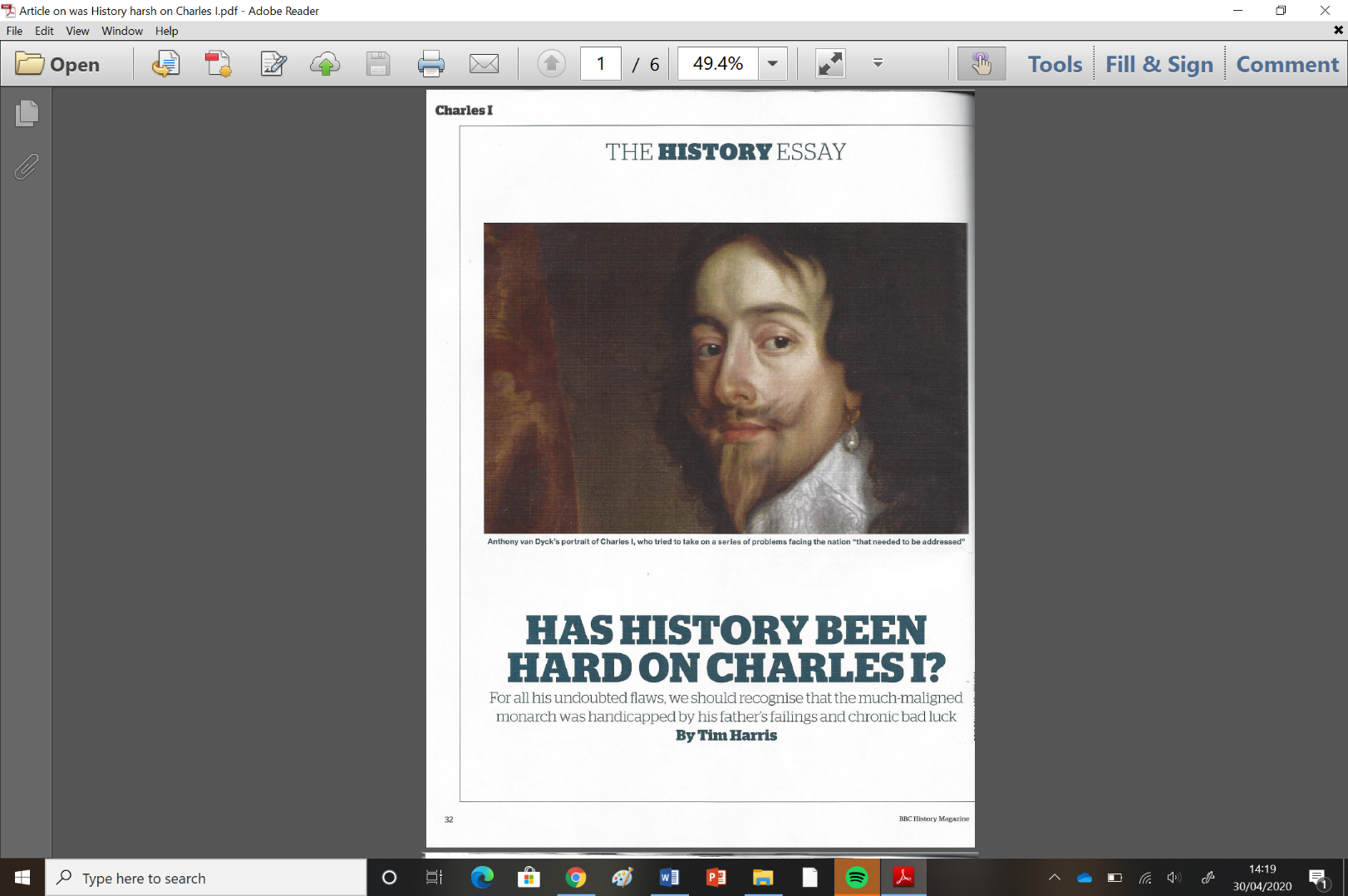
**Has history been hard on Charles I?**

**By Tim Harris**

**Task:**

As part of studying A Level History you will be reading academic articles like this one.

Please read the article by Tom Harris and answer the questions to help you understand the key points of the article.

As a class we will be discussing the article and your answers to the questions so please bring this to your first History lesson.

**Questions**

1. What are the 2 conflicting interpretations of Charles’ period of Personal Rule? (the 11 years that Charles ruled without a parliament)
2. Why was being king of England, Scotland and Ireland a difficult task in the C17th?
3. In what ways had King James (Charles’ father) left his son and heir a difficult legacy? (think about religion and finance)
4. What was the main bone of contention between Charles and parliament when he came to the throne in 1625?
5. How did Charles try to bring stability to his kingdoms in the 1630s when he ruled without parliament?
6. What was controversial about Charles’ policies during Personal Rule? (think in terms of religion, finance and legal system)
7. In what ways could Charles’ policies be defended as ‘logical’?
8. How did Charles’ personality create problems with parliament?
9. What had Charles done to alienate and upset his Scottish and Irish kingdoms?
10. “Ironically the civil wars didn’t erupt because Charles was no good at the politics of spin; they erupted because he was.” What does the author of the article mean by this concluding sentence?