

Listen & transcribe

Listen to the audio and fill in the missing words. Use the glossary to help you.

Glossary

- back up** *phrasal verb* support
- consensus** *noun* general agreement
- conviction** *noun* a firmly held belief or opinion
- damning** *adj.* strongly suggesting guilt or error
- manoeuvrings** *noun* skillful or careful movements
- reared** *verb* raised
- recoil** *verb* suddenly move or jump back in horror
- sentiment** *noun* a view or opinion
- uttered** *verb* said

1 **But you** see **for** years **now in** British politics, this word - you **must** use **it** - consensus **has** reared **its** head.

2 You must **have a** consensus. Er... it's a y- it's a word, again, **you used** not **to use** when I first came **in** politics.

3 **We had** convictions and we tried **to** persuade **people that** our convictions **were the** right **ones**.

4 And **it's** no earthly good **having** convictions unless **you** have **the** will **to** translate those convictions **into** actions.

5 **But** politics **was** more, **if you had** convictions, than **a** matter **of** multiple manoeuvrings **to** get through **the** problems **of the** day.

6 I often think **when you're** going for consensus, so often **it** means **that** those **who** believe **as** I believe **tend to** give **in to the** left wing **and you** steadily move further **and** further left.

7 Now, I **am in** politics because **of** conviction.

8 **But** I know **that** the one - the last election, **the** previous election **was** fought **in** Britain **on** what I think **is one of the most** damning sentiments ever uttered.

9 **And it was by the** predecessor to Mr Callahan, er... Harold Wilson. **What the** British people wanted, **he said, was a** bit **of** peace **and** quiet. Anything **for a** quiet life.

10 **Now** you know **and** I know **that** this is **the** great drag **on** democracy, that people will say, Does my voice count? **Can I do** anything?

11 **And** therefore **they** leave **it to a** tiny, well-organised minority.

12 **Now** you ask, Have people learned? Yes, they are learning **that** if **you** do **leave it to that** tiny, well-organised minority-

13 Unpleasant things happen.

1 _____ see _____ years _____ British politics, this word - you _____ use _____ - consensus _____ reared _____ head.

2 You must _____ consensus. Er... it's a y- it's a word, again, _____ not _____ when I first came _____.

3 _____ convictions and we tried _____ persuade _____ our convictions _____ right _____.

4 And _____ no earthly good _____ convictions unless _____ have _____ will _____ translate those convictions _____ actions.

5 _____ politics _____ more, _____ convictions, than _____ matter _____ multiple manoeuvrings _____ get through _____ problems _____ day.

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10 _____ you know _____ I know _____ this is _____ great drag _____ democracy, that people will say, Does my voice count? _____ I _____ anything?

11 _____ therefore _____ leave _____ tiny, well-organised minority.

14 Unpleasant things happen, **and you** then recoil **from** that. **In** part **you expect your** politicians **to do** something about **it**.

15 **The** question is **whether the** people themselves **will** back up **the** politicians.

12 ____ you ask, Have people learned? Yes, they are learning ____ if ____ do ____ ____ ____ tiny, well-organised minority-

13 Unpleasant things happen.

14 Unpleasant things happen, ____ ____ then recoil ____ that. ____ part ____ ____ politicians ____ ____ something about ____.

15 ____ question is ____ ____ people themselves ____ back up ____ politicians.