

Year 8) Term 2A: The English Civil War

Learning objective: To understand chronology, sources and factors through the history of the English Civil War.

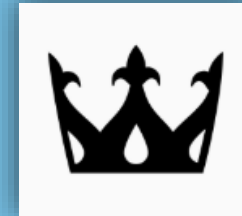
Assessment Skill focus:

Interpretations = explaining the accuracy of an interpretation based on knowledge.
Describe = Briefly explain an event, period or person.



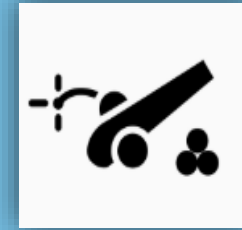
What do I need to know about the causes of the Civil War?

- Who James I and Charles I were, and what mistakes they made.
- What the Parliamentarians wanted from a Civil War.
- What the Royalists wanted from a Civil War.



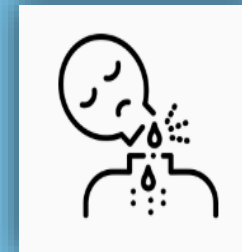
What do I need to know about the course of the Civil War?

- What type of soldiers were on either side.
- What key battles took place during the Civil War.
- Who won the Civil War and why.



What do I need to know about the consequences of the Civil War?

- What happened during the execution of Charles I.
- What the rule of Oliver Cromwell was like afterwards.
- Whether Oliver Cromwell was a hero or villain.
- How interpretations of Oliver Cromwell changed over time.



KEYWORDS:

Chronology = events put in the order that they happened.
Sources = evidence from the past.
Interpretations = a person's opinion on a historical event.

Key events/people:

Civil War
The Parliamentarians
The Royalists
Oliver Cromwell
Charles I
Battles
Execution

August 1642 – September 1651



The English Civil War rages between the Parliamentarians and Royalists.

January 1649



Charles I and most of the Royalist forces are defeated.

September 1658



Oliver Cromwell dies of natural causes



What first-order concepts do I need to learn below?

Hint: remember! A first-order concept is a word historians use to describe facts related to events.

➤ Facts on the causes of the Civil War:

- When Elizabeth Tudor died, she left no heir. The Royal Advisors had to go up the family tree and across to Henry VIII's cousin to find a suitable heir. They settled on James I – who was targeted by Guy Fawkes, the leader of the Gunpowder Plot.
- His son, Charles I, later became king – but he soon became very unpopular as he made some disastrous errors. He altered the bible and named it after his father. He taxed people heavily, and he did not respect or listen to his politicians or advisors.
- Two sides began to emerge: the Parliamentarians (anti-monarchy) and the Royalists (pro-monarchy).

➤ Facts on the course of the Civil War:

- Soldiers on either side could be differentiated by what they wore. Parliamentarians wore yellow sashes, and Royalists wore red sashes. They also had different weapons - like pikemen and musketeers.
- War began in Nottingham, when Charles I was attacked at his stronghold following his failed attempt to arrest the ringleaders of the Parliamentarians – including a man called Oliver Cromwell.
- Oliver Cromwell was a great commander, and brought victory to the Parliamentarians through many battles – such as the Battle of Edgehill, the Battle of Newbury, Marston Moor and Naseby.

➤ Facts on the consequences of the Civil War:

- Charles I was soon captured and beheaded. Oliver Cromwell replaced him as Lord Protector.
- Cromwell ruled for 11 years – a period called 'Interregnum:' Latin for in-between rulers.
- Cromwell was a harsh ruler, stamping out any opposition. He massacred many in Ireland for practicing Catholicism. This was because Cromwell was a very strict Puritan. He even banned Christmas and football!

What second-order concepts do I need to learn below?

Hint: remember! A 'second-order concept' is a phrase historians use to describe the history skills that are used in history – like putting events in chronological order, or analysing sources!

- Significance is a word historians use to debate whether an event is important or not. Significance can be judged by how many people were involved or effected by it – for example, the Civil War.

Look to the past:

Below is a primary source: a painting of Oliver Cromwell's knights massacring the people of Ireland after he won the Civil War. Why do you think Oliver Cromwell decided to murder so many innocent people in Ireland?

