

KS3 History knowledge organiser:

Year 8 Spring term 1: What were the causes of the English Civil War?

Section 2: The long term causes of the war

The long term causes can be grouped under these three key words:

Section 1: Key words and key individuals



1. Power

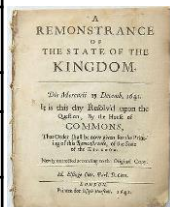
2. Religion



3. Money



Anglican	An English protestant
Catholic	A Christian who follows the original 'universal' practices of worship and belief as directed by the Pope.
Divine Right of Kings	belief that the King is chosen by God and can go no wrong
Grand Remonstrance	A list of demands written by Puritan MPs including the right of Parliament to choose the King's ministers.
Monarch	A king or queen
MP	Member of Parliament – elected to sit in the House of Commons and be involved in ruling the country
Long term cause	A main reason for an event that usually leads to other reasons. These are often big problems that lead to an increase in tension over time.
Protestant	Someone who protested against the beliefs of the Catholic Church
Puritan	A strict Protestant who believed in simple church services and regular study of the bible. They wanted to 'purify' the Church of Catholic practices.
Ship Money	A tax traditionally only be imposed on coastal towns in times of war, to pay for the navy; Charles imposed the tax during peace and across the country.
Short term cause	A reason that 'sparks' off an event at a particular point.
Charles I	King from 1625- 49. The only English monarch who has been executed
Henrietta Maria	Charles I's wife, she was a French Catholic.
Earl of Strafford	Charles's chief adviser. Also known as Thomas Wentworth. Executed at Parliament's demand in 1641
John Pym	The leading opponent of Charles in Parliament after 1640. Parliament's unofficial 'leader.'
Oliver Cromwell	MP before the war and devout Puritan. Leader of cavalry in New Model Army and Lord Protector between 1653 and 1658
Archbishop of Canterbury William Laud	leader of the Church of England, appointed by Charles in 1633. He favoured a more Catholic form of Christianity



1625	Charles succeeds his Father, James as King of England (and Scotland). He marries Henrietta Maria. Charles believed in the Divine Rights of Kings which clashed with Parliament's growing confidence that it had certain rights and authority.
1629-40	MPs refused to increase taxes to help Charles pay for a war with Spain leading to the 11 years Tyranny; a period when Charles ruled alone and according to his own power and will.
1633	Charles sent Thomas Wentworth to take control of Ireland. On his return he was promoted to his chief advisor and given the title of the Earl of Stafford. Parliament were against this as they did not trust Wentworth, believing him to be too powerful and a threat to their position.
1635-1636	Charles ordered all landowners to pay Ship Money (to pay for the navy). In the past, only people living near the coast paid it, but Charles insisted that everyone must pay. This brought Charles great unpopularity and when a landowner called John Hampden refused to pay, he was sent to prison for disobeying the King.
1637	Charles tried to make the religion of Scotland more like England by making them use the English Prayer Book. The Scots refused so Charles sent in an army to force them. The Scots defeated them and demanded compensation.
1640	Charles was forced to recall Parliament as he needed money to pay the Scots. MPs once again refused to sanction taxes, unless Charles would agree to change the way in which he had been ruling the country.
November 1641	Parliament demands more power by writing a list of demands called the Grand Remonstrance.
January 1642	Charles burst into the House of Commons with 400 soldiers and tried to arrest 5 leading MPs. they had been warned and escaped by boat down the river Thames.
August 1642	Charles gathered his army and Parliament gathered theirs – Civil War had begun

Section 3: The short term causes of the war

November 1641	Parliament demands more power by writing a list of demands called the Grand Remonstrance.
January 1642	Charles burst into the House of Commons with 400 soldiers and tried to arrest 5 leading MPs. they had been warned and escaped by boat down the river Thames.
August 1642	Charles gathered his army and Parliament gathered theirs. Charles raises his standard (flag) at Nottingham signifying that he is starting the war.

