

Get Set... For History A Level

Unit 2: The English Revolution (AQA 2E)

This course is all about the clash between King Charles I and his parliament leading up to the English Civil war in 1642. In Year 12 you will study the relationship between King Charles and his parliament, with a major focus on the arguments they had over finance and religion. You will carefully consider the role of Charles' personality had in the conflict, as his stubbornness is often identified as a significant problem for parliament in the 1620s and 1630s. Against the backdrop of the Gunpowder Plot (1605) and fear of witchcraft, you will think about the influence religious beliefs had on the growing rift in England between Royalists and Parliamentarians. In Year 13 you will study the English Civil War itself and trace the political rise of Oliver Cromwell, from low-level cavalryman to eventually the 'Lord Protector' in the 1650s. You will study the controversial event of King Charles' execution (sorry spoiler alert!) and the consequences of this for political authority in England, for how would England be governed without a monarch? Essentially this course boils down to the personalities of a handful of 'great men' and how they sought to rule over a divided kingdom.

Key themes/ideas:

- Conflict between Crown and Parliament
- Radical thinking in the C17th
- Experiments in government

Get Set... Things To Watch



TV

All4—The Devil's Whore



Films

Cromwell

To kill a king



Documentaries

BBC iplayer— The Stuarts

Clickview—Charles I: Downfall of a king

Clickview—Charles I: Killing a king

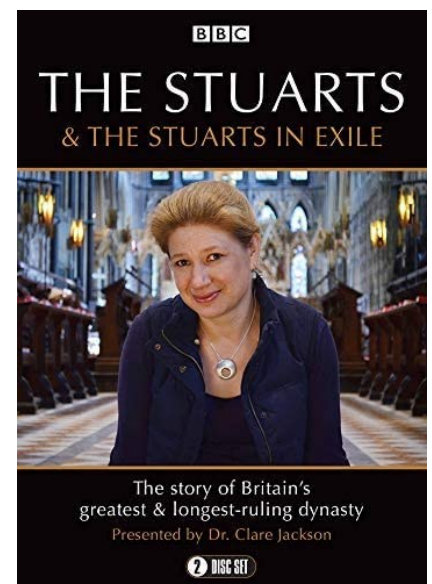
Clickview—The Stuarts: a bloody reign

All4—Britain's most historic towns: Oxford

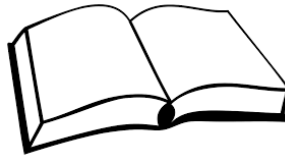
Clickview—A history of Britain by Simon Schama (Revolutions)

The English Civil Wars: blood on our hands (youtube)

Timelines TV: History of Britain: Civil war, History of Britain: Oliver Cromwell (youtube)



Get Set....Things To Read

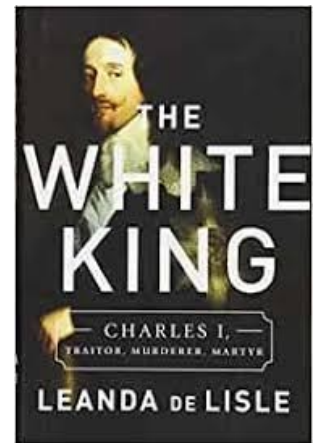
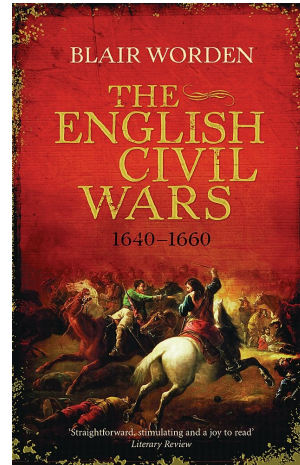


Historical Fiction

The King's General by Daphne Du Maurier

By the sword by Alison Stuart

Traitor's Blood by Michael Arnold



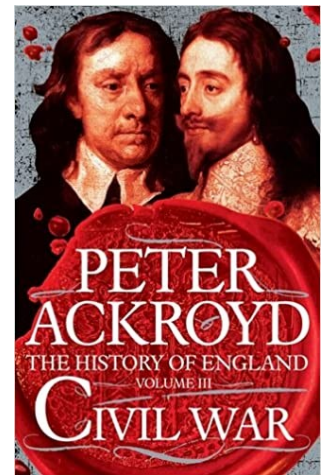
Academic

BBC Historyextra—Oliver Cromwell: Hero or villain?

The English Civil wars by Blair Worden

Civil War by Peter Ackroyd

White King by Leanda de Lisle



Get Set...Things To Listen To



'Open Yale courses' podcast—Crown and political nation 1604 –1642

In our time' podcasts by Melvyn Bragg (The trial of Charles I, The Divine Right of Kings)

'Revolutions' podcast series by Mike Duncan

History Hub podcast—Citizens: 800 years in the making