

SSWH14: ANALYZE THE AGE OF REVOLUTIONS



Element B: Identify the causes and results of the Revolutions in England (1689)

Glorious Revolution

The causes of the Glorious Revolution in England date back to the first two kings of the Stuart Dynasty, James I and Charles I.

- By the early 1600s, a new form of Protestantism was taking hold in England, Puritanism.
 - Puritans argued that the Church of England needed to be purified of Catholic ritual, James and Charles disagreed.
- James and Charles also struggled with their subjects over taxation.
 - This conflict over taxation became particularly bad during the reign of Charles I.
 - In 1628 Parliament refused to give the king money unless he signed the Petition of Right which placed several limits on the powers of the king.
 - Charles signed the document but ignored it for the duration of his reign.
 - Further, Charles I started to raise revenue without the consent of Parliament through fees and fines on the English people.
 - This abuse of power provoked the English Civil War that lasted from 1642 to 1649.



Glorious Revolution

- Parliament defeated the king's forces in the civil war and in 1649 King Charles I was beheaded for treason.
- The leader of Parliament's military, Oliver Cromwell, took power and promised to create a republic but established a military dictatorship instead.
 - This military dictatorship, called the Commonwealth, lasted until Cromwell's death in 1658.
- In 1659 the English Parliament reconvened and voted to restore the Monarch. The oldest son of Charles I, Charles II was invited to take the throne.
 - The relationship between Parliament the king during the reign of Charles II was generally congenial.
 - Charles II agreed to a law that gave his subjects the right to habeas corpus and respected Parliament's traditional right to control taxation.



Glorious Revolution

- In 1685 Charles II died and his Catholic brother James II became the king.
 - James II was far less cooperative. He violated English laws, appointed Catholics to high office, and dissolved Parliament.
 - This behavior led several members of Parliament to reach out to James II's Protestant daughter Mary.
 - In 1688 seven members of Parliament invited Mary and her husband William, the Prince of Orange to invade England and overthrow James II.
 - James gave up without a fight and William and Mary became the king and queen of England in the Glorious Revolution.
- William and Mary cooperated with Parliament and together they created a constitutional monarchy for England in which the monarch and Parliament required mutual consent to govern.
 - Parliament drafted and the monarchs signed the English Bill of Rights which protected the rule of law and speech.

