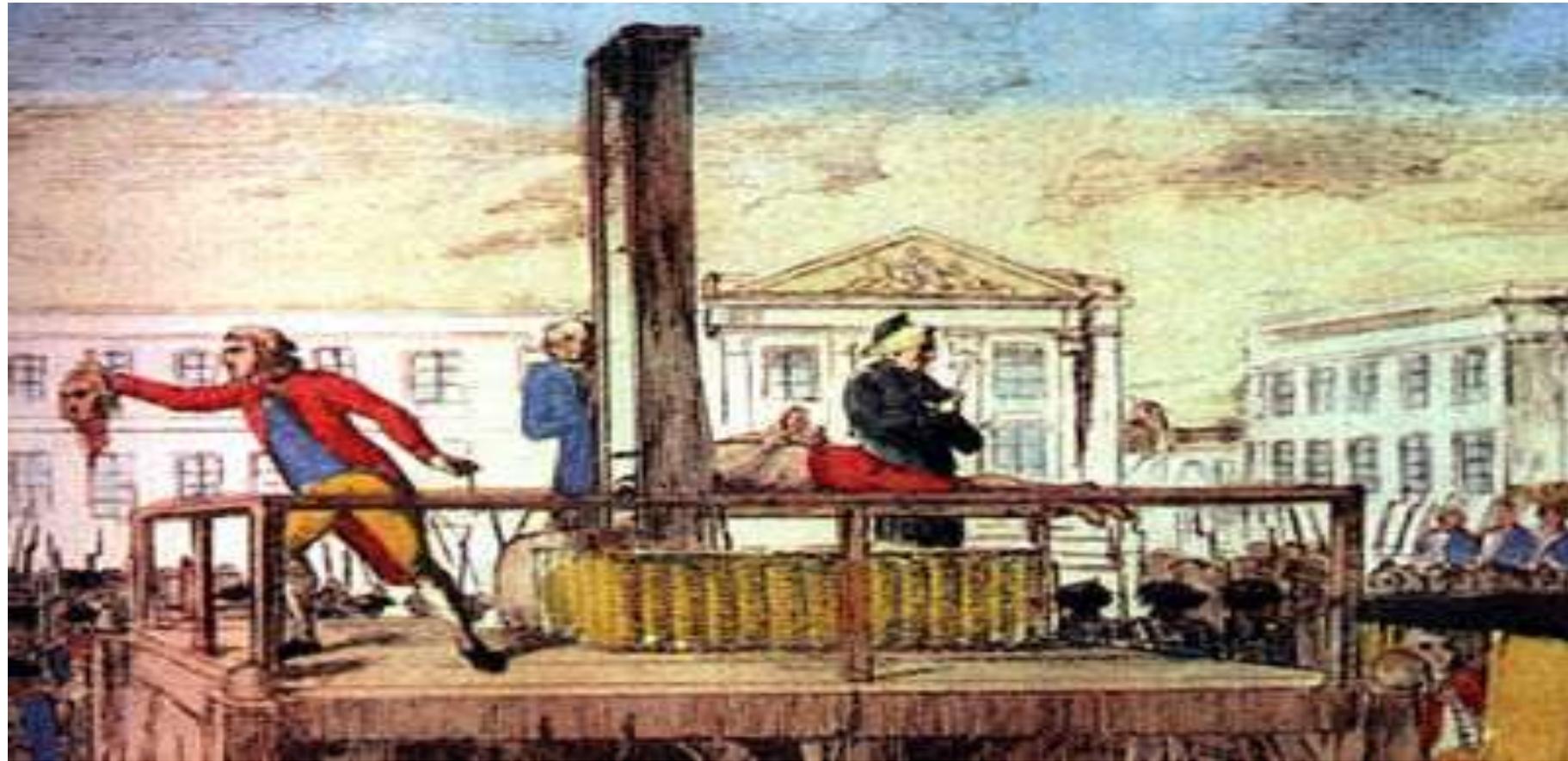


England is Exceptional



Last class we learned about Louis XIV, the absolute monarch of France. When Louis XIV died, he controlled France. It was safe. Fast forward 75 years and France is in a civil war. The peasants are chopping people's heads off. Even the king's head ends up in a basket.



Ouch!

England had a revolution and a civil war. But it was NOT so violent. And when it was over, things were pretty much the same. Except that the KING had LESS POWER and the PARLIAMENT had MORE power.

Rewrite

1. The French Revolution was NOT violent.
2. After the Civil War and Revolution in England, the king had MORE power.
3. England changed a lot because of its Civil War and Revolution.

Here are some reasons why England is different than France and the rest of Europe.

England is exceptional. England is different. England is a Constitutional Monarchy. It is NOT an absolute monarchy. There is a king, but he rules WITH a parliament. Parliament is another word for a congress that votes on laws.

Complete

1. What country is a Constitutional Monarchy?
2. Who has power in Constitutional Monarchy? The King?
The Parliament? Or both?
3. What is another word for Parliament?

England is exceptional. England is different. There are very few nobles. They are nobles because they are rich, not because they come from famous families. They don't need to be controlled. They are involved in the government in the House of Lords, which is part of parliament. So, they don't fight with the King, but they don't do everything he says either.

England is exceptional. England is different. There is a big middle class. The rest of Europe is noble and peasant, rich and poor. England has lots of people in the middle. When you have people in the middle, they keep the rich and poor from fighting.

Finally, England is exceptional. England is different. There are many different kinds of Protestants, especially Anglicans and Puritans. They don't like the idea of divine right. They think Absolutism is a Catholic idea. They don't want Catholic ideas.

Rewrite

1. England has lots of nobles.
2. English nobles are important because of family connections.
3. England has a large upper class.
4. England is mostly Catholic.
5. There is only one type of Protestant in England.

So, what happens in England in time of revolutions? Well, they aren't so peaceful. They do kill the king. But they tried to talk with him. He just wouldn't listen. He was provoking them.



Charles I became king of England after James I died. And he did everything wrong! First thing he did was marry a Catholic. Many people in England didn't trust Catholics, especially the group called the Puritans. The Puritans were very strict Protestants.

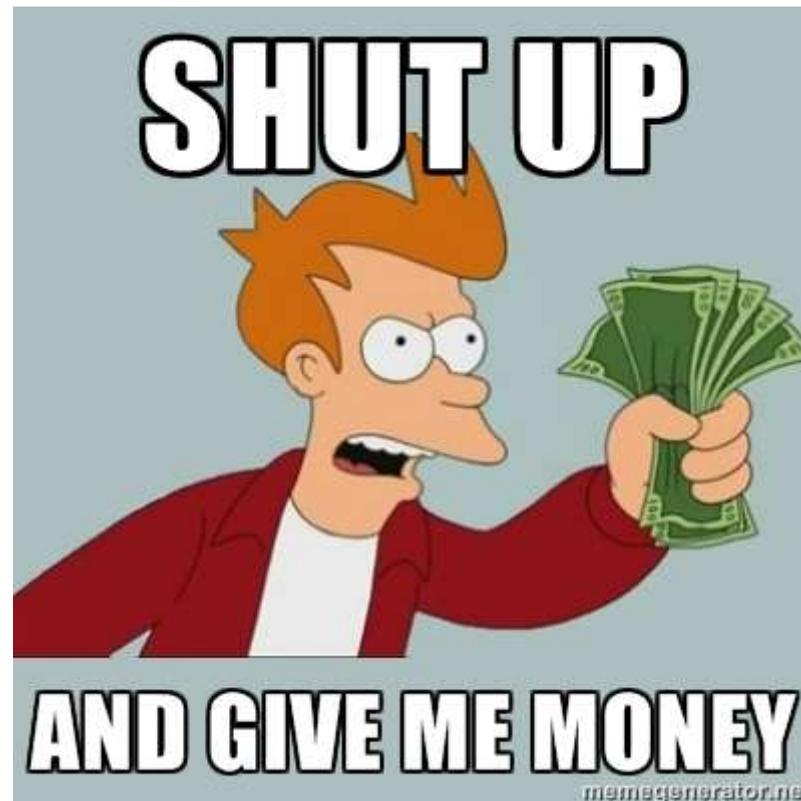
Then, Charles I also believed in the idea of his divine right to be king. He actually believed that he only answered to God.



Worst of all, he didn't listen to the parliament. He dismissed parliament again and again. This means, he sent parliament home, saying: "I don't have to do what you say."



Another thing: Charles I loved wars and taxes. He got involved in every European war. And he had to keep asking parliament for taxes. If they didn't give him money, he dismissed them.



Rewrite

1. Charles I married a Puritan, which made English people mad.
2. Charles I worked with Parliament.
3. Charles I never raised taxes for war.

Complete

1. Why did Charles I raise taxes?
2. What did Charles I do when he disagreed with Parliament?
3. Why did English people get worried about him marrying a Catholic?

The English Civil War began!

Parliament went to war. They were led by the Puritans.

The leader of the Puritans was General Oliver Cromwell.

Their soldiers were called Roundheads.

People who fought for the king were called Cavaliers.

They believed in the divine right of the king.

The Roundheads won. Oliver Cromwell won. They executed the king. But they weren't totally sure what to do next. English people hated Charles I, but they liked the monarchy. They liked the other kings before, more or less.

Rewrite

1. The English Civil War was between Protestants and Catholics.
2. The Puritan forces for parliament were called Cavaliers.
3. The King's soldiers were called Roundheads.
4. Charles I lost but he escaped to Ireland.

Oliver Cromwell and the Roundheads won. They started a Commonwealth. It was kind of like a democracy.

Democracy is good, right? No king, nobody abusing their power. Sound good, right?



Nope! Oliver Cromwell was a Puritan fanatic. He was very, very religious. Cromwell banned sports, drinking alcohol, dancing, and bad words. If you did anything but go to church on Sunday, you were thrown in jail.



NO PARTIES HERE

Complete

1. What is the government of Oliver Cromwell called?
2. Who was the leader of the Commonwealth?
3. Why didn't English people like life during the Commonwealth?

English people hated life during the Commonwealth.
When Cromwell died, they decided to go back to a king.
They wanted life to go back to normal. They liked drinking
alcohol and saying bad words.





They invited a man named Charles to come and be king. He was from the same family as Charles I. He became Charles II.

England restored the monarchy. Restored means when you lose something, but then you get it back. Like when you mess up your computer, and the Help Desk fixes it for you. Charles II became king. The Commonwealth ended. This is called the Restoration.

Complete

1. Why did the English people want a king back?
2. Who became King after the Commonwealth?
3. What is the Restoration?

Rewrite

1. The Restoration means when Oliver Cromwell came back to power.

Charles II was way more relaxed than Charles I. He actually didn't even speak English. He hated war. He liked partying and sexy ladies. Charles II was the "King of Bling."



Charles II left parliament alone. England was happy. English people didn't care if he Charles II was Catholic, and he didn't care what parliament did as long as he could have his parties.



Complete

1. Why were English people happy with Charles II?
2. Do you think Parliament's power **INCREASED** or **DECREASED** under Charles II?

Charles II died. After Charles II, came James II. He was not relaxed. James II was Catholic. He made lots of laws that helped Catholics get more power in England. Parliament didn't like this, because they were mostly Protestant. Just like Charles I, he dismissed Parliament.



Rewrite

James II was relaxed and didn't fight with Parliament.

James II never dismissed Parliament.

James II was a Protestant.

Will there be another Civil War? Parliament came up with a way to expel James II WITHOUT another Civil War. They just needed to find someone who was family with James II, but wasn't Catholic. They found Mary, his daughter.



Mary was living in Holland. She was married to William, king of Holland. They were Protestant. Parliament sent a message over to Holland: "Come over here. Kick your father out. And you can be King and Queen!"

William and Mary invaded England. James II knew he was going to lose the fight, so he sneaked away to France. He lived there in exile for the rest of his life. William and Mary became king and queen. No more Catholic kings and no more messing with parliament....

Rewrite

1. Parliament invited James II over from Holland to take over.
2. James II was executed just like Charles I.

Complete

1. Who became king after James II?

This is called the Glorious Revolution. England got its Protestant kings and its Constitutional Monarchy without another war.

Finish the Sentence

The Glorious Revolution is when....

Parliament is now the big power in England, not just the king. Parliament made sure they had it in writing. In the English Bill of Rights, the kings promised that there was freedom of speech in Parliament, and that the kings couldn't dismiss Parliament ever again.

The English Bill of Rights also declared that Protestants had the rights to bear arms. This means they could have guns. Guns = power and freedom. The idea that regular people could protect their own freedom is very important. It is an idea from a man called John Locke during a time called the Enlightenment, which we will study next class.

Rewrite

1. The English Bill of Rights INCREASED the power of the king.
2. The English Bill of Rights gave people the RIGHT TO VOTE.
3. After the Civil War, Restoration, and Glorious Revolution, the power of the parliament DECREASED.

