

Was Oliver Cromwell a hero or villain?

- **Hero:**
 - Helped Parliament win the Civil War.
 - Created the New Model Army.
 - Brought stability after Charles' execution.
 - Allowed Jews to return to England after centuries of banishment.
- **Villain:**
 - Banned fun activities like theatre, dancing, and Christmas celebrations.
 - Ruled as **Lord Protector** like a dictator.
 - Brutal in Ireland, especially at Drogheda massacre.
- Historians still debate how he should be remembered.

How did the English Civil War shape England's government?

- **Monarchy abolished** after Charles I's execution; England became a republic (called the **Commonwealth**).
- Parliament ruled, but Cromwell took control as Lord Protector.
- Showed that kings could no longer rule without Parliament.
- After Cromwell's death, the monarchy was restored with Charles II in 1660.
- Long-term: Civil War set the idea that **Parliament should limit the king's power**.

The Gunpowder Plot – why did the religious settlement start to fail?

- **Elizabeth I's religious settlement (1559)** tried to make peace between Catholics and Protestants.
- Many Catholics wanted to stay loyal to the Pope, not the Queen.
- Catholics were fined for not attending Protestant church.
- **Gunpowder Plot (1605)** – a group of Catholics (including Guy Fawkes) planned to blow up Parliament and King James I.
- Plot failed; Catholics faced even harsher punishments.
- Settlement began to fail because divisions between Protestants and Catholics grew stronger.

How far did the English Civil War transform the lives of women and gender roles?

- Women took over businesses and farms while men fought.
- Some women joined in fighting and supported armies.
- **Leveller women** argued for more equality in politics.
- After the war, most traditional roles returned, but women had shown they could be active in public life.

Did Charles I cause the English Civil War?

- Charles I believed in the **Divine Right of Kings** (that God chose him to rule).
- He ruled without Parliament for **11 years** (the "Personal Rule").
- He raised taxes without Parliament's permission.
- Married a Catholic queen (Henrietta Maria of France), worrying Protestants.
- Tried to force a new prayer book on Scotland, sparking rebellion.
- Many believe Charles I's stubbornness and refusal to compromise caused the war.

Why was Charles I put on trial and executed?

- Charles refused to share power with Parliament.
- He was accused of being a "**tyrant, traitor, murderer, and enemy of the country.**"
- First time a reigning king had been put on public trial.
- Found guilty and executed in **1649** outside Whitehall in London.
- Shocked Europe — many believed kings were chosen by God and should not be killed.

What happened during the English Civil War?

- War broke out in **1642** between King Charles I (Royalists/Cavaliers) and Parliament (Roundheads).
- Early battles were won by Cavaliers, but Parliament reorganised under **Oliver Cromwell**.
- **New Model Army** – well-trained, disciplined soldiers loyal to Parliament.
- Parliament began to win key battles, such as **Marston Moor** and **Naseby**.
- Charles was eventually defeated and captured.

What were the differences between Cavaliers and Roundheads?

- **Cavaliers:**
 - Supported the king.
 - Rich landowners, nobles, and some rural people.
 - Believed in tradition and monarchy.
 - Often wore long hair, fancy clothes.
- **Roundheads:**
 - Supported Parliament.
 - Merchants, townspeople, Puritans.
 - Wanted limits on king's power.
 - Often wore simple clothes and had short hair.

Gunpowder Plot & Religion	
Key word	Definition
Religious Settlement	Elizabeth I's plan to make peace between Catholics and Protestants.
Catholic	Christians who followed the Pope in Rome.
Protestant	Christians who broke away from the Catholic Church and rejected the Pope.
Gunpowder Plot	A failed attempt by Guy Fawkes and other Catholics to blow up Parliament and King James I in 1605.
Guy Fawkes	Catholic plotter who was caught guarding the gunpowder.
Persecution	When people are treated badly because of their religion or beliefs.
Tolerance	Allowing different religious beliefs to exist without punishment.
Civil War Sides	
Key word	Definition
Cavaliers (Royalists)	Supporters of Charles I, usually nobles and landowners.
Roundheads (Parliamentarians)	Supporters of Parliament, often townspeople and Puritans.
Puritans	Strict Protestants who wanted simple worship and no Catholic influence.
New Model Army	Parliament's professional and disciplined army led by Oliver Cromwell.
Royalist	Another name for a supporter of the king.
Parliamentarian	Another name for a supporter of Parliament.
Propaganda	Posters, pamphlets, and speeches used to convince people to support one side.
Militia	A part-time army of local men raised to fight.
Mercenaries	Paid soldiers who fought for money, not loyalty.
Trial and Execution	
Key word	Definition
Treason	Betraying your country; Charles I was accused of this.

Causes of the Civil War	
Key word	Definition
Divine Right of Kings	Belief that kings were chosen by God and should not be challenged.
Parliament	The group of people (MPs) who shared power with the king and controlled taxes.
Personal Rule	The 11 years when Charles I ruled without calling Parliament.
Taxes	Money the king collected from the people; Charles raised these without Parliament's agreement.
Prayer Book	Charles tried to force Scotland to use a new prayer book, leading to rebellion.
Ship Money	A tax Charles demanded across the country (not just coastal towns).
Grand Remonstrance	A long list of complaints Parliament gave Charles I in 1641.
Tyrant	A cruel ruler who ignores the law and people's rights.
Civil War Events	
Key word	Definition
Battle of Edgehill	First battle of the Civil War (1642).
Battle of Marston Moor	A major victory for Parliament.
Battle of Naseby	The battle where Parliament's New Model Army defeated Charles I's forces.
Siege	Surrounding a town or castle to cut off supplies until it surrenders.
Skirmish	A small, quick fight between soldiers.
Surrender	When one side gives up in battle.
Campaign	A series of battles in one area during the war.
Captured	When Charles I was taken prisoner after losing the war.
Oliver Cromwell's England	
Key word	Definition
Lord Protector	The title Cromwell took when ruling England instead of a king.

Trial	A formal examination in court to decide if someone is guilty.
Execution	The act of killing someone as a punishment; Charles I was executed in 1649.
Regicide	The killing of a king.
Sentence	The punishment given at the end of a trial.
Whitehall	The place in London where Charles I was executed.
Republic	A country without a king or queen, ruled by elected leaders.
Commonwealth	The name given to England when it became a republic after Charles I's death.

Dictator	A ruler with total power who makes decisions without sharing power.
Drogheda	A town in Ireland where Cromwell's soldiers killed many people.
Hero	Someone admired for their bravery and achievements.
Villain	Someone remembered for being cruel or harsh.
Puritan Rule	Time when Cromwell and others enforced strict religious laws.
Army Rule	Cromwell relied on the army to control the country.
Major-Generals	Military leaders Cromwell used to govern different regions.

Impact on Society	
Key word	Definition
Levellers	A political group who wanted more rights and equality for ordinary people.
Diggers	A radical group who wanted land shared fairly between all people.
Gender roles	The expectations of what men and women should do in society.
Equality	The idea that all people should have the same rights.
Women's roles	Many women managed businesses, farms, or supported armies during the war.
Petitions	Written requests by women demanding more say in politics.
Restoration	The return of the monarchy in 1660 when Charles II became king.
Constitutional Monarchy	A system where the king or queen rules but is limited by Parliament.
Democracy	A government where the people have a say in decisions.