HISTORY OF BRITAIN PART THREE

By Harry Jivenmukta

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INTRODUCTION

The History of Britain is a five pack series which in total considers 101 topics from British history. The format for pages is mostly one page one topic, with a short description of a particular event, followed by questions and exercises. It would be easily possible to have covered more than 200 topics and to have devoted several pages to each topic. This would probably have left the packs too big and difficult to use. This selection, therefore, represents 'snapshots' rather than being comprehensive. Teachers are advised to use the sheets as an introduction from which students may develop the topic in one of several different ways. They can be asked to answer one or more of the questions posed, or the teacher may direct the student in a specific way. The topics are suitable for use as classroom material, homework, or as a basis for longer project type assignments.

Teachers are advised at all times to link the topics back to the events which precede and forward to the implications and effect that the event had on related matters. It is also important to link the topics to the underlying trends in the history of the time. Many of the events happened as a result of the complicated accession claims made by the aristocracy, or as a result of religious competition between Protestants and Catholics. There is also the link between the Scottish and English fight for independence and/or supremacy.

One of the difficulties in teaching British history, especially before 1900, is the ability to keep the interest of the student in a topic which seems to have little relevance to their needs and expectations today. It is important, therefore, to try to maintain interest by direct comparisons to events today or to the historical implications that the events had which can be seen today. An example of this could be the Roman road networks which are still visible today, or the Union with Ireland, the effects of which still cause friction today. Another highly recommended tool is the building of short biographies of historical figures. A number of biographies can be built up which can then be displayed or used as a reference resource.

The History of Britain pack has been widely tested and comes highly recommended for use with students between the ages of 11 and 16. The language may be difficult for some students but in an attempt to cater for a wide ability range and in order to explain the topics fully it has been necessary to use quite complicated language at times. Teachers are reminded to assess whether their students are likely to be confused by some words. The development of a classroom glossary may be of use here.

For further information contact:

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VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN VICTORIAN 20TH CENTURY

Please note: in the date line which appears at the bottom of each page, the Victorian era is omitted except for the period for which it is relevant. This is only because in this series it features only a few times and should be noted by teachers and students as an important era in British history study generally.

HENRY VIII



A prince of 18 he inherited his father's throne. While the young sovereign enjoyed his inheritance, Thomas Wolsey, his adviser, collected titles; archbishop of York in 1514, lord chancellor and cardinal legate in 1515, and papal legate for life in 1524. He exercised power never before wielded by a minister, for as lord chancellor and cardinal legate he united the authority of church and state. Long before Henry assumed full power over his subjects' souls as well as their bodies, his servant had marked the way.

Together, the king and cardinal plunged the kingdom into international politics and war and helped make England one of the centres of Renaissance learning and brilliance. But the King and his chief servant overestimated England's international position. Militarily, the kingdom was of the same magnitude as the papacy; the English king had about the same revenues and could field about the same size army but, England with its back door constantly exposed to Scotland and with its economy dependent upon the Flanders wool trade was a mere "morsel among [the] choppers" of Europe. Nevertheless, Wolsey's diplomacy was based on the expectation that England could hold the balance of power and maintain the peace of Europe.





ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

What was the relationship of Henry VIII with Thomas Wolsey?

Write a biography of Thomas Wolsey.

What was the relationship of Britain with the other countries of Europe during Henry VIII's reign?

HENRY VIII

As king of England from 1509 to 1547, Henry VIII presided over the beginnings of the English Reformation, which was unleashed by his own matrimonial involvements, even though he himself never abandoned the Roman Catholic faith. Though well served by a succession of brilliant ministers, Henry turned upon them all; those he elevated, he invariably cast down again. He was attracted to learning and was an intellectual himself, but he was responsible for the deaths of the outstanding English humanists of the day. Though married six times, he left a minor heir and a dangerously complicated succession problem. Of his six wives, two joined a large tally of persons executed for alleged treason; otherwise his regime observed the law of the land. Formidable in appearance, in memory, and in mind, and fearsome of temper, he yet attracted genuine devotion and knew how to charm people. He made mistakes but he emerged essentially unbeaten and successful in nearly everything he attempted to do.

Henry VIII has always seemed the very embodiment of true monarchy. Even his evil deeds are remembered in a way that associates them with greatness. He gave his nation what it wanted: a visible symbol of its nationhood. He also had done something toward giving it a better government, a useful navy, a start on religious reform and social improvement. But he was not a great man in any sense. Although a leader, he little understood where he was leading his nation. Though cold, self-centred, ungiving, forever suspicious of the ways of the world, he could not descend to the second stereotype; despite a ruthlessness fed by self-righteousness, he never took the pleasure in killing. Simply, he never understood why the life of so well-meaning a man should have been beset by so many troubles.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL **TUDOR** STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

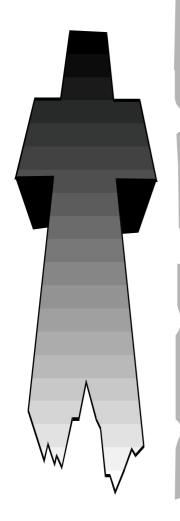
Was Henry VIII an evil person or did he just have lots of bad luck?

Write an account of Henry VIII's six marriages and how these made him change the laws of Britain.

Find out about and write a short biography of Henry VIII.

THE REFORMATION





This was the religious revolution that took place in the Church in the 16th century; its greatest leaders were Martin Luther and John Calvin. Having far-reaching political, economic, and social effects, the Reformation became the basis for the founding of Protestantism, one of the three major branches of Christianity.

The world of the late medieval Catholic Church from which the 16th century reformers emerged was a complex one. Over the centuries, the church had become involved in the political life of western Europe. The resulting complications and problems combined with the church's increasing power and wealth, contributed to the reduction of the church as a spiritual force. Abuses such as the sale of spiritual privileges and relics and the corruption of the clergy further undermined the church's spiritual authority.

In England the Reformation's roots were primarily political rather than religious. Henry VIII, incensed by Pope Clement VII's refusal to grant him a divorce, opposed papal authority and in 1534 established the Anglican Church with the king as the supreme head. In spite of its political implications, Henry's reorganization of the church permitted the beginning of religious reform in England, which included the preparation of an English language Book of Common Prayer. In Scotland, John Knox, who spent time in Geneva and was greatly influenced by John Calvin, led the establishment of Presbyterianism, which made possible the eventual union of Scotland with England.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

List the factors which led up to the Reformation.

Why is the Reformation important in the history of Britain?

What were the effects of the Reformation on the links that Britain had with other European countries?

Find out about and write a short biography of Martin Luther or John Calvin.

PILGRIMAGE OF GRACE



In (1536), this was a rising in the northern counties of England, the only immediate discontent shown against the Reformation legislation of King Henry VIII. Part of the resentment was caused by attempts, especially under Henry's minister Thomas Cromwell, to increase government control in the north. The arrival of commissioners sent by Cromwell to collect taxes and to dissolve the smaller monasteries triggered the rising. In Louth in Lincolnshire there were riots on October 1. The rebels occupied Lincoln, demanding an end to the dissolution of monasteries. But Henry refused to talk to these people. Meanwhile, a more serious rising had begun in Yorkshire, led by Robert Aske, a country gentleman and lawyer. Aske took York and by October 24 was supported by about 30,000 armed men and by others such as the archbishop of York. At a council at Pontefract on December 2, the rebels drew up their demands, similar to those of the Lincolnshire men but including a return of England to papal obedience and the summoning of a Parliament free from royal influence. representatives made vague promises and offered a full pardon, whereupon Aske persuaded his followers to disperse. Sporadic riots in January and February 1537 enabled the government to deal with the troubles piecemeal; about 220-250 men were executed, including Darcy and Aske. The pilgrimage achieved nothing and received no support from other parts of the country.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

List the factors which led up to this event in British history.

Why is this event important in the history of Britain?

What were the immediate effects of this event?

LADY JANE GREY



Also called (from 1553) LADY JANE DUDLEY (b. October 1537, Bradgate, Leicestershire, Eng., d. Feb. 12, 1554, London), she was queen of England for nine days in 1553. At the age of 15 she reluctantly allowed herself to be put on the throne by selfish politicians; her later execution by Mary Tudor aroused universal sympathy.

Lady Jane was the great-granddaughter of Henry VII. She was constantly at the royal court. On May 21, 1553, John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland married her to his son, Lord Guildford Dudley. Her Protestantism, which was extreme, made her the natural candidate for the throne of those who supported the Reformation. With the support of Northumberland, who had persuaded the dying Edward to set aside his half-sisters Mary and Elizabeth in favour of any male heirs who might be born to the Duchess of Suffolk and, failing them, to Lady Jane, she and her male heirs were designated successors to the throne.

Edward died on July 6, 1553; on July 10, Lady Jane, who fainted when the idea was first suggested to her, was proclaimed queen. The rightful heir, Edward's sister Mary Tudor, had the support of the people. Northumberland's supporters melted away, and the Duke of Suffolk easily persuaded his daughter to relinquish the unwanted crown. At the beginning of Queen Mary's reign, Lady Jane and her father were committed to the Tower of London, but he was soon pardoned. Lady Jane and her husband, however, were charged with high treason on Nov. 14, 1553. She pleaded guilty and was sentenced to death. The execution of the sentence was suspended for a while. She and her husband were beheaded on Feb. 12, 1554; her father was executed 11 days later.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

List the factors which led to Lady Jane Grey being crowned Queen of England.

Why is this event important in the history of Britain?

What were the effects of this event?

(BLOODY) QUEEN MARY



The new Roman Catholic queen had many fine qualities, and contemporaries announced that she was "a prince of heart and courage more than commonly is in womanhood"; but she was hopelessly outdated. She thought of the return of a Roman Catholic church that had long since ceased to exist anywhere in Europe. For Mary it was a sacred obligation to return England to the Roman Catholic fold. In January 1554, under the leadership of Sir Thomas Wyat, the peasants of Kent rose up against the queen's Roman Catholic and Spanish policies, and 3,000 men marched on London. The rebellion was crushed, but it revealed to Mary and her chief minister, Reginald Cardinal Pole, that the kingdom was filled with disloyal hearts who placed Protestantism and nationalism higher than their obedience to the throne.

The tragedy of Mary's reign was the belief that the old church of her mother's day could be restored. Some 300 men and women were martyred in the Smithfield Fires during the last three years of her reign; compared to events on the Continent, the numbers were not large, but the emotional impact was great. Their deaths had the opposite effect; their bravery encouraged others to withstand the flames, and the Smithfield Fires continued to burn because nobody could think of what to do with heretics except to put them to death. The law required it, the prisons were overflowing, and the martyrs themselves offered the government no way out except to enforce the grisly laws. Mary's reign was a study in failure. Her subjects learned to call her "bloody," and Englishmen greeted the news of her death and the succession of her sister Elizabeth on Nov. 17, 1558, with ringing bells and bonfires.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL **TUDOR** STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

What were the main points of conflict between Protestants and Catholics in England and Scotland?

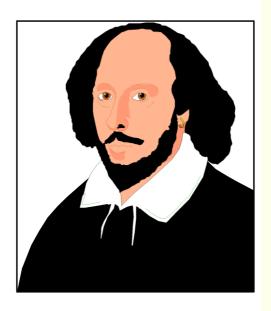
Write a letter to a friend describing what the Smithfield Fires were like.

Find out about and write a short biography of 'Bloody' Queen Mary.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



Regarded as the greatest writer of all time, William Shakespeare occupies a position unique in world literature. No writer's reputation can compare with that of Shakespeare, whose plays, written in the late 16th and early 17th centuries for a small repertory theatre, are now performed and read more often and in more countries than ever before. The prophecy of his great contemporary, the poet and dramatist Ben Jonson, that Shakespeare "was not of an age, but for all time," has been fulfilled. It is not so difficult to describe the gifts that enabled him to create imaginative visions that, whether read or witnessed in the theatre, fill the mind. He was a writer of great intellect, perceptiveness, and poetic power. With Shakespeare the keenness of mind was applied not to remote subjects but to human beings and



their complete range of emotions and conflicts. Shakespeare was clever with words and images. The art form into which his creative energies went was not remote and bookish but involved the vivid stage impersonation of human beings, commanding sympathy and inviting participation. Shakespeare's merits can survive translation into other languages and into cultures remote from that of Elizabethan England.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

What do the writings of Shakespeare tell us about life in the 16th and 17th Centuries? Make a list of Shakespeare's plays. Which ones are your favourites? Find out about and write a short biography of William Shakespeare.

ELIZABETH I



Elizabeth I was queen of England from 1558 to 1603. Though her kingdom was threatened by internal divisions, Elizabeth's blend of courage, and majesty inspired expressions of loyalty and helped to unify the nation against foreign enemies. The adulation bestowed upon her both in her lifetime and in the ensuing centuries was the result of a carefully crafted, brilliantly executed campaign in which the queen fashioned herself as the symbol of the nation's destiny. The queen was by no means just a figurehead. Although she did not wield absolute power, she upheld her authority to make critical decisions and to set the central policies of both state and church. The latter half of the 16th century in England is justly called the Elizabethan era: because the life of a whole age been given so distinctively personal a stamp.

Elizabeth restored England to Protestantism. The Act of Supremacy, passed by Parliament and approved in 1559, revived the anti-papal statutes of Henry VIII and declared the queen supreme governor of the church, while the Act of Uniformity established a slightly revised version of the second Edwardian prayer book as the official order of worship. Priests, and men proceeding to university degrees were required to swear an oath to the royal supremacy or lose their positions; absence from Sunday church service was punishable by a fine.

In 1570 Pope Pius V excommunicated Elizabeth and freed her subjects from any oath of allegiance that they might have taken to her. The effect was to make life more difficult for English Catholics, who were the objects of a suspicion that greatly increased in 1572 after word reached England of the St. Bartholomew's Day massacre of Protestants (Huguenots) in France.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

What were the greatest achievements of Elizabeth 1?

How did Elizabeth influence the religious trends of the day?

Find out about and write a short biography of Elizabeth 1.

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE



Born about 1540-43, (Devonshire, Eng.), d. Jan. 28, 1596, at sea, off Puerto Bello, Panama, he was an English admiral who circumnavigated the globe (1577-80), played an important role in defeating the Spanish Armada (1588), and was the most renowned seaman of the Elizabethan Age.

In 1577 he was chosen as the leader of an expedition intended to pass around South America. The aim was to conclude trading treaties with the people who lived south of the Spanish sphere of influence and, if possible, to explore an unknown continent that was rumoured to lie far in the South Pacific. He set sail in December with five small ships, manned by fewer than 200 men, and reached the Brazilian coast in the spring of 1578. His flagship was, the "Pelican," which Drake later renamed "The Golden Hind".

Upon arrival in South America, it was discovered that there was a plot against Drake, and its leader, Thomas Doughty, was tried and executed. He passed along the coast like a whirlwind. The Spaniards were unguarded, having never known a hostile ship in their waters. He seized provisions at Valparaíso, attacked passing Spanish merchantmen, and captured two very rich prizes. "The Golden Hind" was below her watermark, loaded with bars of gold and silver, minted Spanish coinage, precious stones, and pearls, when he left South American waters to continue his voyage around the world. In July 1579 he sailed west across the Pacific and after 68 days sighted a line of islands. From there he went on to the Philippines.

Two years later "The Golden Hind" came back into the Atlantic with only 56 of the original crew of 100 left aboard. On Sept. 26, 1580, Francis Drake brought his ship into Plymouth Harbour. She was laden with treasure and spices, and Drake's fortune was permanently made. He became the first captain ever to sail his own ship around the world.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

In what ways did Sir Francis Drake help Britain to establish itself as a world power? Which other countries were interested in 'discovering' new lands and peoples? Find out about and write a short biography of Sir Francis Drake.

DEFEAT OF THE SPANISH ARMADA



By 1586 it was known that Philip II of Spain was preparing a fleet for what was called "The Enterprise of England," and that he had the blessing of Pope Sixtus V to conquer the heretic island and return it to the fold of Rome. Drake was given orders by the Queen to "impeach the provisions of Spain." In the following year, with a fleet of about 30 ships, he showed that her trust in him had not been misplaced. He stormed into the Spanish harbour of Cádiz and in 36 hours destroyed thousands of tons of shipping and supplies, all of which had been destined for the Armada. This action, which he



referred to "as singeing the king of Spain's beard," was sufficient to delay the invasion fleet for a further year. The resources of Spain were such that by July 1588 the Armada was in the English Channel. Lord Howard had been chosen as English admiral with Drake as his vice admiral. It was, however, the latter's dash and fire that largely turned the scales, Drake himself managing to capture a rich prize during the long sea fight in the Channel. It was also Drake who used fire ships to drive the Armada out of Calais, where it had taken refuge. Then, "The Winds of God blew," so that the Spanish fleet was dispersed and largely wrecked. Drake was England's hero, achieving a popularity never to be equalled by any man until Horatio Nelson emerged more than 200 years later. Souvenirs were struck in his name, and he was immortalized in poems.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL **TUDOR** STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

Which nations had powerful sea fleets at this time?

Why was the defeat of the Spanish Armada such an important achievement?

How was the wellbeing of a nation linked with its ability to control the high seas?

THE POOR LAW



The Elizabethan Poor Law of 1601 recognised the need to assure a minimum standard of living to all men within society. By 1600 poverty, unemployment, and vagrancy had become too widespread for the church to handle, and the state had to take over, telling each parish to raise taxes to pay for poor relief and to provide work for the able-bodied, punishment for the lazy, and charity for the sick, the aged, and the disabled. The Tudor social ideal was to achieve a static class structure by guaranteeing a fixed labour supply, restricting social mobility, curbing economic freedom, and creating a kingdom in which subjects could fulfil their ultimate purpose in life; spiritual salvation, not material well-being.

In British history such a body of laws undertaking to provide relief for the poor were developed in 16th-century England and maintained, with various changes, until after World War II. The Elizabethan Poor Laws, as codified in 1597-98, were administered through parish overseers, who provided relief for the aged, sick, and infant poor, as well as work for the able-bodied in workhouses. Late in the 18th century, this was supplemented by the so-called Speenhamland system of providing allowances to workers who received wages below what was considered a subsistence level. The resulting increase in expenditures on public relief was so great that a new Poor Law was enacted in 1834, based on a harsher philosophy that regarded pauperism among able-bodied workers as a moral failing. The new law provided no relief for the able-bodied poor except employment in the workhouse, with the object of stimulating workers to seek regular employment rather than charity. The growth of humanitarian feeling in the 19th century helped to soften the harshness of the law in practice, and the phenomenon of industrial unemployment in the 20th century showed that poverty was more than a moral problem. The social legislation of the 1930s and

'40s replaced the Poor Laws with a comprehensive system of public welfare services.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

What was the Poor Law?

Why was it important for poor people to be given consideration now, when there had been very little before this time?

How has Britain helped people in need from this time up to the present day?

MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTS



Mary Stuart was the only child of King James V of Scotland. The accession of Elizabeth Tudor to the throne of England in November 1558 meant that Mary was, by virtue of her Tudor blood, next in line to the English throne. Those Catholics who considered Elizabeth illegitimate because they regarded Henry VIII's divorce from Catherine of Aragon and his marriage to Anne Boleyn invalid even looked upon Mary as the lawful queen.

Mary's aspirations to the English throne had made Elizabeth angry. She refused to acknowledge Mary as her heiress. While Mary herself was a Roman Catholic, the official religion of Scotland had been reformed to Protestantism, so she seemed to many to be a foreign queen of an alien religion.

It was Mary's second marriage in July 1565 to her cousin Henry Stewart that started the train of events which ended in her destruction. It was a disastrous choice because by her marriage she upset all the people interested in the power structure of Scotland, including Elizabeth, who disapproved of Mary marrying another Tudor descendant.

In the next eight months she developed a relationship with James Hepburn, 4th earl of Bothwell, and planned with him the death of her husband and their own following marriage. He was killed. After three months, she allowed herself to be married off to Bothwell.

Mary was incarcerated on the tiny island of Loch Leven, where she was formally deposed

in favour of her one-year-old son James. Defeat of her supporters at a battle at Langside put her once more to flight. Mary sought refuge in England with her cousin Elizabeth. But Elizabeth held Mary in English captivity in a series of prisons for the next 18 years. Mary was executed in 1587 in the great hall at Fotheringhay Castle, near Peterborough; she was 44 years old.





ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL **TUDOR** STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

What was the relationship between Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth? Write a short biography of Mary, Queens of Scots.

GUNPOWDER PLOT



Planned in (1605), this was a conspiracy of English Roman Catholics to blow up Parliament and King James I, his queen, and his oldest son on Nov. 5, 1605. The leader of the plot, Robert Catesby, together with his four co-conspirators, Thomas Winter, Thomas Percy, John Wright, and Guy Fawkes, were determined Roman Catholics angered by James's refusal to grant more religious toleration to Catholics. They hoped that the confusion that would follow the murder of the king, his ministers, and the members of Parliament would provide an opportunity for the English Catholics to take over the country.

In the spring of 1605 the conspirators rented a cellar that extended under the palace at Westminster. There, Fawkes concealed at least 20 barrels of gunpowder. The conspirators then separated until the meeting of Parliament.

The need for broader support persuaded Catesby to include more conspirators. One of these, Francis Tresham, warned his Catholic brother-in-law Lord Monteagle not to attend Parliament on November 5, and Monteagle alerted the government to the plot. Fawkes was discovered in the cellar on the night of November 4-5 and under torture revealed the names of the conspirators. Catesby, Percy, and two others were killed while resisting arrest, and the rest were tried and executed (Jan. 31, 1606).

The plot increased Protestant suspicions of Catholics and led to the enforcement of the recusancy law, which fined those who refused to attend Anglican services. In January 1606 Parliament established November 5 as a day of public thanksgiving. The day, known as Guy Fawkes Day, is still celebrated with bonfires and fireworks.





ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

List the factors which led up to this event in British history.

Why is this event important in the history of Britain?

What were the immediate effects of this event?

Write a letter to a friend describing what the event was like. Imagine you had a part in it.

Find out about and write a short biography of Guy Fawkes.

1611 VERSION OF THE BIBLE



A conference of churchmen in 1604 became noteworthy for its request that the English Bible be revised because existing translations "were corrupt and not answerable to the truth of the original." King James I was quick to appreciate the value of the proposal and at once agreed. By June 30, 1604, King James had approved a list of 54 revisers. They were organized into six companies, two each working separately at Westminster, Oxford, and Cambridge on sections of the Bible assigned to them. It was finally published in 1611.

A set of rules was designed to curb individual preferences and to ensure its neutral character. In contrast to earlier practice, the new version was designed to make the Scriptures popular and familiar.

The impact of Jewish sources upon the King James Version is one of its noteworthy features. The wealth of tools available to the translators made it an exercise in originality and independent judgment. For this reason, the new version was more faithful to the original languages of the Bible and more scholarly than any of its predecessors.

Two editions were actually printed in 1611, later distinguished as the "He" and "She" Bibles because of the variant reading "he" and "she" in the final clause of chapter 3, verse 15 of Ruth: "and he went into the city." Both printings contained errors. Some errors have become famous: The so-called Wicked Bible (1631) derives from the omission of "not" in chapter 20 verse 14 of Exodus, "Thou shalt commit adultery," for which the printers were fined.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

Why was it necessary to write a new version of the Bible?

Why is this event important in the history of Britain? How has the Bible been updated since this version? Can texts like the Bible be updated without losing some of their meaning?



CHARLES I



Charles was shy and physically deformed. He had a speech defect that made his pronouncements painful for him and his audiences alike. Charles had not been raised to rule. His childhood had been spent in the shadow of his brother, Prince Henry, who had died in 1612.

When his first Parliament met, trouble immediately arose because of the general distrust of Buckingham, who had influence over the new king. The Spanish war was proving a failure and Charles offered Parliament no explanations of his foreign policy or its costs.

The second Parliament of the reign, meeting in February 1626, proved even more critical of the King's government, though some of the former leaders of the Commons were kept away because Charles had cleverly appointed them sheriffs in their counties. The failure of a naval expedition against the Spanish port of Cádiz in the previous autumn was blamed on Buckingham and the Commons tried to impeach him for treason. To prevent this, Charles dissolved Parliament in June. Through the incompetence of Buckingham, the country now became involved in a war with France as well as with Spain and, in desperate need of funds, the King imposed a forced loan, which his judges declared illegal. He dismissed the chief justice and ordered the arrest of more than 70 knights and gentlemen who refused to contribute. His high-handed actions added to the sense of grievance that was widely discussed in the next Parliament.

The King ordered the adjournment of Parliament again on March 2, 1629, but before that the speaker was held down in his chair and three resolutions were passed condemning the King's conduct. Charles realized that such behaviour was revolutionary. For the next 11 years he ruled his kingdom without calling a Parliament.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

What was the relationship between the Monarchy and Parliament at this time?

Why did Charles I have so much difficulty with Parliament?

Write a short biography of Charles 1.

CAUSES OF THE CIVIL WAR



Charles summoned a Parliament that met in April 1640, later known as the Short Parliament, in order to raise money for the war against Scotland. The House insisted first on discussing grievances against the government and showed itself opposed to a renewal of the war; so, on May 5, the King dissolved Parliament again.

Meanwhile, Parliament reassembled in London after a recess, and, on Nov. 22, 1641, the Commons passed by 159 to 148 votes the Grand Remonstrance to the King, setting out all that had gone wrong since his accession.

When asked by Parliament to surrender his command of the army, Charles exclaimed "By God, not for an hour."

A lull followed, during which both Royalists and Parliamentarians enlisted troops and collected arms, although Charles had not completely given up hopes of peace. In April the King settled in York, where he ordered the courts of justice to assemble and where royalist members of both houses gradually joined him. In June the majority of the members remaining in London sent the King the Nineteen Propositions, which included demands that no ministers should be appointed without parliamentary approval, that the army should be put under parliamentary control, and that Parliament should decide about the future of the church. Charles realized that these proposals were an ultimatum. In July both sides were urgently making ready for war. The King formally raised the royal standard at Nottingham on August 22 and sporadic fighting soon broke out all over the kingdom.

ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

Who was most to blame for starting the English Civil War?

How else could this disagreement between the King and Parliament have been resolved?

CAVALIERS AND ROUNDHEADS



Cavalier: originally a rider or cavalryman; the term had the same derivation as the French chevalier. In English the word knight was at first generally used to imply the qualities of chivalry associated with the chevalier in French and caballero in Spanish. "Cavalier" in English, however, had the sense of "swashbuckling". In the English Civil Wars (1642-51), the name was adopted by Charles I's supporters, who contemptuously called their opponents Roundheads; at the Restoration, the court party preserved the name Cavalier, which survived until the rise of the term Tory.

DRAW A CAVALIER

Roundhead: Adherent of the Parliamentary Party during the English Civil War (1642-51) and after. Many Puritans wore their hair closely cropped in obvious contrast to the long ringlets fashionable at the court of Charles I. Roundhead appears to have been first used as a term of insult toward the end of 1641. The word was first used on Dec. 27, 1641, by a disbanded army officer, David Hide, who, during a riot, brandished his sword threatening to "cut the Throat of those Roundheaded Dogs that bawled against Bishops." But others ascribe the origin of the term to a remark made by Queen Henrietta Maria at the trial (March-April 1641) of Thomas Wentworth, 1st earl of Strafford; referring to the parliamentary

leader John Pym, she asked who the roundheaded

man was.

DRAW A ROUNDHEAD

ENGLISH CIVIL WAR



In September 1642 the Earl of Essex, in command of the Parliamentarian forces, left London for the midlands, while Charles moved his headquarters to Shrewsbury. In 1643 the royal cause prospered, particularly in Yorkshire and the southwest. In the course of 1643 a peace party of the Parliamentarian side made some approaches to Charles in Oxford, but these failed and the Parliamentarians concluded an alliance with the Scottish covenanters. The entry of a Scottish army into England in January 1644 forced the King's armies on the defensive

On June 14 the highly disciplined New Model Army organized and commanded by Sir Thomas Fairfax with Oliver Cromwell as his second in command, defeated the King and Prince Rupert at the Battle of Naseby. This was the first of a long row of defeats the King's forces suffered.

Eventually the king's forces were defeated. When the covenanters came to terms with the victorious English Parliament in January 1647, they left for home, handing over Charles I to parliamentary commissioners. He was held in Northamptonshire, where he lived a placid, healthy existence and, learning of the quarrels between the New Model Army and Parliament, hoped to come to a treaty with one or the other and regain his power. In June, however, a junior officer with a force of some 500 men seized the King and carried him away to the army headquarters at Newmarket. He escaped on November 11, and his friends' planned to take him to Jersey and then to France. There Charles conducted complicated negotiations with the army leaders, with the English Parliament, and with the Scots. He came to a secret understanding with the Scots on Dec. 26, 1647, whereby the Scots offered to support the King's restoration to power in return for his acceptance of Presbyterianism in Scotland and its establishment in England for three years. The second civil war began.

In August 1648 the last of Charles's Scottish supporters were defeated at the Battle of Preston and the second Civil War ended. Charles I was charged with high treason and "other high crimes against the realm of England." The King went bravely to his death, still claiming that he was "a martyr for the people."



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

List the factors which led up to this event in British history.

Why is this event important in the history of Britain?

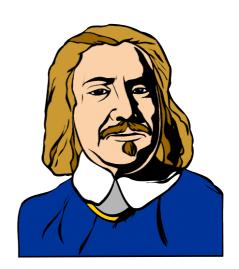
What were the immediate effects of this event?

Write a letter to a friend describing what the event was like. Imagine you had a part in it.

OLIVER CROMWELL



Oliver Cromwell, an English soldier and statesman of outstanding gifts and a forceful character was lord protector of the republican Commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland from 1653 to 1658. One of the leading generals on the parliamentary side in the English Civil War against King Charles I, he helped to bring about the overthrow of the Stuart monarchy, and, as lord protector, he raised his country's status once more to that of a leading European power from the decline it had gone through since the death of Queen Elizabeth I. Cromwell was one of the most remarkable rulers in modern European history; because he believed deeply in the value of religious toleration. At the same time his victories at home and abroad helped to enlarge and sustain a Puritan attitude of mind, both in Great Britain and in North America, that contin- ued influence political and social life until recent times.





ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

What was the role of Cromwell in the English Civil War?

What were the main achievements of Cromwell?

Find out about and write a short biography of Oliver Cromwell.

CROMWELL'S PARLIAMENTS



Following victory in the English Civil Wars Cromwell set up a new parliament called the Barebones parliament. He told the army council to send letters to the churches inviting suggestions of fit persons to sit in a new assembly. From the names submitted, the council chose 140 members- 129 for England, 5 for Scotland, and 6 for Ireland. On July 4 the delegates met for the first time. On December 12, conservative members of the Parliament accused their opponents of destroying the clergy and the law and, by a surprise motion, resolved to abdicate the Parliament. On the following day, General John Lambert produced the "Instrument of Government," which after two days' discussion established the system of Protectorate government that lasted until May 1657.

After the execution of King Charles I, England was declared a commonwealth (1649) under the rule of Parliament. But, after Oliver Cromwell had dissolved the Rump and Barebones parliaments in succession in 1653, he was installed on Dec. 16, 1653, as lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland under the authority of a constitution entitled the Instrument of Government, which had been drawn up by a group of army officers. The Protectorate was continued after his death on Sept. 3, 1658, by his son Richard, until he resigned the office on May 25, 1659, upon which Parliament's resumption of power served merely as a prelude to the Restoration of Charles II.





ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

What sort of person was Oliver Cromwell?

What was his role as Lord Protector?

What was Cromwell's contribution to British history?

How was the monarchy changed by the English Civil War?

THE JACOBITES



A Jacobite was a supporter of the exiled Stuart king James II and his descendants after the Revolution of 1688. The political importance of the Jacobite movement extended from 1688 to 1745. The Jacobites, especially under William III and Queen Anne, could offer an alternative title to the crown, and the exiled court in France was often visited by disgruntled soldiers and politicians.

The movement was strong in Scotland and Wales. In Ireland it was mainly religious. Roman Catholics and Anglican Tories were natural Jacobites. The Tory Anglicans had doubts about the legality of the events of 1688-89, whereas the Roman Catholics had more to hope for from James II and James Edward the Old Pretender, who were firm Roman Catholics.

Within 60 years after the Revolution of 1688, five attempts at restoration were made in favour of the exiled Stuarts. In March 1689 James II himself landed in Ireland, and a parliament summoned to Dublin acknowledged him as king. But his Irish-French army was defeated by William III at the Battle of the Boyne (July 1, 1690), and he returned to France.

Jacobitism declined after these five attempts as a serious political force. "The king over the water" gained a certain sentimental appeal, especially in the Scottish Highlands; and a whole body of Jacobite songs came into being. By the late 18th century the name had lost many of its political meanings and George III even gave a pension to the last pretender, Henry Stuart, Cardinal York.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

Who were the Jacobites?

What were the main aims of the Jacobites?

Why and how did the Jacobites fail to achieve their aims?

CHARLES II



Charles II arrived in London on the 30th birthday. Never a man for details, Charles left the specifics to the Convention Parliament (1660), which was composed of members of the competing religious and political parties.

The Convention declared the restoration of the king and lords, disbanded the army, established a fixed income for the king by maintaining an excise tax, and returned to the crown and the bishops their confiscated estates. But it made no headway on a religious settlement. Despite Charles's promise of toleration and his desire to accept Presbyterians into the Anglican fold, as detailed in the Worcester House Declaration (1660), enthusiasts from both left and right wrecked every compromise.

It was left to the Cavalier Parliament (1661-79) to make the hard choices and to demonstrate that one of the changes that had survived the Revolution was the independence of Parliament. Despite Charles's desire to treat his father's adversaries leniently and to find a broad church settlement, the Cavalier Parliament established a rigid Anglican system. The bishops were returned to Parliament, a new prayer book was authorized, and repressive acts were passed to force conformity. The imposition of oaths of allegiance and nonresistance to the crown and an oath recognizing the king's supremacy in the church on all members of local government in the Corporation Act (1661) and then upon the clergy in the Act of Uniformity (1662) led to a massive purge of office holders. Town governors were put out of their places, and nearly a fifth of all clergymen were deprived of their livings.

This program of repressive religious legislation was the first of many missed opportunities to remove the underlying causes of political discontent.



ROMAN SAXON VIKING NORMAN MEDIEVAL TUDOR STUART GEORGIAN 20TH CENTURY

What was the relationship between the King and Parliament?

Find out about and write a short biography of Charles II.