

**People's Democratic Republic of Algeria**  
**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research**  
**Mouloud Mammeri University of Tizi Ouzou**  
**Faculty of Letters and Languages**  
**Department of English**



**Licence 1 Degree Program**

**Subject**

**Civilisation de la langue 1**

**Semester 1**

**Course Designed by**  
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**2024-2025**

<https://teleensm.ummtto.dz/course/view.php?id=5588>

### **Abstract**

This course is designed for First Year students in civilization. It intends to cover the history of Britain. By the end of the first semester, students should be able to explain the collapse of the Roman Empire in Britain and its consequences in the 5th century, identify the Germanic groups (Angles, Saxons, Jutes) who migrated to Britain and describe the development of early Anglo-Saxon kingdoms (the Heptarchy). Throughout the sessions, students should discover the Norman Conquest and the invasion of William the Conqueror. The course also covers the different dynasties and the main events that marked their reign over the English crown. The main focus will be on the Plantagenets and Magna Carta, the Hundred Years War, The War of the Roses, The Tudors and the reign of Henry VIII, the Anglican Church, the Elizabethan Era, and finally the Stuarts and the Civil War. Then, it would be followed by the Glorious Revolution and the Constitutional Monarchy.

**Key Words:** The Roman and the Nordic Invasions of Britain. The Norman Conquest and Feudalism. The English Dynasties. The Glorious Revolution and The Constitutional Monarchy.

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## **1-The Formation of the Early Anglo Saxon England**

Objectives of the course: By the end of this course, students should be able to explain:

- The collapse of the Roman Empire in Britain and its consequences in the 5th century.
- Identify the Germanic groups (Angles, Saxons, Jutes) who migrated to Britain.
- Describe the development of early Anglo-Saxon kingdoms (the Heptarchy).
- Locate and explain the importance of kingdoms such as Wessex, Mercia, and Northumbria.

## **1-The Geography of the United Kingdom**

Introduction: The United Kingdom is a sovereign state located off the north-western coast of continental Europe. With a total area of approximately 241,930 square kilometres (93,410 sq mi), the UK occupies the major part of the British Isles archipelago and includes the island of Great Britain, the north-eastern one-sixth of the island of Ireland and many smaller surrounding islands. The UK lies between the North Atlantic and the North Sea, and comes within 35 km (22 mi) of the north-west coast of France, from which it is separated by the English Channel. It shares a 499 km international land boundary with the Republic of Ireland. The Channel Tunnel bored beneath the English Channel, now links the UK with France.

As of 1 January 2016, the population of United Kingdom was estimated to be 64 928 787 people.

Area : The total area of the United Kingdom according to the World Bank is approximately 241,930 square kilometres (93,410 sq mi), comprising the island of Great Britain, the northeastern one-sixth of the island of Ireland (Northern Ireland) and many smaller islands. England is the largest country of the United Kingdom, at 130,410 square kilometers (50,350 sq mi) accounting for just over half the total area of the UK. Scotland at 78,772 square kilometers (30,410 sq mi), is second largest, accounting for about a third of the area of the UK. Wales and Northern Ireland are much smaller, covering 20,758 and 14,160 square kilometers (8,010 and 5,470 sq mi) respectively.

Rivers: The longest river in the UK is the River Severn (220 mi; 350 km) which flows through both Wales and England. The longest rivers in the UK contained wholly within each of its constituent nations are: England: River Thames (215 mi; 346 km), Scotland: River Tay (117 mi; 188 km), N. Ireland: River Bann (76 mi; 122 km), Wales: River Tywi (64 mi; 103 km).

Lakes: The largest lakes (by surface area) in the UK by country are: N. Ireland: Lough Neagh

(147.39 sq mi; 381.7 km<sup>2</sup>),Scotland: Loch Lomond (27.46 sq mi; 71.1 km<sup>2</sup>),England: Windermere (5.69 sq mi; 14.7 km<sup>2</sup>),Wales: Llyn Tegid (Bala Lake) (1.87 sq mi; 4.8 km<sup>2</sup>)

The deepest lake in the UK is Loch Morar with a maximum depth of 309 metres (Loch Ness is second at 228 metres deep). The deepest lake in England is Wastwater which achieves a depth of 79 metres (259 feet). Loch Ness is the UK's largest lake in terms of volume.

**Artificial waterways:** As a result of its industrial history, the United Kingdom has an extensive system of canals, mostly built in the early years of the Industrial Revolution, before the rise of competition from the railways. The United Kingdom also has numerous dams and reservoirs to store water for drinking and industry.

**Islands:** In total, it is estimated that the UK is made up of over one thousand small islands, the majority located off the north and west coasts of Scotland. About 130 of these are inhabited.

The climate of the UK is generally temperate, although significant local variation occurs, particularly as a result of altitude and distance from the coast. In general the south of the country is warmer than the north, and the west wetter than the east. Average annual rainfall varies from over 3,000 mm in the Scottish Highlands down to 553 mm in Cambridge.

#### Political geography: National government

The UK is governed as a whole by the Parliament of the United Kingdom. Of the four countries that make the UK, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have devolved administrations and parliaments/assembly:

- Northern Ireland – Northern Ireland Assembly
- Scotland – Scottish Parliament
- Wales – National Assembly for Wales

England has no devolved system of government, that is, the Parliament of the United Kingdom serves as (and historically was) the English Parliament. It is governed by UK government ministers and legislated for by the UK parliament.

#### Local government

Each part of the UK is subdivided in further local governmental regions:

- England: Unitary Authorities, county councils, district councils, parish councils
- Wales: Principal areas, communities
- Scotland: Council areas, communities
- Northern Ireland: Districts

## Economic geography of the United Kingdom

The economic geography of the UK reflects not only its current position in the global economy, but its long history both as a trading nation and an imperial power. The UK led the industrial revolution and its highly urban character is a legacy of this, with all its major cities being current or former centres of various forms of manufacturing. However, this in turn was built on its exploitation of natural resources, especially coal and iron ore. The UK's primary industry was once dominated by the coal industry, heavily concentrated in the north, the Midlands and south Wales. The UK's heavy manufacturing drove the industrial revolution. A map of the major UK cities gives a good picture of where this activity occurred, in particular Belfast, Birmingham, Glasgow, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle and Sheffield.

## Economy of the United Kingdom

Historically, much of the United Kingdom was forested. Since prehistoric times, man has deforested much of the United Kingdom. Agriculture is intensive, highly mechanised, and efficient by European standards, producing about 60% of food. The UK has a variety of natural resources including:

- Geological: coal, petroleum, natural gas, limestone, chalk, gypsum, silica, rock salt, china clay, iron ore, tin, silver, gold, lead.
- Agricultural: arable land, wheat, barley, sheep

The UK has large coal, natural gas, and oil reserves. Due to the island location of the UK, the country has great potential for generating electricity from wave power, although these have not yet been exploited on a commercial basis.

## Geography of dependent territories

Crown dependencies: The three Crown dependencies are the Isle of Man in the Irish Sea and the Bailiwicks of Jersey and Guernsey in the English Channel. Being independently administered jurisdictions, they are not part of the United Kingdom or British Overseas Territories. They are self-governing possessions of the Crown. However, internationally, the dependencies are recognised as "territories for which the United Kingdom is responsible".

Overseas territories: The fourteen British Overseas Territories (BOT) are territories under the jurisdiction and sovereignty of the United Kingdom. They are those parts of the former British Empire that have not chosen independence or have voted to remain British territories.

Most of the inhabited territories are internally self-governing, with the UK retaining responsibility for defence and foreign relations, like the Bermuda, the British Antarctic Territory,, the British Indian Ocean Territory, the Falkland Islands, Gibraltar,

## **The British Population**

### **The Prehistoric Era**

Celtic presence in Britain already in the late Bronze Age, i.e. in mid 2nd millennium BC. The British Isles have experienced a long history of migration from Europe. The ancient migrations have come via two routes: along the Atlantic coast and from Germany–Scandinavia. The earliest evidence of human presence in Ireland is dated to 10,500 BC. Around 5,600 BC, continuing rises in sea level led Great Britain to become separated from continental Europe.

Stone Age: The Stone Age was a prehistoric period during which stone was widely used to make tools. The period lasted roughly 3.4 million years, and ended between 8700 BC.

Bronze Age: The Bronze Age is a period characterized by the use of bronze. The Bronze Age is the second principal period of the three-age Stone-Bronze-Iron system for classifying and studying ancient societies. This age lasted from 3000 to 1000 BC.

Iron Age: The Iron Age is when the dominant tool making material was iron. The start of the Iron Age is between around 1200 BC to 600 BC, depending on the region. In most parts of the world, its end is defined by the widespread adoption of writing, and therefore marks the transition from prehistory to history.

By about the 6th century BC the inhabitants of the British Isles were speaking Celtic languages. The Celtic languages (usually pronounced /'keltɪk/ but sometimes /'seltɪk/) are descended from a branch of the greater Indo-European language family. The Britons or Brythons were the ancient Celtic people who lived in Great Britain. The term is usually used for people in the Iron Age, from approximately 600 BC. By about 700 AD most former British territory had been absorbed by the Anglo-Saxons (or English) and Gaelic speaking Scots. After the Roman conquest of Britain in the 1st century, a Romano-British culture

emerged, and Latin coexisted with Brittonic. With the beginning of Anglo-Saxon settlement in the 5th century AD, the culture and language of the Britons fragmented and much of their territory was taken over by the Anglo-Saxons.

The Anglo-Saxon settlement of Britain describes the process which changed the language and culture of most of England from Romano-British to Germanic. The Germanic-speakers in Britain, themselves of diverse origins, eventually developed a common cultural identity as Anglo-Saxons. This process occurred from the mid 5th to early 7th centuries, following the end of Roman power in Britain around the year 410. The settlement was followed by the establishment of Anglo-Saxon kingdoms in the south and east of Britain, later followed by the rest of modern England.

### **Prehistory & Antiquity**

England was settled by humans for at least 500,000 years. The first modern humans (homo sapiens) arrived during the Ice Age (about 35,000 to 10,000 years ago), when the sea levels were lower and Britain was connected to the European mainland.

Between 1,500 and 500 BCE, Celtic tribes migrated from Central Europe and France to Britain and mixed with the indigenous inhabitants, creating a new culture slightly distinct from the Continental Celtic one. This was the Bronze Age.

The Romans tried a first time to invade Britannia (the Latin name of the island) in 55 BC under Julius Caesar, but weren't successful until 43 CE. The Romans controlled most of present-day England and Wales, and founded a large number of cities that still exist today. London, York, Leicester, Manchester, Lancaster, were Roman towns, as in fact were all the cities with names now ending in -chester, -cester or -caster, which derive from Latin castrum ("fortification").

The Anglo-Saxons: The Romans progressively abandoned Britannia in the 5th century as their Empire was falling apart and legions were needed to protect Rome. With the Romans gone, the Celtic tribes started fighting with each others again, and one of the local chieftain had the idea to request help from the some Germanic tribes from the North of present-day Germany and South of Denmark. These were the Angles, Saxons and Jutes, who arrived in the 5th and 6th centuries. The Germanic tribes did not go back home after the fight, and on the contrary felt strong enough to seize the whole of the country for themselves, which they did, pushing back all the Celtic tribes to Wales and Cornwall, and founding their respective kingdoms of Kent (the Jutes), Essex, Sussex and Wessex (the Saxons), and further north East Anglia, Mercia and Northumbria (the Angles). These kingdoms, which ruled over England from about

500 to 850 AD, were later known as the Anglo-Saxon.

The Vikings: From the second half of the 9th century, the Scandinavians started invading Europe, the Swedes taking up Eastern Europe, Russia (which they founded as a country), the Norwegians raided Scotland and Ireland, while the Danes went throughout Western Europe, as far as North Africa. The Danes invaded the North-East of England. Another group of Danes managed to take Paris, and obtain a grant of land from the King of France in 911. This area became the Duchy of Normandy, and its inhabitants were the Normans (from 'North Men' or 'Norsemen', another term for 'Viking').

The Normans: After having settled in their newly acquired land, the Normans, adopted the French feudal system and French as official language. The newly unified Denmark and Norway led two other invasions on England in 1013 and 1015, and became king of England in 1016, after crushing the Anglo-Saxon king, Edmund

### **Class activities: Map Reconstruction Workshop**

The objective of the activity is to understand migration and settlement patterns.

The teacher provides blank maps of Britain after Roman withdrawal in 410, and students label and shade areas settled by Angles, Saxons, and Jutes, then mark major kingdoms (Wessex, Mercia, Northumbria, East Anglia).

### **The Roman Conquest of Britain**

Introduction: The Romans arrived in Britain in 55 BC. The Roman Army had been fighting in Gaul (France) and the Britons had been helping the Gauls in an effort to defeat the Romans. The leader of the Roman Army in Gaul, Julius Caesar, decided to punish the Britons for helping the Gauls, and invaded Britain to establish a military force in Britain. Once they had done this, they took on Briton tribes one by one. Traders from Rome came to Britain and traded with the tribes that lived there. They realized that Britain was potentially a very wealthy place. The Romans were to stay for many years. The emperor Claudius sent an army of 40,000 men. Many tribes in Britain realized the sheer power of this army and made peace quickly with the Romans. Julius Caesar's "invasion" force was more or less defeated by the weather in the channel. It was not until 43 AD that the Romans, under Emperor Claudius, really invaded Britain.

1) Caesar and Britain: Julius Caesar became governor and military commander of the Roman provinces of Gaul, from 58 BC to 47 BC. He led a number of military campaigns throughout

Gaul (now modern day France, Belgium, and parts of Germany, Holland, and Switzerland). After crushing the Germanic tribes, enemies of Gaul, Caesar decided to invade Britain, an ally of Gaul. Caesar's first visit to Britain was very brief. In August of 55BC Caesar with two legions crossed the English Channel to Dover.

II) Claudius and Britian: The next Roman invasion of Britain - and the start of over four centuries of occupation - would not take place for another 97 years until AD 43 under the command of Claudius. Claudius had an outstanding military reputation.

III) Caratacus Revolt: An historical person Caratacus became one of the leaders of the anti-Roman campaign that managed to resist the invaders. Armed groups began assaults on the positions to the south. Caratacus was later to be general commander of the opposition to Roman rule. However, Caratacus was captured and his family were sent to Rome where he was allowed to live out his life in Italy. But this was not the end of trouble in Britian for the Romans.

The Roman Legacy in Britain: A.D. 410, Vandal barbarian tribesmen under the Visigoth King Alaric (Romania, today) entered the city of Rome and launched into a three-day frenzy of murder and plunder. The sacking played a major role in the eventual fall of the Roman Empire. Yet, the Romans managed to change Britain and left their mark all over the country. They founded new towns, plants, animals, a new religion and ways of reading and counting. Even the word 'Britain' came from the Romans. Britain had no proper roads before the Romans. There were just muddy tracks. So the Romans built roads, as straight as possible to get around quickly. They built them on foundations of clay, chalk and gravel. They laid bigger flat stones on top. Roman roads bulged in the middle and had ditches either side, to help the rainwater drain off. Some Roman roads have been converted into motorways and main roads we use today. As far as religion is concerned, we can say that before the Romans came, the native Britons were pagans. They believed in lots of different gods and spirits. The Romans were pagans too, but they didn't believe in the same gods as the Britons. They let the Britons worship their own gods, as long as they were respectful of the Roman ones too. Christianity arrived in Britain during the second century. By the beginning of the 4th century, more and more people were following Christianity. In addition, language, writing and numbers were brought to Britain. Before the Romans came, very few people could read or write in Britain. The Romans wrote down their history, their literature and their laws. Their language was called Latin, and it wasn't long before some people in Britain started to use it too. However, it only really caught on in the new Roman towns - most people living in the

countryside stuck to their old Celtic language. Lots of words and phrases today come from Latin. Words like 'exit', which means 'he or she goes out', and 'pedestrian', which means 'going on foot'. The Romans introduced the idea of living in towns and cities. In the middle was the 'forum', a big market square where people came to trade. Roman towns still exist today. If a place-name has 'chester', 'caster' or 'cester' in it, it's almost certainly Roman. The word 'chester' comes from the Latin word 'castrum' which means 'a fort'.

## **2-The Norman conquest and the Middle Ages**

Objectives of the Course: By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Understand the causes and consequences of the Norman Conquest (1066)
- Explain the political crisis following the death of Edward the Confessor (the claims of William the Conqueror, Harold Godwinson, and Harald Hardrada).
- Assess the transformation of England under Norman rule (changes in governance, the Domesday Book).
- Analyze shifts in land ownership, feudal structures, and the redistribution of power and understand the structure of medieval feudal society (the hierarchy of king, nobles, knights, and peasants) and explain the manorial system and its economic foundations.

### **The Norman Conquest in brief**

Edward the Confessor: known by this name for his extreme religiousness. He became one of the last Anglo-Saxon kings of England, reigning for 24 years (1042-1066). He died on 5th January 1066 without children. The death of King Edward the Confessor would lead to a crisis of succession, culminating in the Battle of Hastings (October 1066).

Harold Godwinson (c. 1022 – 1066), also called Harold II, was the last crowned Anglo-Saxon English king. Harold who was brother-in-law of King Edward the Confessor, reigned from 6 January 1066 until his death at the Battle of Hastings in October 1066, fighting the Norman invaders led by William the Conqueror during the Norman conquest of England. His death marked the end of Anglo-Saxon rule over England.

William the Conqueror: William the Conqueror (born in 1028, died 1087) was the first Norman king of England. He seized the throne after victory at the Battle of Hastings in October 1066. He was the illegitimate son of the Duke Robert I of Normandy and his mistress Herleva. This is why he was named William the Bastard. When he was crowned king of

England in 1066, he became William I.

Domesday Book: After the Norman invasion and conquest of England in 1066, the Domesday Book was made in 1085 by order of William The Conqueror. William needed to raise taxes to pay for his army and so a survey was organized to assess the wealth and properties of his subjects throughout the land. This survey was also needed to evaluate the state of the country's economy. It acquired the name 'Domesday Book' because of the huge amount of information that was contained in it. Indeed, it was noted by an observer of the survey that "there was no single hide nor a yard of land, nor indeed one ox nor one cow nor one pig which was left out". This led the book to be compared to the Last Judgement, or 'Doomsday', described in the Bible, when the deeds of Christians written in the Book of Life were to be placed before God for judgement.

### **What did the Normans bring to England?**

The Norman conquest of England, led by William the Conqueror (r. 1066-1087 CE) was achieved over a five-year period from 1066 CE to 1071 CE. Hard-fought battles, castle building, land redistribution, and ensured that the Normans were there to stay. The consequences of the Norman Conquest were many and varied. The conquest saw the Norman elite replace that of the Anglo-Saxons and take over the country's lands, the Church was restructured, a new architecture was introduced and castles and cathedrals were built. Feudalism became much more widespread, and the English language absorbed thousands of new French words. The following list summarizes what most historians agree on as some of the most important changes the Norman Conquest brought in England:

- Norman landlords took place of the majority of Anglo-Saxon landowning elite.
- Power and wealth were held by a minority.
- Bishops were replaced with Norman ones.
- The Feudal system was introduced to England and developed as William gave out lands in return for military service (either in person or a force of knights paid for by the landowner).
- The rise of Manors and Manorialism
- France and England became historically intertwined, initially due to the crossover of land ownership, i.e. "Norman nobles holding lands in both countries" Fiefs and families.
- The French language was used as a prestigious court language which led to a significant change in the syntax and vocabulary of the Anglo-Saxon Germanic language.
- Domesday Book which was" a detailed and systematic catalogue of the land and wealth in

England was compiled in 1086-7 CE". Domesday Book was compiled on William's orders in 1086-7 CE, probably to find out for tax purposes exactly who owned what in England following the deaths of many Anglo-Saxon nobles over the course of the conquest and the giving out of new estates and titles by the king to his loyal followers. Indeed, Domesday Book reveals William's total reshaping of land ownership and power in England. It was the most comprehensive survey ever undertaken in any medieval kingdom.

### **Conclusion**

After William's death (1087), his sons raced for power and fought each other to win both the throne of England and the Dukedom of Normandy. William the Conqueror was succeeded as king of England by his second son, William Rufus (reigned 1087–1100), and as duke of Normandy by his oldest son, Robert Curthose (died 1134). A third son, Henry, became king of England (as Henry I) in 1100. He lived from 1068 – to 1 December 1135. He was also known as Henry Beauclerc, crowned King of England from 1100 to his death in 1135. He was the fourth son of William the Conqueror

### Class Activities: Feudal System Pyramid Simulation

The type of activity is a group project. The students create a feudal pyramid showing the position of the King, Barons, Knights, Peasants/Serfs.

Each group of students explains who owed loyalty to whom, what was exchanged (land, protection, service) and can also act out a "land-for-loyalty" ceremony.

### 3-The Plantagenet Dynasty and Other Events

Objectives of the Course: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the origins and rise of the House of Plantagenet and explain its significance in English history.
- Describe the reign and impact of major rulers, like King John.
- Analyse the causes and consequences of the signing of the Magna Carta in 1215.

**The House of Normandy** (1066 -1135) ended when Henry I, son of William I, died without a male heir. Before the end of the direct Norman line of kings in England, Henry I named his daughter Matilda to inherit the throne. But, at the same time, he promised the crown to his nephew Stephen, duke of Blois (France). After the death of Henry, I, Stephen invaded England and crowned himself King Stephen I of England (1135-1154).

**The House of Plantagenet** (1154 to 1485) was a royal house which originated in Anjou, France. After 19 years of reign, King Stephen I decided to concede the throne to Matilda's husband, Geoffrey Plantagenet. The house of Plantagenet is divided into two branches; the Lancastrians and the Yorkists. The family held the English throne from 1154, with the accession of Henry II, until 1485, when Richard III died. During the reign of the Plantagenets, England witnessed many events.

a) Magna Carta: The Plantagenet kings were forced to negotiate compromises. In 1215, Magna Carta was drafted. The authority of the king was contested by the barons. The "Great Charter of Freedoms" is a royal charter of rights agreed to by King John of England. Because the King was unpopular (the most powerful man in the country, holding the prerogative of judgement, feudal tribute and warfare), a group of barons rebelled against his authority. They drafted Magna Carta which defended church rights, protected the barons from illegal imprisonment, and limited feudal payments to the Crown.

b) The Hundred Years' War (1337–1453) : It was a series of armed conflicts fought between the kingdoms of England and France. The war began when Edward III of England invaded

Flanders (Belgium) in 1337 to assert his claim to the French crown. This was in response to the confiscation of the English-held duchy of Aquitaine (region of Southwestern France) by French King Philip VI. The war took place over 116 years, with some interruptions. The Plantagenets were defeated in the Hundred Years' War and affected with social, political and economic problems.

c)The War of the Roses: (1455–1487) were a series of civil wars fought over control of the English throne in the mid-to-late fifteenth century. These wars were fought between supporters of two opposing branches of the royal House of Plantagenet: Lancaster and York. The war was named after the emblems of the rival parties: the white rose of York and the red rose of Lancaster. An arranged marriage united the Houses of Lancaster and York. Henry VII or Henry Tudor, a Lancastrian, became king of England; then he married Elizabeth of York, thus ending the Wars of the Roses and giving rise to the Tudor dynasty. The Tudors worked to centralise English royal power, which allowed them to avoid some of the problems that had plagued the last Plantagenet rulers. The resulting stability allowed for the English Renaissance and the advent of early modern Britain.

Class Activities: Magna Carta (1215) Role-Play

The activity consists of assigning roles to King John, the barons, the church leaders. Students are requested to re-enact the meeting at Runnymede, debating the issue of holding absolute power by the king. The outcome: students understand the origins of constitutional government.

#### **4-The Hundred Years' Wars and the Wars of Roses**

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the causes and origins of the Hundred Years' War, including dynastic disputes, feudal obligations, and territorial conflicts between England and France.
- Identify key figures and events of the war, such as Edward III, Henry V, and Joan of Arc, and evaluate their impact on the conflict.
- Describe the causes and progression of the Wars of the Roses, focusing on dynastic rivalry between the House of Lancaster and the House of York.

Introduction: The Hundred Years' War was a series of conflicts waged from 1337 to 1453 by the rulers of the Kingdom of England, against the rulers of the Kingdom of France, over the succession of the French throne. After the Norman Conquest, the kings of England were

vassals of the kings of France. After the end of these wars, England entered another period of internal conflicts in relation to the control of the throne. They are known as the Wars of the Roses which were a series of wars for control of the throne of England fought between supporters of two rival branches of the royal House: the House of Lancaster (associated with a red rose), and the House of York (whose symbol was a white rose). The conflict lasted through many sporadic episodes between 1455 and 1487.

-The Hundred Years' War: The name the Hundred Years' War has been used to describe the long conflict that opposed the kings and kingdoms of France and England against each other from 1337 to 1453. The main factors of the wars are related to land possessions, mainly the French Aquitaine which though it belonged to the kings of England, it remained a fief of the French crown. The other reason was the claim of the crown of France by the kings of England from 1337. France and England fought continuous wars. England invaded France and had victories in 1340, 1346 and 1356. Finally, France was forced to accept the Treaty of Calais, which granted complete independence to the duchy of Guyenne, now considerably enlarged to include almost a third of France. However, by 1380 France re-conquered almost all the ceded territory. England, then managed to renew the war and conquered many regions of France, like Normandy (1417-1418). The end of the conflict was never marked by a peace treaty but died out because the English recognized that the French troops were too strong to be directly confronted.

-The Norman Conquest: France finally defeated England, and the French victory marked the end of a long period of instability that had started with the Norman Conquest (1066), when William the Conqueror added "King of England" to his titles. When the Hundred Years' War ended, it destroyed the English dream of a joint monarchy and led to the rejection in England of all things French, but the French language in England, which had served as the language of the ruling classes and commerce there from the time of the Norman Conquest, left many vestiges in English vocabulary.

-The Wars of the Roses: After the Hundred Years War had been settled in 1453, England knew another period of instability, known as the Wars of Roses. They were a series of wars for control of the throne of England fought between supporters of two rival branches of the royal House: the House of Lancaster (associated with a red rose), and the House of York (whose symbol was a white rose). The conflict lasted through many sporadic episodes between 1455 and 1487; however, there was fighting before and after this period between the houses. The power struggle ignited around social and financial troubles following the

Hundred Years' War, combined with the mental infirmity and weak rule of Henry VI which revived interest in Richard, Duke of York's claim to the throne. With the Duke of York's passing, the claim transferred to his heir, Edward, who later became the first Yorkist king of England, as Edward IV

Class Activities: Cause and Effect Chart: Students complete a chart:

Causes	Key Events	Effects
Claim to French throne	Major battles	Rise of nationalism
Control of land monarchy	Joan of Arc	Strengthened French

## 5-The Dynasties

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

-Identify and sequence the major English dynasties, including the House of Wessex, House of Normandy, House of Plantagenet, House of Lancaster, House of York, House of Tudor, House of Stuart, and name the main monarchs who marked history and the most important facts under their rule.

### English Dynasties

Introduction: Monarchism is a form of government, a system based on the belief that political power should be concentrated in one person. A monarch is the person at the head of a monarchy. This is a form of government in which a Sovereign state is ruled or controlled by an individual who inherits the throne by birth and rules for life or until abdication. Monarchs may be autocrats (absolute monarchy) or ceremonial heads of state who exercise the power, with actual authority vested in a parliament or other body (constitutional monarchy).

Dynasties: The word "dynasty" derives from Latin *dynastia* and from Greek *dynastéia*, where it referred to "power", and "rule". A dynasty is a sequence of rulers from the same family, usually in the context of a monarchical system. The dynastic family or lineage may be known as a "house".

English Dynasties: Kings and queens of the Kingdom of England began with Alfred the Great, King of Wessex, one of the kingdoms to rule a part of modern England. The last monarch of a distinct kingdom of England was Queen Anne, who became Queen of Great Britain when England merged with Scotland to form a union in 1707. By the late ninth

century, Wessex was the dominant Anglo-Saxon kingdom. The Principality of Wales was incorporated into the Kingdom of England in 1284, and in 1301 King Edward I invested his eldest son, the future King Edward II, as Prince of Wales. After the death of Queen Elizabeth I without issue, in 1603, the crowns of England and Scotland were joined under King James VI of Scotland, who became James I of England and became "King of Great Britain

### **The different Houses:**

a- House of Denmark: There are many dynasties or Houses that ruled over England. The first one was the House of Denmark, when a Danish king, took the throne after an invasion in 1013 until 1016.

b-House of Normandy: In 1066, several rival claimants to the English throne emerged. During the Norman Conquest, William the Conqueror occupied the throne. William was crowned King William I of England in 1066 and is today known as William the Conqueror, William the Bastard or William I.

c-House of Blois: Henry I left no legitimate male heirs, his son William Adelin having died in a ship disaster. This ended the direct Norman line of kings in England. Henry named his eldest daughter, Matilda, as his heir. Before naming her, he had been in negotiations to name his nephew Stephen of Blois (France) as his heir. When Henry died, Stephen invaded England, and in a coup d'état had himself crowned instead of Matilda.

d-House of Anjou : Stephen came to an agreement with Matilda in November 1153 to crown Prince Henry, son of Matilda and her second husband Geoffrey Plantagenet, Count of Anjou (France) as the heir to the throne. The royal house descended from Matilda and Geoffrey is widely known by two names, the House of Anjou (after Geoffrey's title as Count of Anjou) or the House of Plantagenet. The Angevins ruled over the Angevin Empire during the 12th and 13th centuries, an area stretching from the Pyrenees to Ireland.

e-House of Plantagenet: The House of Plantagenet takes its name from Geoffrey Plantagenet, Count of Anjou, husband of the Empress Matilda and father of Henry II. The Houses of Lancaster and York are branches of the House of Plantagenet. The Wars of the Roses (1455–1485) saw the throne pass back and forth between the rival houses of Lancaster and York.

f-House of Tudor: The Tudors descended from John Beaufort, an illegitimate child of John of Gaunt. Illegitimate children would normally have no claim on the throne, but the church declared the Beauforts legitimate through a papal decision and an Act of Parliament in 1397. The Beauforts remained allied with Gaunt's other descendants, the Royal House of Lancaster.

John Beaufort's granddaughter was married to Edmund Tudor. When the House of Lancaster fell from power, the Tudors followed. By the late 15th century, the Tudors were the last hope for the Lancaster supporters. Edmund Tudor's son became king as Henry VII after defeating Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485, ending the Wars of the Roses. King Henry married Elizabeth of York, daughter of Edward IV, thereby uniting the Lancastrian and York lineages.

g-House of Stuart: Following the death of Elizabeth I in 1603, her cousin, James VI, King of Scots, succeeded to the English throne as James I in the Union of the Crowns. James was descended from the Tudors. In 1604, he adopted the title King of Great Britain. No monarch reigned between the execution of Charles I in 1649 and the Restoration of Charles II in 1660. After a coup d'état in 1653, Oliver Cromwell took control of England from Parliament. He exerted an absolute and dictatorial power over England, and the office became hereditary when it passed from Oliver Cromwell to his son Richard. The monarchy was restored when Charles II returned from France to accept the throne of England. Tensions still existed between Catholics and Protestants however, and with the ascension of his brother, the openly Catholic James II, England again was sent into a period of political turmoil. James II was ousted by Parliament less than three years after ascending to the throne, and the throne was offered jointly to his daughter Mary and her husband (also his first cousin once removed) William during the Glorious Revolution. While James and his descendants would continue to claim the throne, all Catholics (such as James and his son Charles) were barred from the throne by the Act of Settlement 1701, enacted by Queen Anne, another of James's Protestant daughters. After the Acts of Union 1707, England as a sovereign state ceased to exist, replaced by the new Kingdom of Great Britain.

h-The House of Windsor: It is the royal house of the United Kingdom. The dynasty is of German descent which succeeded the House of Hanover as monarchs in the British Empire. It provided monarchs of Great Britain and Ireland from 1714 and ruled the United Kingdom until the death of Queen Victoria in 1901. The house of Windsor provided British monarchs including the present queen, Elizabeth II.

Class Activities: Answer the following questions.

-How did Alfred the Great defend England against Viking invasions?

-What was the significance of the Domesday Book?

- Why is the Magna Carta considered a foundation of constitutional government?
- What were the political and religious consequences of Henry VIII breaking from Rome?
- What were the causes of the English Civil War?

## **6-The reign of Henry VIII**

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Explore religious transformation in Britain.
- Investigate the causes, processes, and consequences of the English Reformation.
- Assess Henry VIII's establishment of the Church of England and its impact on English society.

### **The Tudors and the Reformation**

The Reformation began when Martin Luther criticized the power and the practices of the Catholic Church. In 1517 he listed grievances against the Catholic Church and the Pope excommunicated him. However, many people agreed with his criticisms and joined his protest against the Catholic Church. They became known as Protestants. The Protestant movement spread from Germany to Scandinavia and Scotland. The Reformation in England began in 1527, but was not simply a matter of religion.

Some of Martin Luther's beliefs about the Catholic Church:

- That people could not 'buy off' their sins money to the Church, only god could pardon sins, not the Church.
- That people were naturally sinful and that they should seek salvation by believing in God by doing good works.
- That priests were not divine beings and should be subject to the law as ordinary men and women.
- That all people should be allowed to read the Bible, not just priests. The Catholic Church believed that if all people were allowed to read the Bible they would form their own opinions and that the Bible would become more important than the Church.

### **The Reformation in England**

In 1527 Henry VIII wrote a book that criticized Martin Luther and confirmed the status of the Pope. However, just six years later in 1533, Henry had passed legislation that removed the Pope's influence in England and had made himself the Head of the Church of England. In

1527 Henry VIII began to have doubts about the validity of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. In the 18 years that they had been married she had given birth to six children but only one had survived, a girl, Mary. Henry believed that his lack of male heir to the throne was God's way of punishing him for having married his brother's wife. He asked Catherine to grant him a divorce but she refused. According to the law in England only the Pope could grant a King a divorce and as the Pope got on very well with Catherine's nephew, Charles V of Spain, he delayed making a decision.

**Five years later Henry made decisions:**

1532: All Bishops were forced to sign a document stating that they would make no new laws without the consent of the King, and that Church officials would not meet without the approval of the King. An Act was passed that stopped the English Church from sending money to Rome.

1533: Anne Boleyn became pregnant. Henry secretly married her. He declared his marriage to Catherine to have been invalid. The Act in Restraint of Appeals was passed. This act made it illegal for any foreigner to interfere in English law or to have more authority in England than the King.

1534: An Act was declared Henry to be the only Supreme Head on Earth of the Church of England. The Act of Supremacy was passed. This Act declared England as a sovereign state with the King as Head of both the country and the Church. It gave Henry the power to reform the church as he saw fit and also to appoint churchmen of his own choosing.

1536: The Act against the Pope's Authority. This Act removed the last traces of Papal power in England. Closure of the monasteries. All monasteries in England were closed. Their gold and riches were claimed by the King.

**The Tudor dynasty:** The Tudor dynasty was a series of kings and queens of England. This line of rulers started in 1485 and lasted until 1603. The dynasty started when Henry VII defeated Richard III in the Wars of the Roses. Henry Tudor then became the king of England. He married Catherine of Aragon. She was the daughter of Ferdinand II of Aragon. When Henry VII died in 1509, his brother married Catherine and became King Henry VIII. During her marriage to Henry VIII, Catherine had six children. Only one of these children, Mary, survived. When Catherine became too old to have any more children, Henry divorced her. He then married a new wife, Anne Boleyn. Henry and Boleyn also had a daughter, Elizabeth. Anne Boleyn was executed in 1536. Shortly after, Henry VIII married Jane Seymour of England. She had one son, Edward VI of England, who would later become king himself at

the age of 9. Jane died in 1537. Henry married three other wives before his death in 1547. Edward, his only living son, became King after Henry died. Henry's daughter, Mary I of England, was the next ruler of the Tudor dynasty. Mary was a strong believer in Catholicism. As Queen, Mary did many things against hundreds of Protestants. Because of all the executions while she was Queen, she was given the nickname "Bloody Mary". After Mary's death in 1558, her half-sister Elizabeth I of England became queen. Unlike Mary, Elizabeth was a Protestant. Elizabeth never married or had children. Because she never married, Elizabeth is often called the "Virgin Queen". She was well liked by most of the people of England. The dynasty ended when Elizabeth died.

She had not named a person to be ruler after her death. When she died, James I became King of England. He was the son of Elizabeth's cousin, Mary Stuart. This started the Stuart dynasty.

**Religion in England :** During the Tudor period, there were many changes in religion. Henry VIII was a Catholic. When the Pope said he could not divorce Catherine, Henry left Catholicism and named himself as head of the Church. The Church was now Protestant. Edward VI was raised a Protestant. He closed all Catholic churches. Mary I was a strong Catholic. She had been raised in Spain because of her Spanish mother, Catherine of Aragon. She shut down the Protestant churches and burnt about 300 people for being Protestant. Those people were later called martyrs. Elizabeth was Protestant. When she became queen, the Anglican Church was started. Since then, religion in England has been much calmer.

Rulers of the Tudor dynasty: Henry VII (1485-1509), Henry VIII of England (1509-1547), Edward VI of England (1547-1553), Mary I of England (1553-1558), Elizabeth I of England (1558-1603).

Class Activities: Organise a debate in the class. "Was Henry VIII a Tyrant or a Reformer?"

The objective of this activity is to encourage critical thinking and argumentation skills.

The teacher divides the class into two groups and each one prepares arguments, then debate in class:

Tyrant: Focus on executions, divorces, and authoritarian rule.

Reformer: Highlight the establishment of the Church of England, strengthening of the monarchy.

## **7-Reformation and Protestantism**

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

-Analyze the social, political, religious, and economic factors that led to the emergence of the Reformation in Europe during the 16th century.

-Study the roles of influential leaders such as Martin Luther, John Calvin, and John Wycliffe, and understand their theological contributions and reforms.

### **Reformation and Protestantism**

The English Reformation started in the reign of Henry VIII who decided to rid himself of his first wife of Spanish origin, Catherine of Aragon (1485-1536). She was the Queen of England from June 1509 until May 1533 as the first wife of King Henry VIII and previously Princess of Wales, after she had failed to produce a male heir to the throne. He had already decided who his next wife would be Anne Boleyn (1501– 1536). She was Queen of England from 1533 to 1536 as the second wife of King Henry VIII, and subsequently executed by beheading. By 1527, Catherine was considered too old to have anymore children. However, a divorce was a very complicated issue.

### **The King and the Pope**

Henry VIII was a Roman Catholic and the head of this church was the pope based in Rome. The Roman Catholic faith believed in marriage for life. But husbands could not simply decide that their marriage was not working, divorce their wife and re-marry. The Roman Catholic Church did not allow it. This put Henry VIII in a difficult position. If he went ahead and announced that as king of England he was allowing himself a divorce, the pope could excommunicate him. This meant that under Catholic Church law, your soul could never get to Heaven. To someone living at the time of Henry, this was a very real fear, and a threat which the Catholic Church used to keep people under its control. Another approach Henry used was to make a special appeal to the pope so that he might get a special “Papal Dispensation”. This meant that the pope would agree to Henry’s request for a divorce purely because Henry was king of England but that it would not affect the way the Catholic Church banned divorce for others. The pope refused to grant Henry this and by 1533 his anger was such that he ordered the Archbishop of Canterbury to grant him a divorce so that he could marry Anne Boleyn. The Archbishop granted Henry his divorce – against the wishes of the pope. This event effectively led to England breaking away from the Roman Catholic Church based in Rome. Henry placed himself as head of the church and in that sense, in his eyes, his divorce was perfectly legal.

### **Rich clergy and poor people:**

How did the people of England react to this? In fact, the vast bulk of the population was very

angry at the way the Roman Catholic Church had used them as a source of money. To get married you had to pay; to get a child baptized (which you needed to be if you were to go to Heaven – so the Catholic Church preached) you had to pay; you even had to pay the Church to bury someone on their land (which you had to do as your soul could only go to Heaven if you were buried on Holy Ground). Therefore, the Catholic Church was very wealthy while many poor remained just that....poor. Their money was going to the Catholic Church. Henry knew of the Catholic Church's unpopularity and, therefore, used this to his advantage. Henry was made Supreme Head of the Church by an Act of Parliament in 1534. The country was still Catholic but the pope's power had been ended.

### **Church reformed:**

To reform means to change. This is why this event is called the English Reformation as it did change the way the church was run throughout England. When Henry became king in 1509, the church in England was as follows: Head of the Church: the pope based in Rome. Church services: all were held in Latin Prayers: all said in Latin Bible: written in Latin. Priests: not allowed to marry. By the death of Henry in 1547, the church in England was as follows: Head of the Church : the king Church. services : held in Latin. Prayers: said in English. Bible: written in English. Priests: not allowed to marry.

### **Protestant Figures:**

John Wycliffe (1320 – 1384) helped make the Bible available to all people, regardless of their wealth or social standing. Wycliffe translated the whole Bible into the English language because he believed that Englishmen needed to be familiar with the scriptures on their own terms in order to know Jesus Christ. He was an English, theologian, translator, reformer, and an influential dissident within the Roman Catholic during the 14th century. Wycliffe attacked the privileged status of the clergy, which was central to their powerful role in England. He then attacked the luxury of local parishes. He completed the translation of the Bible to middle English in 1382.

Martin Luther (1483 –1546) was a German professor of theology, composer, priest, monk and a seminal figure in the Protestant Reformation. Luther came to reject several teachings and practices of the Roman Catholic Church. He strongly disputed the claim that freedom from God's punishment for sin could be purchased with money, proposing an academic discussion of the practice and efficacy of indulgences in his Ninety-five Theses of 1517. His refusal to renounce all of his writings at the demand of Pope Leo X in resulted in his excommunication by the Pope and condemnation as an outlaw by the Emperor.

Protestantism is the most popular religion practiced in the United Kingdom. For centuries, it has played a primary role in shaping political and religious life throughout the region. Although a German, Martin Luther, was responsible for the beginnings of the Protestant Reformation in the early 16th century in the United Kingdom, and especially England

Class Activities: Fill in the gaps with one word so that the text makes sense.

The \_\_\_\_\_ (1) was a major religious movement in the 16th century that aimed to reform the Roman Catholic Church. It began when \_\_\_\_\_ (2) famously nailed his 95 Theses to the church door in Wittenberg, criticizing the sale of \_\_\_\_\_ (3) and church corruption. This movement led to the rise of \_\_\_\_\_ (4), a branch of Christianity separates from the Catholic Church. One of the key ideas of Protestantism was \_\_\_\_\_ (5), the belief that salvation comes through faith alone, not through \_\_\_\_\_ (6) or church rituals. The Reformation also encouraged the translation of the \_\_\_\_\_ (7) into vernacular languages so that ordinary people could read it themselves. Countries like \_\_\_\_\_ (8) and \_\_\_\_\_ (9) became centers of Protestantism in Europe.

Possible answers: Reformation, Martin Luther, indulgences, Protestantism, sola fide, good works, Bible, Germany, Switzerland.

## **8-The Stuart Period**

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the causes and consequences of major political events, including the reigns of James I and Charles I, the English Civil War, the Interregnum under Oliver Cromwell, the Restoration.
- Understand the impact of religion on politics, society, and conflicts like the English Civil War.

### **The Stuarts and the English Civil War**

James I Elizabeth was followed to the throne by James VI of Scotland, who became James I of England. James believed in the absolute power of the monarchy, and he had a terrible relationship with the Parliament. It would be a mistake to think of Parliament as a democratic institution, or the voice of the common citizen. Parliament was a forum for the interests of the nobility and the merchant classes. James was a firm protestant, and in 1604 he expelled all Catholic priests from the island. During James' reign radical Protestant groups called Puritans who wanted to "purify" the church by paring down church ritual, educating the clergy, and

limiting the powers of bishops. The Puritans also favoured thrift, education, and individual initiative, therefore they found great support among the new middle class of merchants.

**The King James Bible** In 1611 the King James version of the Holy Bible was issued, the result of seven years of labor Charles I (1625-49) continued his father's bitter relationship with Parliament, over the right to levy taxes. Parliament responded with the Petition of Right in 1628. Its basic premise was that no taxes of any kind could be allowed without the permission of Parliament. Charles finally had enough, and in 1629 he dissolved Parliament and ruled without it for eleven years. Between 1630-43 large numbers of people emigrated from England to the new American colonies.

**Civil War** Parliament made increasing demands, which the king refused to meet. Finally in 1642, fighting broke out. The English Civil War (1642-1646) polarized society largely along class lines. Parliament drew most of its support from the middle classes, while the king was supported by the nobility, the clergy, and the peasantry. Parliamentary troops were known as Roundheads because of their severe hair style. The king's army was known as Cavaliers, from the French for "knight", or "horseman".

Oliver Cromwell: The war began as a series of skirmishes beyond the emergence of a Parliamentary general from East Anglia named Oliver Cromwell. Cromwell whipped his irregular volunteer troops into the disciplined New Model Army. Meanwhile, Charles established the royalist headquarters in Oxford, called his own Parliament, and issued his own money.

The death of a king Charles refused every proposal made by Parliament and the army for reform. Finally, the radical core of Parliament had enough. They believed that only the execution of the king could prevent the kingdom from descending into anarchy. Charles was tried for treason in 1649

### **Brief Summary:**

The Tudors (1485-1603): They reigned for 118 years. The first king, Henry Tudor (VII) (1485-1509), became king after the War of the Roses. The Tudors succeeded the Plantagenets.

Henry VIII (1509-1547) was one of the most famous monarchs of England. He had 3 children: Edward VI (1547-1553), Mary I (1553-1558) and Elizabeth I (1558-1603). He married 6 times; he beheaded 2 of his wives.

The reign of Henry VIII: \*The Reformation: He broke with the Roman papacy and

established an independent Church of England. When Pope Clement VII refused to approve the annulment of Henry's marriage to Catherine of Aragon, the English Parliament, at Henry's insistence, passed a series of acts that separated the English church from the Roman hierarchy and in 1534 made the English monarch the head of the English church. The Act of Supremacy (1534) recognized Henry VIII as the "Supreme Head of the Church of England." The English church would remain Catholic, though separated from Rome.

\*The English church :

Before the Reformation After the Reformation:

-The head of the church: The Pope The head of the church: English monarch

-The Bible in Latin -The Bible in English

-The prayers and the services in Latin -The prayers and the services in English

The reign of Elizabeth I (1558-1603): new religious beliefs were encouraged, overseas exploration started, the Chartered Companies were set up, the 16th C. coincided with the end of the Medieval Ages. England became richer than before, towns, schools and arts flourished (theatre: Shakespeare). It was called the Golden Age.

**The Stuarts (1603-1714): 9 kings.**

The first king of Great Britain was King James VI of Scotland who became James I . He established the doctrine of divine right of kings. In European history, it was a political doctrine in defense of monarchical absolutism, which asserted that kings derived their authority from God and could not therefore be held accountable for their actions by any earthly authority such as a parliament. James I believed that he was answerable only to God and not to be judged by a court. He imposed churchgoing, but the Catholics were not allowed to celebrate the Mass.

During the Stuarts, England witnessed periods of conflicts, wars and instability.

The Civil War: (1642-1651) between the Crown and the Parliament. The divine right of kings was contested by the Parliament. Then, a Civil War burst out. King Charles I was caught and executed, and his son Charles II was forced to exile to France and Spain. Having executed Charles I in 1649, Parliament abolished the monarchy and formed a republic under the leadership of Oliver Cromwell. The latter, a military officer, ruled over England and established a Republic from 1649 to 1660.

The Restoration After 11 years of Republican rule, the monarchy was restored in 1660. The Restoration of the Stuart monarchy in the kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland took

place in 1660 when King Charles II returned from exile in continental Europe. The term Restoration is also used to describe the period of several years after, in which a new political settlement was established. It is very often used to cover the whole reign of King Charles II (1660–1685) and often the brief reign of his younger brother King James II (1685–1688).

### **Conclusion:**

The Stuarts would rule England for 100 years with an 11-year gap after the execution of Charles I. After that, his son, Charles II, was welcomed back to England and ruled during an uncertain time of plague and fire. His brother, James II, would inherit the throne but only rule for a short time as England rejected a Catholic monarch. His daughter, Mary II, a protestant, and her husband, William of Orange, prince of Orange in Holland, would take over peacefully the reign of England for 13 years. This is known as the Glorious Revolution (1688

Class Activities: Matching pairs.

-Activity1: Students match key events of the Stuart period to their correct years.

English Civil War begins → 1688

Charles II restored → 1603

Glorious Revolution → 1642

Union of England and Scotland → 1660

Activity2: Students join each monarch with a relevant fact.

James II → first Stuart king of England

Charles II → executed after Civil War

Charles I → restored monarchy after Cromwell

James I → overthrown in Glorious Revolution

## **9-The Constitutional Monarchy**

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

-Understand and define the concept of a constitutional monarchy.

-Explain the historical emergence and evolution of constitutional monarchies.

### **The Constitutional Monarchy and the History of the English Parliament**

Introduction: There are two types of monarchies in the world; absolute and constitutional. In an absolute monarchy, the monarch has all powers. In a constitutional monarchy, the activities of the monarch are limited to ceremonies. The power is symbolic. It is the Parliament, which is elected by people that exerts political power. In England, the monarchy has become constitutional after the Glorious Revolution (1688) and the enactment of the Bill of Rights (1689).

What is the Glorious Revolution? It was a pacific political change. The English King James II

was overthrown. He was dethroned because he was a defender of the “Divine Rights of the King”. James II was a Catholic and excluded Protestants from politics, the army, etc. He had a daughter (Mary) and a son (Francis Edward, born in 1688). Then, the English people who were protestants were afraid that his son would continue the principle of the “Divine Rights of the King”. After that, the English Parliament asked James’s daughter Mary who was the wife of the prince of William of Orange (Orange was a principality in Holland) to come to England and inherit the throne. Together with her husband, William of Orange and his army, they invaded England and deposed King James II and crowned themselves King and Queen of England in 1688. They settled all the questions and solved the social, political and religious problems and made the Bill of Rights.

What is the Bill of Rights? The Bill of Rights (1689) was a document that listed a certain number of rights after the Glorious Revolution. With the making of the Bill of Rights, the constitutional monarchy started in England. It stated that the right of taxation should be agreed by the Parliament. The Bill of Rights created separation of powers, limited the powers of the king and the queen, improved the democratic elections and reinforced freedom of speech. It gave rights to individuals, justice and equality and instituted liberties.

Why is it called “Glorious” Revolution? It was a revolution because it brought many changes: the tyrannical King James II was deposed, the “Divine Rights of the King” principle was swept away, new kings (Mary and William III=William of Orange) were crowned, and the English monarchy became constitutional. All these events happened without wars and bloodshed and no killings. It was a pacific revolution. It was glorious because it granted consideration to man, and gave freedoms and equal rights and justice.

The History of the English Parliament: After the “Glorious” Revolution, elections were introduced in the English political system. People elected the members of the Parliament who had the effective power, while the monarch remained symbolic. The history of the English Parliament has passed through many steps.

1-The Witan: It means the “meeting of the wise people”. It was a political institution during Anglo-Saxon England (from 7th century to the 11th). It was an assembly that advised the King. Its members were the most important noblemen (Barons). The Witan advised the king in the organization of the administration and the collection of taxes. It has no real power.

2-The Privy Council: William I (the Conqueror) introduced the council of tenants (tenants-in-chief=Barons, Bishops). Their role was limited to collecting taxes and advising the king. But, in 1215, the tenants-in-chief protested against the king’s authority (King John).

3-Magna Carta Liberatum ( The Great Charter of the Liberties): It is a charter, (a document , a list of rights), agreed by king John of England in 1215. King John was not popular and a group of rebel barons protested against his policies. There was a Barons' war (civil war) from 1215-1217 led by landowners (barons). These powerful barons could no longer support King Johns' despotic rule and dictatorship, then they rebelled and waged a civil war. As a result, King John was obliged to accept the Barons' conditions and established Magna Carta, as the "law of the land". With that Charter, the power of the King was limited, and an article of the Charter says that if 25 Barons are unhappy, they can overthrow a king by force. After Magna Carta was issued, the church rights were protected, the Barons were also protected from illegal imprisonment, access to justice was secured, and limitation of the taxes to the king was accepted. That was in fact, the beginnings of the English Parliament. The Barons contested the despotic power of the king and protested against the absolute monarchy.

**Class Activities:** Students create a timeline highlighting key events (e.g., Magna Carta, English Bill of Rights, establishment of parliamentary powers). Discuss how the monarchy's power shifted over time.

## **10-The Glorious Revolution of 1688**

Course Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the political, religious, and social conditions in England leading up to 1688.
- Examine the role of monarchy, Parliament, and key institutions in the period before the Revolution.

Introduction: The Glorious Revolution was a pacific political change. The English King James II was overthrown. He was dethroned because he was a defender of the “Divine Rights of the King”. James II was a Catholic and excluded Protestants from politics, from the army, etc. He had a daughter (Mary) and a son (Francis Edward, born in 1688). Then, the English people who were protestants were afraid that his son would continue the principle of the “Divine Rights of the King”. After that, the English Parliament asked James’s daughter, Mary who was the wife of the prince of William of Orange, (Orange was a principality in Holland) to come to England and inherit the throne. Together with her husband, William of Orange and his army, invaded England and deposed King James II and crowned themselves King and Queen of England in 1688. They settled all the questions and solved the social, political and religious problems and made the Bill of Rights.

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no killings. It was a pacific revolution. It was glorious because it granted consideration to man, and gave freedoms and equal rights and justice.

Class Activities: Fill in the blanks with the correct word or phrase from the box below:

The Glorious Revolution took place in the year \_\_\_\_\_. The king of England at the time was \_\_\_\_\_, who was unpopular because of his Catholic faith. The English feared that James II would restore \_\_\_\_\_ influence in the country. In 1688, \_\_\_\_\_ of Orange was invited by some members of Parliament to take the English throne. William of Orange was married to \_\_\_\_\_, James II's Protestant daughter. The revolution is often called "glorious" because it was largely \_\_\_\_\_, with very little fighting. After the revolution, the English \_\_\_\_\_ gained more power over the monarchy. The outcome of the revolution included the \_\_\_\_\_, which limited the powers of the king and guaranteed certain rights to Parliament and citizens. This revolution marked a shift in England from absolute monarchy to a \_\_\_\_\_ monarchy. William of Orange was originally from the \_\_\_\_\_ Republic.

Correction: 1688, James II, Catholic, William of Orange, Mary, bloodless, Parliament, Bill of Rights, constitutional / limited, Dutch.

## Sample Exams Topics

MUUTO  
Department of English  
L1

Full Name:

Section: Group:

First Term Exam in Civilization

Activity One: Choose the right item a-b-c-or d that best completes the information given. (2.5 pts)

1- William, Duke of Normandy, was given the title of William .....

a-The Great. b- William I. c--William the Victor. d- William the Conqueror.

2- The Saxons ..... the Duke of Normandy's army.

a- welcomed. b-fought c- accommodated d- defeated

3- William rewarded the nobles who fought at his side with .....

a- gold b- land c-the title of baron d- money

4- ..... Saxon lands were concentrated in William's hands and his nobles'.

a- a few b-few, c-no, d-most.

5- The nobles who received land from the king were called .....

a- allies b- vassals c-servants d-knights

Activity Two: Say if these statements are true or false. Correct the false ones. (2.5 pts)

1-King John was very popular among his subjects and nobles.

2-The Magna Charta increased the king's power over his nobles.

Activity Three: Define three (03) of the following items: (15 pts)

1-The Reformation. 2-The Civil War. 3-The Manor. 4-The Glorious Revolution. 5- “The Golden Age”

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Department of English

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Catch up Exam (S1) in Civilization

Define FOUR (04) of the following topics: 1- “Domesday Book”. 2- The Anglo-Saxons. 3- The Glorious Revolution. 4- Magna Carta. 5- The Causes of the Civil War. 6- The Reformation under Henry VIII.

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