

CHAPTER

16

SECTION 3

Note Taking Study Guide

PARLIAMENT TRIUMPHS IN ENGLAND

Focus Question: How did the British Parliament assert its rights against royal claims to absolute power in the 1600s?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the flowchart to identify supporting details about the evolution of Parliament.

Tudors consult with and control Parliament.		
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Section Summary

PARLIAMENT TRIUMPHS IN ENGLAND

From 1485 to 1603, England was ruled by the Tudors. While believing in divine right, the Tudors also recognized the value of good relations with Parliament.

This was not the view of the first Stuart king, **James I**. He inherited the throne after Elizabeth I died childless in 1603. He claimed absolute power. Parliament, however, resisted the king's claim. James clashed often with Parliament over money. James was also at odds with **dissenters**—Protestants who disagreed with the Church of England. One such group, the **Puritans**, wanted simpler services and a more democratic church with no bishops.

In 1625, **Charles I** inherited the throne. He too behaved like an absolute monarch. Tensions between Charles and Parliament escalated into civil war. The English Civil War lasted from 1642 to 1651. Supporters of Charles were called Cavaliers. The supporters of Parliament were known as Roundheads. **Oliver Cromwell**, the leader of the Parliament forces, guided them to victory. In January 1649, Charles I was beheaded.

The House of Commons abolished the monarchy and declared England a republic under Cromwell, called the Commonwealth. Many new laws reflected Puritan beliefs. Cromwell did not tolerate open worship for Catholics; however, he did respect the beliefs of other Protestants and welcomed Jews back to England. Eventually people tired of the strict Puritan ways. Cromwell died in 1658. Two years later, Parliament invited Charles II to return to England as king.

Charles II's successor, James II, was forced from the English throne in 1688. Protestants feared that he planned to restore the Roman Catholic Church to power in England. Parliament offered the crown to James's Protestant daughter Mary and her husband William. However, William and Mary had to accept the **English Bill of Rights**. This helped establish a **limited monarchy**. This bloodless overthrow of James II was known as the Glorious Revolution.

During the next century, Britain's government became a **constitutional government**, whose power was defined and limited by law. A **cabinet**, or group of parliamentary advisors who set policies, developed. In essence, British government was now an **oligarchy**—a government that was run by a powerful few.

Review Questions

1. How did the English government change under Cromwell's leadership?

2. Why was James II forced from the throne?

READING CHECK

What was the Glorious Revolution?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *tolerate* mean in the underlined sentence? Look for an alternative meaning of *tolerate* later in the same sentence. Use this context clue to figure out what *tolerate* means.

READING SKILL

Identify Supporting Details

Find two details in this Summary that support the statement, "Parliament triumphs in England."
