



Margaret Thatcher

Text Book



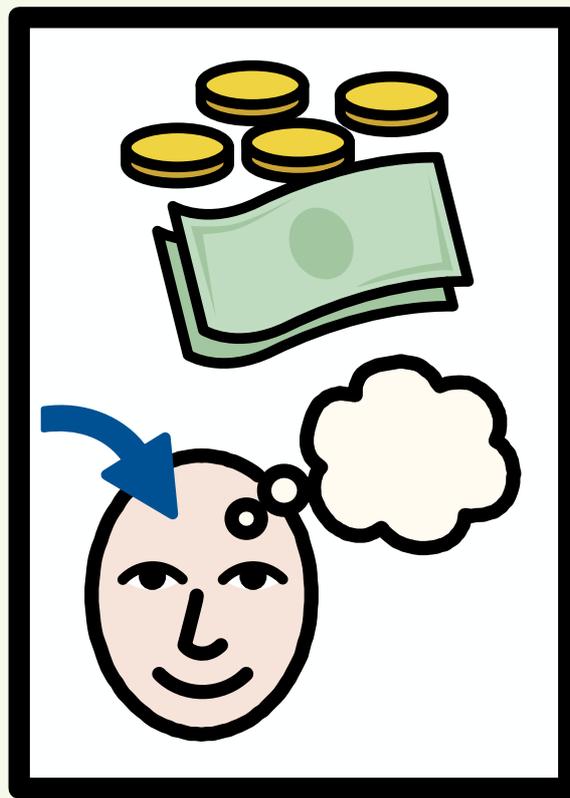


Margaret Thatcher was born in Lincolnshire in 1925.

Her parents were called Alfred and Beatrice.

Margaret grew up in Grantham.

Her parents owned a grocery shop.

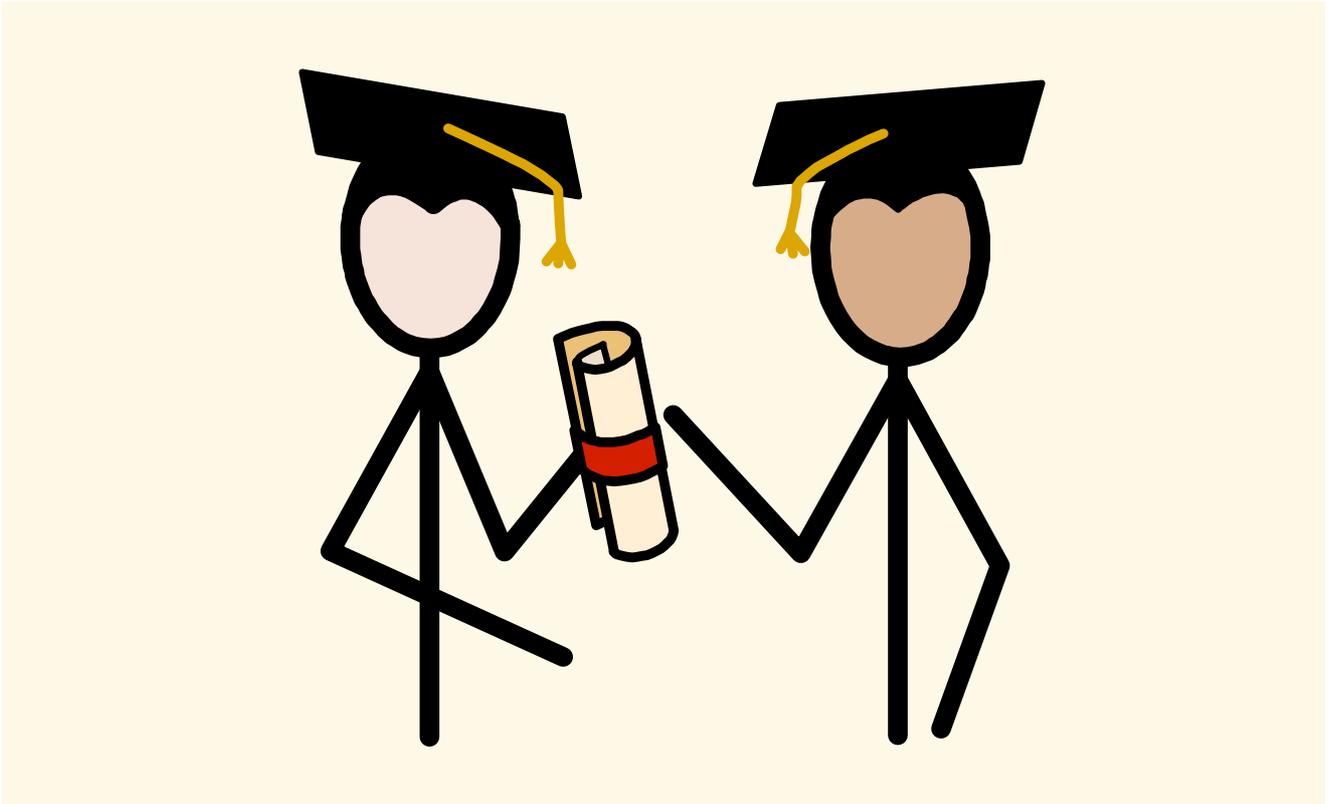


Margaret won a scholarship to a grammar school.

She enjoyed hockey, poetry, swimming and piano.

Margaret was interested in science and chemistry.

In 1944 she won a scholarship to Oxford University.



At Oxford, Margaret studied chemistry.

She also became interested in politics.

She was president of the Conservative Association.

She graduated with an honours degree in 1947.

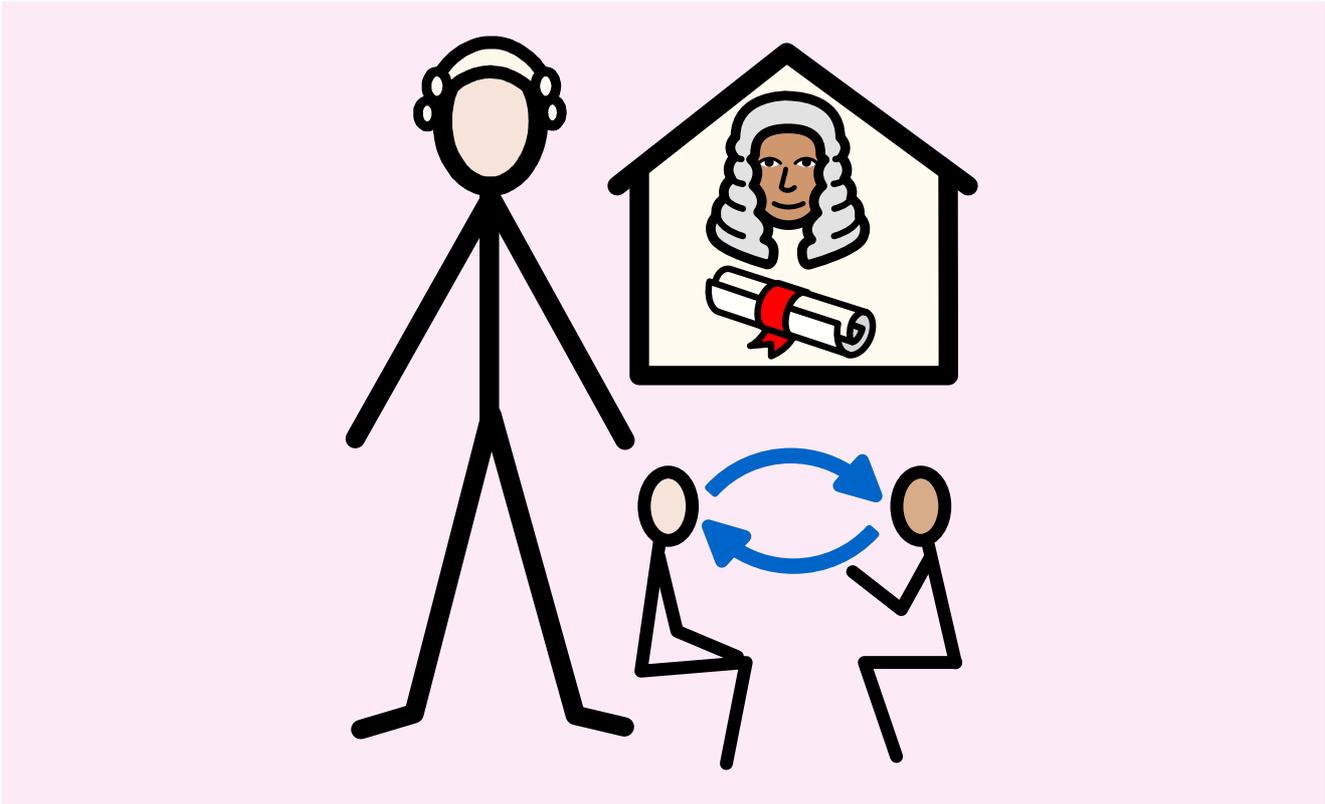


Margaret worked as a research chemist in Colchester.

She also joined the local Conservative Association.

Margaret stood in the elections of 1950 and 1951.

She didn't win but she reduced Labour's majority.

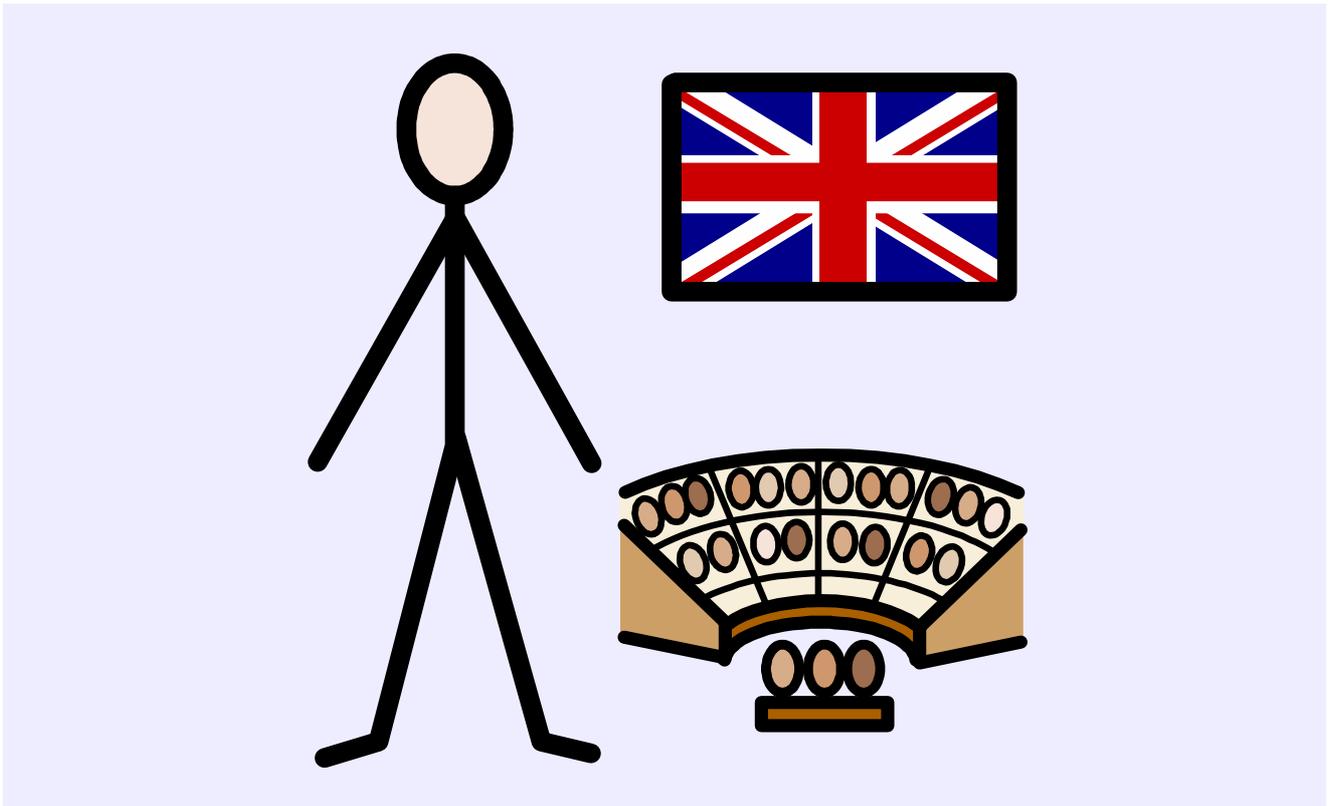


In 1951 Margaret married Dennis Thatcher.

Dennis supported Margaret whilst she studied law.

Margaret qualified as a barrister in 1953.

She also had twins called Carol and Mark.



In 1959 Margaret was elected as MP for Finchley.

Very few women were MP's at this time.

In 1961 Margaret was promoted to the cabinet.

She was the youngest woman to enter government.



In 1970 Margaret became the Education Secretary.

She opposed the closure of grammar schools.

She ended free school milk for children.

This upset a lot of people.



In 1975 Margaret became the Conservative leader.

The Conservatives were in opposition to government.

Margaret was the first woman to lead a party.

Margaret believed in low taxes and less government.

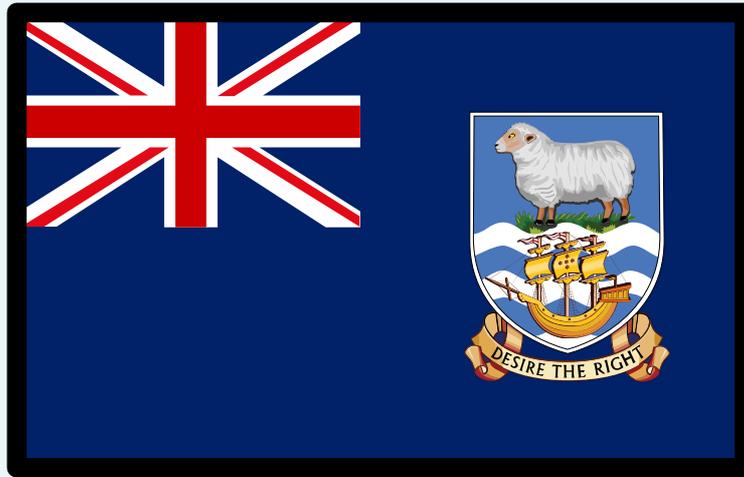


The Conservatives won the general election in 1979.

Margaret became Britain's first female Prime Minister.

She was in favour of more freedom for individuals.

She wanted to reduce spending and restrict unions.

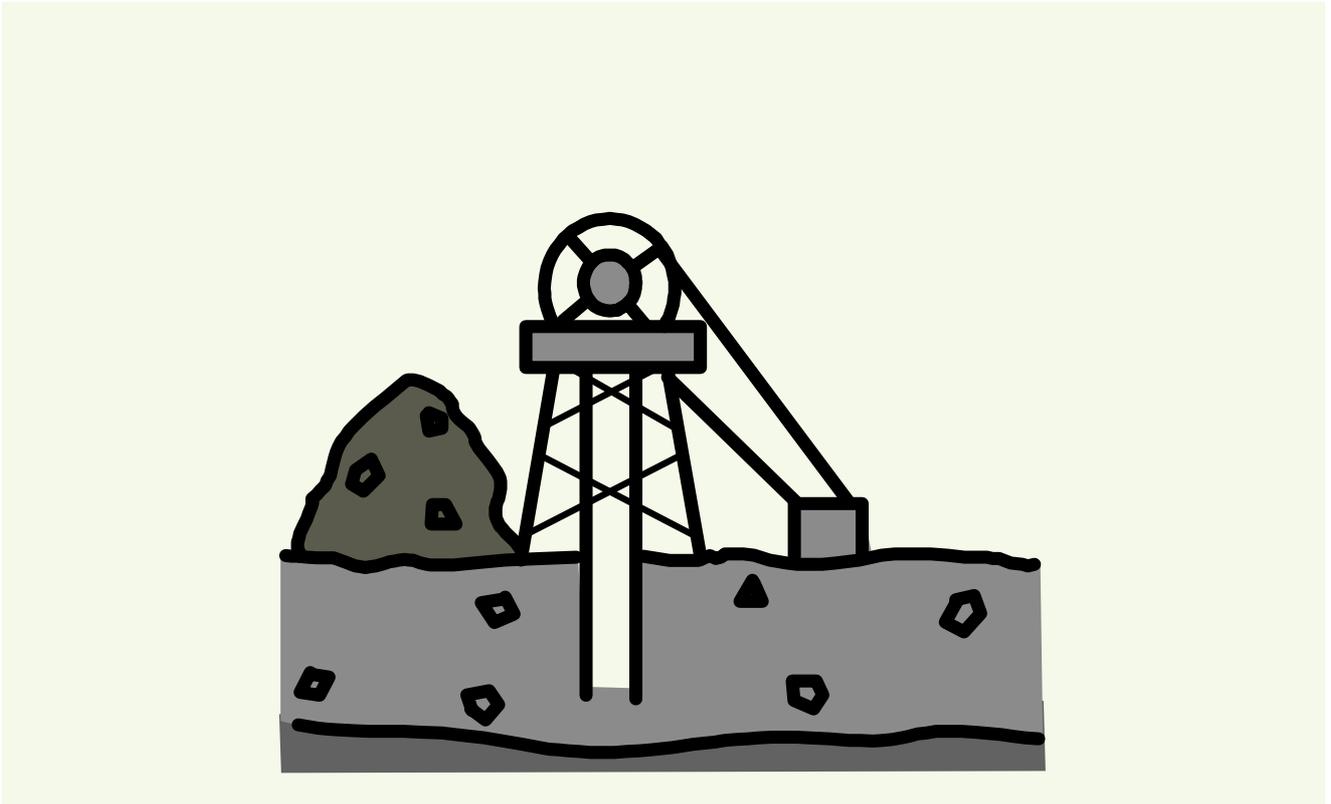


In 1982 Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands.

Margaret sent armed forces to retake the Falklands.

Britain won the Falklands war which lasted 74 days.

She was very popular and won the 1983 election.

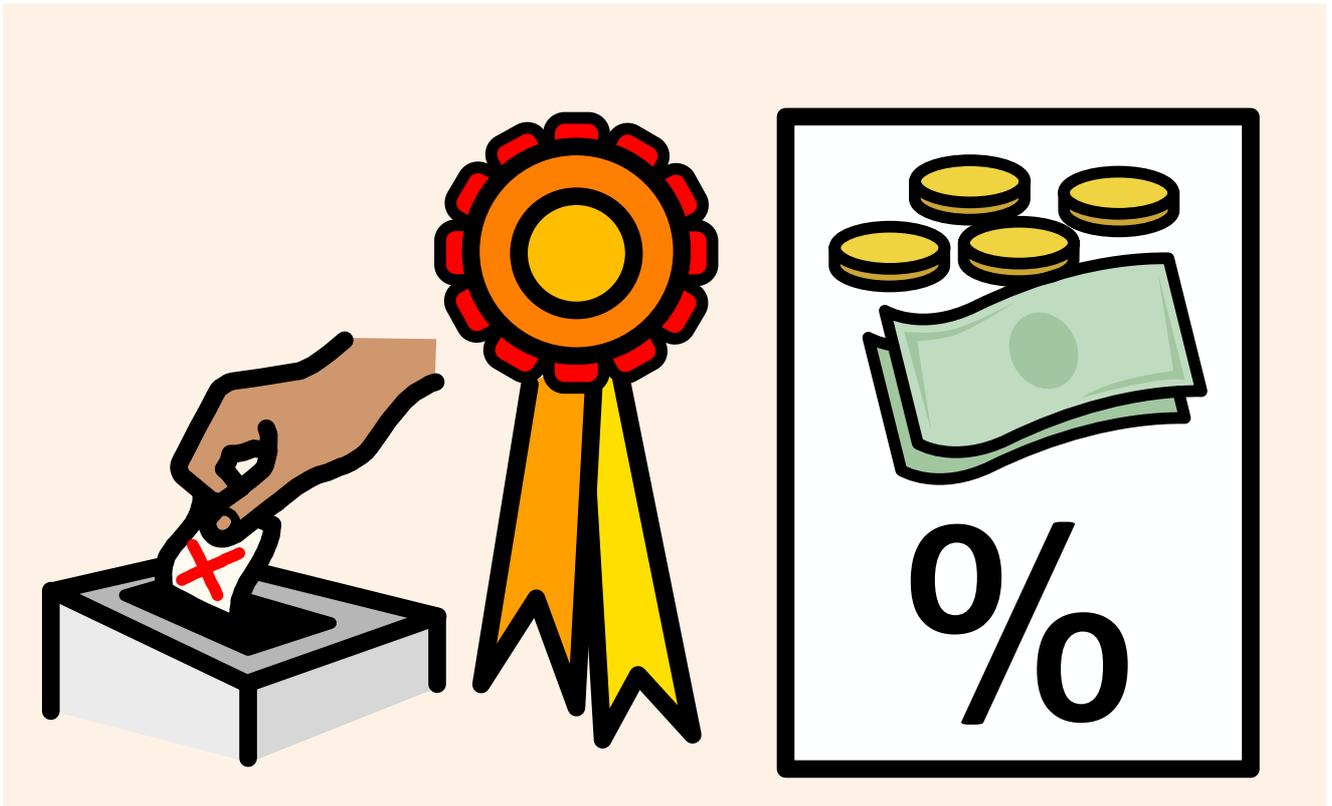


During the 1980's there were many miners' strikes.

The miners opposed the closure of the coal mines.

Margaret wanted to reduce the power of the unions.

Margaret won and the mines were closed.

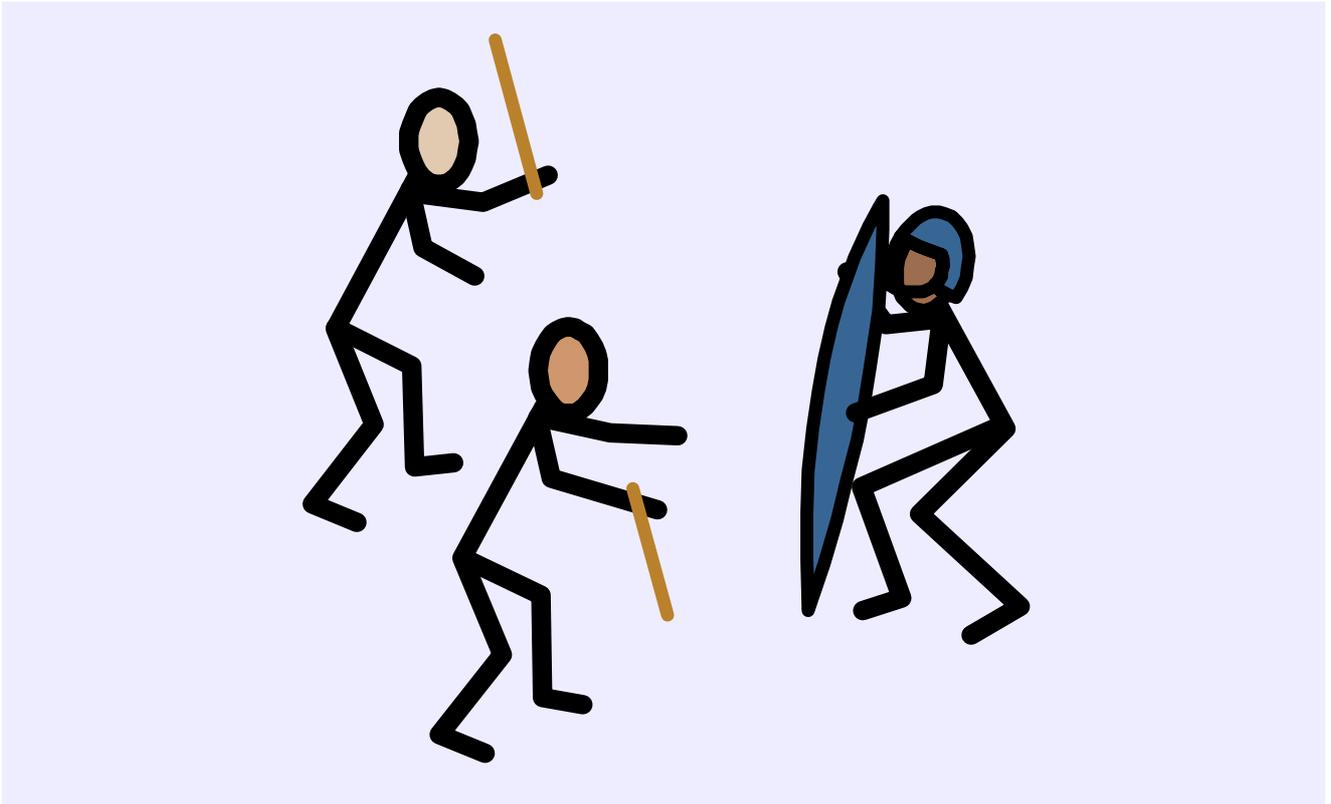


Margaret was a leader who changed British society.

She privatised water, electricity and the railways.

She gave tenants the right to buy their council houses.

She replaced local rates with the poll tax.

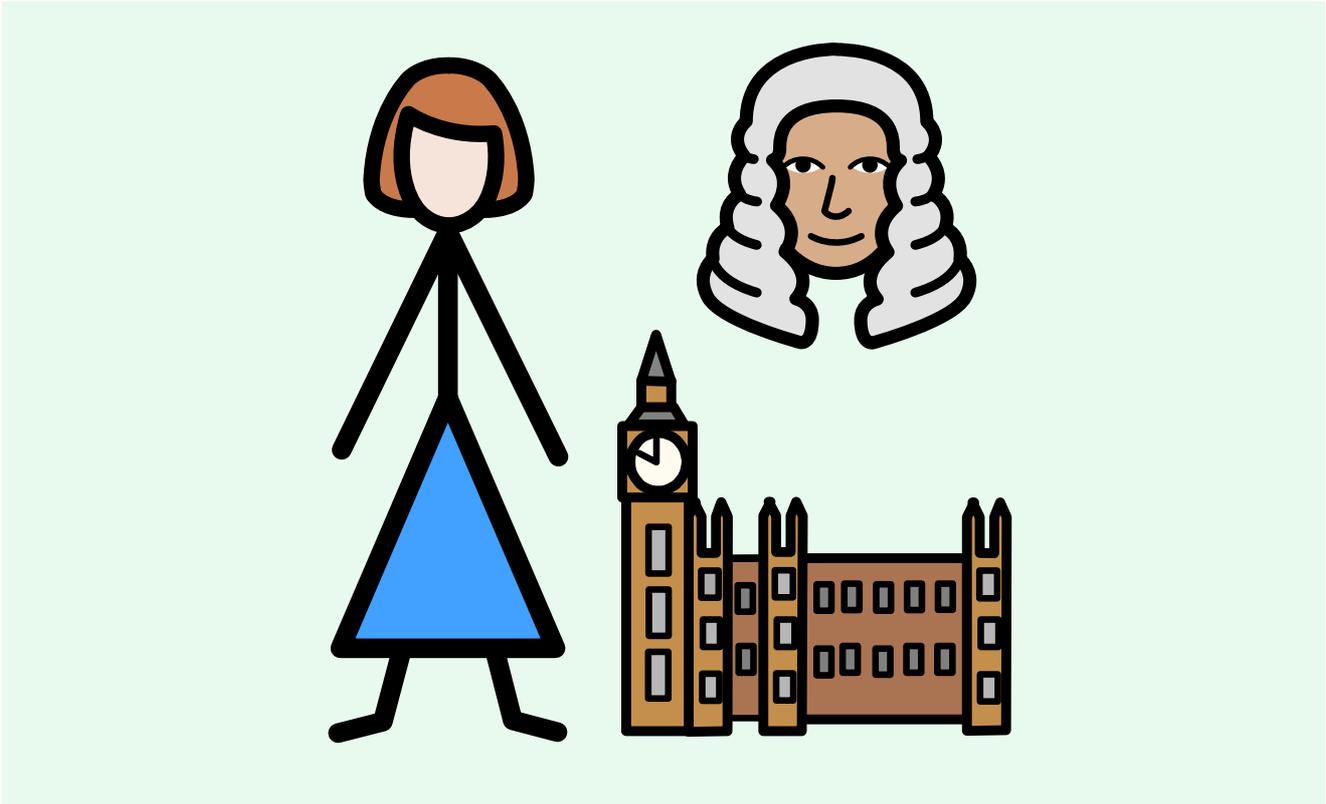


The poll tax was unpopular and there were riots.

In 1991 Margaret lost a leadership election.

She was replaced as Prime Minister by John Major.

She gave speeches and lectures around the world.



Margaret joined the House of Lords as Baroness Thatcher.

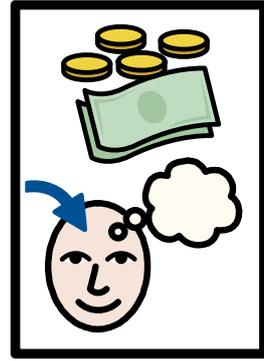
Margaret died in 2013 aged 87.

She had a funeral with full military honours.

Many heads of state attended her funeral.



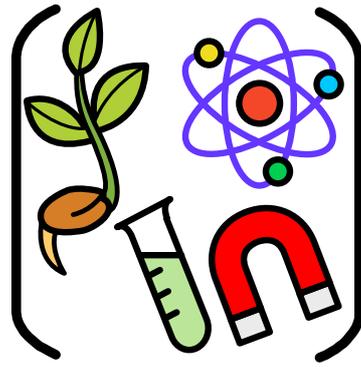
Margaret Thatcher



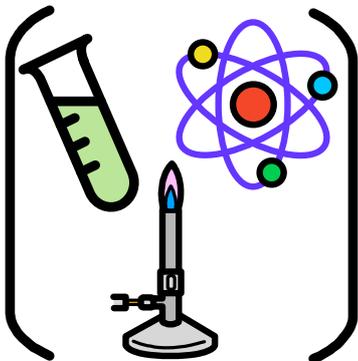
scholarship



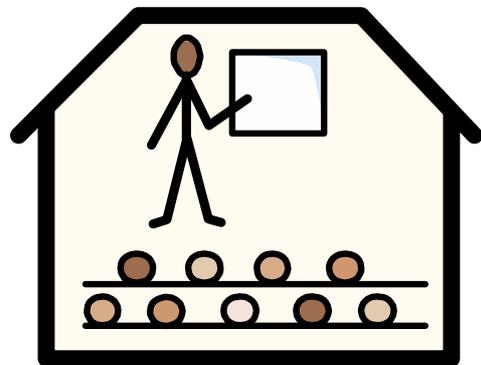
grammar school



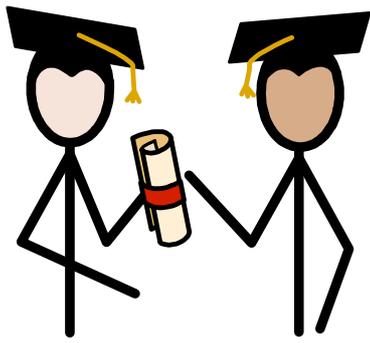
science



chemistry



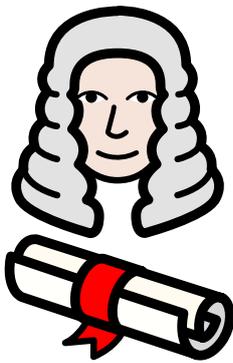
Oxford University



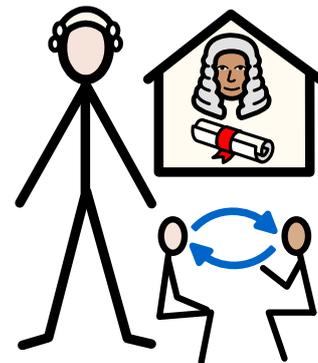
graduated



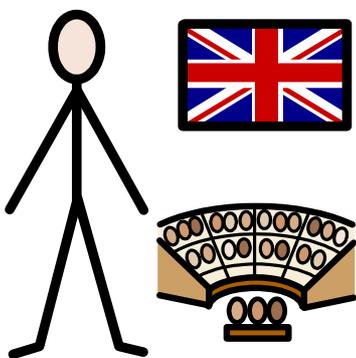
Conservative



law



barrister



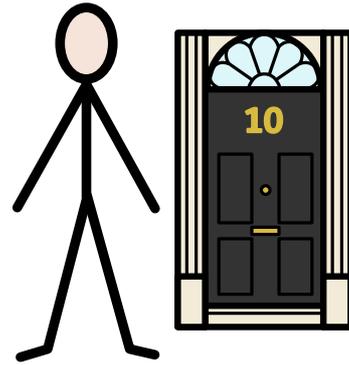
MP



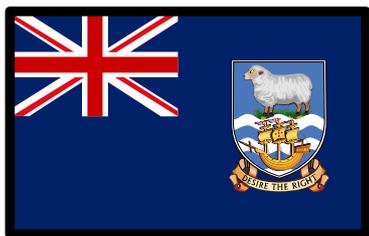
Finchley



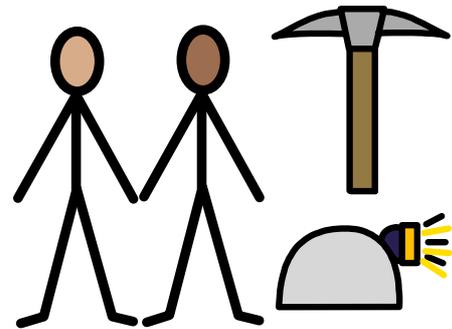
election



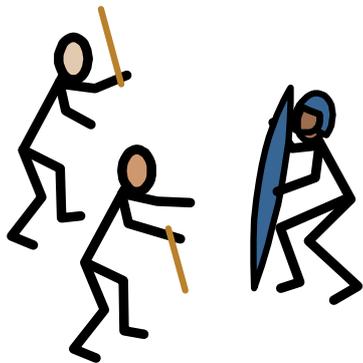
Prime Minister



Falkland Islands



miners



riots



House of Lords