GCE AS/A LEVEL – NEW

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HISTORY – AS unit 2
DEPTH STUDY 2
Royalty, Rebellion and Republic c. 1625-1660
Part 1: The pressure on the monarchy and the drift to civil war c. 1625-1642

TUESDAY, 23 MAY 2017 – AFTERNOON

1 hour 45 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **both** questions.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question.

You are advised to spend around 50 minutes on answering each question.

The sources and extracts used in this unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

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UNIT 2

DEPTH STUDY 2

Royalty, Rebellion and Republic c. 1625-1660

Part 1: The pressure on the monarchy and the drift to civil war c. 1625-1642

Answer **both** *questions.*

QUESTION 1

Study the sources below and answer the question that follows.

Source A

> In the second Parliament of 1626, there had been an intention declared of granting five subsidies never before heard of in Parliament but Parliament was, for some reason, immediately dissolved by the King. Those same subsidies were exacted throughout the whole kingdom by the King without any attempt to consult Parliament. This high handed action angered many members of Parliament and very many gentlemen of prime quality were, for refusing to pay, committed to prison with great rigour. And could it be imagined that these same men would meet again in Parliament without an inquiry into their own rights? And yet all these provocations and many others produced no other resentment than the Petition of Right, which was of no threat to the Crown.

[Edward Hyde, later the Earl of Clarendon, when a student at Oxford University, writing in his private papers about the Petition of Right (1628)]

Source B

> We are not ignorant of how much this House has lately endeavoured to extend rights and privileges, by setting up general committees for religion, for courts of justice, for trade and the like; a course never heard of until of late. So, where in former times, the knights and burgesses were accustomed to communicate to the House such business as they brought from their constituents in the counties and the towns, now there are many committees set up to make inquiry upon all sorts of men, where complaints of all sorts are heard and discussed, to the unsufferable disturbance and scandal of justice and government. Having been tolerated for a while by my father and myself, during which time it has daily grown more and more, I decided to put a stop to it. The privileges enjoyed by this House are bestowed by me and not grown by its members. In these innovations the intention seems to be to break through all respects and traditions of government. This is why I resolved to dissolve this Parliament.

[Charles I's official declaration, published immediately after the dissolution of his third Parliament in 1629]

Source C

> Well, Parliament has met and has been suspended prior to its inevitable dissolution. We trusted the King but have been left disappointed yet again. I knew that nothing good would come of it and I have been proved correct. We question and are ignored, we demand and are attacked, we refuse and are arrested. The King listens to no man save those few that he favours. We are on the road to ruin. The King must be forced to listen to Parliament, even against his will. I urge you to write to those members whom you trust so that we may act in concert to bring this King to heel. Unless we act I fear that there will be a return to arbitrary government and the law subjected to the King's will. I desire not to become one of his Majesty's slaves.

[John Hampden, a radical MP in the Short Parliament, writing in a private letter to a fellow radical MP John Eliot (1640)]

With reference to the sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the relationship between Charles I and Parliament in the period 1625-1640. [30]

QUESTION 2

Study the extracts below and answer the question that follows.

Interpretation 1

> The Personal Rule after 1629 was caused by Parliament's stubborn opposition to the King's financial policies. Radical MPs refused to grant Charles the same financial package they had given his father James. A growing number of MPs came to believe that they should have more say in government and they thought that a young inexperienced King could be easily manipulated into doing their bidding. Charles showed remarkable patience in his dealings with an awkward and disrespectful Parliament but by 1629 he had had enough. Charles had no choice but to rule alone because government was being paralysed. Radical MPs were deliberately ruining parliamentary debates, obstructing the passage of bills and refused to attend committees. The Personal Rule was forced upon a reluctant King who did all he could to avoid dismissing Parliament.

[Kevin Sharpe, an academic historian and specialist in seventeenth century political history, writing in his specialist text book, *The Personal Rule of Charles I* (1992)]

Interpretation 2

> Charles I was responsible for the Personal Rule because he believed he had a divine right to govern unhindered by Parliament. Charles had an exalted sense of his own importance and an unshakeable belief in his ability to rule as God intended. At first he tolerated Parliament because it was part of the fabric of English political life but he did not like it. The conduct of disrespectful parliamentarians in his father's reign had made an impression on the young Charles. He thought his father James had been far too lenient in his dealings with Parliament. As he learned the principles and management of government Charles grew in confidence and by 1629 he truly believed he could govern alone. Charles arrogantly believed that four years of kingship had provided him with sufficient experience to rule a kingdom. Charles was the unwitting architect of his own downfall.

[J.P. Kenyon, an academic historian and specialist in British political history, writing in his general text book, *Stuart England* (1978)]

Historians have made different interpretations about the reasons for the Personal Rule. Analyse, evaluate and use the two extracts above and your understanding of the historical debate to answer the following question:

How valid is the view that Charles I's decision to establish Personal Rule was motivated mainly by pressure from Parliament? [30]

END OF PAPER

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