “Great Britain” is the expression for The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- The head of the state is the Queen
- In GB the Parliament is made up of two chambers: The House of Commons and The House of Lords