

THE ENGLISH REVOLUTION

“The Parliament against the Throne”

“The Parliament”

Since medieval times in England, the power of the monarch had been limited by the English Parliament. This Parliament had two houses of representatives:

- The House of Lords, made up of the nobility and clergy. Elected by the king.
- The House of Commons, made up of the bourgeoisie. Representatives of cities and towns. Elected by bourgeoisie..

Whenever the monarch wished to approve a new tax or declare war against another country, both houses had to meet and be consulted.



HOUSE OF COMMONS



HOUSE OF LORDS



THE PARLIAMENT (LONDON)

Answer

- 1 Which institution limited the power of the Monarch in England?
- 2 Which houses was the Parliament divided into?
- 3 Who elected the representatives in each house?
- 4 What kind of decisions had to be consulted with the Parliament?

“THE CIVIL WAR AND THE GLORIOUS REVOLUTION”

However, in 1642, King Charles I tried to rule the country without the Parliament. But this found a strong opposition and led the country into civil war. There were two sides: the supporters of the Parliament and the supporters of the absolute monarchy.

In 1649, King Charles I was executed and a Republic was proclaimed. However, the leader of the Republic, Oliver Cromwell, became a dictator. When he died in 1660, the monarchy was restored and Charles II became the new king.

Charles II had to accept the power of the Parliament, but when he died and a new king, James II, was crowned, the problems were back, as he dissolved the Parliament after some protests.

Then the Parliament acted independently and invited William of Orange, a Dutch prince married to the English princess Mary, to overthrow James II. William led his army to London and James II fled to France. This is called the Glorious Revolution, and after these events, William was offered to become the new king provided he accepted to rule the country along with the Parliament. Parliamentary monarchy was born.

Answer

5 What King tried to rule the country without consulting the Parliament in the first place?

6 What happened to that King?

7 Who took the power after that king?

8 What other king tried again to rule the country without the Parliament and dissolved it?

9 Who was called by the Parliament to overthrow this king?

10 Use your own words to give a definition of Parliamentary Monarchy.

THE ENGLISH PARLIAMENT TODAY

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What issues does the Parliament take care of?

Would you say that the Parliament has changed over the time? why?

Which two events that happened during Middle ages are important for the creation of the Parliament?

Which institution has gained power over the other, the Parliament or the Monarch?

Name the three parts of the Parliament.

Which one is the elected chamber of Parliament?

How many members are there nowadays?

Who becomes the Prime Minister?

Who chooses which members become ministers?

What are the names of the parties not in power?

How many member are there in the House of Lords?

Who are the members of the house of Lords? What is a peer and what is a Bishop?

What is the role of the Monarchy?