

### How do we explain things?

It is Monday morning and Bob has just arrived over an hour late for school. He has tried to sneak in, but Mr Jones, his head of year has caught sight of him and stalks over, his face purple with rage...



**WHY ARE YOU AN HOUR LATE TO SCHOOL, BOY?**

Well sir...



Bob has to think fast. He needs to explain why he is late to school. To do that he needs to think back over all the things that happened to him this morning and get them into some sort of order in his head.

### TASK

Look over all the things that happened to Bob this morning. Can you put them into some sort of order to help Bob explain what has happened?

One of the most important parts of history is getting the story straight in your head before you start explaining, and that is no different here. In history however there may be many different explanations for the same events, so sometimes you need to know a number of different stories. For example, when explaining the causes of the Civil War, you need to know a story about how money caused the war for example, as well as how Charles I's actions caused the war.

My cat knocked over a glass



rushing to get ready



forgot to pick up my bus pass



had to walk



I own a cat



water landed on the alarm clock



alarm clock did not go off



bus driver wouldn't let me on



late for school



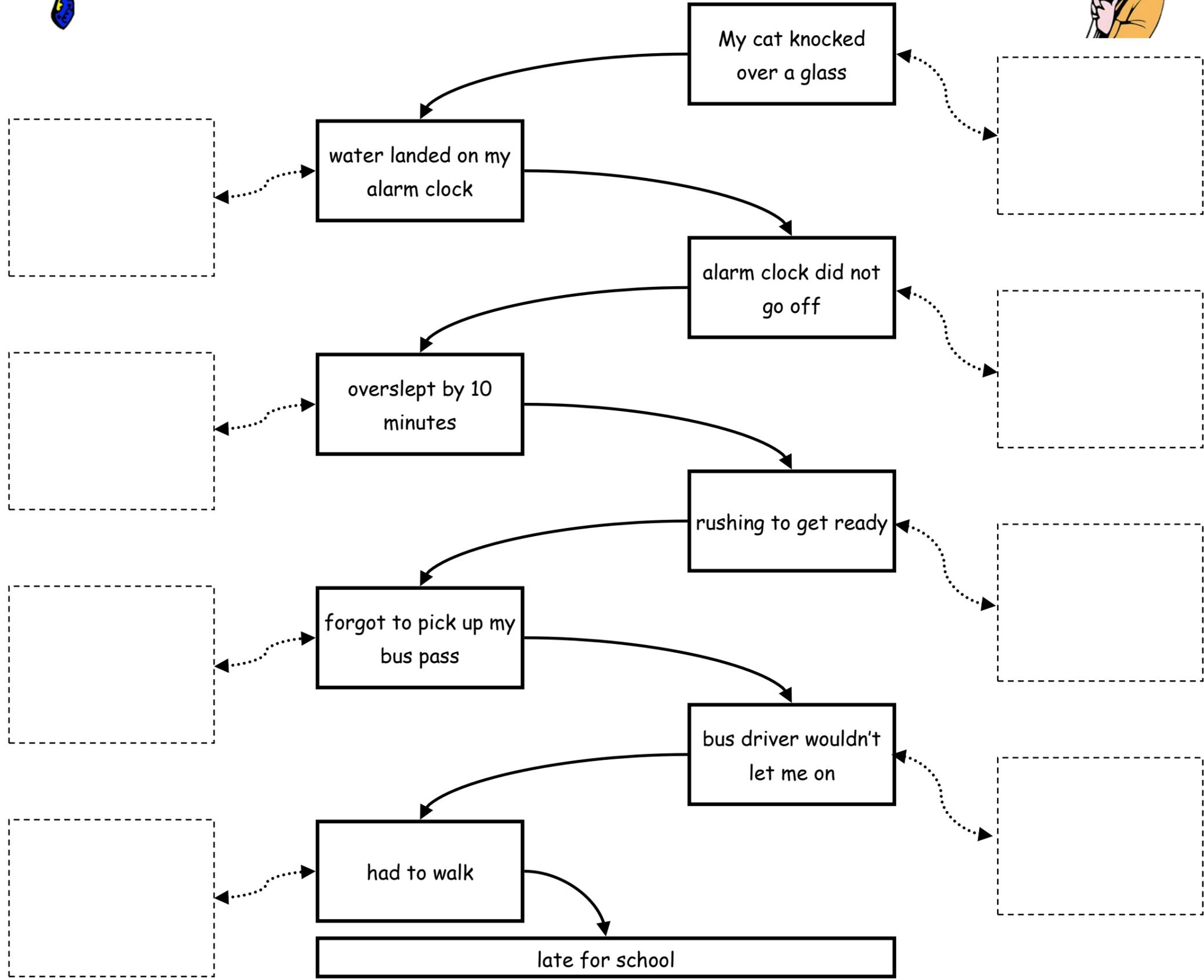
overslept by 10 minutes





**WHY ARE YOU AN HOUR LATE TO SCHOOL, BOY?**

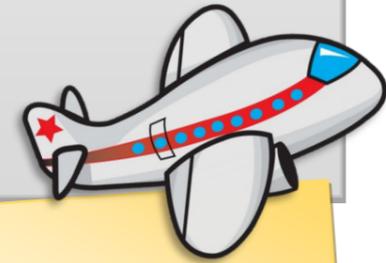
**My cat was in my room sir...**



Developing Explanations in History

Bob's answer doesn't seem to have gone down very well. He has just given one of the events that happened to him this morning, but he hasn't really explained how it made him late.

When we are explaining we need to take people on a journey to show how things led to one another (remember the "explain plane")



**TASK**

Write on the lines to show the links between all the events which happened before Bob got to school. Use some of the linking phrases below to help you.

- GREAT LINKING PHRASES**
- ...this meant that...
  - ...this led to...
  - ...as a result...
  - ...if it had not been for...
  - ...a direct consequence...
  - ...an indirect result of this...
  - ...an underlying reason for...

**TASK**

Really good explanations also add details to **SHOW** the **IMPACT** of the events as well. Where relevant add some extra detail or evidence in the dotted boxes to strengthen your explanation. Not every box needs something. So think carefully.



Why did Charles I lose control of England in 1642?

Disagreements over who should run England were important.



believed in Divine Right

Charles ruled without Parliament for 11 years.

Charles needed Parliament to pass new taxes in 1640

Parliament made demands in November 1640

Charles was forced to meet most of the demands

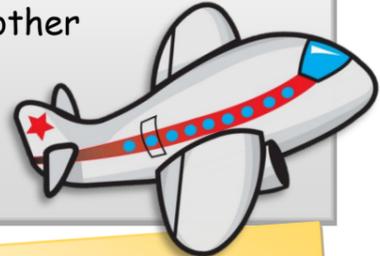
Parliament made more extreme demands in Nov 1641

Charles tried to arrest 5 MPs in Jan 1642

Parliament tried to control the king in 1642.

Charles believed they had gone too far and began gathering an army.

**Developing Explanations in History**  
When we are explaining we need to take people on a journey to show how things led to one another (remember the "explain plane")



**TASK**  
Write on the lines to show the links between all the events which happened before the Civil War broke out. Use some of the linking phrases below to help you.

**GREAT LINKING PHRASES**

- ...this meant that... of this...
- ...this led to... • ...an underlying reason for...
- ...as a result...
- ...if it had not been for... • ...was forced to...
- ...a direct consequence... • ...despite this...
- ...an indirect result • ...however...
- ...this encouraged...

**TASK**  
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**REMEMBER—THIS EXPLAINS ONE FACTOR OF THE CAUSES OF THE CIVIL WAR**

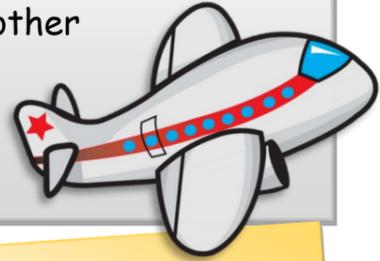


Why did Charles I lose control of England in 1642?

Religious worries played a major part...



**Developing Explanations in History**  
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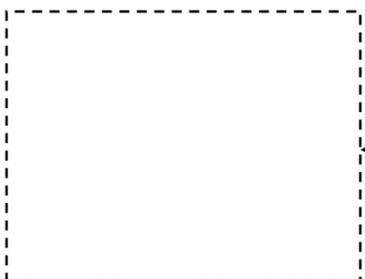
Parliament unhappy with Charles' choice

Married Henrietta Maria in 1625



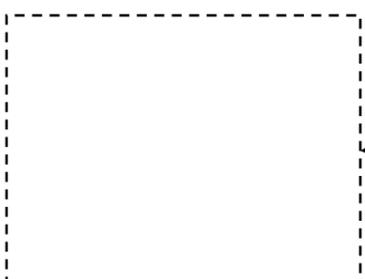
Many were worried the country might go back to Catholicism

1630s Archbishop Laud began changing the Church



Scots rebelled

1637 Charles brought a new Prayer book into Scotland



Parliament refused to help without changes being made

Charles had to ask Parliament for money in 1640 to fight the Scots



Both lost trust in each other. Puritans feared what might happen.