The English Civil Wars were a series of wars from **1642-1651** between English armies. On one side was the Parliamentarian army, nicknamed Roundheads, fighting for increased power of **Parliament**. On the other side was **King Charles I** and his Cavaliers who were fighting to protect the power of the King.

Watch the clip: [https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zwxnjty](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zwxnjty)

Q1. Name one person who fought for Parliament in the Civil War whose statue is shown in the clip.

______________________________________________________________________

Q2. What were Parliament in the King struggling over?

______________________________________________________________________

Q3. What does source 1 suggest about the way the King’s soldiers behaved to ordinary citizens?

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______________________________________________________________________

Q4. What does source 2 tell us about the problems caused to ordinary people by the Parliamentarians?

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______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Q5. What does source 3 tell us about how communities suffered because of the fighting in the civil war?

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Stretch Question – Why do you think it is important for historians to look at a range of sources?

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**Lesson 2 – Causes of the English Civil War**

Read through the different reasons Parliament went to war with the King in 1642.

Cut out your cards and sort them into different causes. Some of them may fit into more than one category.

If you do not have scissors you can colour-code or label your cards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Image</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>King Charles spent lots of money on expensive things like paintings and on his family.</td>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>King Charles married a French Catholic princess. Everyone in England got worried that he would try to make England Catholic too.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King Charles I went to war with Spain and lost. Then he went to war with France and lost. This made England look weak and cost lots of money.</td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>In 1640 Charles I called Parliament for the first time in 11 years. They made speeches against Charles I and riots broke out in London.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King Charles I went to war with Spain and lost. Then he went to war with France and lost. This made England look weak and cost lots of money.</td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>In 1637, Scottish people said that the new Prayer book Charles made was too Catholic so he cut their ears off!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In 1642, Charles tried to arrest some of the MPs in Parliament for plotting against him but failed and had to flee London.</td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Image" /></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles said that God had chosen him to be King. He said if anyone disagreed with that they were bad Christians. This idea had been around for a long time and was known as ‘The Divine Right of Kings’.</td>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>The Scottish people had a rebellion over the new prayer book. Charles tried to fight them but he had no money left to pay for the war. He had to ask Parliament.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles took lots more money from normal people in taxes. E.g. ship tax was when everyone near the sea had to pay lots of taxes to protect them from pirates!</td>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Charles ruled England without calling Parliament for 11 years from 1625. This was known as ‘personal rule’.</td>
</tr>
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<td><img src="image7.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>In 1633, Charles appointed William Laud as Archbishop of Canterbury. He upset people by making reforms that seemed too Catholic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In 1642, Charles needed money from Parliament because there was a war in Ireland between Catholics and Protestants but they refused and gave him a list of complaints instead.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
One reason Civil War broke out in 1642 was religious divisions. England was a Protestant country in 1642 but Charles married a French Catholic princess. This made people suspicious that Charles I may be accepting of Catholics which didn’t fit with their ideas about Catholics in England, especially after the gunpowder plot which made the English public suspicious of Catholics. Furthermore, in 1637...