Y8 History

Week beginning: 18/5/20 Charles II and the succession of James II

Please spend ONE HOUR on each lesson this week.

Lesson One:

1) The events of this lesson are directly connected to the events that led to Charles II returning to England in 1660 to become King after the death of Oliver Cromwell. You studied some of these events in the first week back after Easter (re-read the resources on the school website if you can’t remember).

Read through the background about why there was still lots of division in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. Finish the sentences below using the information provided. Write your sentences out in full:

a) The Parliamentarians hated the Royalists because…

b) The Royalists hated the Parliamentarians because…

c) The Catholics hated the Protestants because…

d) The Anglicans hated the Puritans because…

e) The Presbyterians hated the Puritans and the Anglicans because…

f) The Protestants all hated the Catholics because…

2) Before he was able to return, Charles signed something called the Declaration of Breda. This was an attempt to keep everybody in England happy so that he could become King without starting another Civil War. Read through each of the key terms of the Declaration. For each one, briefly explain who the rule was trying to keep happy, and why:

   a. Parliamentarians?
   b. Royalists?
   c. Puritans?
   d. Anglicans?
   e. Catholics?
   f. Presbyterians?
   g. A combination of different groups?

3) Read through the information about what King Charles II said on his deathbed. How do you think the different groups (below) would feel about this, and why? Write a sentence for each one.

   a. Parliamentarians?
   b. Royalists?
   c. Anglicans?
   d. Scottish Presbyterians?
   e. Catholics throughout England, Scotland and Ireland?

4) Think about all of the work from recent weeks- about life in Restoration England, the Plague of 1665, the Great Fire of London of 1666, the Declaration of Breda, and the end of Charles’ reign. Make a list of arguments that suggest he was a good ruler, and all the arguments that suggest he was a bad ruler.

Then, write a paragraph explaining which side of the argument you agree with most, and why. Was Charles II a good ruler? Make sure you use at least two examples to support your point.
Task One: Background Information

During the Civil War, there were two sides, who believed very different things about how England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland should be ruled. The winners of the Civil War were the Parliamentarians. The Parliamentarians hated the King and believed that the country should not be ruled by kings or queens any more. When they won the war they executed Charles I. After that, the country was ruled by Parliament. The Royalists believed that the King was chosen by God, and that centuries of rule by kings and queens had been the reason for England and Scotland’s successes. They thought that changing it would be a terrible idea.

Even though the Parliamentarians won the Civil War, there were still many Royalists in England and Scotland. To make matters worse, there were also divisions between Protestants and Catholics, particularly in England and Ireland. The Catholics believed that there was only one way to be a proper Christian, and that was to follow the teachings of the Pope and the Roman Catholic Church. Even though they were all Christian, Catholics thought that Protestants were working against God by refusing to worship as Catholics. Many people were secretly Catholic across England and Scotland. People across the British Isles had been punished for being Catholic for nearly 100 years, so it was dangerous for many to show their Catholic beliefs.

And on top of that, there were divisions between the Protestants, too!

Most English Protestants were Anglicans (people who are part of the Church of England). However, most of the leading Parliamentarians were Puritans. The Puritans felt that the Anglican Church was too Catholic and should be stricter. In Scotland, there were Presbyterians who had their own Church, the Kirk of Scotland. The Presbyterian had fought with Charles II against Cromwell in 1650 when he promised to make England Presbyterian too. They disagreed with the Anglicans AND the Puritans about how a Church should be run. However, they all hated Catholics- they thought that the Catholic Church was greedy, corrupt and too controlling, and had too much influence across different European kingdoms. Protestants were protestors against the Catholic Church and its teachings.

To make matters worse, Ireland was almost exclusively Catholic, except for rich Protestant landowners who had been given lands there in the early 1600s.

In summary, lots of people really disliked other people in their country! Some disagreed for religious reasons, others for political ones. When Charles II was invited to return to become King after Cromwell’s death, he had to make promises that would keep all sides happy.
Task Two: The Declaration of Breda, 4th April 1660

**Term One:** The King would punish those who signed the Death Warrant that led to the execution of Charles I (his father).

**Term Two:** However, Charles II promises to forgive anyone who fought against his father during the Civil War, as long as they promise to accept him as their rightful king.

**Term Three:** The King promises to rule according to the laws of the land. These laws had been made by the Parliaments in England and Scotland.

**Term Four:** The King promises to let anyone worship whichever Christian religion they choose, as long as they are not breaking any laws by doing so. These laws would be determined by Parliament.

**Term Five:** The King promises not to take away any land that people had, even if they had taken those lands from others during the Civil War.

**Term Six:** The King gave Parliament control over the royal family’s finances, to make sure that they didn’t overspend or live too luxurious a lifestyle.

Task Three: The Death of Charles II

Charles II’s rule had been eventful, with Plague, the Great Fire of London and many other dramatic events. He is remembered for being the ‘merry monarch’, a womanising party animal who saved England from the drudgery and misery of Puritan rule. However, what many don’t know is that Charles was secretly Catholic throughout most of his reign.

In 1670, Charles was losing a war against the Dutch. The Dutch crushed the English navy in a surprise raid in 1667 called the Battle of Medway. This left England vulnerable to invasion by the French, who had long been the enemy of the English. Charles asked the French King to promise not to invade to protect England. The French king agreed, and even offered to send Charles money— as long as he became Catholic. So he did!

Charles decided to keep this secret throughout his reign, fearing the response from England’s Protestants. Parliament had been trying for years to prevent Charles’ brother, James, from becoming King because James was Catholic. The only problem came from the fact that Charles did not have any children with his wife (although he had fathered fourteen children with a variety of mistresses). When he lay on his deathbed in February 1685, Charles revealed that he was a Catholic after all, and that he wanted James to become King after him. This was shocking for many, particularly as Parliament had passed many laws preventing Catholics from taking important jobs during Charles’ reign. However, James was crowned King James II of England on 6th February 1665, just four days after his brother’s death.
Lesson Two:

1) Think back to the work you did last lesson. You were studying division before and during the reign of Charles II. When James II became king after Charles’ death, many of these arguments started up again.

Make a list of all of the different things people disagreed about at the time of James becoming King. It might be a long list!

2) Read through the ‘fill in the blanks’ exercise below. Write it out in full, completing it using the words provided. Each word is used only once. If you’re unsure about where a word goes, leave a space and come back to it at the end.

James II was the brother of King _______ II. He was a _________, which wasn’t very popular with the Protestants in Parliament. As soon as James became the King, there was a rebellion by Protestants who wanted the United Kingdom to have a __________ king again. This was called the '_________ Rebellion'.

James saw that he was __________, and began to make changes. He fired all of the Protestant _________ (important members of Parliament) and replaced them with Catholics. He passed a law in 1687 that allowed Catholics and Protestants to _________ freely. He gave Catholics important jobs in the Army, and made sure that the Army was just outside __________. In June _______, James II’s _________ had a __________. There were rumours that the King had brought in someone else’s baby just to make sure that Britain would always be __________ by Catholics.

WORDS TO USE:
-Queen -worship -ruled -Charles -unpopular -1688
-ministers -Monmouth -son -London -Protestant -Catholic

3) Read through the text below, describing what happened during James II’s reign.
Answer the questions in full sentences:
   a. Why were the Protestants so disappointed when James became King?
   b. What did the Monmouth Rebellion try to achieve?
   c. What was James’ reaction to the Rebellion?
   d. Why was the birth of James’ son such an important turning point?
   e. Why didn’t James have enough support to fight back against William?
   f. What did James choose to do in December 1688?
4) After William became King, Parliament made some rules to ensure that no King could challenge their rule again. Look at the rules shown in Task Four. For each one, write a sentence explaining why Parliament would have created that rule.

5) Which of the following best explains why the Glorious Revolution happened? Write a paragraph explaining why, using evidence:
   b. The Glorious Revolution happened because of how hated Catholics were in England and Scotland.
   c. The Glorious Revolution happened because James made poor decisions.

TASK THREE - What happened when James took the throne?

On his deathbed, Charles II made the shocking announcement that he had been a Catholic for years. After he finally passed away after a long illness, England, Scotland and Ireland were plunged into yet another crisis about who should rule.

For some, particularly the Catholics, this was excellent news. Although their numbers were getting smaller each year, there were still some Catholics in England and Scotland. Many important nobles had been kept out of power and influence because they were Catholic. With James II coming to the throne, they believed that their time to take back control had arrived. This was particularly true amongst the Scots from the Highlands.

For the Protestants, however, there was terror. With James II on the throne, they believed that Catholicism would be brought back to England and they would have to worship in a way they could never agree with. The Catholics had been a constant threat to Protestants for over a century in both England and Scotland. For the Protestants, having a Catholic on the throne was more than they could ever accept.

Their fears were not helped by James II’s decisions. One of the first things that he did was to allow Catholics to worship freely and take on important jobs. James tried to keep some Protestants happy too. He allowed those who weren’t Anglican to have equal freedoms as well as Catholics.

However, this didn’t stop the Protestants trying to get rid of Charles. They immediately gathered an army that tried to place the Duke of Monmouth on the throne. The Duke was one of Charles II’s 14 illegitimate children (ie, he was the product of one of Charles’ many affairs). The Dutch lent soldiers to support this uprising. However, supporters of James crushed them, and Monmouth was executed for treason.

Important Protestants became worried about the King’s reaction. James started to remove his opponents from influence by changing the rules about elections so that only loyal men could become MPs. He also massively increased the size of the army and replaced Protestant officers with Catholics who were loyal to him, especially in Ireland.

When James II’s wife had a baby boy in June 1688, the Protestants felt they needed to act now. If they didn’t, they feared the royal family might remain Catholic forever!
In an attempt to stop this, important Protestants in England appealed to William of Orange, the Protestant Dutch King, to take over. He was married to James II’s daughter, Mary. Although he wasn’t the rightful heir to the throne, everyone else in line before him was a Catholic. William asked the powerful nobles to promise to support him. Although many were worried about doing this— it would have cost them their lives had they got caught— the birth of the King’s son led to them promising William their support.

William immediately invaded England in November 1688. When his armies landed in England, James II’s army collapsed. The mainly Protestant soldiers refused to fight for him, and supported William of Orange instead. There was anti-Catholic rioting in London, and James’ military leaders gradually left him, promising to support William instead. In the end, there was no battle, and William’s army marched on London unopposed. James II fled England in December, and Parliament declared that William was King instead.

**TASK FOUR- How did Parliament tie down William?**

(For each rule, explain why Parliament created it in full sentences).

1) It was made illegal for The King or Queen to be a Catholic.
2) The King could not raise any new taxes without approval from Parliament.
3) The King was not allowed to have a standing army in peacetime. The King could only make his army bigger if there was a war on.
4) The King could not stop or over-rule any laws made by Parliament.
5) There had to be an election for a new Parliament every three years.