

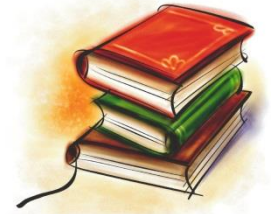
Atherton High School

History Department

AQA GCSE History Study Booklet

Name-

Teacher-



Challenging Royal Authority Booklet 2

The exam board expects you to have a knowledge and understanding of the following:

- Popular uprisings against the Crown: the social, economic, religious and political causes of the Pilgrimage of Grace; the implications for royal authority; Henry VIII and his government's reaction and the impact of the uprising.
- Divine Right and parliamentary authority: the causes of the English Revolution; the New Model Army and the development of political radicalism during the Civil War era; the short and long-term impact of the English Revolution, including the significance of trial and execution of Charles I and Oliver Cromwell and the Commonwealth.
- Royal authority and the right to representation: the causes of the American Revolution including the relationship between the government and people; impact and significance of the American Revolution.

How did Henry change the Church?

Henry VIII became king in 1509. He is best known for having six wives and being desperate for a son to rule after him. His first wife, Catherine of Aragon, was unable to provide him with a son, so he planned to divorce her and marry Anne Boleyn.



But Henry was **unable** to do this because he was a devout (strict) Catholic so he was **not allowed** to divorce without permission from the Pope. However, the Pope would not allow it but Henry **did eventually get his divorce** and managed to change England forever in the process. We will focus on how he was able to do this and what changes took place.

England before the Reformation

The Reformation was a religious movement in the 1500s that began as an attempt to **reform** (change) the Roman Catholic Church. Many people believed that there was a problem with the Church's wealth and its influence in society. Even the king started to question the Church.

The Church had always been an important part of Medieval life. Monasteries were at the centre of many communities, acting as hotels, hospitals and refuges for the poor. Most people were happy with the role of the Church, but others started to feel that the monasteries and nunneries were becoming too powerful. Many people believed that some of those inside had forgotten their vows (promises) of poverty and were living a life of luxury, while people outside starved. These changing attitudes to the monasteries and the Catholic Church in general were increasing due to the writings of Martin Luther in 1517.



Martin Luther was a German monk. He thought that the Catholic Church had too much power and was corrupt. In 1517 he wrote a document called the 'Ninety-five Theses' and nailed it on to the door of his local church. Luther set up a new, Protestant Church - the Lutheran Church. Luther also translated the Bible into German so more people could read and understand it. Luther's ideas spread and were developed further. The Reformation in Europe led to revolution, war and persecution.

Why were some people angry with the Catholic Church?

How did Martin Luther contribute to the religious conflict?

Henry and the Reformation

Henry VIII was a devout Catholic but he was unhappy with the wealth and the power of the Church. Henry saw the Pope as a competing power. People would take direction from the Pope as the head of the Church, but Henry wanted the people of England to listen to him only. He was not a supporter of Luther and the new Protestant religion, but he used these new ideas to go against the Pope and, most importantly, to get a divorce from Catherine of Aragon. The Pope refused to give Henry a divorce, so Henry made himself the head of the Church in England through the Act of Supremacy, 1534. This gave him full control and he no longer had to pay taxes to the Pope in Rome.



Thomas Cromwell

Henry created a law, with the help of Thomas Cromwell, to make it treason to not accept Henry as the head of the Church. Nobles and churchmen were expected to swear the Oath of Supremacy, accepting Henry as head of the church. Many people refused to do this; most famously his Lord Chancellor, Thomas More. Before he was beheaded, More said that he died 'as the king's good servant, but God's first.'

True or False, circle the correct statements:

1. Henry made himself the head of the Church in England through the Act of Supremacy 1534.
2. Thomas More accepted Henry as the head of the Church in England.
3. Thomas Cromwell helped Henry pass a law which would make it treason to not accept Henry as the head of the Church.
4. More was hanged to death.

Dissolution of the monasteries

Henry's divorce was not the only problem he had. Although he had made himself head of the Church in England and he had stopped sending taxes to the Pope, he was still spending far too much money. His conflict with the Pope had angered Catholics in other European countries, and he began to worry about invasion by these foreign Catholics. He therefore made sure every change he wanted was made through parliament. This way, he could blame his government for the changes if anything went wrong.



Cromwell promised Henry that he would make him the richest king in Europe. One way to do this would be to take the money from the monasteries: these actions became known as the dissolution of the monasteries. The monasteries controlled a quarter of all the land in England and had a combined annual income of £200,000. This was nearly double that of the king. In 1536, parliament passed an act closing all small monasteries that had an annual income of less than £200. Cromwell then set up Valor Ecclesiasticus, which was an evaluation of monastery finances (money). He sent inspectors to the monasteries to see what they were spending their money on. If they were seen to not be run properly they would be closed down and the Crown would take the finances. Reports were sent to Cromwell and if they were positive they were sent back to be rewritten in a way that showed them in a less positive light.



Explain Henry's steps to close the monasteries: Read the steps to closing the monasteries and explain what each one was on the right.

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Worried about a War | |
| Cromwell's idea | |
| Valor Ecclesiasticus | |
| Reports | |

Responses to Henry's changes

Not everyone was happy with the changes. The people of England were used to their king increasing taxes. They were used to quarrels with the Pope. They did not, however, support a complete break with Rome, leaving the king in full control.

Why were people unhappy with Henry's changes?

1. Rising prices = Prices normally stayed the same every year, but they continued to rise under Henry. People blamed his advisers.
2. Changes to religion = Many people disliked the changes made to the church. They wanted the monasteries back and the Pope as the head of the Church.
3. Landowners lost influence = Many landowners who had been advisors to the king were not as important to him after his divorce. They had been supporters of his wife: Catherine of Aragon and felt pushed out, they blamed Cromwell.
4. Cromwell's power = Cromwell was seen as the creator of the new religious policies and he had helped Henry get a divorce from Catherine. Many of the landowners disliked him as he was only the son of a blacksmith so they felt he was not important enough to advise the king.

Explain why the **landowners** were not happy with Henry's changes. Use the word 'therefore'.

Explain why the **peasants** were not happy with Henry's changes. Use the word 'therefore'.

The Pilgrimage of Grace

By 1536, King Henry VIII had divorced Catherine of Aragon, married Anne Boleyn (who had a baby on the way), and had taken a firm grip of the Church. He had got what he wanted; he controlled the Church, and had a new wife and possibly a son. He had another surprise waiting for him though - an uprising. Peasants from Yorkshire started to march towards London. They wanted Henry to listen to their demands and return the Pope as the head of the Church. They also wanted the return of the monasteries.



Demands of the pilgrims

In 1536, a rebellion broke out in Yorkshire. It was an uprising by devout Christians who were worried and angered by the changes that Henry had made to the Church. They had to be careful because the change in law meant that criticism of religious changes was a criticism of the king. They could be charged for treason. They found a leader in a lawyer called Robert Aske. He was able to put the case together for the group to show that they were not against the king. In fact, Aske and his fellow protestors all believed in the social hierarchy and royal authority. They had no intention of challenging Henry.



But their aims were to:

- Restore the monasteries (in the north of England the monasteries did important social work and were not as corrupt as some in the south);
- Recognise the Pope as the head of the Church;
- Dismiss Cromwell and other ministers who were giving the king poor advice.

The king and others would be in no doubt of the purpose of this pilgrimage, known as the Pilgrimage of Grace, since the marchers carried a banner showing the five wounds of Christ. This uprising was about religion and was against those who were seen to be corrupting it.

What do you think was the **most** important aim of the Pilgrimage of Grace? Explain why in a PEEL paragraph.

Norfolk marches north

Throughout October 1536, the pilgrims captured key locations. The rebellion began in Lincoln with Lord Hussey, who had been a strong supporter of Catherine. He, and others, wanted a removal of taxes in peacetime. Then York and Pontefract Castle, which had been held by Lord Darcy, a supporter of Henry, were captured. Darcy surrendered to the pilgrims and joined their campaign. By the end of October they had control of most of England, north of Cheshire and Lincolnshire.



Henry was worried. However, he chose just the right man to represent him and negotiate with the pilgrims: the Duke of Norfolk. Norfolk was a Catholic and a critic of Cromwell. The king was sure he would be the man to deal with the pilgrims. On 27 October he met the pilgrims at Doncaster Bridge; he had an army of 8000 men, and Aske had one of 30,000. Norfolk reassured Aske that he would present a list of demands straight to Henry. The rebels took a month to draw up their demands. They were the same as before except this time they added that a parliament must meet in York. They now wanted better representation for the north.

Norfolk reassured Aske and the rebels that royal pardons would be given. Aske took off his pilgrim's badge and the rebels went home.

Why was the Duke of Norfolk the right man to negotiate with the Pilgrimage of Grace? Explain why you think this.

Aske and Henry

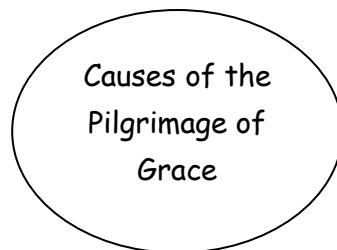
In December 1536, after the list of demands had been given to the king, Robert Aske spent the Christmas holiday with Henry at his palace in Greenwich.

Henry did not disagree with Aske regarding Cromwell. He reassured Aske that he, and the other rebels, had his support. Meanwhile, news was reaching the rebels that the king was strengthening his garrison (army) in the north: he had no intention of sticking to his word. The rebels decided to strike first.

The revolt breaks out again

In January 1537, castles in Hull, Beverley and Scarborough were attacked by the rebels. This gave Henry the excuse he needed to cancel the pardons. Norfolk travelled north again and a further rebellion took him to Carlisle. The rebels surrendered and 74 of them were hanged in their own gardens. Norfolk did not hang more because he felt they had been humiliated enough. The second wave of the rebellion had been quashed.

Make a spider diagram showing the different causes of the Pilgrimage of Grace:



Impact of the rebellion

King Henry VIII had been challenged by the Catholic landowners who had lost their influence after his divorce from Catherine. He was challenged by peasants who were worried about the changes to the Church. They wanted their monasteries back. The one uniting factor for these different social groups was their distrust for Thomas Cromwell. So how did Cromwell deal with the rebels?

Thomas Cromwell takes charge

In the aftermath of the Pilgrimage of Grace, Henry called for Aske, Darcy and Hussey. When they arrived in London they were immediately arrested. Cromwell took a harder line than Norfolk: he was determined that all those who had gone against the king should be killed. Cromwell was keen to remain as Henry's most faithful servant, and he was also annoyed at people getting in the way of his reforms. Aske was killed in York on 12 July 1537. All local landowners were required to come and watch his execution. Darcy and Hussey had been beheaded the previous year in London. Lord Darcy, at his beheading, told Cromwell that the rebellion was his fault. He warned Cromwell that there may be one noble left in the country who may take his head, like he had taken Darcy's and Hussey's.

The end of the monasteries

Henry's reaction to Pilgrimage of Grace sealed the fate on the monasteries. The campaign against smaller monasteries in 1536 now gave way to dissolution of larger monasteries in 1539. Some abbots tried to resist the closures, for example, the Abbot of Glastonbury. He was dragged through the town, hanged, and had his head placed on a spike on the abbey grass. The monasteries were coming to an end.

Monastery land was bought by some landowners. Many monasteries were left empty, having been stripped of the gold and jewels by the monks. The doors, beams, lead and stained glass windows were taken by locals. It is thought that many Tudor houses still standing today have monastic beams in them.



Henry gets what he wants

Court finances improved greatly after the pilgrimage, with the money from the monasteries. Henry spent this money developing the Royal Navy, building more ships like the *Mary Rose*, and reinforcing fortifications (defences); he was still worried about foreign attack.

In the long term Henry consolidated his control in the north with the Council of the North. He increased the power of families who were loyal to him, and secured the border with Scotland. In the short term Henry was convinced about the need for the end of the monasteries and was determined that he should have control over all people and institutions.



Source depicting Henry sitting on his throne with the Pope under his feet.

No more rebellions took place during Henry's reign. He had dealt with the Pilgrimage of Grace with deceit and ruthlessness. The 200 executions that took place at the end of the uprising were a warning to those who dared to challenge Henry's authority. Even Thomas Cromwell was executed. He had fallen out of favour with the king and was charged with treason and corruption. One of the things Henry blamed Cromwell for was encouraging him to marry Anne of Cleves, his fourth wife, who was not to his liking. Cromwell was beheaded in July 1540: Darcy's prediction had come true. King Henry VIII now had full control of the Church and his country.

Write down three consequences of the Pilgrimage of Grace. (Use pages 11- 12)

1. _____

2.

3.

The causes of the English Revolution

In the seventeenth century England faced a civil war, with parliament fighting against the king. It involved Scotland and Ireland, and ended with parliament executing the king. This was a British revolution, and there were many reasons why it took place. We will discover what were the key causes of the revolution were and whether or not the king was to blame.

James I & VI

When Elizabeth died in 1603, James VI of Scotland became James I of England and, for the first time, Scotland and England shared the same monarch. James was an extravagant king who spent money unwisely. This led to tension with parliament when they refused to give him any more money or raise it through taxes. They knew James would give the funds to his favourites at court. However, one area that James succeeded at was religion. He managed to keep the majority of Catholics and Protestants content and happy throughout his reign.



Charles I

When Charles became king in 1625 he was keen to keep order in his court. He believed in the **divine right** of kings and felt that the royal court should be removed from everyday life. He believed he had been appointed by God and did not want many people involved in the decisions about the country. Where his father had been open and had many in his court, Charles only had a few of his favourite nobles at his court. He wanted to make decisions that suited him without being challenged. He made the Duke of Buckingham a favourite (he had also

been a favourite of James), which alarmed parliament because of the influence Buckingham had over the king. Charles responded by simply dissolving (closing) parliament in 1629, and did not call it for another 11 years. Some people refer to this period of personal rule, but others call it the 'Eleven Years' Tyranny.

| Explain one fact about each monarch. Use the word 'because' in your fact | |
|--|--|
| James I | |
| Charles I | |

Foreign policy and the economy

King Charles, like King James before him, had a persistent problem: money. They both needed lots of it from parliament to fight wars, specifically with Spain. Parliament refused to give James this money because he spent much of it on gifts for his favourites. Parliament refused to give Charles money because felt they couldn't trust him. He was married to a



Catholic, the French princess Henrietta Maria. They feared that he might make the church more Catholic. There was also a fear that he would use the money to become independent from parliament. Charles believed it was his divine right to have the money, so he introduced a tax known as 'Ship Money' in 1637. This was a tax that was normally paid by those in towns at the coast so that they can raise money to build a navy. Charles made everyone pay the tax. This was thought to be unfair. Also, Parliament was concerned about Ship Money because it could make Charles financially independent, so that he could make decisions without consulting parliament.

Many people refused to pay Ship Money. One Member of Parliament, John Hampden, refused and was taken to court for failure to pay. He was convicted, but only by 7 votes to 5. There

was a lot of support for Hampden, and the case publicised the opposition towards Charles and his personal rule.

In your own words, explain one **economic** reason why parliament was not happy with King Charles.

Tensions over religion

After Henry VIII's changes to the Church, England had gradually become more Protestant. However, there were still many Catholics in England - many of them worshipping in secret - and some Protestants saw them as a threat. There were Catholic plots against Queen Elizabeth. The famous Gunpowder Plot of 1605 was a Catholic attempt to kill Charles' father, James. Religion was a sensitive issue in the seventeenth century.

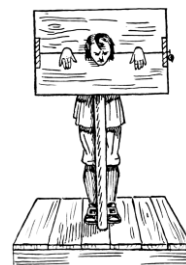
Charles was not Catholic but he did marry a Catholic princess from France, Henrietta Maria. When Buckingham was killed in 1628, she became Charles' closest adviser. The people of England were scared of her influence and what this could mean for their Church.

The person who went on to have the most influence over religion in England was William Laud. He was made Archbishop of Canterbury in 1633. He and Charles wanted some changes in the church. Laud was not Catholic, but he was Arminian, which meant he thought people should worship in a similar way to Catholics. For example, he wanted the church clergy (priests) to be more separate from the congregation and to be dressed in robes that showed their importance; he also wanted churches to be more



decorated, with candles, crosses, stained glass windows, statues and paintings. He wanted to replace wooden communion tables with stone altars (tables for the bread and wine in the Catholic mass) facing East. All of this seemed like a return to the old Catholic ways.

Laud's changes met so much opposition because many **Puritans** - who were Protestants who wanted the king to reverse the **Laudian** reforms - had become important in parliament. They spoke up about their grievances. One famous case of opposition was from three men: Prynne, Bastwick and Burton, who wrote a **pamphlet** (booklet) criticising the Church. The men were tried in the **Star Chamber**, the King's Court. Charles used this court a lot in the years when there was no parliament. It was used against anyone who spoke out against the king and Laud. The court was known for being corrupt because it always came down on the side of the king. Prynne, Bastwick and Burton were punished as thieves would be: pilloried (made to sit in the pillory), their faces branded, and their ears cut off.



There was a lot of public support for the men. Laud and Charles had not expected this. When they were released from prison they were met by a large cheering crowd, and when their ears were cut off people crammed to dip their handkerchiefs in the blood. These men were seen as heroes.

| Match these people to the sentence explaining who they were. | |
|--|---|
| Henrietta Maria | Three Puritan MPs who spoke out against the reforms of Laud, and had their ears cut off! |
| William Laud | The French Catholic Princess who married Charles I. |
| Puritans | The Archbishop appointed by Charles I, who made a lot of changes to the church, bringing back some of the Catholic ways. |
| Prynne, Bastwick and Burton, | Strict Protestants who wanted a complete change from the Catholic church. They wanted a very simple church, and expected Christians to lead simple lives in obedience to God. |

The causes of the English Revolution

1. The Scottish rebellion and the Covenanters

Charles' changes in religion also caused unrest in Scotland. The Scots had always had their own Church which by this time was Presbyterian,



which is a type of Protestantism. However, in 1637, the king insisted that everyone in Scotland should use the new Laudian prayer book. This relied on the catechism - (religious instruction from the priest) - and moved away from the Protestant method of personal worship. There were riots in St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh: the Scots would not be told how to worship. In 1638, they signed an agreement called a **covenant**, saying they would not accept the changes. The people who signed it and its supporters became known as the Covenanters. When Charles sent an army to Scotland in 1639, the Covenanters defeated it. They then invaded England.

2. The Short Parliament and continued opposition

Charles needed more money if he was going to defeat the Scots. Eleven years after he had dissolved parliament, he needed to ask it to meet again, in April 1640. Parliament agreed to provide Charles with funds to fight the Scots, but only with conditions. He had to promise not to pass laws without parliament's agreement, not to raise unpopular taxes, and to stop Laud's religious changes. This parliament was called the Short Parliament as it lasted only a month. Charles would not give in to parliament's demands.

3. The Earl of Strafford

One of Charles' favourites was Thomas Wentworth, the Earl of Strafford. He had been sent to Ireland to keep control. There was tension in Ireland between Catholics and Protestants in social and political life. Many of the Protestants were from Scotland and England: their families had been originally sent to Ireland by James and Charles to keep order and prevent any rebellions; these postings were known as plantations.



Parliament was not happy about Strafford's control in Ireland. He had a strong and loyal army. Parliament was concerned that Charles would try to bring this army to England and use it against the English. When parliament refused to give Charles the funds to fight the Scots, Strafford encouraged Charles to rule England on his own, without parliament.

4. The Long Parliament

Another parliament was called by Charles in November 1640. Charles was running out of options and was keen to defeat the Scots and restore order. He knew he needed parliament. Many people were convinced that the agreements would mark an end to the unrest. However, in August 1642 the English Civil War began. What led to this?

5. Rebellion in Ireland

When Stafford returned to England in 1640, riots broke out in Ireland. Thousands of Protestants were killed by Catholics. Many people in England thought that Charles supported the rebellion: they saw it as a Catholic plot. Parliament was willing to give money to suppress (quash) the Irish rebellion, but they did not want Charles in charge of the army. Despite Charles' response to parliament of, 'By God! Not for an hour!', parliament took control of the army. The king was furious.

1642 and the Five Members

By 1642, relations had deteriorated (got worse) again between the king and parliament. John Pym, a leading opponent of the king, presented the **Grand Remonstrance**. This was a list of grievances towards Charles, and was the straw that broke the camel's back. Charles would not be made of a fool of by parliament to arrest the five men - the Five Members - who led the opposition. They had already escaped but now everyone knew how far Charles would go to protect himself. This was even more proof that he was a **tyrant** who would not listen to the people. Since this time, a monarch has never set foot in the House of Commons.

Complete this table of the events from 1637 - August 1642

| Event | Why would it cause unrest? |
|--|--|
| 1637- The King insisted that everyone in Scotland should use the new Laudian prayer book | The Scots were P..... They did not like L.....'s changes to the church, and did not want to be told how to run their own church. |
| 1638 - the Scots signed an agreement called a covenant | The C....., who signed this agreement, were determined not to accept Charles' changes. They formed an and were ready to..... |
| 1639 - Charles sent an army to Scotland | Charles ended up fighting the Scots. This showed that..... |
| April 1640 - Charles asked to meet Parliament again, the Short Parliament | Charles needed from this parliament but they |

| | |
|---|---|
| November 1640 - Parliament was called by Charles again, The Long Parliament | This parliament also .. |
| 1640 - Stafford returned to England | This led to..... |
| August 1642- the English Civil War | Parliament now began to fight against..... Families were divided, and England was torn by war for 7 years. |

The English Civil War and the role of the New Model Army

In August 1642, Charles was in Nottingham. He called on his loyal supporters, and declared war on parliament. England was now at war, with itself! The English Civil War had begun. For the next six years parliament and the king fought each other using their loyal forces. Mothers, sons, fathers and daughters fought in a quest to win the war, even if it meant fighting against each other. We will learn what they were fighting for.

Who fought whom?

The war was fought on two sides; the **Roundheads** (parliament, sometimes called **parliamentarians**) against the **Cavaliers** (**royalists**). It is generally agreed that people's social class affected who they supported. The wealthy landowners supported the king, as a way to show personal loyalty and to keep in place the social structure they benefited from. The middle classes and peasant workers supported parliament, as the parliament was less bothered about social hierarchy.



Some areas of the country supported one side or the other. The king's support was mostly from the north, and parliament had support in the south and in London. This was partially due to a merchant class (traders and business men, for example) who were not happy about the taxes Charles had been imposing (charging). Religious and political reforms brought in by

Charles gave many people good reason to go against him. Furthermore, many people simply felt that Charles' personality did not make him a good king.

There were reports that some families divided their loyalties so that no matter who won, they would be on a winning side. Many poorer people were forced to support whoever their lord supported.

| |
|---|
| Who did the wealthy landowners support? |
| Who did the middle classes and peasants support? |
| Which areas of the country mostly supported the king? |
| Which areas of the country mostly supported parliament? |
| What were the King's supporters known as? |
| What were parliament's supporters known as? |

Propaganda as a tactic

The war started with a draw at the **Battle of Edgehill, 1642**. The king tried to take London but failed, and withdrew to Oxford. Both sides fought using **cavalry** and **infantry**, and used tactics that had been seen in many battles before. The king's nephew, Prince Rupert, was one of the most prominent (leading) royalist commanders. He led successful campaigns against parliamentary forces and this earned him a bad reputation among the Roundheads.



To combat his successes, parliamentary forces created **propaganda** against Rupert and his trusty dog, Boy, who would accompany him into battle. Propaganda is still used today; it is designed to wear the opponent down and make people turn against them. This worked in the case of Rupert, as it made people think he was weak; it created the idea that the king was weak.

The New Model Army and the Battle of Naseby, 1645

It is important to remember that not all parliamentarians wanted the end of the monarchy. They just wanted an end to Charles' reforms. This attitude angered **Oliver Cromwell**. He was the Member of Parliament for Cambridge and had been leading the Roundheads against the Cavaliers, with **Thomas Fairfax**. Fairfax was a lord who had once worked with Charles to fight the Scots; he joined the parliamentary forces in 1642.



Cromwell was committed to removing the king. He knew that the Battle of Marston Moor could have been a defeat for his side and he did not want that to be the case again. He trained a new army which would be known as the **New Model Army**. He recruited men based on their ability, rather than their position in society. The army was disciplined and lived by a strict religious and moral code. The men were not allowed to drink or swear.

This army was used for the first time at the Battle of Naseby in 1645. The New Model Army, with 14,000 men, outnumbered the king, with 9000 men. They defeated the royalist cavalry by slowly approaching, rather than charging. They overcame the royalist infantry by manoeuvring behind them and attacking from the rear. Naseby was the end of the king's last great army. The New Model Army, under Cromwell, went on to capture Bristol and then Oxford in 1646. There was now little doubt about who would win the war.

Who was Oliver Cromwell?

Who was Thomas Fairfax?

Describe the Battle of Naseby in 1645.

Were the English right to kill their king?

The king had tried to restore his control over England and Scotland but Cromwell's New Model Army proved too strong. **Charles was captured in 1647** by the Scots in Nottinghamshire, and imprisoned. He would go on trial accused of treason. **The king was beheaded on a cold January day in 1649.** He wore two shirts so that people could not see him shivering, and think he was weak.



Second Civil War

While Charles was imprisoned 1647 he was keen to negotiate with parliament to secure a peaceful end to their disagreements. However, he proved to parliament that they could not trust him. He escaped from Hampton Court Palace. He was then imprisoned in Carisbrooke Castle, from where he made two more attempts to escape. At the same time, he was writing to the Scottish parliament to ask them to raise arms against the English parliament and the New Model Army. He promised them a Presbyterian Church in England. The Scots did raise an army against Cromwell and so the **Second Civil War** began. The two sides met at the **Battle of Preston, 1648**. The Scots were defeated and Charles had proved he could not be trusted.

The Rump Parliament

In December 1648, the regiment (army unit) of Colonel Thomas Pride surrounded the Houses of Parliament and refused entry to Members of Parliament who were known to support negotiations with the king. Thomas Pride was a soldier in the civil war and had fought with Cromwell against the Scots. His actions became known as '**Pride's Purge**', and meant the king would stand trial with no supporters. (A purge is getting rid of something bad!). The remaining members formed a parliament that was known as the Rump Parliament.

The trial of Charles I

Charles was called before parliament where a special commission had been put in place to try him for treason. However, out of 135 commissioners due to attend, only 68 turned up. They were scared, as they had openly fought against him; this was not the way society worked. Even Thomas Fairfax did not attend. His wife did, and is reported to have supported the king. For many people things had gone too far. However this was not the case for Oliver

Cromwell. When Charles walked into court Cromwell said, 'I tell you we will cut his head off with the crown upon it.'

Another problem for parliament was that Charles refused to give a plea - he would not say whether he was guilty or not guilty. He said parliament had no right to act as judge and jury. They could not try the king for treason. He did not recognise this court.

On the second day, the court president, John Bradshaw, allowed the king to speak. They exchanged angry words and Bradshaw ordered the king removed. Bradshaw must have known that there was a chance that proceedings would get heated as he wore a specially made bulletproof hat!

With no progress yet made, on 24-27 January witness statements were heard - none in support of Charles. The court heard that Charles:

- Was guilty of starting the war by trying to raise an army in Nottingham;
- Approved of the ill-treatment of parliamentary forces during the war - calling his own subjects enemies;
- Was plotting with his son to start another war while negotiating with parliament.

On 27 January 1649, parliament found King Charles I guilty of treason and sentenced him to death. Bradshaw justified this by saying that Charles had not done his duty by calling regular parliaments, attacking the basic liberties of the country. Charles would be beheaded.

List 2 problems that Parliament faced during the trial.

1.

2.

Execution

At 10:00am on 30 January 1649, the king was taken to Whitehall to be executed. Parliament



made Charles wait hours. This was partly down to the executioners not turning up- they were too scared to be the one to kill the king - and partly down to legislation. Parliament had to secure a law that said no new monarch could be put in place on the king's death. The axe fell and the English Revolution was over.

Was Charles a danger to democracy?

People were motivated by many factors to support the execution of the king. There were religious, political and moral objections to the way Charles had been ruling. As far as the soldiers were concerned, Charles' defeat in battle was a sign that God was against him. Other people wanted an end to the taxes that Charles had asked for. Many enjoyed the new sense of freedom - ordinary men could now have influence too. Cromwell described the king's execution as a cruel necessity.



| |
|---|
| Why were some people against killing the King? _____ _____ |
| Why were some people in favour of killing him? _____ _____ _____ |

How should Oliver Cromwell be remembered?

The **Commonwealth** was the name for the republic under the leadership of parliament after Charles' death. With Charles dead, the parliamentary army was the strongest force in the Commonwealth and its leader, Oliver Cromwell, the most powerful man. Cromwell is one of the most disputed characters in



history. The opinions of him tend to change with shifting political events. When, in the nineteenth century, Britain moved towards a democracy and parliament became more important, historians became more sympathetic towards Cromwell.

However, during the time of the restoration of the monarchy under Charles II, Cromwell was regularly depicted in royalist propaganda as the devil. Many people in Ireland have their own interpretations of Cromwell too.

Cromwell and the Commonwealth:

Positive views of Cromwell's rule?

There were many reasons people supported Cromwell. For example, he won wars against the Dutch and the Spanish and restored England's reputation abroad, and he introduced the Navigation Act in 1651, which stated that any ship coming into or leaving England had to be English. People were free to worship in any way they liked, and many ordinary people felt that Cromwell was on their side.

Negative views of Cromwell's rule?

Cromwell didn't please everyone. He appointed Major Generals to the 11 districts he created. Some people hated the Major Generals because they kept such strict control on many aspects of life: they even tried to stop Christmas celebrations. **The Levellers**, a religious group who believed in equality, were imprisoned by Cromwell, and their leaders were killed. **In Ireland, Cromwell laid siege to the town of Drogheda, and even when the townspeople surrendered he killed them- women and children included.** Land was taken from Catholics in Ireland and given to Protestants, so England would always have Protestant allies in Ireland.

Positive or negative views of Cromwell's rule?

Some aspects of Cromwell's rule can be viewed as positive or negative! For example, Cromwell ended up with more power than Charles, and he secured his son as his successor. He felt that his victories since Naseby meant it was God's **providence** (favour) that he should be in charge, and sinful activities were banned to ensure that the Commonwealth was Godly.

Challenges to the Commonwealth

There were many challenges to Cromwell's Protectorate and from this emerged a political and religious **radicalism** that had never existed before. The civil war saw the development of many Protestant groups, which would challenge Cromwell's authority. The biggest challenge came, however, from a political group. This group was the



Levellers. They wanted a reform to political representation for the men who had fought in the New Model Army. Cromwell met with them and their leader, John Lilburne, during the Putney Debates in 1647 where their demands were heard. Support for them soon decreased and Lilburne was imprisoned. Cromwell was able to rule for 10 years.

The end of Cromwell and the Commonwealth

When Cromwell died in 1658 his son, Richard, took over the role. However, Richard was not interested in politics and resigned in 1659. In 1660, Charles II rode into London and was crowned king of England, Scotland and Ireland.

Cromwell's body was dug up from its grave and hung in Tyburn. His head was placed on a spike where it stayed for decades. Most people were happy to have a king back on the throne. They were fed up after 11 years without a king.

| Explain 3 different points to suggest Cromwell was a positive ruler. | Explain 3 different points to suggest Cromwell was a negative ruler. |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |
| | |

What was the impact of the American Revolution?

Britain had become one of the most powerful countries during the seventeenth century, and used this power to take over other parts of the world, including large parts of North America. However, by the mid-1700s the people of America no longer want to be part of the British Empire. They considered themselves American, and in the late 1700s fought a war against the British; and they won an unlikely victory.



Long-term causes of the American Revolution

The control of large areas of land in North America had been fought over by Britain and France for many years. Britain eventually defeated the French and used the **colonies** there to make money. They grew crops like cotton, tobacco and sugar to sell all over the world. By the early 1700s, there were 13 separate English colonies in North America, and by 1775 there were around 2.5 million settlers living in them. Many people also made huge amounts of money buying and selling the slaves that were used in colonies to farm the land.

Countries such as Britain wanted empires because they could tax the people who lived in the colonies, and ensure that they bought British goods. However, many of the **colonists** in America, despite being of British descent, now considered themselves American.

The American colonists started to resent (become angry with) the economic support they had to give to Britain. One tax they resented was to pay for the British army. The British felt it was acceptable to tax the Americans as the army had, after all, been 'protecting' the colonists from other foreign powers. Throughout the 1760s, the American colonists were also forced to comply with Navigation Acts, which ensured that only British goods were imported into America. There could be no trading with other countries. If Britain produced something, the colonists could not buy it from another country.

In addition, the colonists felt bossed about by the British because they were given boundaries on the land that they could not cross. The British had made these agreements with the **Native Americans** without consulting the colonists. These boundaries stopped them accessing good farmland: the colonists wanted to have more of a say.



Why were American colonists unhappy with British rule. List three factors.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

No taxation without representation: short-term causes of the revolution

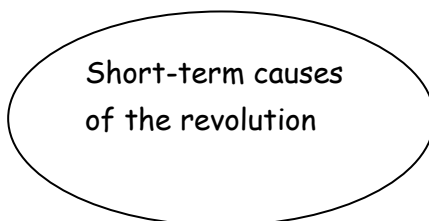
The citizens of America were ruled directly from Britain yet they had no representatives in parliament in London. So they felt there was no one to speak up for them. Throughout this thematic study, from the barons to the working class, this is a common thread - the desire for representation. People wanted a voice in what was done to them and for them, especially if they were expected to pay for it through taxes! So the colonists, who had started to identify as American rather than as British, stated: No taxation without representation!



One key event considered the spark of the fight against the British was the **Boston Massacre of 1770**. When some anti-British colonists jeered, and threw snowballs and sticks at the British army on 5 March, the army opened fire and killed some of them. Unrest in Boston continued to grow when some of the colonists, unhappy with the heavily taxed British tea they were forced to buy, boarded a ship and poured the tea out into the harbour. This became known as the **Boston Tea Party**. This act of defiance scared the British. The British closed the port of Boston in retaliation.

By 1775, anti-British feeling was so strong that when the British army tried to seize a supply of gunpowder in Concord they were fired on by 20,000 'minutemen'. These men were local farmers, clerks and ploughboys who had had enough of British rule. This became known as the Lexington incident and marked the start of the revolution.

Draw a spider diagram for the **short term** causes of the revolution.



Declaration of Independence

The Americans were quick to organise themselves. They met in **Congress** to decide what to do, and by 1775 they had made George Washington the leader of their army.

In 1776 Congress had a meeting in Philadelphia where a Declaration of Independence was issued. This stated that the 13 colonies were

free and that all control from Britain had ended. This was the easy step; the hard part would come in making the declaration a reality. There would be seven years of fighting before the colonists won this war and got their independence.

What was the impact of the American Revolution?

It would be astonishing if one of the biggest and best trained armies in the world were to be defeated by a group of American farmers and clerks. We will learn about the impact this would have on Britain's imperial power.



Yorktown and the defeat of the British

The British had won most of the battles during the American War of Independence. They had a world-class army that was well trained and well supplied. However, many of the battles took place in forest and mountain areas, in land the British did not know well.



The **decisive battle of the war was at Yorktown in 1781**. The American troops, who were thought to be weak, had reinforced themselves with 3000 extra men. Added to this they had the support of the French, who had secured control of the waters around Yorktown. This was important as the British needed to get their supplies in from the sea.

The British commander, Charles Cornwallis, unwittingly helped the Americans by moving his troops onto a **peninsula** (an area of land surrounded by water) as they waited for supplies. They were now cut off and in a weak position. George Washington, sensing the advantage he could have, attacked the British. With few weapons and no supplies, the British were forced to surrender.

The battle at Yorktown saw the immediate defeat of the British and the end of the War of Independence. **America was now an independent country**, and proclaimed itself the 'land of the free'. This was an unprecedented (unheard of!) victory. It showed what could be achieved with a clear cause against an opponent that underestimated your ability.

Complete the paragraph

The British won most of the battles in the American War of I_____. However, at Yorktown in 17____ they were defeated. This was because their commander, George _____ waited on a _____ until he could get _____. This meant that the American commander, George_____ could take the advantage to attack. The British were forced to _____ because they did not have enough _____ to fight on.

Consequences for America

The Americans were delighted with their victory. Using their determination they had defeated the most powerful country in the world. However not all of the people in America were happy with the outcome, and many moved north to Canada which was still under the control of Britain.

The Americans set up their own system of government with a written set of rules (called a **constitution**), a parliament (**Congress**) and a **President**. This system still exists today. Americans now had the representation they desired.

However, not everything was perfect. Many poor farmers, who could not afford to buy their land, could not vote. The rich were represented but not the poor. Furthermore, slavery still existed and Native Americans were widely discriminated against: this was not equality. However by the early twentieth century, America had developed into the most powerful independent country in the world.

Consequences for Britain

Britain had spent a lot of money on the war and had lost a lot of men. The involvement of France on the side of the revolution had worsened relations between the two powers. Britain was able to use the strength of its navy to make up for the loss of America by colonising other parts of the world. America had been used as a **penal colony**, where criminals were sent to work on the **plantations** alongside **indentured servants** who worked to pay off the cost of their passage across the Atlantic. Britain now turned its focus to Australia and New Zealand as a place to send convicts.



Relations with America improved as the years went by and the two countries started to trade with each other. The loss of America was not an issue by the late nineteenth century because by then Britain had a colony in every time zone of the world. The sun never set on the British Empire. And although America had once been considered the most important of the colonies it was soon replaced by India: the 'jewel in the crown'. The main problem for

Britain's leaders was the idea of overthrowing authority was one that might spread to Britain itself. With a growing working population this was possible.

Consequences for the world

The success of America and its fight against British authority one of the most important events in European history. The French were fed up with their king, Louis XVI. People were starving while he and his wife ate rich breakfasts and lived in luxurious palaces. The French people decided to take action, and the **French Revolution began**. There were many long-term factors that caused this revolution but the success of the American Revolution acted as a spark for the people of France to remove the **autocratic** (one-person) rule of their king, Louis. **This would go on to inspire the working class in Britain when it came to their voting rights and representation in parliament.**

Make a bullet point list summarising the consequences of American Independence on America, Britain and the rest of the world. Think about the economic, social and political consequences.

| America | Britain | The world |
|---------|---------|-----------|
| • | • | • |

| Unit Key Words Glossary | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Anglican | "Anglican" is used to describe the people, institutions and churches developed by the Church of England. |
| Autocratic | Ruler who holds all the power. |
| Ballot | Slip of paper used to register a vote, completed in secret. |
| Boston Tea Party | Violent demonstration in 1733 by American colonists before the American war of independence. |
| Cavalry | Soldiers on horseback. |
| Catechism | Fixed questions that are used for religious instruction; common in the Catholic Church. |
| Civil War | War between different groups in one country. |
| Constitution | Written document stating how a country or state is to be governed. |
| Divine Right | The idea that a person (such as a King) has been appointed by God, and has the right to make any decision and not be questioned, as they are God's representative on earth. |
| Indentured Servant | Servant who paid for their passage to a new country by signing a contract stating that they would work for a certain number of years for their master. |
| Indigenous | Originating from a particular place; native. |
| Infantry | Soldiers who fight on foot. |
| Laudian | Something done by William Laud. |
| Legislation | Laws that have been passed by Parliament. |
| Native American | Person that is a member of any of the first groups of people living in North and South America or the Caribbean. |
| Pamphlet | Small booklet containing information; important during the Civil War for spreading ideas and propaganda. |
| Penal Colony | Place of imprisonment and punishment at a specific location. |
| Peninsula | Long stretch of land that is connected to the water but bordered by water on three sides. |
| Plantation | One large farm that specialises in growing usually just one crop. |
| Pilloried | When a person is put in a pillory - a wooden frame and spaces for the head and the hands - to be attacked or ridiculed. |
| Presbyterian | Denomination of Protestantism popular in Scotland |
| Propaganda | This is literature that is used to promote a point of view normally used by the government during the war. |
| Providence | God's intervention in the world. People who believe that something is divine providence believe that God wants something to happen. |
| Purge | Physical removal of something or someone, normally carried out violently or abruptly. |
| Puritan | Hardline Protestant Christian who believes in simple church services and lifestyles. Puritans protested against the practices of the Catholic Church. |
| Radicalism | Wanting complete political or religious reform. |
| Regicide | The killing of a monarch. |
| Star Chamber | Court where people who had gone against the King were tried and this was run by supporters of the King. |
| Tyranny | When all power belongs to one ruler and treatment is normally cruel and unfair. |