

Knowledge Organiser: The English Civil War

The actions of James I and Charles I angered parliament, leading to the Civil War. Parliament won due to its New Model Army and executed the king in 1649.		Key Dates		Key Vocabulary	
		1614	James I argues with parliament and dismisses it for seven years.	Absolutist	Someone who rules with absolute power.
Key Events		1625	Charles I comes to the throne and marries a French Catholic.	Personal Rule	A period during which Charles ruled on his own.
Causes of the Civil War	James I and Charles I argued with parliament, trying to rule without it.	1634	To get money, Charles expands a tax called 'Ship money'.	Ship money	A tax used to protect coastal areas.
		1640	Parliament is recalled after 11 years and argues with Charles.	High Church	A Protestant Church with some Catholic practices.
The role of religion	Charles made Catholic-style changes to the Church, upsetting Puritans and angering the Scots.	1642	Charles raises his standard and the Civil War begins.	Puritan	A Protestant Church with no Catholic influences.
		1645	Royalists lose the Battle of Naseby and the war ends soon after.	Grand Remonstrance	A list of criticisms of Charles I from parliament.
Charles and parliament	Charles needed money, forcing him to call parliament. They refused and the war began.	Key People		Court of Star Chamber	A court that was set up to deal with legal disputes, which could issue fines.
		Charles I	A king who wanted to rule as an absolutist, but was stopped and executed by parliament.		
Roundheads and Cavaliers	England was divided into Parliamentarians and Royalists, fighting over how the country should be run.	William Laud	The Archbishop of Canterbury who introduced 'High Church' reforms.	Roundhead	A nickname for the supporters of parliament.
		John Pym	A leading MP who led a campaign against Charles I in parliament.	New Model Army	A new army, set up by the Parliamentarians, to win the war.
Parliament's victory	Parliament created a New Model Army, which had the support and discipline to defeat the Royalists.	Oliver Cromwell	A cavalry officer in the New Model Army. His power grew due to his success in the war.	Cavalier	A nickname for the supporters of Charles I.
		The Prayer Book Rebellion (1637)	A rebellion in Scotland caused by the introduction of a prayer book.	Leveller	A group who wanted every man to have a vote.
The trial and execution of the king	The king was imprisoned, put on trial and executed by leading Parliamentarians.	Trial of Charles I (1649)	A trial held by Parliamentarians, which led to the king's execution.	Digger	A group who wanted to share land out equally.