CAUSES OF THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR

ROAD TO WAR

When **Charles I** became King in 1625, he had a very tense relationship with Parliament. Like his father, Charles, and many other people in the country, believed in the **Divine Right of Kings** which was the belief that he was king because God wished it and that his power should not be limited. The king was in control of **making the law and controlling the army**. Parliament was in control of **taxes and money.** There were also lots of tension between **Catholics and Protestants** in the country.

1625

Charles married a Catholic called **Henrietta Maria.** Religion was very important and many people were afraid that she would persuade Charles to change the religion of the country.

1629

Parliament refused to give Charles money to go to war after he had been defeated in France and Spain. Charles was furious and **shut Parliament down.** This was called **Charles' Personal Rule.**

1635

Charles was desperate for money and so increased taxes. The **Ship Tax** was very unpopular and some people refused to pay it because Parliament had not been asked.

1637

Hoping to stop the religious tensions in the country, Charles introduced a new Prayer Book. The Scots believed that the Prayer Book was too Catholic and rebelled. This led to the **Bishops' Wars.**

April 1640

Desperate for money, Charles recalled Parliament. However, they refused to give the king money unless Charles reversed his religious reforms so he shut Parliament again. This was called the **Short Parliament.**

November 1640

Charles' army was defeated in Scotland and invaded northern England. The king called Parliament again but they **refused to give him money** unless he met their demands.

November 1641

Although Charles met many of Parliament's demands, they published **the Grand Remonstrance** (a list of criticisms of the king) and printed it for the public.

November 1641

Parliament blamed Charles' friend, the Earl of Stafford, for **rebellion of Irish Catholics** and demanded that Charles executed him.

January 1642

Charles **attempted to arrest five MPs** who were very critical of him. They were warned in advance and escaped.

March 1642

Parliament passed the **Militia Ordinance**, without Charles' permission, and took control of the army. The army was traditionally controlled by the king.

June 1642

Parliament passed the **Nineteen Propositions** which would have taken away Charles' power. The two sides prepared their armies and **war broke out in August 1642**

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ROAD TO WAR

1625

1629

1635

1637

April 1640

November 1640

November 1641

November 1641

January 1642

March 1642

June 1642

August 1642
Outbreak of war!

1.Using the information sheet, sort these events into the correct chronological order (time order) and **add them to the timeline**

- Grand Remonstrance
- Nineteen Propositions
- Marriage to Henrietta Maria
- Bishops' Wars
- Militia Ordinance
- Ship Tax
- Attempted arrest of five MPs
- Short Parliament
- Start of Personal Rule
- Irish Rebellion
- Parliament refused to give Charles money

2. Look over your timeline and **highlight/ code each event** to show if you think that this step to war was more Charles' fault or Parliament's fault

Charles' actions led to the outbreak of war ☐

Parliament's actions led to the outbreak of war ☐

CONCLUSION AND EVALUATION

CAUSES OF THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR

Overall, I believe that King Charles / Parliament* was most responsible for the outbreak of the civil war

* cross out based on your view

The first piece of evidence for this is:

The second piece of evidence for this is:

This led to war because:

I believe that this is the most convincing view because