

Year 7 Civil War and Cromwell Knowledge Organiser

Key terms:

Catholic: believes that the Pope is the head of the Church. Churches have lots of decorations and services and Bible in Latin

Protestant: believes the King is the head of the Church. Churches have some decoration, services and Bible in English

Puritan: Extreme Protestant. Belives God is the head of the Church. No decoration in Churches, services in English

Tyrant: a ruler who has complete power and who is cruel and unfair

Massacre: an event in which lots of people are killed

Military dictatorship: political system where one person has complete power, which is backed up by the army

Member of Parliament (MP): someone who represents their local area in Parliament

Rump Parliament: When Parliament (140 MPs) ruled the country after Charles's execution.

Republic: country run by an elected leader rather than a King or Queen

Sides in the Civil War:

Parliamentarians led by Cromwell and Parliament. Cromwell's New Model Army created uniforms and new training and battle strategies AKA Roundheads

Royalists led by Charles I. Based in Oxford. Lost the Civil War. AKA Cavaliers

Key dates:

1625 Charles I became King of England and Scotland

1642 English Civil War began

Jan 1649 Charles I executed

Jan 1649 -1653 Rump Parliament

September 1649 Oliver Cromwell massacred thousands of Irish civilians (non-military) at Drogheda in Ireland. He was in Ireland to stop the Irish rebelling against the English and to punish them for being Catholic. Sources are divided as to whether the town had or had not surrendered before Cromwell killed people

1658 Death of Oliver Cromwell. His son, Richard Cromwell, took over as Lord Protector

1660 Charles II returned to England (he'd been in exile in France) and became king

What did Cromwell do as Lord Protector?

- banned Christmas and Easter celebrations
- removed decorations and stained glass windows in Churches
- allowed Jews to live in England for the first time in 300 years
- refused to listen to the Levellers' demands for every man to have the right to vote and equal legal rights.
- banned playing sport on Sundays
- banned pubs, theatre and dancing

Why did the Civil War start?

- Charles believed in the Divine Right of Kings (King is chosen by God and knows what God wants)
- Charles ruled without Parliament for 11 years
- Charles tried to arrest 5 MPs
- Charles introduced a new Prayer Book that was more Catholic
- People were suspicious of Henrietta Maria, Charles's wife, who was a Catholic
- Charles increased Ship Money tax and made inland areas pay it too
- Charles went to war with Scotland

Why was Charles executed?

- He refused to speak for his defence in the trial because he said the trial was unlawful
- He was seen as responsible for starting the Civil War, and so for all of the death and destruction of the war
- He supposedly wrote a letter to his son in France telling him to raise an army, invade, and fight against the Parliamentarians.
- Some historians think Cromwell set up the trial and verdict so that Parliament could have more power and to stop rebellions.