



De Lisle preparing for A Level History 2024-25

Threshold Concept	Description	Task title	Mastery level (RAG)	Date
1	Understanding the changing nature of German Politics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The background of German Reunification• Timeline of Germany 1871-1919		
2	Understanding the Key individuals in Germany	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key individual Fact File• Film/documentary review		
3	Understanding the English Reformation of the 16 th Century	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questions on the reformation• Key words		
4	Understanding the reign of James I 1603-1625	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• James I fact file		

A-level History at De Lisle

You will study two separate exam modules at A-Level History.

One is a breadth study of Germany 1870-1991 and will build on GCSE knowledge of Weimar and Nazi Germany and the Cold War.

The other is a Depth study of English Revolution 1625-1660 and focuses on the Reign of Charles I and the British Civil Wars.

There are two key threshold concepts for each of the two modules to help you prepare for the A-level.

Successful students at A-level history spend their time outside of lessons carrying out a range of wider reading beyond the textbook. It is a good idea to start reading in advance of the course and to help support you complete these tasks. Attached is reading list with some helpful books as well as some documentaries and podcasts.

Reading List

This list contains a number of books recommended by the exam board and you may want to choose a couple to read to familiarise yourself with the content. It is NOT expected that you read all of these books, it is simply recommended reading.

Top Picks

W Carr, A History of Germany 1815-1990, Hodder Murray, 1991

D L Smith, A History of the Modern British Isles, 1603-1707: The Double Crown, Blackwell, 1998

J Morrill, Stuart Britain: A Very Short Introduction, Oxford University Press, 2000

Other reading

T Barnard, The English Republic 1649–1660, Longman, 1982

R Hutton, The British Republic, Palgrave Macmillan, 2000

D Farr, Britain 1625-1642: the failure of absolutism? Nelson Thornes, 2008

D Farr, British Monarchy: The Crisis of State, 1642-1689, Nelson Thornes, 2009

D Scarborough, England, 1625-1660, Hodder Murray, 2005

M Bennett, The English Civil War, Longman, 1995

K Brice, The Early Stuarts, 1603-1640, Hodder Murray, 1994

B Coward, Stuart England, 1603-1714, Longman, 1997

J Hawes, The Shortest History of Germany, Old Street Publishing, 2017

L Abrams, Bismarck and the German Empire, Routledge, 1995

A Farmer, The Unification of Germany 1815-1919, Hodder Murray, 2007

J Thomanek and B Niven, Dividing and Uniting Germany, Routledge, 2000

D Williamson, Bismarck and Germany 1862-1890, Longman, 1997

S Lee, Imperial Germany 1871-1918, Routledge, 1999

K Lerman, Bismarck: Profiles in Power, Pearson, 2004

J Röhl, The Kaiser and his Court: Wilhelm II and the Government of Germany, Cambridge University Press, 1999

W Mommsen, Imperial Germany 1867-1918, Bloomsbury, 1995

Other Media

Germany Memories of a Nation

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b04dwbwz/episodes/downloads>

Audio books on Germany

https://www.audible.co.uk/search?keywords=Germany&ref=a_search_t1_header_search

In our time radio 4 on Bismarck <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vd-V9uGXzvQ>

Elizabeth I Podcast <https://refactor.podbean.com/e/40-elizabeth-i/?comments=true>

James I and Charles I Podcast <https://refactor.podbean.com/2011/12/>

A level bridging work for A Level history on Germany

One of the exams you will take at the end of A-level history is centred upon the quest for political stability in Germany, beginning with the unification of Germany in 1871 and ending with the re-unification of Germany in 1991. In order to help prepare you for this section of the course you will be researching and doing tasks centred around the period of time in which the separate German states unified under Prussian dominance (1871) up to the end of the First World War when the Kaiser abdicated and the Weimar Republic was born (1918). This should then 'match up' with your knowledge from your GCSE study of Germany and give you a good overview of the year 12 course content.

The work will be covering two key objectives:

1. The changing nature of politics in Germany during this time period.
2. Considering the role of key individuals in bringing about this change.

Task 1 – The Back story

A lot of people assume that Germany is one of those countries that has 'always' existed in Europe like England and France. However, the country wasn't formerly unified until 1871. Your first task is to complete the following activities to find out about the conditions and people who helped this to happen in 1871.

1. Write a brief account of the Franco-Prussian War, 1870-1871.
2. Why did the Franco-Prussian War help to bring about German unification?
3. Who was Otto von Bismarck and what was his role in the Franco-Prussian War?

Task 2 - Timeline of Germany 1871-1919

- Create an A3 timeline to cover the key events which happened within Germany between 1871 and 1919. Aim to cover approximately 15 key events. Number these events in order of importance.

- For each event summarise why it was significant. Consider both short and long-term effects- what impact did this event have on Germany. It might be easier to do this on a separate sheet of A4 paper.

Events you should include:

- Act of unification in 1871
- Kaiser Wilhelm II comes to the throne
- WWI
- Treaty of Versailles

Task 3 – Profile of a key individual

The PEEL technique – Make a Point, Explain it fully and support it with Evidence. Now Link your point to another one.

- From your timeline/research select one key individual and in your own words produce a summary (one side of A4) to show the impact that they had upon Germany. Use the **PEEL** technique to cover both positive and negative features and reach a supported overall judgement.

Individuals you **could** choose (doesn't have to be from this list):

- Otto von Bismarck
- Kaiser Wilhelm I
- Kaiser Wilhelm II

- Paul von Hindenburg
- Chlodwig, Prince of Hohenlohe-Schillingsfürst
- Leo von Caprivi
- Theobald von Bethmann-Hollweg
- Bernhard von Bulow

Task 4 – Reviewing a film set in the era of Weimar/Nazi Germany

Watch one of the following films:

- *All Quiet On The Western Front* (1930/1979)
- *Cabaret* (1972)
- *Max* (2002)
- *Sophie Scholl* (2005)
- *Stalingrad* (1993)
- *Downfall* (2004)
- *The Bridge* (2008)
- *Valkyrie* (2008)
- *Schindler's List* (1993)
- *The Pianist* (2002)
- *Life is Beautiful* (1997)

Having watched your chosen film use a single side of A4 paper to review it.

You should include:

- A brief synopsis of the plot.
 - An explanation for what you think the aim of the director was and how they wanted the audience to feel/respond to the film.
 - An explanation for why you think key characters have been portrayed in the way that they have.
 - An evaluation for how accurate and faithful to real events you think the film has been.
 - A supported decision in regards to how useful you think this film is as a historical resource and why.
 - Rate the film out of 5 stars in regards to overall entertainment with an explanatory paragraph.
- You may wish to watch several of the films before selecting one to write a review about.

Please be aware that many of these films contain scenes which show and reflect the nature of World War Two and the Holocaust (both of which are topics which could be on the A level exam).

You are therefore advised to research the content of the films prior to watching them and select your chosen film accordingly.

Year 12 The English Revolution

We have divided the preparation work for the English Revolution into two key concepts

1. The English Reformation - understanding the radical changes in the church following the break with Rome that led to the ongoing tensions between Catholics and Protestants
2. Legacy of James and problem for Charles 1624-1629 - To understand the problems faced by Charles I you need an understanding of the key events of the reign of his Father James I 1603-1625



James I (1603-1625)



Charles I (1603-1649)

Tasks:

- 1) Read through the information on the English Reformation and answer the questions and complete the definitions for the Key Words
- 2) Read through the guide on the reign of James I. Create a fact file on James which includes key points how he deals with:
 - Parliament
 - Finance
 - Religion
 - Foreign Policy

Overall was James successful in each area?

The Reformation in England

In the early sixteenth century the people of England and Wales, like nearly all other European nations, practiced the Roman Catholic faith. The birth of an independent Church of England was brought about partly as the result of the movement of religious reform in continental Europe we have come to call the 'Reformation'. Theologians such as Martin Luther in Germany, and Ulrich Zwingli and later John Calvin in Switzerland, protested against what they saw as abuses in the Roman Church (hence the term 'Protestant').

In order to be able to understand England in the 1620s we need to understand the religious context. You will have studied this before but these tasks just bring you up to speed with the core concepts.



German Theologian Martin Luther was a prominent protestant voice

that

The Early Reformation in England



Henry VIII was one of the driving forces behind the reformation in England.

In England, the creation of an independent national church was directly powered by political events. In 1527 Henry VIII attempted to obtain a divorce from Katherine of Aragon. When the Pope would not comply, Henry adopted a solution suggested by his advisor Thomas Cromwell that he take the title of 'Supreme Head of the English Church'. Monasteries were forcibly disbanded and images and shrines were destroyed (in attacks known as iconoclasm). Henry's Roman Catholic Lord Chancellor, Thomas More, who had refused to accept Henry's supremacy of the church, was executed and the Bible appeared in English for the first time. However, it was not until the accession of the boy king Edward VI that the English

Protestant Reformation touched the lives of the people of the realm more widely. Under a protectorate of Protestant nobles, significant religious reforms were executed in the king's name. A Book of Common Prayer was issued in English and over the period 1547–1553 the structure of church ceremonies was simplified. The appearance of parish churches continued to be drastically transformed; communion tables replaced altars, images were removed, the king's royal arms were installed and walls once filled with paintings were whitewashed.



Whitby abbey – a once proud abbey lies as an empty shell as a result of Henry VIII's actions

Understanding Check

- Why is it known as Protestantism?
- What triggered Henry to 'reform' the church?
- What reforms were made under Edward VI?

Return to Roman Catholicism under Mary I

There was an abrupt halt to reform with the accession of the Roman Catholic Mary I. In 1553 Queen Mary appointed Cardinal Pole as Archbishop of Canterbury and the Catholic Mass was reintroduced. Many Protestant clerics left England to study abroad. Others, such as Thomas Cranmer, who was responsible for the first Protestant Book of Common Prayer, were accused of treason and executed.

Religious Reform under Elizabeth I

When Elizabeth I came to the throne in 1558 she reversed Mary's Roman Catholic policies. As the daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, whose marriage had caused the original break with Rome, Elizabeth has been described as the 'literal and biological product' of the Reformation. She may have been destined to uphold the Protestant faith, but the less ardent version of reform she introduced reflected her desire to attain unity with people of varying religious outlooks. As a consequence, the Elizabethan Church pleased neither extreme Protestants nor Roman Catholics.

The Bible and the Book of Common Prayer were republished in English and Queen Elizabeth adopted the title of 'Supreme Governor of the English Church'. How far, and how quickly people in England and Wales adopted the reformed religion is a matter still debated today. Some parts of England, such as Kent and Devon, enthusiastically supported reform while other places, like Yorkshire, retained strong groups of those loyal to the Roman Catholic faith. Yet, as a result of the relative prosperity and stability that the country experienced under Elizabeth I, the Protestant religion slowly became an accepted part of life in England and Wales.

Understanding Check

- What does the fate of Thomas Cranmer tell us ?
- What were Elizabeth's aims ?

Complete the definitions	
Protestantism	
Reformation	
Monastery	
Iconoclasm	
Treason	
Prayer Book	
Communion	

Catholics	Protestants	Puritans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Church is headed by Pope - Bible & Church services in Latin - Belief in saints and pilgrimages - Elaborate decoration in Churches - Belief in Transubstantiation - Clergy not allowed to marry - Church can forgive sins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Church headed by monarch - Bible & Church services in English - No saints or pilgrimages - Fewer decorations in Church - Clergy can marry - Only God can forgive sins 	Extreme form of Protestants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There should be no head of the Church or bishops - Churches to have no decorations or crucifixes - Live according to what is written in the Bible
Religious Settlement of 1559		
Act of Supremacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes Elizabeth as Supreme Governor of the Church • All clergy must swear allegiance to Elizabeth • Ecclesiastical High Commission established to maintain discipline 	
Act of Uniformity	Established appearance of churches and the form of services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book of Common Prayer to be used in all churches • Wording in the prayer book deliberately unclear so it can be interpreted differently by Catholics and Protestants. • Everyone to attend church on Sunday and holy days, or else be finned one shilling for every absence (only nobles could afford to do this) 	
Royal Injunctions	A set of instructions to enforce the religious settlement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone who refused to attend church to be reported to the Privy Council • Each parish to have a copy of the Bible in English • No one allowed to preach without a licence from the government • Pilgrimages and "fake" miracles were banned (leaves possibility that there might be real ones) • Clergy to wear special clothing 	

Key terminology	
Clergy	Religious leaders such as priests and bishops.
Divine right	The belief that a monarch's right to rule came from God .
Ecclesiastic	Something to do with the Church .
Excommunication	A severe punishment , imposed by the Pope, where a person is expelled from the Catholic church .
Mass	Roman Catholic service in which bread and wine is given.
Pilgrimage	A journey to an important religious place.
Recusants	Catholics who are unwilling to attend Protestant church services .
Reformation	The movement, which began in the early 16th century , to challenge the teachings and power of the Catholic Church .
Saint	Someone who has lived an exceptional holy life.
Transubstantiation	The Catholic belief that the bread and wine given during Mass is miraculously transformed into the body and blood of Christ.

Understanding Check

- Who was happy with Elizabeth's settlement – why?
- Who was unhappy with Elizabeth's settlement – why?
- Explain why you think it made her stronger or weaker.

The Reign of James I: the establishment of authority 1603-1618

1603	James becomes King Millenary Petition	Bye Plot
1604	Treaty of London Hampton Court Conference Bancroft's Canons	First Parliament opened New Book of Rates
1605	Gunpowder Plot	
1606	Oath of Allegiance	
1607	Ulster Plantation	
1608	Book of Bounty Earl of Salisbury appointed as Lord Treasurer	
1609		
1610	Great Contract negotiations (Nov) First Parliament dissolved	
1611	George Abbot appointed Archbishop of Canterbury King James VI Bible issued	
1612		
1613	Overbury Affair	Princess Elizabeth married Frederick (Elector of Palatinate)
1614	Earl of Suffolk appointed Lord Treasurer Cokayne Project Second Parliament opened (Addled Parliament)	
1615		
1617		
1618	Book of Sports Bishops imposed on Scotland	Bohemia invaded (Start of Thirty Years War)

Year12 History Britain, 1625-1642

Topic 1: The Reign of James I: the Establishment of Authority, 1603-18

James' ideas on monarchy and the Crown's rights

- James' accession:
- Would put an end to centuries of hostility between England and Scotland;
- Meant England had her first adult male ruler since death of Henry VIII in 1547;
- Would provide a new heir to the throne as James had two sons already, Prince Henry and Prince Charles;
- Give England a royal family in place of a royal spinster.



James accession is genuinely looked forward to by most groups with grievances.

- Catholics hoped for less repression from a more enlightened monarch.
- Puritans hoped for more reform of the Church of England from a Scots Calvinist.
- Those without office under Elizabeth hoped for better times in the new regime.
- James' problem was that he would find it impossible to satisfy all the groups with grievances; to live up to the high expectations for his reign; to really overcome anti-Scots prejudice amongst the English.

James' view of monarchy

- James I, like all monarchs, had an exalted idea about the powers and position of monarchy. He believed he was chosen by God and was therefore answerable only to God. This is summarised as The Divine Right of Kings
- James, unlike other monarchs, wrote about his ideas on monarchy in The Trew Law of Free Monarchies. He wrote "The King is above the law, as both the author and giver of strength thereto"

- James' need to write about his powers may reflect his political weakness as King of Scotland. He had become king as a small child and had faced serious opposition from nobles and the Church.
- He believed, rightly, that the concept of monarchy was held in higher regard in England, where the nobility had been tamed and where the Church was directly under the Crown's control.
- Since Henry VIII's reign, English kings were 'supreme head' of the Church of England.
- James high regard for monarchy also underpinned by the fact that he was uniting England and Scotland for the first time.
- His attempts to legally and formally unite the kingdoms as Great Britain were meant to show that he was a greater king than previous monarchs.
- Despite his exalted views of the power of the monarchy, James was also an astute politician. His success in Scotland before 1603 shows that.
- There is no indication that critics of James' regime were anti monarchist. Everyone believed, with James, that monarchy was the 'keystone' in the arch of government.
- Despite exalted views of monarchy, James was not a tyrant. He ruled within the law and with parliament.
- He accepted Parliament's decision to block union with Scotland; he allowed his right to collect impositions to be challenged in court (Bate's Case).
- James believed that the monarch had prerogative powers. These were things he could do without the consent of parliament. His prerogative powers were control over foreign policy, war and peace, overseas trade and the pardoning of criminals.

James' plans for a full political union of England and Scotland

- James pursued his ideas in parliament sessions from 1604 to 1607. He faced opposition to this from parliament and his subjects. James tried to enact a union symbolically. He issued a royal proclamation giving himself the title 'King of Great Britain'. He also announced a new currency, royal coat of arms and flag.

Arguments for a union	Arguments against a union
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A union would bring peace between two countries that had fought wars for many centuries ▪ James believed he was continuing the work of God in uniting the two kingdoms ▪ Free trade between the two kingdoms would bring economic benefits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A common system of laws, parliament and government would be difficult to set up and maintain. ▪ Parliament worried James would set himself up as a supreme emperor it would have reduced powers. ▪ Scotland had a traditional friendship with France that the English were worried about ▪ The English saw the Scots as backward, traitorous, murderous rebels. ▪ MPs were worried England would lose its traditional rights and customs

Historians' assessments on James as a ruler

- Sir Anthony Weldon (1600s) - "the wisest fool in Christendom"
- Macaulay (1848) - "stammering, slobbering, shedding unmanly tears, trembling at a drawn sword"
- Gardiner (1883) - "sowed the seeds of revolution and disaster"
- Houston (1973) - "an exceptional man"
- Russell (1979) - "a high degree of political stability" was maintained

James I and the Church

Religious groups in England

Puritan Calvinist Anglican (Arminian from 1618) Catholic

James' religious beliefs

- James was a Calvinist i.e. a moderate not a radical. James had little time for those who wanted the Church purged of Popish remnants or those who wanted a

Presbyterian (no bishops) form of church government, as had developed in Scotland.

- James said that Presbyterianism 'accordeth as well with monarchy as God with the Devil'.

James' religious aims

- James pursued a policy of balance, moderation and (unofficially at any rate) toleration.
- James was tolerant towards Catholics. He called the Catholic Church 'our mother Church' though it was 'clogged with infirmities and corruptions'. His mother, Mary Queen of Scots was seen as a Catholic martyr.
- James supported rule of church by bishops (episcopacy) who were appointed by the King. Appointments show James' balanced outlook.
- In 1604 he appointed Richard Bancroft (moderate associated with persecution of Puritans under Whitgift) to Archbishop of Canterbury.
- In 1611, Bancroft was succeeded by more Puritan George Abbott, who was acceptable to the Scots.
- James made no effort to harmonize the rather different English and Scottish Churches - this was wise. Charles I's attempt to do this helped bring about civil war.
- James' reign was notable for its lack of religious persecution, which is a tribute to James' moderation.

What did James do?

Hampton Court Conference 1604

- Was called by James in response to puritan Millenary Petition (1603) (so-called because it was supposedly signed by 1000 puritan ministers). This petition urged moderate reforms of the Church:
- Improve the standards of the clergy
- Restrictions on pluralism (holding more than one church office) and non-residence (failure of clergy to reside in the area where they hold a benefice - church office)
- The wearing of the surplice (special gown) by the clergy should not be mandatory

- The sign of the cross should not be used in baptism
- Rings should not be used as a symbol of marriage
- People should not bow at the name of Jesus
- There should be more emphasis on sermons and preaching
- Conference used to be seen as a failure because James got angry with the more puritan clergy over Presbyterianism. 'No bishop, no King' was James' famous reaction at one stage in the conference when the issue of Presbyterianism was brought up.
- This old view came mainly from Bishop Barlow's writing up of what had happened. He thought that most puritans wanted to replace episcopacy with Presbyterianism and so interpreted the conference as King+Bishops v Presbyterians.
- In fact few puritans wanted to see Presbyterian system, most just wanted restrictions on the power of bishops.
- Conference ended amicably with some agreement on reforms BUT these reforms were later blocked by Archbishop Bancroft (elevated to Canterbury after the conference) and the more conservative bishops.
- Conference's big success was to agree to the setting up of committees to produce a new 'authorized' version of the bible (see below)

Parliament of 1604

- As in Elizabethan parliaments in the 1560s and 70s there were calls for reforms of the Church of England especially in the House of Commons.
- Commons drew up a series of Bills on religion, which were sent to the House of Lords.
- Lords (including all the bishops) proved hostile; James was furious at the infringement on royal prerogative and parliament was prorogued and the Bills lost.

Canons of 1604

- These were issued by Bancroft with James' approval and were an attempt to divide the godly puritan clergy (keen on reform but conforming to main tenets (beliefs) of the Church of England) from the more subversive puritan clergy.

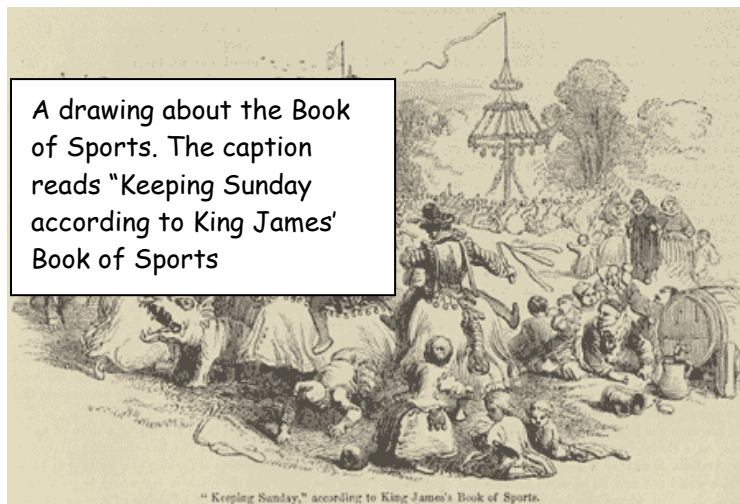
- All the clergy were to accept the English Prayer Book (1559) and the 39 Articles (1563)
- The surplice was to be worn for all services
- The sign of the cross was to be used in baptism
- Parishioners were to kneel to take communion
- Predestination (idea that people were predestined to heaven or hell) was seen as a difficult doctrine, not to be discussed by ordinary people.
- About 80 ministers (1% of total) lost or resigned their livings as a result of the canons. None lost their livings after 1606.
- 1606: Commons produced a Bill to allow suspended ministers to appeal against their dismissal and another Bill claiming that Parliament and not Convocation (Church parliament), which had passed the canons of 1604, had the power to alter 'any substantial point of religion'. These Bills angrily dismissed by James.
- Canons then were successful in dividing moderate critics of Church from more radical and subversive elements).
- After 1604 there is very little persecution on the grounds of religion = testament to James' toleration and moderation in religion.

King James Bible 1611

- The publication of the King James or Authorized Version of the Bible was the greatest contribution of James to the unity and identity of the Church of England.
- Drawn up (rather improbably) by a series of committees, it became the version of the Bible in English and its rhythms and resonances, continued to be at the heart of English religion into the twentieth century.
- Since the Reformation under Henry VIII, there had been a series of translations of the Bible into English, this version quickly took its place as the definitive version to be used by clergy and laymen alike.

Book of Sports 1618

- This volume on 'sports' which might be undertaken on a Sunday was given official blessing and showed that James and the moderate bishops were opposed to radical puritan ideas that Sundays should be reserved for worship only.
- Puritans holding these strict views were called Sabbatarians.



Quality of the bishops/clergy was probably improving under James

- None of the bishops was notably corrupt like the notorious Bishops Sandys and Barlow under Elizabeth.
- Bancroft, Abbott, Andrewes and Neile, all noted for their austere (plain) and godly lives, set a good example.
- Bancroft strengthened the unity of the Church. Abbot had impeccably puritan/Calvinist credentials.
- Andrewes had twice refused bishoprics under Elizabeth, declining to alienate church lands as a condition of entry to a see.
- He was well known for the austerity, simplicity and modesty of his way of life.
- James very concerned at the depredations of Church property under Elizabeth. He took measures to stop the alienation of land from the Church.
- Recognized that the problem of pluralism was fuelled by livings (benefices) which failed to pay a living wage and would not appeal to a new generation of university educated clergy.

The Catholic Problem under James

- This could easily have proved highly divisive. Once again, James dealt with this problem with **sensitivity and tolerance**.

- Estimated that by 1600 there were c. 350,000 recusants (English Catholics who refused to attend the Church of England) = 15% of population.
- Although small in number, many aristocrats and gentry were still Catholic and hoping for easing of the persecution they had suffered under Elizabeth.
- Earl of Northampton and other members of the Howard family were still Catholic and shown favour by James.
- Bye Plot (1603) and Gunpowder Plot (1605) = attempts by radicals to depose James in favour of a Spanish and Catholic succession to the throne.
- James forced to enact new and more severe Acts against recusancy, since Parliament was so worried about Catholic conspiracies.
- James ensured that these new laws were not enforced strictly and thus continued to win support of moderate Catholics.
- 1606 James introduced a new loyalty oath to the Crown (Oath of Allegiance). This allowed Catholics, at least unofficially, to live in peace with the government provided they swore an oath of allegiance to the Crown and paid their recusancy fines.
- James also increased recusancy fines and Catholics were forbidden to live in London or hold public office immediately after the Gunpowder Plot.
- James' policy towards Catholics tied most of them to the regime in a way that Queen Elizabeth had failed to do. This helps to explain why there were no further Catholic Plots against James.
- Only 28 Catholics were executed for treason during James' reign. Catholics were appointed to high positions and there was an increase in the number of Catholic priests.

Religion in Scotland

- Scottish church had Presbyterian (no bishops) structure
- James wanted uniformity with English church so tried to impose bishops in 1618.
- Articles of Perth introduced to bring uniformity with English church but very unpopular
- 1619 plans for a new prayer book in Scotland, but was abandoned by James in face of opposition.

- Stroud (1999) has praised James for knowing where to draw the line and avoid open conflict. (This can be contrasted to Charles)

Religion in Ireland

- Majority of population Catholic.
- Church elite were Protestant Church of Ireland
- James continued 'plantation' of English and Scottish settlers on confiscated Catholic lands
- This meant there were English Protestants and Scottish Presbyterians in Ireland too.
- James did not try to impose uniformity. He left it alone.

Historians' assessments on James' religious policies

- Fincham and Lake (1985) - point to James' "skill"
- Durston (1993) - James was a success up to 1618 and the religious war in Europe. Charles failed to continue James effective management, which led to Civil War.

James' relationship with Parliament

Overview

- Traditionally it has been argued that relations between James and his Parliaments grew increasingly bitter and that this set England on a 'High Road' to civil war which would break out in 1642, 17 years after James' death. (This is the Whig interpretation)
- However this view is a serious distortion of relations between king and parliament. While there were arguments these were not based on fundamentally differing views of the constitution or the scope of Crown powers.
- In most cases, the King got his way. In 1625, parliament mourned the passing of a good king. This was not a country on the brink of Civil War.

General points

- Parliament was a natural point of contact between the government and the governing classes. It was always a way for the government to explain its policies and for members of both Houses (Commons and Lords) to express their grievances.

- Under Elizabeth there had been serious disagreements over:
 - Religion
 - Money
 - Monopolies
 - The fate of Mary, Queen of Scots
- Members of parliament were increasingly well educated and articulate, but there was no 'opposition party'.
- Many complaints came from people who hoped to use parliament as a means of gaining favour and patronage.
- Parliament only met when called by the King and could be dismissed whenever he chose. Therefore it was impossible for parliament to build up a corporate identity.
- House of Commons is a large, unwieldy group of nearly 500 MPs.
- Between 1610- 21, Parliament met once in 1614 for only a few weeks.
- Everyone believed in the Divine Right of Kings; that the King was appointed by God. There is no fundamental clash of political ideologies in Early Stuart England.

Powers of King and Parliament

King's powers	Parliament's powers
Appointed Privy Council and Ministers Appointed Justices of the Peace Appoint and dismiss judges Head of church and appoint bishops Call and dismiss parliament Prerogative powers (eg foreign policy) Issue royal proclamations Only pass statutes (new laws) with help of parliament Could ignore advice of parliament Expected to rule within the law of the land	Pass laws used in criminal courts Turn royal decisions into official laws Grant subsidies (extra tax for the King) Could refuse to finance king's decisions Send petitions to king outlining grievances Advise the king Right of free speech (without fear of arrest)

Clashes with Parliament

Date of parliament session	Main issues	Outcomes
1604	<p><u>MPs' Privileges</u> A dispute over the election of an MP for Buckinghamshire. A Privy Councillor, Sir John Fortesque had been defeated by Sir Francis Goodwin, but the Chancery office (the king's office) declared his election invalid because Goodwin had failed to pay his debts. The House of Commons claimed they were traditionally the judges of disputed elections. Both king and parliament made angry speeches about their rights and privileges</p> <p><u>Union between England and Scotland</u> James pushed parliament to pass laws recognising a full union between England and Scotland.</p>	<p>A compromise was reached. The House of Commons agreed to a new election and the King agreed that it was parliament's privilege to judge election results</p> <p>Parliament blocked the Union because the prejudice of the English people was so great. At the end of the 1604 parliament session, the Commons produced a statement of their position - 'The Form of Apology and Satisfaction'. This showed its concerns that its privileges were being threatened.</p> <p>Parliament declined to vote subsidies because those voted in 1601 were still being collected</p>
1606	<p><u>Catholic threat</u> After the Gunpowder Plot James and Parliament agreed that harsher laws against Catholics were needed</p> <p><u>Taxation</u> The King asked parliament for subsidies (a grant of money)</p>	<p>Harsher laws against Catholics were passed</p> <p>Parliament granted the King 3 subsidies</p>

	<p><u>Impositions</u> Impositions were extra customs duties, and the collection of customs contributed to the King's revenue. Parliament objected to impositions, seeing it as a 'back-door' tax that they had no control over</p>	<p>MPs wrote the Apology of the House of Commons. This summed up what they saw as their rights, dating back hundreds of years</p>
1607	<p><u>Union between England and Scotland</u> James again asked parliament to pass laws recognising a full union between England and Scotland.</p> <p><u>Purveyance</u> Purveyance was the right of the King to buy goods for the royal household at a discount price. It was seen as a very corrupt system, even though it was a traditional privilege of the crown. The House of Lords proposed the system should end and the king should be granted £50,000 per year in compensation. The House of Commons were divided, but thought that £50,000 compensation was too much. They suggested £20,000 instead. Some MPs thought there should be no compensation</p>	<p>Parliament again opposed the union and refused to pass any laws on this issue</p> <p>James promised to look into cases of corruption and had some royal agents punished for corruption. There was no agreement on the system of purveyance.</p>
1610	<p><u>Finance: Great Contract</u> The Great Contract proposed a radical transformation of royal finances. It was drawn-up by James' Treasurer - the Earl of Salisbury. James was not happy about bargaining with parliament over his prerogative rights of money. The House of Commons refused James' demands for a grant of money as part of the contract.</p> <p><u>Royal extravagance and impositions</u> Parliament criticised the crown for its extravagant expenditure on the royal household. It also criticised how James' royal officers were collecting extra customs duties or taxes (impositions) on goods.</p>	<p>No agreement was reached over the contract.</p> <p>James dissolved (closed) parliament</p>

1614	<u>Finance: taxation, impositions and royal extravagance</u> James needed money and asked parliament for a subsidy to pay for his eldest son's (Henry's) funeral and the costs of his daughter's marriage. The House of Commons presented petitions about impositions (extra customs duties) The Commons complained about James' extravagance again	Parliament voted no subsidies. James dissolved parliament again. This session of parliament was called the 'Addled Parliament' (meaning rotten because it lasted only a few weeks and achieved nothing) James did not call parliament again until 1621.
------	---	--

Finance

The King's traditional ways of raising money

- Wardship (the crown takes over land until the person who has inherited it reaches 21)
- Purveyance (crown's right to buy goods at a discount price)
- Crown lands (either charging rent, or selling the land)
- Monopolies (gave an individual or business the exclusive right to manufacture and sell a product. The crown sells licences)
- Parliamentary subsidies (parliament raises extra taxes to give to the king)
- Tonnage and poundage (a form of customs duty normally voted by parliament)
- Impositions (extra customs duties)
- Selling titles of honour (eg baronets or knighthoods)

Financial reforms

- Book of Bounty 1608 tried to cut royal expenditure. (Between 1603 and 1612 James spent £185,000 on jewels. James also liked to give out extravagant gifts and pensions)
- More crown lands were sold and crown lands were also rented to reward officials who were loyal to the crown
- Customs farming introduced as a more efficient way of collecting customs revenue. Customs farmers paid the crown a fixed sum to collect customs duty on a particular industry. They could make a profit by collecting above the sum they had paid the crown.

- The Great Contract 1610

In an attempt to bring Crown income more into line with expenditure, Robert Cecil (Treasurer since 1608) proposed a radical shake up of Crown finances, which would balance the books. Cecil proposed:

- Parliament should grant James £600,000 to wipe out current debt
- Parliament should vote James an annual parliamentary grant of £200,000 in order to make up the shortfall between the King's income and his expenditure.
- James, in return, would abandon some of the more unpopular means of raising money (warship and purveyance):
- James would agree that uncollected royal debts going back to the period 1485-1558 would not now be pursued.
- James would agree not to use spies/informers to enforce royal rights.

BUT scheme fails:

- many MPs thought that the new arrangement would mean that Parliament would not be called in the future.
- James unwilling to sell off his prerogative rights, which he believed came from God.
- the scheme was too radical in a very conservative age.
- it showed a lack of trust on both sides
- would the scheme have given much needed administrative reform?

- New Books of Rates

- Robert Cecil was able to increase the rate of tax on imported and exported goods via new Books of Rates in 1604 and 1608.
- Cecil also won the important Bate's Case of 1606, where the Crown successfully sued a merchant (Bate, a member of the Levant Company)) for non-payment of import taxes.
- Bate claimed that the Crown could not increase the rates of tax or put taxes on new items, without the consent of Parliament.
- BUT the judges found that taxes on trade were part of the Crown's undoubted right to regulate trade as an important tool in foreign policy and therefore were at the discretion of the Crown.

- James had increased the duties on Bate's currants as part of a trade war between England and Venice; just as he had increased the duties on tobacco because the king personally disapproved strongly of smoking!
- James responded by withdrawing some proclamations and promising not to levy new impositions.
- Cockayne Project 1615-1617
 - A city merchant came up with a plan to export finished cloth instead of exporting half-finished cloth to northern Europe. This would have made more money for the cloth industry.
 - Cockayne would set up a new company to do this, with a monopoly over the cloth industry. Cockayne lent James £10,000 for the monopoly.
 - The project failed as Cockayne did not have the money to buy the wool, the expertise to finish cloth, or the contacts abroad to sell it.
 - By 1618 the cloth trade had collapsed which led to social distress among sheep farmers and weavers.
- Parliamentary subsidies
 - Though voted only occasionally, they did represent an important part of James' income.
 - Parliament of 1601 had granted Elizabeth 4 subsidies, (perhaps £520,000 in all) much of this was still to be collected when James became king and helped to lessen legacy of Elizabeth's debt.
 - Parliament of 1606 voted James 3 subsidies and other grants, which amounted to £450,000 over the next 4 years.
 - Parliament of 1621 voted 2 subsidies 'as a free gift and present borne from the love and duty of his subjects'.
 - Parliament of 1624 voted 3 subsidies to James.

Court Factions and favourites

- James's court like all royal courts was often divided by faction; groups of men who sought to influence the king and to increase their power.

- James had more favourites than Elizabeth. BUT favourites were not a serious problems, which undermined James' ability to govern.
- Apart from the Catholic nobility at court, these factions were not divided on ideological or religious grounds, therefore were not really serious.
- Initial problems with James Scottish favourites brought with him in 1603 e.g. James Hay. Members of King's Bedchamber were mainly Scots in early years of reign BUT this was not a long-term problem.
- Cecil and Cranfield were useful and able and effective ministers.
- Without enough money to pay his ministers realistic salaries, James had to rely on patronage and perks to reward his ministers.
- The Howard family were one of the most powerful families at court. They were a Catholic family. They are known as the pro-Spanish faction.
- Robert Carr was one of the king's favourites. He was a young, athletic, handsome Scot. He received a lot of patronage from the King. James even nursed him back to health after a riding accident.
- Robert Carr wanted to marry Frances Howard, even though she was already married. The king agreed to a divorce. Sir Thomas Overbury (who had been a close ally of Rober Carr) opposed the marriage.
- Overbury was imprisoned in the Tower of London for alleged offences. Whilst there, he was fed a poisoned pie in 1613. Both Robert Carr and Frances Howard were found guilty of his murder in 1615. This is known as the Overbury Affair.
- The resulting scandal led to the demise of Robert Carr and the Howard family.
- This enabled the rising star, George Villiers to become one of the most powerful and influential men in the country.

The Stuart Monarchy: 1618-1629

← 1618	Start of Thirty Years War	Palatinate Crisis begins
← 1619	Book of Bounty	
← 1620	Battle of White Mountain	
← 1621	Parliament called 3rd December - Commons Petition to King	Cranfield appointed as Lord Treasurer
← 1622	Directions to Preachers - restricts topics for preaching Forced Loan	
← 1623	Forced Loan	Trip to Madrid
← 1624	Parliament called Nov - Marriage Treaty signed between Charles and Henrietta Maria of France	Impeachment of Cranfield Subsidy Act
← 1625	Jan - expedition to Palatinate Mar - Death of James I Sept - Treaty of Southampton Oct - Cadiz expedition Dec - Treaty of the Hague	(Parliament opened) (Sabbath Act) (Act of Revocation)
← 1626	Forced Loan York House Conference (Puritans/Arminians) Oct - failed naval expedition against Spain	Parliament opened Buckingham impeached
← 1627	Forced Loan June - Failed expedition against France to help Huguenots	
← 1628	Parliament opens Petition of Right Murder of Buckingham	Laud appointed bishop of London Failed expedition to La Rochelle in France
← 1629	Three Resolutions against Arminianism Treaty of Suza (peace with France) Charles' Declaration on the Articles of Religion	

Topic 2: The Stuart Monarchy 1618-29

Foreign Policies of James I and Charles I

James I's aims

- James' foreign policy was largely successful in that he avoided major warfare throughout his reign. This was especially important after 1618, when much of Europe became increasingly embroiled in the Thirty Years War.
- James was self proclaimed 'Rex Pacificus' (peace-loving king) and tried to stop conflict in Europe.
- 1604 Treaty of London James makes peace with Spain thus ending 19 years war, which included 3 Spanish Armadas sent against England.
- James wanted to negotiate between the two great and Catholic powers in Europe (Spain and France) to avoid war. In this way England could still be seen as influential without wasting huge amounts of money on war.
- At same time, James hoped to balance the religious tensions in Europe (Catholic v. Protestant) by marrying his daughter Elizabeth to the Calvinist Elector Palatine (1613) and his son (first Prince Henry and after his death Prince Charles) to French or Spanish Catholic Princess.

The Thirty Years War

- Palatinate Crisis
1618 - Archduke Ferdinand (from the Habsburg family) was elected as king of Bohemia. He was very Anti-Protestant and the nobles in Bohemia became afraid of him. In 1619 the nobles offered the crown to Frederick of the Palatinate (a Protestant and James' son-in-law).
- 1620 - Frederick accepted the Bohemian crown. Archduke Ferdinand is the Holy Roman Emperor. He sent an army against Frederick and Elizabeth. They were both defeated in the Battle of the White Mountain and fled to the United Provinces. The Spanish army occupies the Palatinate.
- James tries to take cautious measures to help Frederick, but without getting England involved in the Thirty Years War.

- James tried desperately to use his friendship with Spain to get them to end their involvement in the spreading war. Unfortunately for James, he did not have the power to change events on the Continent.
- He also sent an ambassador to the princes of the states in the Holy Roman Empire to persuade them to help Frederick.
- Naval squadron under Mansell sailed to the Mediterranean to alarm the Spanish who were backing their Austrian cousins against Frederick.
- In practice, James was appalled by Frederick's determination to take Bohemia from the Habsburgs and disassociated himself from his son-in-law.
- However, the people of England demanded action against the Catholic armies occupying the Palatinate. Frederick was seen as a Protestant hero.

The Spanish Match

- James hoped for a marriage between Prince Charles and the Spanish Princess Maria to end the old enmity between the two countries.
- The Spanish ambassador Count Gondomar was present at James' court to aid negotiations. However, as he was a Catholic and Spanish, his presence generated hostility and suspicion that he was manipulating James.
- Trip to Madrid 1623 Charles and Buckingham threatened James' diplomacy by travelling to Spain to open their own negotiations. It was a very rash and dangerous idea. The Spanish thought Charles was going to convert to Catholicism. When they realised their mistake they put demands to James, for example they insisted he guarantee toleration for Catholics in England. James knew this would never be accepted by his people. It became clear the marriage would not happen. Charles and Buckingham returned to England wanting revenge on Spain. They tried to persuade James to declare war on Spain. James would not give in to them.
- After the failure of Charles and Buckingham's unauthorised Trip to Madrid, James started negotiations, which led to Charles' marriage to Henrietta Maria of France.

Historians' assessments on James' foreign policy

- Trevelyan (1926) - saw James as a failure as he neglected the navy
- Davies (1959) - James was weak because he was inconsistent
- Durston (1993) - more sympathetic to James. He was "realistic and hard-headed"

Religious Issues - The Rise of the Arminians

- James reign saw the rise of an Arminian faction within the Church, associated with Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, Richard Neile, Bishop of Rochester and William Laud, Bishop of St. David's (later Archbishop of Canterbury 1633-45).

Arminian beliefs

- Opposed to the puritan doctrine of predestination
- put more emphasis on the importance of ritual and ceremony in church services at the expense of preaching
- were less hostile to the Catholics
- were firmly opposed to Presbyterianism (government of the Church by presbyters)
- believed that bishops were instituted 'by Gods law' and that episcopacy was the only proper way to run the Church

James and the Arminians

- James not well disposed towards the Arminians - chose puritan Abbot rather than Arminian Andrewes as Archbishop of Canterbury in 1611 and did not promote William Laud.
- BUT he realized the importance of a balanced episcopate. Once again, James was seen to be sensitive in his handling of religious policy. He ensured that friction between puritan and arminian wings did not become serious division.
- King James Bible was a testament to conservative and more radical wings of the Church being able to work together.

Relations between Crown and Parliament

James' Parliament of 1621

- Was dominated by foreign policy after outbreak of 30 Years War in 1618.
- Parliament was keen to launch English military expedition to oust Spanish forces from the Palatinate.
- James realised that it would be too costly (perhaps £1 million) and that Parliament would never grant enough money for a realistic expedition.
- James was also still pursuing idea of marriage alliance with Spain.
- Parliament called for war against Spain. James was furious that they were infringing on his royal prerogative right to determine foreign policy, and he ordered them to stop doing so.
- Commons passed 'Protestation' in December 1621 proclaiming their right to freedom of speech. (James responded by dismissing parliament in 1622, saying they were attacking his fundamental rights.)
- Big attack on those who held monopolies (monopolists); criminal charges brought against Mitchell and Mompesson
- The Lord Chancellor, Francis Bacon was impeached. This was encouraged by Edward Coke. Bacon was accused of corruption and taking bribes. He was briefly imprisoned and fined £40,000. Again this had more to do with faction fighting than with opposition to the government.

James' Parliament of 1624

- Was dominated by issue of going to war against Spain. James was ill by this point, so parliament was dominated by Buckingham and Charles who favoured going to war. They attacked Digby, Lord Treasurer Lionel Cranfield and Arundel who were against going to war.
- Cranfield was impeached. He was fined and imprisoned. This was led by Buckingham and Sir Edward Coke

- It is significant that Charles allowed parliament to discuss foreign policy - something James warned him would have dangerous implications for the future.
- James claimed he would need £1 million for war; Parliament offered only £300,000. This subsidy was passed but James refused to declare war.

Overview of James' relations with Parliament

- Relations between James and his parliaments were often amicable and disagreements were a normal part of parliamentary sessions.
- James' policy was never significantly altered by a hostile Parliament, nor did he ever lose a minister to impeachment (Cranfield or Bacon) whom he was keen to retain.
- Parliamentary debates rarely touched on major constitutional issues and where they did, the king always came off best. Ultimately, he could do without them; perhaps the surprise is that he called them as often as he did.