

The English Civil War 1642-51

LO: I can describe the reasons for the Civil War



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When was the English Civil War?

The English Civil War started in 1642 and lasted until 1651.

There are several reasons for the Civil War, and these go back a long time.



What happened?

Let's start with a video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sV2hfy4wqQo>

Youtube so parental supervision required.

As you can see, Charles had a lot of difficulties in England, Scotland and Wales.



1. Religion. Although he was a Protestant, Charles married Henrietta Maria, a Catholic.

This worried parliament.

Why was there a Civil War?

2. Charles believed in the divine right of kings, which meant he thought God had put him in charge. He thought no one should question what he did.

3. When Charles tried to raise money in unfair ways, parliament became even more concerned.



One of these was collecting ship money. It was very unfair as it meant that towns and villages near ports had to pay money.

4. There was also trouble in Scotland and Ireland.

War: the two sides



Charles led the Royalists, who were often called 'Cavaliers'. This army was made up of rich landowners and their tenants.

The Parliamentarians, often called 'Roundheads' because of their simple haircuts, were led by a man named Oliver Cromwell. This army was made up of professional soldiers who were given lots of training.



The end of the war

- Charles was defeated and was executed
- The position of king was abolished and England became a republic.
- Oliver Cromwell took power.
- But people grew tired of Cromwell's way of ruling. When he died, Charles II was invited to take the throne.
- England was a monarchy again
- Now watch this! Parental supervision required
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UO5-vLVJG5Q>



The war and Slingsby Castle



Sir Charles Cavendish was a Royalist.

He supported Charles I. When the other side won, Charles fled to France.

He came back a few years later when it was safer.

But Slingsby Castle was left unoccupied and became a ruin