

Reading Essentials and Study Guide



Chapter 2, Section 1 (continued)

- **Background to Revolution** (page 176)

The Glorious Revolution was the first of three important revolutions in the Western world, followed by the American and French revolutions. The Glorious Revolution introduced the principle that the king must bow to the representative body in a nation. During the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, most European countries were ruled by monarchs who believed that their power came directly from God. Kings were supposed to exercise restraint because they would have to answer for their actions to God, but many still abused their power. Often, this **divine right of kings** prevented people from questioning a monarch's actions. Louis XIV, ruler of France from 1643–1715, was a believer in the divine right of kings. The saying, "I am the state" is attributed to him. In England, a Parliament had developed which shared power with the king.

<p>Academic Vocabulary</p> <p>restraint: not succumbing to one's every whim by maintaining control over one's actions (p. 178)</p>
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From 1485 until 1603, the Tudor family ruled England. Two members of the Tudor family, Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, regularly consulted Parliament to get support. Conflicts over religion divided the kingdom after Henry demanded a divorce from his wife because she could not produce a son to succeed him as king. The pope refused, so Henry declared himself the head of the Church of England. When Henry's daughter, Elizabeth, came to power, conflict over religion was even more intense. She wanted to keep the national church because it gave her more power. The Reformation made matters worse. Fervent Protestants, called Puritans because they wanted to purify the Anglican Church, wanted to be independent of government. Many Puritans emigrated to New England when their attempts to change English religious policies failed.

<p>Academic Vocabulary</p> <p>attribute: to give credit to someone for their words or actions (p. 176)</p>
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In 1603, a member of Scotland's Stuart family, James I, became king of England. He did not understand how the Tudors had ruled. He believed in the divine right of kings and wanted to be an absolute ruler like Louis XIV. The Stuart kings wanted to operate without the advice of Parliament. In 1628, Parliament passed a petition that said the king could not impose taxes without its consent. Charles I retaliated by not allowing Parliament to meet from 1629 until 1640.

8. Why did Parliament pass the petition of 1628?

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- **Civil War and Aftermath** (page 179)

In 1642, a civil war called the English Revolution broke out between the supporters of the king (Cavaliers or Royalists) and the supporters of Parliament (Roundheads) because of the king’s refusal to allow Parliament to help govern. Oliver Cromwell led the army of Parliament to victory and then purged Parliament of any who disagreed with him.

Cromwell had Charles I executed and abolished the monarchy. He declared England a republic, or **commonwealth**. Eventually he disbanded the Parliament and set up a strict military dictatorship. After his death, Parliament restored the Stuart heir, Charles II, to the throne, but they made certain agreements with him to prevent absolutism. Religion continued to be a cause of conflict in England.

9. Why did Parliament go to war against the king?

- **Glorious Revolution and Limited Monarchy** (page 181)

By 1688, England’s lords and landowners had reached a consensus. They had decided that they did not want the king to dictate to them, and they did not want a Catholic king. A group of noblemen invited the Dutch leader, William of Orange, to come to England. William and his wife Mary raised an army and arrived in England in 1688. With almost no bloodshed, England underwent a “Glorious Revolution.” In 1689, Parliament offered the throne to William and Mary if they would accept the Bill of Rights, which outlined certain freedoms for individuals and powers for Parliament. By removing one king from power and establishing another, Parliament had destroyed the divine-right theory of kingship.

In *Two Treatises of Government*, published in 1690, John Locke described the English struggles of the 1600s. He criticized absolutism and defended the Glorious Revolution. He stated that human beings have certain **natural rights**, including equality and freedom. However, this hypothetical state of nature was not always seen in the real world. People could not always protect their rights, so they made contracts with governments to protect them. Under such

Academic Vocabulary

consensus: a general agreement (p. 181)

Academic Vocabulary

hypothetical: a statement that is a part of an assumption or concession made for the sake of argument (p. 181)

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a contract, the people and government have mutual obligations. If governments broke the contract, the people had the right to rebel. The Glorious Revolution was an example of the thinking behind the natural rights theory. It was unique because it was a non-violent revolution, and because it was not the middle and lower classes who were demanding their rights, but nobles and wealthy members of Parliament.

Academic Vocabulary
mutual: obligations, expenses, or various other responsibilities shared with another individual or group (p. 181)

10. What did Locke say was the responsibility of government?
