

Charles I and the steps to Civil War

Aim:

To understand what a Civil War is,
Identify both sides and suggest causes of the English Civil War

Divine Right Monarchy

The belief that the monarch has been chosen and anointed by God meaning they are only answerable to God and above the law of man.

Basically he thinks he can do what he wants!





The second Stuart King was Charles I, James' son. Charles became king in 1625.

What impression do you get of Charles I from this painting?

Task

Think back to other kings and queens we have seen and make a list of the possible reasons why this might have happened.

Sentence starter

There are many possible reasons for why Charles may have been executed. For example...



What can you remember from Year 7 that mean the king couldn't just do what he wanted like raising taxes or making laws?

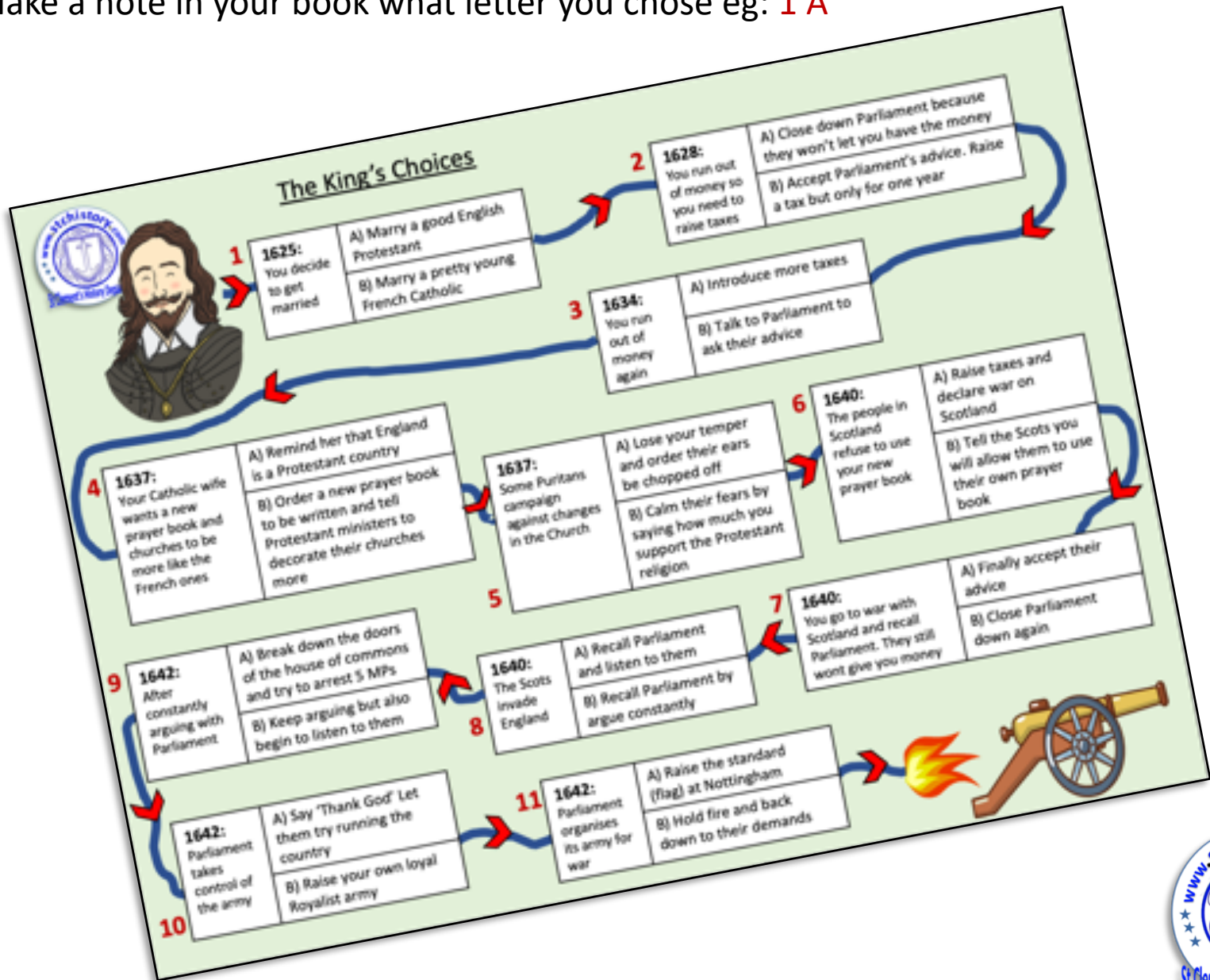
MAGNA CARTA 1215



What does King Charles believe in that might go against this?

DIVINE RIGHT MONARCHY

On the following sheet there are some choices Charles should make, you need to choose A or B. Make a note in your book what letter you chose eg: **1 A**



The King's Choices



1

1625:

You decide to get married

- A) Marry a good English Protestant
- B) Marry a pretty young French Catholic

2

1628:

You run out of money so you need to raise taxes

- A) Close down Parliament because they won't let you have the money
- B) Accept Parliament's advice. Raise a tax but only for one year

3

1634:

You run out of money again

- A) Introduce more taxes
- B) Talk to Parliament to ask their advice

4

1637:

Your Catholic wife wants a new prayer book and churches to be more like the French ones

- A) Remind her that England is a Protestant country
- B) Order a new prayer book to be written and tell Protestant ministers to decorate their churches more

5

1637:

Some Puritans campaign against changes in the Church

- A) Lose your temper and order their ears be chopped off
- B) Calm their fears by saying how much you support the Protestant religion

6

1640:

The people in Scotland refuse to use your new prayer book

- A) Raise taxes and declare war on Scotland
- B) Tell the Scots you will allow them to use their own prayer book

9

1642:

After constantly arguing with Parliament

- A) Break down the doors of the house of commons and try to arrest 5 MPs
- B) Keep arguing but also begin to listen to them

8

1640:

The Scots invade England

- A) Recall Parliament and listen to them
- B) Recall Parliament by argue constantly

7

1640:

You go to war with Scotland and recall Parliament. They still won't give you money

- A) Finally accept their advice
- B) Close Parliament down again

11

1642:

Parliament takes control of the army

- A) Say 'Thank God' Let them try running the country
- B) Raise your own loyal Royalist army

1642:

Parliament organises its army for war

- A) Raise the standard (flag) at Nottingham
- B) Hold fire and back down to their demands



Scores

1	A: 0
	B: 10

7	A: 0
	B: 15

2	A: 10
	B: 5

8	A: 0
	B: 10

3	A: 10
	B: 0

9	A: 10
	B: 5

4	A: 0
	B: 10

10	A: 5
	B: 15

5	A: 10
	B: 5

11	A: 15
	B: 5

6	A: 10
	B: 5

OVER 100 You are completely unsuited to kingship. You are hasty and thoughtless. If only you had made one or two different decisions, the English Civil War would never have happened.

BETWEEN 50 & 100 You haven't done too badly. Although you are rather tyrannical, the people will tolerate you because they believe so strongly in the monarchy. At least the chances of there being a civil war are quite remote.

LESS THAN 50 If only you had been king instead of Charles. None of this would have happened. The country would have been governed properly and the monarchy would have gone from strength to strength. You probably would have had many more children so that the Stuart kings and queens would still be with us today.



A quick summary:

1625

- Charles marries a Catholic
- Parliament refuse to give Charles money so he collects it anyway



1629 - 40

- Charles gets rid of Parliament
- Introduces unpopular taxes
- Tries to make the church more Catholic



1637

- Charles brings a new prayer book in for Scotland leading to war



1640

- Charles calls a Parliament to pay for the war with Scotland
- They demand more power in return
- Charles arrests 5 MPs
- Parliament take control of the army



1642

- The English Civil War begins



1649

Charles has his head chopped off

Which of these reasons (if any) do you think were strong enough to lead to a Civil War and execution of a king?

The English Civil War – Who was fighting who?



THE KING

- His supporters were known as ROYALISTS or CAVALIERS

PARLIAMENT

- Their supporters were known as PARLIAMENTARIANS or ROUNDHEADS



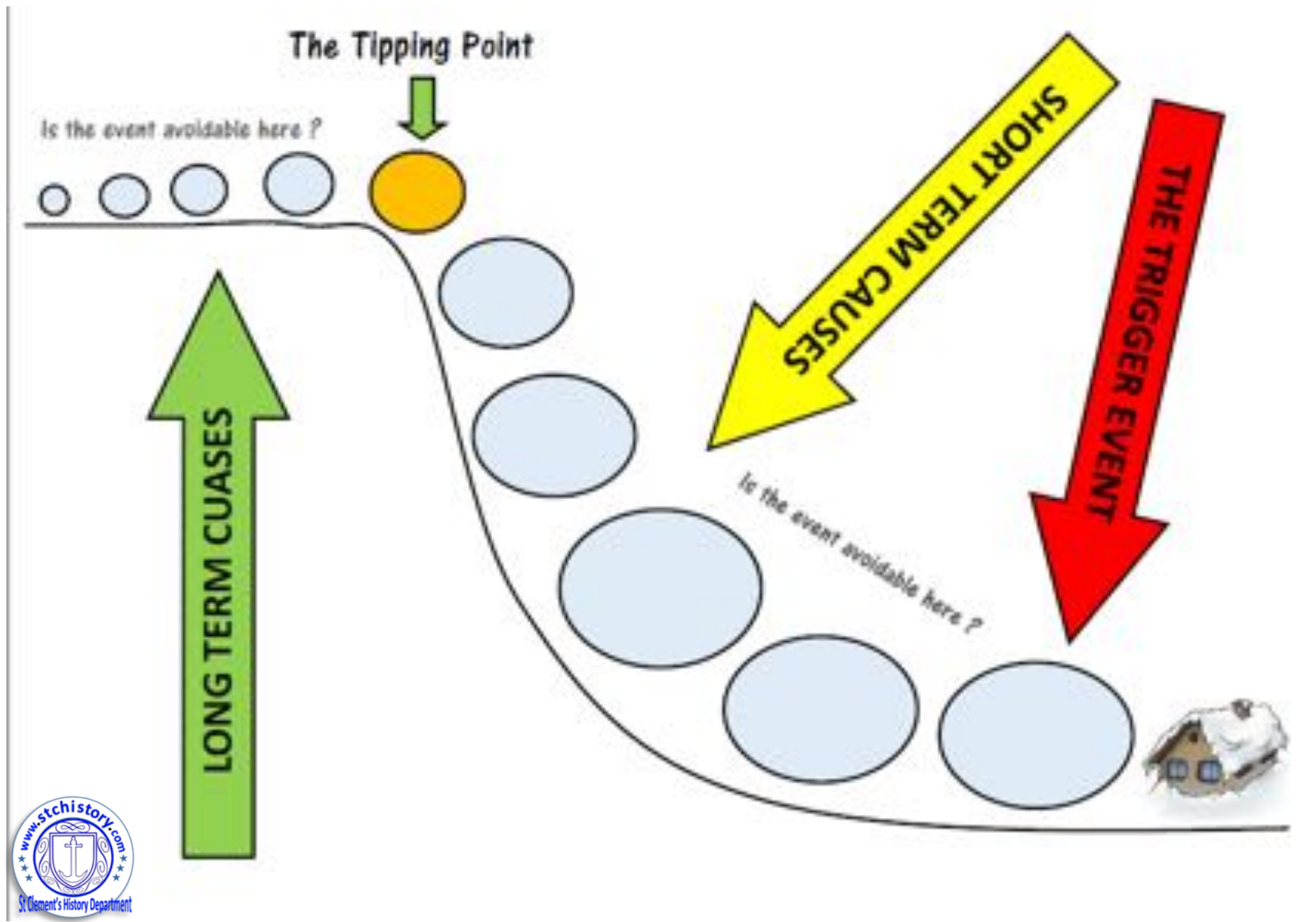
King Charles Cavalier

What were the causes of the English Civil War?

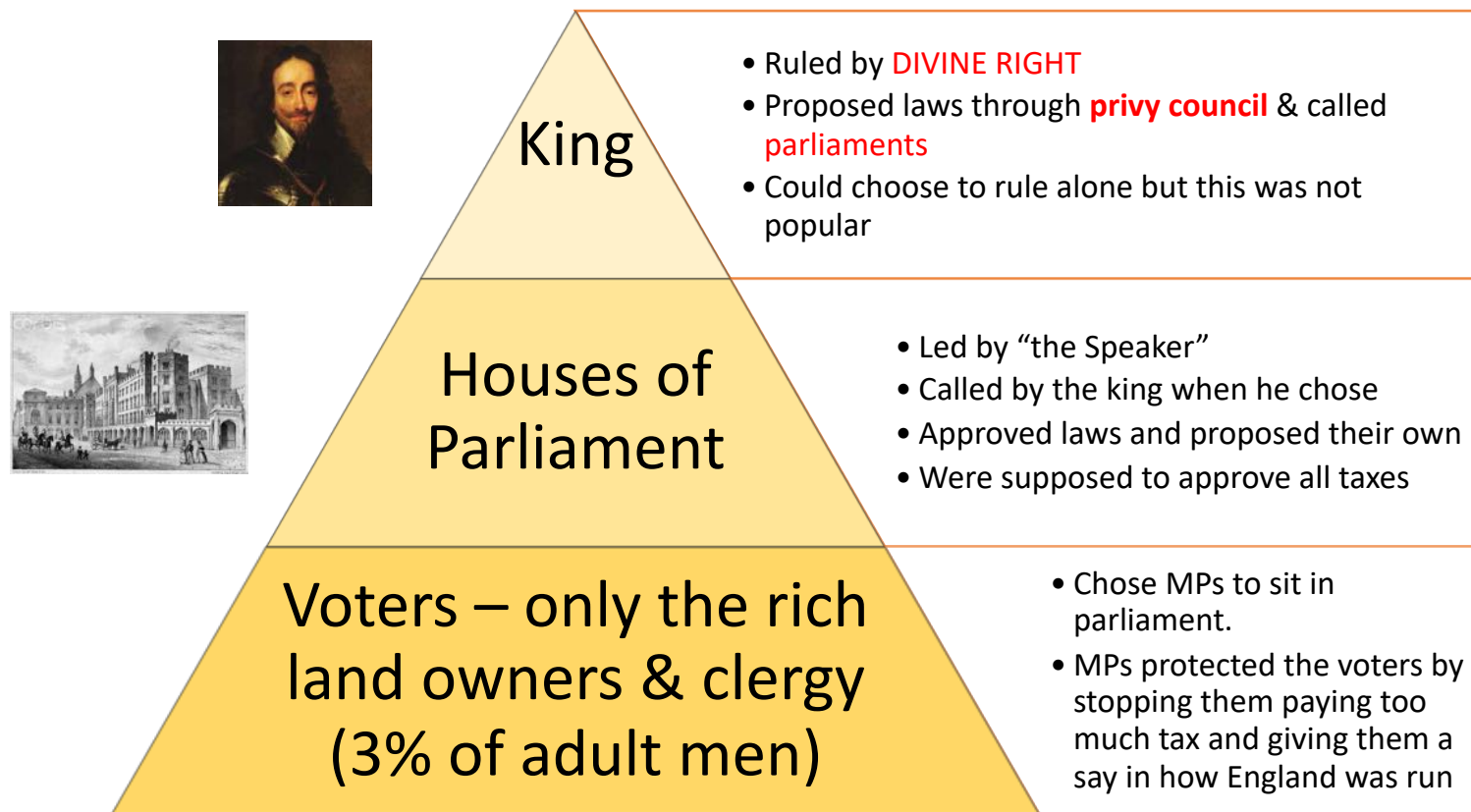
- Although there are a series of events which led to the Civil War, the war was not **INEVITABLE**.
- There were many causes of the war... some LONG TERM, some SHORT TERM. There were also TRIGGERS which set things into motion
- There were also points where war might have been avoided!



How we, as historians, need to look at key events in our history...



Why might this structure have been a long term cause of tension?



The lives of ordinary people were usually much more affected by their local lords or town governments than the parliament.

Quick Quiz

Catholic or Protestant?

1. Stained glass windows
2. Bible in English
3. Priests wear plain clothes
4. Leader is the Pope
5. Bible in Latin
6. Plain decoration inside the church.



What role did Religion play in leading to the English Civil War?



The Reformation under Henry VIII had torn England apart. Under James and his son Charles the official state religion was Protestantism but there was still wide-spread disagreement about what the church of England should be like.

1534

Henry turns
England
Protestant

1553

Mary I Turns
England Catholic

1558

Elizabeth I turns
England
Protestant

1605

Catholics plan to
blow up the
Houses of
Parliament

Although the term 'protestant makes us think they was one group who had the same views, in fact there was widespread disagreement amongst Protestants

Protestantism
(Church of England)

Puritans

Protestants who wanted to remove all Catholic influence.

Rejects all things Catholic

Accepts some catholic ideas

'High church'

Protestants who still practice many Catholic traditions.

Who are these Puritans?

In the 1600s, a group known as the Puritans emerged. They were devout Protestants who argued that the Reformation had not gone far enough. They thought that the Church of England was too Catholic.

They believed that:

- Individuals could have a private relationship with god, without the need for priests and hierarchy.
- Decorations such as stained glass were a distraction, and that churches should be plain-looking.
- People should avoid alcohol and rich food.

Task

1. Copy out the Puritan beliefs.
2. Draw a picture/diagram to help you remember each one
3. How are these different from Catholic beliefs



Charles marries Henrietta Maria, a French princess and a CATHOLIC!!!!!!!



Why might this be a problem?

But hang on, Charles is king, chosen by God? Surely he has a right to marry who he wants?

Charles then appointed William Laud, a leading **Arminian**, as Archbishop of Canterbury. Laud introduced some extremely controversial reforms such as:

- Replacing the simple communion table with a stone altar and moving it behind a **rood screen**.
- Bringing back stained glass windows.
- Encouraging priests to wear colourful clothes.

Definitions

Arminian - a group who wished to return to more Catholic practices

Rood screen - A screen in a church we separates the congregation from the priest

Task

1. Copy out these beliefs
2. Draw a picture/diagram for each one
3. Why would the Puritans be unhappy about these changes?

Charles faced growing criticism.

Three critics Henry Burton, William Prynne and John Bastwick published pamphlets criticising Charles.

Charles responded harshly. All 3 were arrested and sentenced to have their ears cut off in public. Charles didn't seem to realise all of this was driving a wedge between himself and his people.



Charles and Laud were determined that Scotland would accept the same religious practices as England.

On 23rd July 1637 Charles introduced a new English style prayer book to Scotland.

As you can see from the image below it wasn't well received.

*The Arch-Prelate of S^t Andrewes in Scotland
reading the new Service-booke in his pontificalibus
assaulted by men & Women, with Crickets, Fooles
Sticks and Stones.*



One bishop even had to threaten his congregation with a loaded pistol to keep order while he read from it.

Imagine you are a Puritan preacher in 1640. Write a sermon criticising Charles and Laud for their actions

For the last 15 years I have watched Charles turn this country more _____. He seems to be reversing the Reformation!

Firstly he married _____ A Catholic! She has been whispering Catholic ideas into his ears.

Secondly Charles has appointed _____ as Archbishop of Canterbury. He has made some very unpopular changes to the church including adding more _____. This goes completely against Puritan beliefs.

Anyone who has dared to speak against these changes has been horrifically mutilated. Poor Burton, Prynne and Bastwick had their _____ cut off!

In _____ Charles introduced a new prayer book. The people have been so unhappy they have been attacking priests who read from it. Charles has now sent an army to Scotland to deal with it. I doubt parliament will give him the money to continue because he hasn't listened to them for _____ years.

Charles needs to



Back of book, what do these images represent?

1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



1 mark last lesson

2marks

3 marks

4 marks

Why couldn't Charles get on with Parliament?

Charles' relationship with parliament had been bad from the start, following on from his father. In 1629, after arguing with Parliament over his religious views, he had dismissed Parliament and ruled without it for 11 years. This period is known as the '**personal rule**'

Why does Charles think he can do this?



Charles ruled through the **Court of Star Chamber**. This allowed him to rule without parliament by punishing those who criticised him and raising money through fines. There was also no trial in this court.

What is this going against (again)?

Charles soon needed bigger sources of income to pay for the war with Scotland and set upon the idea of expanding '**ship money**'. This was a **tax** that was normally paid by coastal towns in return for protection against foreign invasion. However, in 1635 Charles expanded the Tax so that inland counties had to pay.

Who are allowed to grant the king taxes?

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Who are allowed to grant the king taxes?

What was the Short Parliament?

Charles recalled Parliament in 1640, but he faced a storm of criticisms as he hadn't met them for 11 years during the [**Personal Rule**]. MP John Pym delivered a 2 hour speech criticising Charles.

Furious, Charles got rid of the Parliament after just 3 weeks, and tried to arrest MPs.

Black Rod trying to get into commons

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9o65Ap7nC8w>



Put your hands up at which of the following stages you think Civil War was unavoidable...

King Charles' religious changes and actions

King Charles' religious changes and actions and Star Chamber

King Charles' religious changes and actions, the Star Chamber and raising taxes

King Charles' religious changes and actions, the Star Chamber, raising taxes and the relations with Parliament

Is King Charles to blame?

Is Parliament to blame?

Was there a way to avoid Civil War?

What was the Long Parliament

Charles was still fighting the Scots and it was going badly, he needed money so he was forced to call Parliament again in November that same year. This session was called the **Long Parliament** because it stayed in session for 20 years, even though it was interrupted throughout.

Parliament met and decided that things had to change, Civil War was still not on anyone's mind even this late on...

DEMAND 1: That Charles' ministers be punished

DEMAND 2: That Charles should appoint new ministers from Parliament

DEMAND 3: The king should stop locking up opponents

DEMAND 4: That Parliament should meet more regularly and agree all taxes

DEMAND 5: That changes to the Church of England should be reversed

Do these demands show that Parliament were revolutionary and trying to get rid of the king

Or

Do they show that Parliament was just trying to get Charles to govern more sensibly and fairly?



Charles gives in by the summer of 1641

Parliament is to meet every three years and cannot be ended without MPs' agreement.

Ship Money has been made illegal.

The Court of the Star Chamber has been abolished.

The Church reforms have **not** been reversed, but Archbishop Laud has been put in prison.

Strafford, my minister who was hated most, has been tried by MPs and executed.

Is this the end of the tensions? This is some compromising, especially Strafford!

Has Charles done enough?



Why did King Charles declare war just months later?

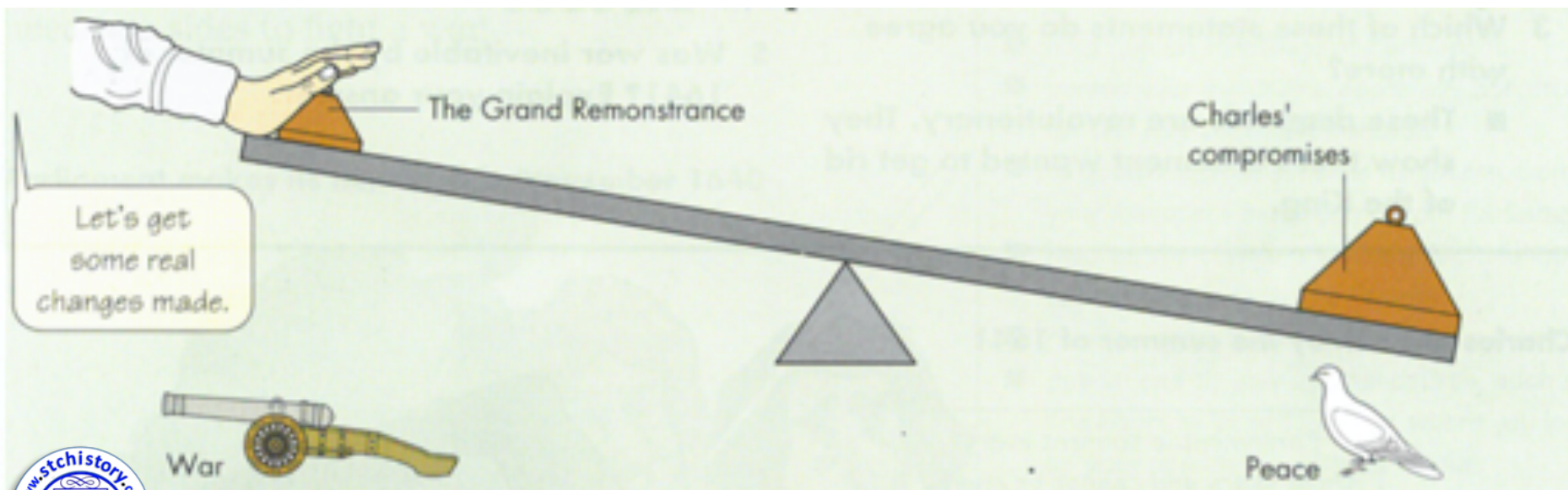
November 1641:

Despite the King compromising and backing down to Parliament, even though he firmly believed his divine right, some extreme puritan MPs then wanted more from him.

These MPs issued the **Grand Remonstrance** a year later:

- Parliament would choose the King's ministers giving them much more power
- The power of the bishops was reduced, making the Church more protestant

MPs were divided but voted in favour by 159 to 148. Charles was furious but felt he now had support which he didn't have last year.

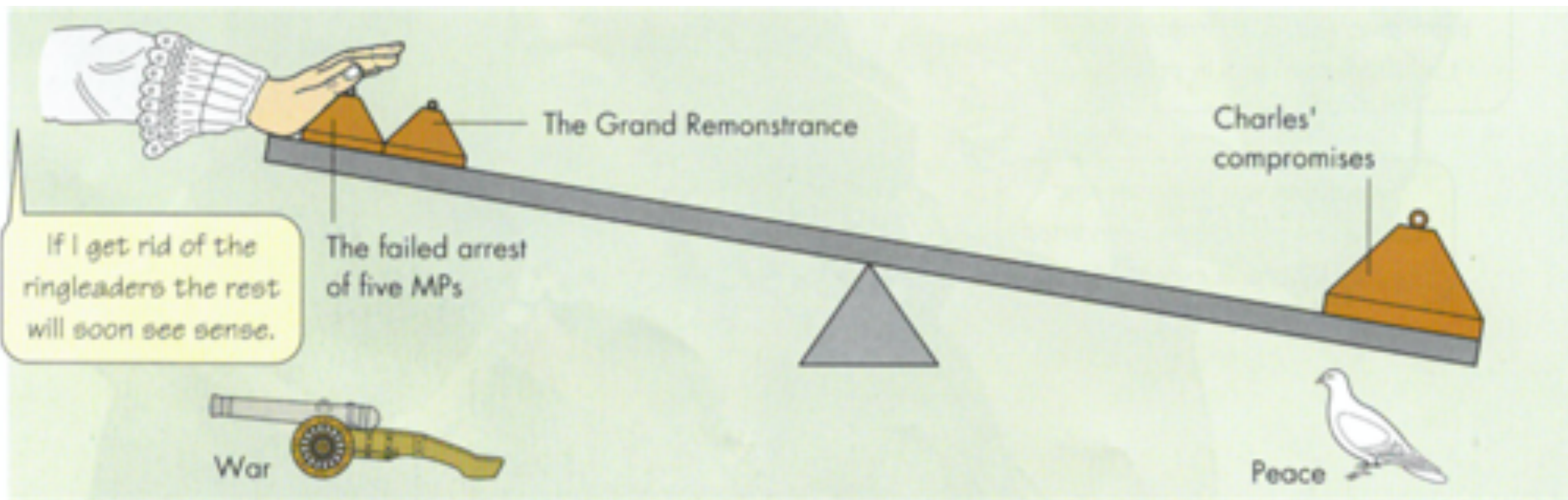


Why did King Charles declare war just months later?

January 1642:

Parliament didn't trust Charles, probably with good reason looking back, and believed he was planning to get rid of Parliament again. In January 1642, Charles burst into the House of Commons with 400 soldiers demanding the 5 leading MPs be handed over; they had however been warned and fled already.

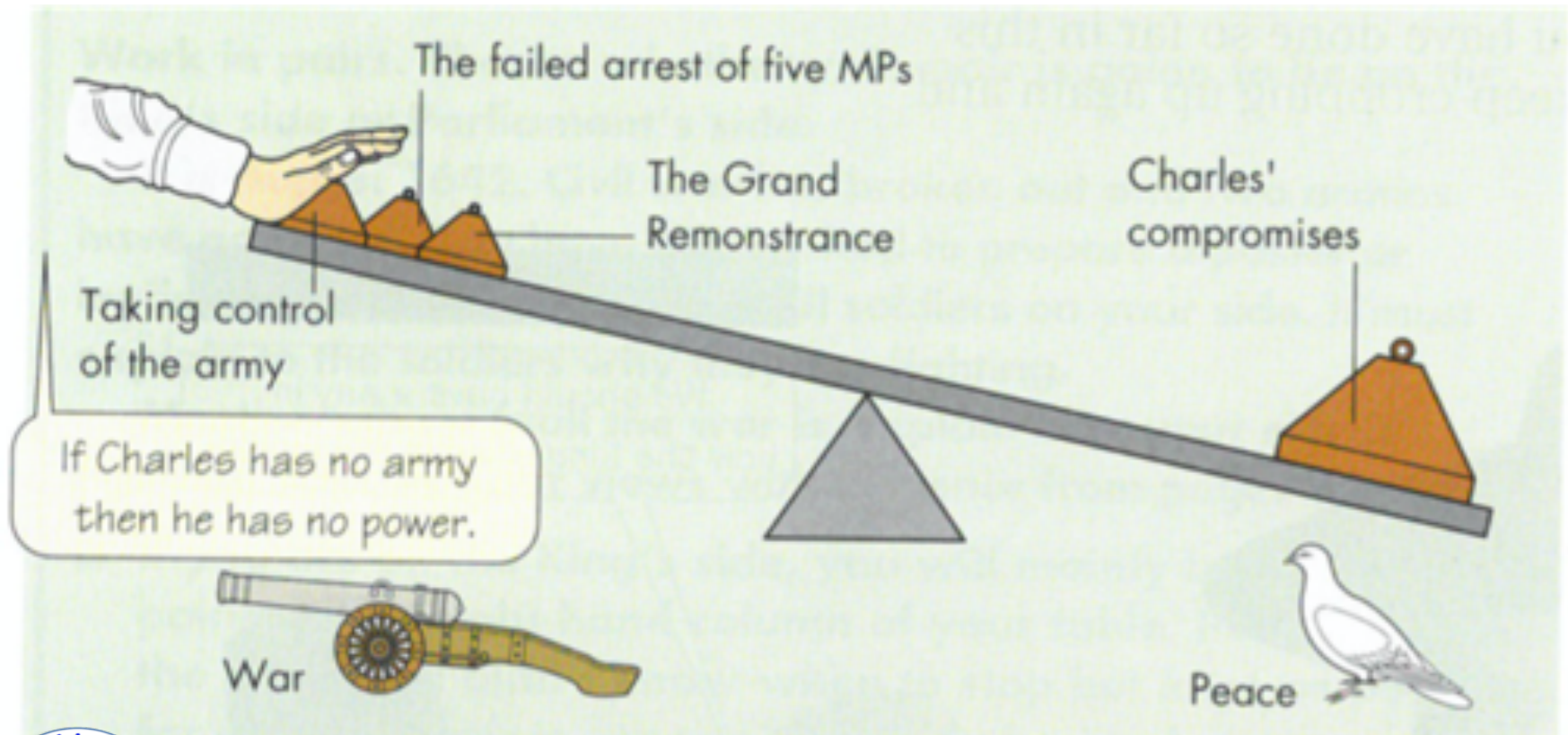
Many historians believe this was the trigger to the Civil War and Charles himself made it inevitable with this action.



Why did King Charles declare war just months later?

March 1642:

England needed an army. Monarchs had always controlled the army in the past but MPs didn't trust Charles enough as he might use the army against them. Parliament took control of the army without Charles' permission.



Why did King Charles declare war just months later?

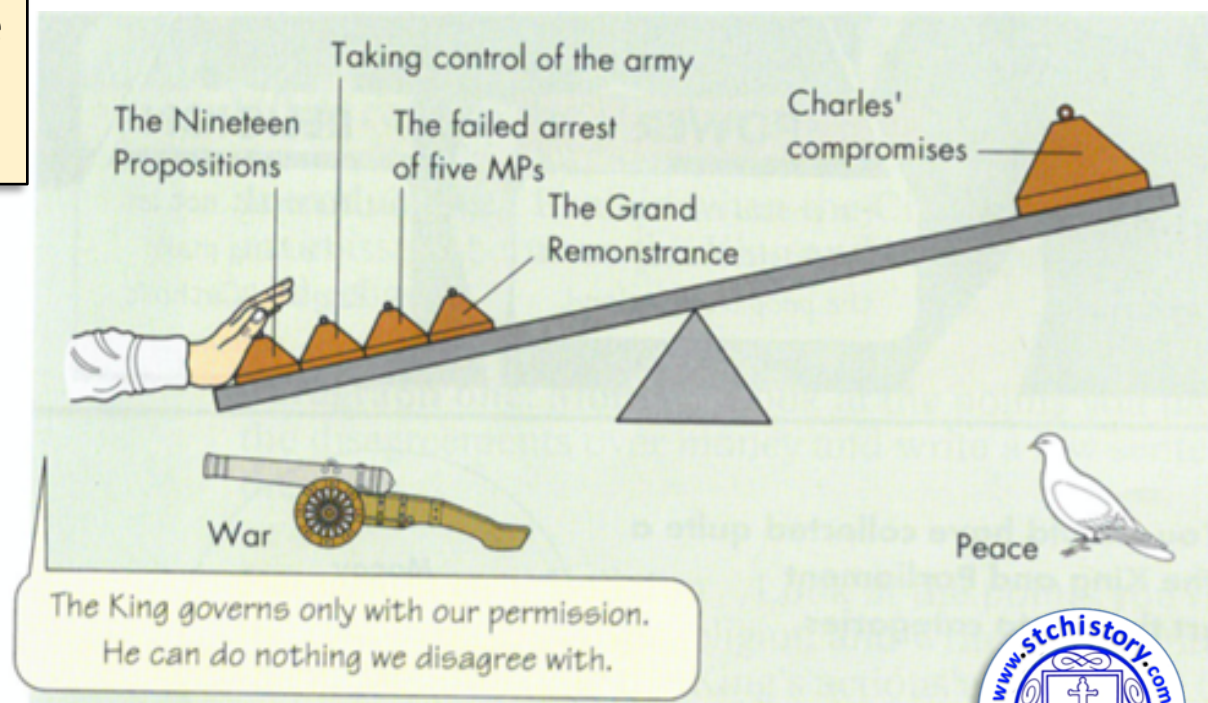
1 June 1642:

Parliament continued to demand more from the king and issued the '**Nineteen Propositions**' which basically state the king must follow what Parliament say and he cannot do anything without their permission. This finally split the country into Royalists or Parliamentarians.

22nd August – Charles raises his standard in Nottingham effectively declaring war and beginning the English Civil War

▼ SOURCE 4 *Some of the Nineteen Propositions*

- All affairs of state, including foreign policy, religion and finance, must be agreed with Parliament.
- All ministers must be approved by Parliament.
- Parliament must control the education of the King's children. His children cannot marry without Parliament's approval.
- Laws against Catholics must be enforced.
- The Church must be reformed as Parliament wants.



Prepare using your notes and the information on www.stchistory.com for this debate next lesson



Long term causes,
therefore Charles, are to
blame for the English Civil
War in 1642



Short term causes,
therefore Parliament, are
to blame for the English
Civil War in 1642



The Causes of the English Civil War

Task 1: Colour code each cause

Long Term ☐ Short Term ☐ Trigger ☐ Irrelevant ☐

Task 2: When you've completed task 1, draw a place an * at the point of no return

1215: The Signing of the Magna Carta

1536: The English Reformation

1603: The death of Elizabeth I

1603: James Stuart become King James I of England

1625: Charles I becomes king

1625: Charles I marries Henrietta Maria

1629-1640: Eleven years of tyranny and personal rule

1633: Charles appoints William Laud as Archbishop of Canterbury

1635: Charles orders everybody to pay ship money

1637: Charles orders Scottish people to use the new Catholic style prayer book

1639: The Scots invade England

1641: The Grand Remonstrance

1642: Charles tries to arrest 5 MPs who spoke against him

1642: Charles left London and goes to Oxford to raise an army



Autumn 1643: The Battle of Edgehill

Why have you chosen your point of no return where Civil War was inevitable?

Complete your Causes of the English Civil War sheet (on website next to the link for this lesson), take your time and make sure your explanation at the bottom has clear evidence