The British Civil Wars in 12 Objects for KS3-5
OBJECT ONE

DORE ABBEY
CHANCEL SCREEN

TEACHERS' NOTES

STAR Element	Guiding Questions for Students	Expected Student Observations
S: See	What are the observable features, size, and material of the screen? What other items are connected to it?	1. **Material:** Richly carved **oak wood**. 2. **Function:** A partition that physically **separates** the chancel from the nave. 3. **Aesthetics:** Highly decorated, painted, and grand in style. 4. **Associated Features:** Latin inscriptions, a railed-off **marble altar** at the east end, and new **stained glass** windows (replacing clear ones). 5. **Symbols:** Coats of arms for **Archbishop Laud**, **Charles I** (Royal), and the patron, **Viscount Scudamore**.
T: Think	Why was the screen installed? What does its design and associated features (like the altar) tell us about Charles I and Laud's vision for the Church	1. **Purpose:** It created a **sacred space** for the priest, emphasising the priest's role as a mediator between God and man (*sacerdotalism*). 2. **Theology:** It represents the **'Beauty of Holiness,'** the idea that worship should be "orderly and decorous." 3. **The Altar:** Placing the altar at the east end and railing it off made the Eucharist (Communion) more like the Catholic Mass, emphasizing its mystery over a communal meal. 4. **Authority:** The multiple coats of arms show the **hierarchy** and the close alignment between the King (Head of Church) and the Bishop (Laud) in enforcing the changes.
A: Ask	What questions does this object raise? Why was this structure so controversial, and what historical conflict does it directly relate to?	1. **Reaction:** If this was supposed to promote holiness, why did so many Protestants (Puritans) view it as a shocking return to **Catholicism** (Popery)? 2. **Power:** What was Scudamore's motivation for paying for the screen? Was this an act of piety, loyalty, or a display of personal power? 3. **Conflict:** How did an argument over **church furniture and ritual** escalate into a political and military confrontation? 4. **Comparison:** How did a Puritan church look and function compared to Dore Abbey?

THE WORLD TURNED
UPSIDE DOWN

| R: Research | Where can we find the answers? What sources would help us put this object into its historical context (Laudianism)? | 1. **Primary Sources:** Extracts from **Puritan sermons** or pamphlets (e.g., those by William Prynne) criticizing Laud's 'popish' innovations. 2. **Key Concepts:** Research the terms **'Arminianism,' 'Beauty of Holiness,'** and the **'Vestments Controversy'** to define the religious stakes. 3. **Object Link:** Research how Laud's attempt to impose a new prayer book and altar policy led directly to the **Bishops' Wars** in Scotland (linking to Object Two). |