

A-Level History, HIS1D: Stuart Britain and the Crisis of Monarchy 1603-1702  
Absolutism Challenged: Britain 1603-49  
Section 2: Revolution 1629-1649. Part 2: 1642-1649

KEY TOPIC AREAS 1642-49:

**The English Civil War: 1642-46**

- Civil War in Scotland
- Civil War in Ireland
- First Civil War in England, 1642-46
- The failure to reach a settlement with the King
- Divisions between Parliament and the Army

**Causes of the Second Civil War**

- Events culminating in the second Civil War

**The Second English Civil War: 1648-49**

- The Second Civil War, 1648-49

**Social Divisions: Religious and Political radicalism.**

- The emergence of Political and Religious radicalism
- The levellers
- The Diggers
- Fifth Monarchists

**The trial and execution of Charles I**

- Pride's Purge and the establishment of the 'Rump Parliament'
- The trial and the role of the commissioners
- The execution of the King

**Exam Question Command Words:**

- **Assess** - evaluate or estimate the nature, ability, or quality of.
- **Extract** - a short passage taken from a text, film, or piece of music
- **Historical context** - the historical events, or the climate of opinion, that surround the issue at hand
- **To what extent** - essentially this is asking "How far do you agree"
- **Validity** - (of an argument or point) having a sound basis in logic or fact; is it reasonable or correct? Simply put, is it valid?

**PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE  
ADVICE**

**P - Point:** State the point/argument that you want to make

**E - Evidence:** provide specific evidence to support the point that you have made

**E - Explain:** Give the reason why your choice of evidence explains /supports your plan

Using the connectives will help you to produce better paragraphs as well.

**D - Develop:** Explain how your idea compares to others, draw in a counter-argument

### KEY WORDS

**Act of Oblivion:** Wanted by Rank and File soldiers to give them indemnity (freedom from prosecution for any crimes committed during the war)

**Agitators/ adjutators:** men and junior officers who took a leading role in the political life of the army

**Agreement of the People:** Leveller manifesto demanding universal male suffrage

**Case of the Army Truly Stated:** a political manifesto drafted by the political wing of the army

**Cessation:** A one-year truce between the Catholics forces and Charles in Ireland 1643

**Clubmen:** Neutral informal armies set up, mainly in the west country, to stop mainly Royalists from taking local supplies

**Commissions of Array:** Medieval way of calling up supporters to arms (via letters) used by Charles July 1642 and causing confusion

**Committee of Both Kingdoms:** Committee that ran Parliament's war effort after the Solemn League and Covenant

**Cornet:** lowest rank for an army officer

**Diggers:** Led by Gerrard Winstanley they advocated no land ownership and set up communes in 1649 such as at St George's Hill. Called themselves the 'True Levellers'

**Engagement:** Charles's secret alliance with the Scots under which they would invade in return for a trial of Presbyterianism for 3 years

**Grandeess:** NMA leaders, more conservative (didn't want settlement without Charles before Second Civil War)

**Heads of Proposals:** Settlement offered to Charles by the NMA grandeess in 1647 with 10 years limits on monarchy

**Impressment:** Conscription – introduced by Parliament from 1643 and Charles from 1644

### KEY WORDS

**Levellers:** Created by John Lilburne they advocated extension of voting rights and influenced the NMA rank and file 1647-9 before being violently suppressed

**Localism:** or regionalism. Problem faced by the Royalists mainly that they were unable to coordinate troops from different regions under different commanders into a 'win the war' strategy

**Newcastle Propositions:** First settlement offered to Charles in 1646 by the Political Presbyterians. Advocated 20 year limitations on monarchy and Presbyterian church set up in England

**New Model Army:** 'Go-anywhere' professional army set up in 1645 after the Self-Denying Ordinance

**Political Independents:** Allied to the army, this group wanted concessions from Charles before the army disbanded and religious toleration for Protestant sects

**Political Presbyterians:** More conservative group that sought the return to normality through disbanding the army and a Presbyterian system

**Regicide:** the act of killing a king; also a person who takes part in killing a king

**Rank and File:** Ordinary soldiers, influenced by Levellers

**Remonstrance of the Army:** Document issued to Parliament by Ireton and the NMA Rank and File after the end of the Second Civil War calling for judgement of Charles

**Sequestration:** Seizure of Royalist estates to pay for civil war by Parliament from 1643

**Solemn League and Covenant:** military alliance formed in 1643 between the English Parliament and the Covenanters

**Trained Bands:** Most professional fighting force in England at the start of the Civil War, based in London

**Vote of No Addresses:** Parliament agrees to make no further negotiations with Charles; repealed in August 1648

## KEY EVENTS 1642-1649

- 1642:** April: Anti-Catholic Scottish army of 10,000 lands in Ireland  
October: Battle of Edgehill  
November: Turnham Green
- 1643:** Agreement between Ormond (on behalf of Charles) and Irish Catholic Confederacy  
September: Solemn League and Covenant
- 1644:** July: Battle of Marston Moor  
October: Second Newbury  
December: Self-Denying Ordinance
- 1645:** February: New Model Army created  
June: Battle of Naseby
- 1646:** May: Charles surrenders to Scots at Newark  
July: Newcastle Propositions
- 1647:** June: Declaration of Dislike (Politicisation of New Model Army); seizure of Charles by NMA.  
July: Heads of Proposals  
October: Agreement of the People  
October-November: Putney Debates; mutiny at Corkbush Field  
December: Charles escapes NMA; The Engagement; Vote of No Address
- 1648:** Jan: Vote of No Addresses  
April: Windsor Prayer Meeting; uprisings in Kent and Essex.  
Battle of Preston (Defeat of Charles in Second Civil War)  
Aug: Repeal of Vote of No Addresses  
Nov: Newport Treaty offered to Charles Remonstrance of the Army;  
Dec: Pride's Purge
- 1649:** Jan: Regicide of Charles I

## KEY INDIVIDUALS

**Charles Stuart:** ruled as Charles I 1625-1649

**Prince Rupert:** of the Rhine. Charles I's nephew. One of Charles' military leaders – eventually became commander-in-chief of Royalist armies

**Thomas Fairfax:** Yorkshire member of the gentry who was chosen to lead the New Model Army from 1645.

**Oliver Cromwell:** MP for Huntingdon from 1640, emerged as a cavalry captain in Eastern Association Army, exempted from Self-Denying Ordinance in 1643, became Commander in Chief of the NMA in 1650 and Lord Protector in 1653.

**Denzil Holles:** Opposition MP to CI (one of 5 Birds); emerged as leader of the Presbyterian faction from 1645.

**Henry Ireton:** Cromwell's son-in-law, also exempted from the Self-Denying Ordinance; instrumental in regicide.

**Cornet Joyce:** Seized possession of Charles for NMA in 1647 on orders of Grandees.

**Colonel Pride:** Arrested and turned away MPs not sympathetic to putting Charles on trial during Pride's Purge Dec 1648.



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### 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 Charles I and reasons for the outbreak of the Civil War.**

Example extract (there will be 3 like this):

#### **Extract C**

Charles was cold, prudish, withdrawn, shifty. He was a runt, a weakling brought up in the shadow of an accomplished elder brother. Charles was short, a stammerer, a man of deep indecision who tried to simplify the world around him by persuading himself that where the king led by example and where order and uniformity were set forth, obedience and peace would follow. Charles I was one of those politicians so confident of the purity of his own motives and actions, that he saw no need to explain his actions or justify his conduct to his people. He was an inaccessible king except to his confidants. He was a silent king. He was a king assertive by deed not word. Charles was a chaste king who presided over a chaste court. By 1637 Charles was at the height of his power. He had a balanced budget, effective social and economic policies, an efficient council, and a secure title. There was a greater degree of political acquiescence than there had been for centuries. Adapted from John Guy and John Morrill, *The Tudors and Stuarts*, 1992

### 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:

**'Religious Radicalism, rather than Political Radicalism, was more of a threat to Charles I during the years 1637-1649.'**  
**Assess the validity of this view.**