KEY TOPIC AREAS 1603-1629:

The Political Nation and Social Basis of Power.
- The Tudor Legacy and the ascension of the Stuarts to the English Throne
- Who are the Political Nation?
- Social basis of Power and the Political Nation’s power.
- The importance of land ownership and other rival forms of wealth.

James I and Charles I Character Court and Favourites
- The character of James I and Charles I.
- How James I’s and Charles I’s characters shaped their monarchies and styles of rule.
- The Favourites of James I and Charles I

Religion and Religious Divisions.
- The importance of the church in early modern Britain.
- Challenges to James I and the Church of England from the Catholics.
- Challenges to James I and the Church of England from Puritans.
- The Development of Arminianism.
- Charles I and religion, 1625-29: the favouring of Arminianism

KEY TOPIC AREAS 1603-1629:

The Finances of the Crown and attempts at reform
- The financial weakness of the crown.
- Attempts to reform and strengthen royal finance during James I’s reign.
- Attempts to reform and strengthen royal finances in Charles I’s reign, 1625-29

Relations and disputes with Parliament 1604
- James’s attitude to Parliament, parliamentary privilege, finance, religion, and foreign Policy.
- State of relations between Charles and Parliament and the reaction of the Political Nation.

The state of relations between Crown and Parliament by 1629
- The state of relations between Crown and Parliament by 1629
- The Three Resolutions.
- The extent of the breakdown between Crown and Parliament and the political Nation by 1629
**A-Level History, HIS1D: Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy 1603-1702**

**Absolutism Challenged: Britain 1603-49**

**Section 1: Monarchy and Parliament 1603-1629**

---

**KEY WORDS**

- **Ante-Supper**: the preparation of 2 huge feasts. The first was displayed and then thrown away before the second was eaten.
- **Arminians**: a denomination of Protestantism who did not want further reform to the Church of England.
- **Bedchamber**: the monarch’s private living space. Gentlemen of the Bedchamber were courtiers who waited upon the monarch in these rooms.
- **Divine Right**: the idea that the power to rule was given to monarchs by God.
- **Favourite**: a courtier very close to the King, often inspired jealousy at court.
- **Feudal**: a system of rule from 1066. Monarchs had the right to grant land to members of the Political Nation in return for military service or payment.
- **Impositions**: a tax or duty in addition to normal customs taxes set by Parliament.
- **Inflation**: a general increase in prices and fall in the value of money.
- **Monopolies**: a prerogative power of the Crown. The king would sell the exclusive right to sell a product or service.
- **Patronage**: a network of support created to help people achieve political success and move as close to the king as possible.
- **Political Nation**: members of society who influence how a country is run (elite).
- **Prerogative**: the power of the Crown derived from the ideas that the monarch ruled by Divine Right.
- **Privilege**: a legal right which allows members of Parliament to speak during sessions of Parliament without fear of legal action.
- **Privy Council**: the King’s selected advisers who met in private to shape the wishes of the monarch into policy.
- **Royal Court**: the group that made up the extended household of a ruler, including advisers and attendants.
- **Subsidy**: A sum of money to promote Crown policies. Usually raised by parliamentary taxation.
- **Tonnage and Poundage**: customs taxes on wine and wool. Usually granted to a king for life by his first Parliament.
- **Unwritten Constitution**: England had no written document which listed the rules by which the state was run. This meant that it was open to interpretation.

---

**KEY INDIVIDUALS**

- **James Stuart**: King James VI of Scotland/I of England, reigned 1603-1625.
- **Esme Stuart**: Favourite from 1579-81.
- **Robert Carr**: Favourite from 1607-13 (Overbury Scandal).
- **Charles Stuart**: James’ son, ruled as Charles I 1625-1649.
- **Robert Cecil**: Treasurer from 1608 - 1612 (Book of Bounty/Rates and Great Contract).
- **George Abbott**: Archbishop of Canterbury 1611 - 1633.
- **Lionel Cranfield**: Treasurer from 1621.
- **William Laud**: a key Arminian cleric who James allowed prominence in court debates, became the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1633.
- **Henrietta Maria**: Catholic wife of Charles I.

---

**How will you be assessed?**

One exam that will take 2 hours 30 minutes.

You are advised to spend around:

- 60 minutes on the first section (question one based on 3 interpretations), and
- 1 hour 30 minutes on the second section (answer 2 essay questions).

6 key questions underpin this course:

- How far did the monarchy change?
- To what extent and why was power more widely shared during this period?
- Why and with what results were there disputes over religion?
- How effective was opposition?
- How important were ideas and ideology?
- How important was the role of key individuals and groups and how were they affected by developments?
KEY EVENTS 1603-25

1603 James VI of Scotland becomes James I of England
Millenary Petition

1604 Hampton Court Conference
Buckinghamshire Election
Shirley’s Case
Bancroft becomes Archbishop of Canterbury
Treaty of London ends war with Spain

1605 Gunpowder Plot
1606 Failure of James’ plan for union of England and Scotland
Bates’ Case
1608 Cecil appointed Lord Treasurer – Books of Bounty and Rates
1610 Failure of the Great Contract
1611 Abbott becomes Archbishop of Canterbury
Authorised Version of the Bible published (King James Bible)
1612 Death of Prince Henry
1613 Marriage of Princess Elizabeth and Frederick V
1614 Addled Parliament
Cockayne Project
1615 Emergence of Buckingham as favourite of James I
1616 Overbury Scandal
1618 Outbreak of Thirty Years’ War in Europe
1619 Buckingham appointed Lord High Admiral
1621 James’ Third Parliament
Lionel Cranfield appointed Lord Treasurer
James tears Protestant Oath out of Commons Journal
1623 Prince Charles and Buckingham go on the Madrid Trip
1624 James’ Fourth Parliament
Subsidy Act
Monopolies Act
1625 James dies
Charles I crowned king

KEY EVENTS 1625 – 29

1625 Charles crowned King
Charles’ First Parliament
Charles marries Henrietta Maria of France
Buckingham’s unsuccessful expedition to Cadiz
1626 Charles’ Second Parliament
Forced Loan
York House Conference
1627 Charles declares war on France
Five Knights’ Case
Buckingham’s failed La Rochelle expedition
1628 Assassination of Buckingham
Petition of Right
William Laud appointed Bishop of London
1629 Treaty of Susa ends war with France
Three Resolutions – Personal Rule

Example Question 1:
This will always be based on 3 interpretations and will be worth 30 marks. You should spend about 60 minutes on this type of question. You have to answer question 1!
1. Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the views are in these three extracts in relation to James I’s views on monarchy.

Example extract (there will be 3 like this):

Extract A
James’ views on kingship and the art of politics were far more subtle and perceptive than the traditional stereotype of an aspiring absolutist wedded to the Divine Right of Kings suggests. James’ respect for the rule of law is very striking. He distinguished carefully between ‘a lawful good king’ and a ‘tyrant’. James praised Parliament as the highest court of law and the Crown’s partner in making legislation. James argued that it was crucial for the monarch to work harmoniously with Parliament. Above all, James realised the value of personal contact with the political elite. James’ ideas about kingship made him eminently suitable to tackle the challenges of ruling England. An excellent insight into James’ view on monarchy is afforded by his speech to Parliament in March 1610. This whole speech appealed to an ideological framework which commanded a remarkable level of agreement. It demonstrated a much greater readiness to engage with the constitutional traditions of England than James is often credited with.
Adapted from D L Smith, A History of the Modern British Isles, 1603–1707, 1998

Example essay question:
The next 2 questions are essays and you choose 2 from 3 possible questions. They are worth 25 marks each. You should spend around 45 minutes on each question. Here is an example:

‘The personalities of the early Stuart monarchs were responsible for a breakdown in relationships with Parliament between 1603-29.’

Assess the validity of this view.
Unit 1 Part A: Liberal Italy 1870-1900 - From Unification to Crisis:

- The political, economic and social condition of Italy c1900: the legacy of unification; divisions between North and South; the conflict between Church and State; class divisions

Unit 1 Part B: Liberal Italy 1900-1915 – From Giolitti to War

- The political system and Giolittianism: the role of the monarchy; the dominance of government by the liberal oligarchy; anticlericalism; the role of Giolitti
- Challenges to the ruling elites: Industrialisation and social change; the rise of socialism and new political movements
- Italian foreign policies: the Triple Alliance; colonial ambitions in Abyssinia and Libya; Italy’s decision to enter the war in 1915

7 key questions underpin this course:

- How stable, secure and united was Italy by 1900?
- How stable, secure and united was Italy by 1915?
- How did the First World War make the problems of Liberal Italy worse?
- Why was Mussolini appointed Prime Minister of Italy in 1922?
- How did Mussolini consolidate his power in the years 1922 to 1926?
- To what extent did Mussolini create ‘a nation of fascists’?
- Why did Mussolini fall from power?
Count Cavour: Prime Minister of Piedmont (1852-61). He was a moderate Liberal who wanted to create an independent Liberal state in the northern half of Italy. He realized that Piedmont would need French help to defeat Austria. Was worried about radical nationalists but eventually managed to outmanoeuvre them to create a Liberal Italian state as an extended form of Piedmont.

Francesco Crispi: Minister of the Interior (1876 and 1877). Was Prime Minister of Italy (1887-90 and again from 1893-96). In foreign affairs he was pro-German and anti-French. He pursued a policy of colonial expansion.

Agostino Depretis: A supporter of Cavour and the Piedmontese monarchy and was Prime Minister on several occasions between 1876 and 1881. His administration passed important reforms concerning education, taxtion and the franchise, and engineered Italy’s entry into the Triple Alliance in 1882.

Count Otterino Gentiloni (1865-1916) The head of the Catholic Electoral Union. He was a conservative Catholic and opposed the ‘modernist’ wing of Catholic reformers who shared many of the socialists’ aspirations. He claimed to have influenced the 1913 election results in 228 constituencies by persuading Catholics to vote for Liberal candidates who would be favourable to the policies of the Catholic Church. This is known as the Gentiloni Fact and it helped Giolitti to survive the 1913 elections.

Garibaldi: Radical nationalist guerrilla leader. Popular with the masses and aimed to liberate them although his peasant followers were hoping for social reforms rather than a united Italy. Made the mistake of trusting Victor Emmanuel. In 1860, 1862 and 1867 he tried to march on Rome to gain it for Italy. He toured Britain and was well known for his red shirt and inspired the Garibaldi biscuit!

Giovanni Giolitti (1842-1928) A Liberal politician and Prime Minister on five separate occasions. Giolitti was an expert in Transformismo, using corruption, patronage and manipulation to achieve his political aims. He believed that Liberal governments should help the poor through social reforms and was responsible in 1912 for adding 5 million more male voters to the existing electorate of 3 million. He tried to win support by working with moderate Socialists and Catholics. He tried in 1891 to keep Italy out of the First World War. He toured Britain and was well known for his red shirt and inspired the Garibaldi biscuit!

Mazzini: Radical Republican nationalist. He failed to inspire mass revolts and became a fierce critic of the ‘conservative revolution’ nature of unification.

Benito Mussolini (1883-1945) Prime Minister and Fascist dictator of Italy from 1922 to 1943. He trained as a teacher and in 1902, while living in Switzerland, he became a socialist. He was expelled from Switzerland for revolutionary activity. After military service in 1910 he founded a weekly socialist paper and began a career as one of Italy’s most notable journalists. By 1911 he was editor of the socialist paper Avanti. He became increasingly convinced that nationalism was the key to political power and was expelled from the Socialist Party when he abandoned the pacifist line and supported joining the First World War against Austria. Having supported Italy’s participation in the First World War and considered a communist revolution in Italy, Mussolini joined the Fascists. He became Prime Minister in 1922 and established a dictatorship by the end of 1925.

Pope Pius IX: Leader of the Catholic Church. Lost control of Rome and the Papal States to the new Kingdom of Italy in 1870. He was a conservative and denounced the united Italian State as ‘un-Christian’ and refused to recognize the legitimacy of the State. He also forbade Catholics to vote in elections and take part in the political life of the new nation, depriving it of a stabilizing force.

Pope Pius X (1903-1914) felt that some Catholic activists had become too sympathetic to socialism. He thought their influence was too great and was unhappy that they were out of the control of the church hierarchy. His response to what he called the sin of ‘modernism’ was to abolish the Opera dei Congressi in 1904 and replace it with Catholic Action, which was controlled by the bishops.

Antonio Salandra (1853-1931) Prime Minister from 1914-1916 and a prominent moderate liberal and former university professor. In 1915, he took Italy into the First World War, causing a bitter split with anti-war liberal politicians like Giolitti so that the two men found it impossible to work together after this. He failed to impose political control over the Italian military campaign and after the war, he backed fascist policies. In 1928, he became a senator under Mussolini.

Sidney Sonnino (1847-1922) Served as minister of finance under Prime Minister Crispi and became Prime Minister briefly in 1906 and again in 1909-10. At the outbreak of the First World War, he was a supporter of the Central Powers. After becoming foreign minister in November 1914, he switched his allegiance to the Entente. With Prime Minister Salandra in 1915, he negotiated the Treaty of London. Sonnino was disappointed with the results of the Paris Peace Conference and retired from politics in 1919.

Filippo Turati (1857-1932) A Milanese lawyer and founder member of the Italian Worker’s Party in 1892 (which became the PSI, the Italian Socialist Party in 1893). This was a Party of workers who sought to achieve socialism but in the meantime, they would work towards social reform which would benefit workers. They believed in reform through parliament and co-operation with existing bourgeois parties and so they tried to win parliamentary seats.

Vittorio Emanuele II: King of Piedmont, head of the House of Savoy and became the first King of Italy in 1861.

Vittorio Emanuele III (1860-1947) Became King of Italy in 1900 at the age of 30. He was shy, short and devoted to the army. Despite being rather uncharismatic, he was anxious to be a good constitutional monarch. His father informed him that all he needed to do to be king was to ‘be able to ride a horse, sign his name and read a newspaper’. He supported Italy’s entry in the First World War in 1915.

Umberto I: Came to the throne in 1878 after his father’s death and was assassinated in 1900 by an anarchist.
**Neutralists** Italian politicians who argued that Italy should remain neutral during the First World War. They were worried that Italy was not ready for war and that war would harm the country and the economy.

**Opera dei Congressi e dei Comitati Cattolici** A lay Catholic organisation founded by the Church for Catholics to work through to promote moral causes and the interests of the Church. It was influential in local government, focussed on education and rural banks to help Catholic peasants. By 1897, it ran 24 daily newspapers and 155 journals.

**Pacifist** Someone who rejects war and violence, believing that disputes should be settled peacefully.

**Petty bourgeoisie** The lower-middle class, including minor businessmen or traders.

**Sacred egoism** A phrase used by PM Salandra which indicated that he would negotiate with the other powers purely to secure gains for Italy.

**Syndicalism** A radical form of socialism.

**Syndicalist Party** Revolutionary group committed to the idea of achieving power through industrial action, like strikes. This is often referred to as direct action.

**Trade Deficit** A country has trade deficit if the value of what it imports exceeds the value of what it exports. A prolonged period of trade deficit can cause a country to go into debt.

**Treaty of London** France, Britain and Italy agreed that at the end of the First World War, Italy would be given the Austrian districts of Trentino, South Tyrol and Istria as well as the city of Trieste and a large part of Dalmatia on the coast of the Adriatic Sea. It gave the Allies, valuable Italian military support.

**Triple Entente** An alliance between Great Britain, France and Russia formed in 1907.

**Universal male suffrage** the right of all men over the age of 21 to vote, introduced in 1912.
Example essay question:

The next 2 questions are essays and you choose 2 from 3 possible questions. They are worth 25 marks each. You should spend around 45 minutes on each question. Here is an example:

‘To what extent had Giolitti made Italy more secure by 1915?’

(25 marks)

Example Question 1:

This will always be based on 3 sources and will be worth 30 marks. You should spend about 60 minutes on this type of question. You have to answer question 1.

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of this source to an historian studying Italy in the early years of the 20th century.

Source A

From ‘The Proletarian Nations and Nationalism’, by Enrico Corradini, published 1911. Corradini was a writer and a Nationalist. He was a founder of the Italian Nationalist Association in 1910.

We must seek to discover the reasons why Italy does not possess any developed national awareness. We must start by recognising that she does not possess one, because she cannot. And here are the reasons why she cannot:

First of all, until quite recently, Italy had, in fact, never been a nation.

Secondly, Italy has never had, and still does not have, a national language except in literature.

Thirdly, she was created with little fighting and little revolution.

Fourthly, Italy was created as a result of the efforts of too many people, often in conflict among themselves and these conflicts persisted and still persist.

Fifthly, Italy too quickly declined into the class struggle.

Finally, Italy – and this could not be otherwise because of the smallness of the revolution which created her – fell into the hands of politicians who are the dregs of traditions and people already decadent and decaying under a regime of tiny, timid government.

KEY EVENTS

1900 King Umberto assassinated
1900-1914 Rapid industrialisation in the north of Italy
1900-1914 Giolitti is Prime Minister for much of this time and introduces a series of reforms to try to win over the masses
1901 Giolitti Minister of the Interior
1902 Women’s working day limited to 11 hours and child labour under 12 banned
1903 Giolitti becomes Prime Minister
1904 General Strike in Italy, with violent incidents in Milan. Subsequent elections return a conservative majority
1907 71 car manufacturers operating in Italy
1907 Compulsory rest day each week introduced
1908 Olivetti typewriter production starts
1910 Italian Nationalist Association founded and first National Congress held
1910 41 sugar refineries operating
1911 Italy defeats Turkey and annexes Libya
1911 Mussolini became editor of the socialist paper ‘Avanti’
1912 Franchise extended to all literate men over 21 and all men over 30
1912 Mussolini emerges as a major leader of radical Socialists
1912 FIAT begin production of cheap mass-produced cars
1913 The Gentiloni Pact, the Catholic Electoral Union sought guarantees on educational issues and attitudes towards divorce before it recommended Catholics to vote for individual liberal candidates
1914 March Resignation of Giolitti
1914 March Salandra appointed Prime Minister by the king
1914 June Wave of unrest; Red Week
1914 August Outbreak of First World War, Italy is initially neutral
1914 Nov Mussolini is expelled from the Socialist Party for arguing that Italy should join the war
1914 Mussolini founds the important paper ‘Il Popolo d’Italia’ (after the War, this became the main source for spreading the fascist message)
1914 1 million kilowatts of hydroelectric power produced
1915 April Treaty of London with Allies promises Italy major gains if it joins the war
1915 May Italy joined First World War on the side of Britain and France

Example essay question:

The next 2 questions are essays and you choose 2 from 3 possible questions. They are worth 25 marks each. You should spend around 45 minutes on each question. Here is an example:

‘To what extent had Giolitti made Italy more secure by 1915?’

(25 marks)