

Power: Monarchy and Democracy c. 1000-2014 Scheme of Work

Recommended guided learning hours: 30

Note to teachers

This British thematic study focuses on patterns of change and continuity in Power: Monarchy and Democracy in Britain over a long period of British history, c.1000 to 2014. This includes a broad sweep of time in which Britain is ruled by monarchs and which then develops into constitutional monarchies and finally parliamentary democracy. Covering over 1000 years, the thematic study is a different type of historical practice from the depth studies and even the period study. The broad sweep of time covered by the unit precludes the listing of specific events in the manner of other parts of the specification.

Key topic	Teaching and learning hours	Indicative content	Suggested content	What kinds of questions should students consider? These questions are not exam-style questions, but a good plenary activity might be to ask students in pairs to talk uninterrupted for 30 seconds answering one of these questions to check understanding in the lesson	Resource
c.1000-1485	2	Anglo-Saxon kingship c.1000-1066: the basis of kingship; the power and responsibilities of the kings; relations between the kings and the thegns.	 Power and responsibility of kings How did they exercise this power? Who were the thegns and what role did they play? Any challenges to power or difficulties in exercising power in England to 1066 e.g. the Godwins 	How powerful were English kings? How easy was it for them to rule? Did the power and responsibility of kings change between c.1000 and 1066?	Walsh, B., Shuter, P., and Dalton, H., OCR GCSE History Explaining the Modern World: Power, Reformation and the Historic Environment (London 2016)



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	2	Different claims to the throne in 1066: the Norman invasion, including the establishment of the Norman monarchy and the transfer of power from Saxons to Normans at all levels of society; the extent of the power of the monarch and the barons by 1087.	 The claims of William, Harold Godwinson, Harald Hardrada, Edgar How and why the Normans invaded The establishment of the Norman monarchy: individuals, groups, what power they had Norman takeover and the Harrying of the North to the 1070s Methods of maintaining power The situation in 1087: power and responsibility of the king The role of the barons by 1087 and their powers and responsibilities 	Who had the strongest claim to the throne? Why did the Normans succeed? How brutal were the Normans? How different was Britain in 1087 from 1066 (and from c.1000)?	
	1	Struggles over power: John and Magna Carta.	 King John's claim to power How he exercised his power and responsibility Baronial strength and reasons for challenging John Reasons for and extent of success of the baronial challenge to John Significance of Magna Carta 	Was John a bad king or just unlucky? Has the significance of Magna Carta been overstated? Were the challenges to power similar or different to previous ones?	



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	2	Emergence of Parliament in the reigns of Henry III and Edward I, including the role and importance of Simon de Montfort	 Development of the role of barons and the king under Henry III The role and importance of Simon de Montfort – his power and responsibility Why relations broke down in the 1250s and 1260s Emergence of Parliament How Parliament, and the roles and responsibilities of it, the barons, and the king, changed under Edward I 	Why did the barons challenge Henry III? How important was Simon de Montfort? Was the emergence of Parliament significant? Was Edward I's power and responsibility different from previous kings?	
	1	Deposition of Richard Il in 1399	 Richard II's use of power e.g. the tyranny Who challenged him and why Key features of his deposition 	Why was Richard deposed in 1399? How similar was the challenge to power and power changing hands in 1399 to previous events?	
	2	Wars of the Roses	 Reasons for the Wars of the Roses starting – claims to power Key features of the challenges to power in the wars Outcomes of the wars on individuals, institutions and groups with power e.g. Kings Henry VI, Edward IV and Henry VII, Parliament, and the barons 	Were the Wars of the Roses just barons versus kings? Did the reasons for the wars continuing change over time? How different was power in England in 1485 from previous times?	



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c.1485-1800	2	Tudor government: growth of royal power under Henry VIII; the role of Parliament under Henry VIII and Elizabeth I.	 Key features of Henry VIII's governance: how much power and responsibility did he have Key individuals and institutions e.g. More, Cromwell The role of Parliament in advising Elizabeth and governing the country Elizabeth's relations with parliament 	How powerful were Henry VIII and Elizabeth I? How powerful was Parliament? Did the methods of maintaining power change in the Tudor period?	
	4	Defeat and return of monarchy: Charles I's personal rule 1629- 1640; the Civil Wars and the abolition of the monarchy; the Restoration of the monarchy in 1660.	 How Charles I exercised his power over Parliament, the aristocracy and the ordinary people Reasons for the outbreak of war in 1642 Claims to power in the 1640s The role of Cromwell: the role of Parliament, the Lord Protector and how power was maintained Reasons for the restoration in 1660 	Who challenged power and why? Why did power change hands? How different was Cromwell to Charles in his use of power? Was England in 1660 different to England in 1629 – the king, Parliament, their powers and responsibilities?	



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4	James II's rule and the reasons for the 1688 Revolution (The Glorious Revolution); the legacy of the Glorious Revolution including the Bill of Rights; the development of Parliament under William III and Anne; the emergence of political parties and the development of a Parliamentary monarchy in the course of the 1700s.	 The power and responsibilities of James II Why there was a revolution in 1688 Key features of the Bill of Rights, the Act of Settlement, the Act of Union Role and responsibility of monarchs after 1688 – William and Anne The role of Parliament Methods of maintaining power in the 1700s – political 'parties' e.g. Tories and Whigs, the extent of power of monarchs Challenges to power in parliament 	Did the Glorious Revolution change who had power in England and how they maintained it? How different were monarchs before and after 1688? How powerful was Parliament by the early 1700s? Were the people with power, and the people challenging power, by 1800 different to those before e.g. in 1485 or 1642?	



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c.1800-2014	2	The changing relationship between Parliament and people c.1800-c.1918: dissatisfaction with the electoral system by early 1800s; reasons for and impacts of the Parliamentary Reform Acts of 1832, 1867 and 1884.	 Key features of the pre-1832 electoral system e.g. franchise, corruption Claims to power: who wanted to change the system and why Impact of the reform acts: who could vote, what impact did it have, did power change hands between 1800-1918 	Why was there a reform act in 1832 (and why not before)? Did ordinary people's claims or challenges to power have any success in this period? Did the methods of maintaining power change by 1914 (e.g. secret ballot, politicians appealing to working and middle class voters)?	
	2	The rise and effectiveness of mass Trade Unions and the Labour Party 1880s- 1914.	 Key features of mass trade unions: aims, methods, impact e.g. strikes, rise of Labour Key features of the Labour Party to 1914: membership, aims, policies, success 	Did mass trade unions and the Labour Party change who had power, and how they used it 1800s-1914? Were the working classes more interested in power by 1914?	
	2	The struggle for the vote for women and the reasons why it was won for some women in 1918.	 Claim to power: aims and methods of the struggle for the vote for women Maintaining power: government responses Reasons for some women being given the vote in 1918 	Why did only some women get the vote in 1918? How effective were the methods of the struggle in achieving their aims?	



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	2	The changing relationship between Parliament and people c.1914-c.1980: government control in the world wars; the increased role of the state from 1945 to c.1980	 Key features of the role of Parliament and government e.g. DORA, censorship, rationing Claims to power in the 1930s and 1960s e.g. BUF, radicals The role of the state after the war: key features of the Welfare State and how power was used and by whom e.g. trade unions 	How much power did Parliament hold over people in this period? Did methods of maintaining power change? Did power change hands c.1914-1980?	
	2	Challenges to Parliament c.1980 to early 2000s: the Miners' Strike 1984- 1985, CND and Greenpeace; Prime Ministerial power under Thatcher and Blair; the devolution of power to regions of the UK; the challenges of coalition government.	 Key aims, methods and outcomes of the Miners' Strike, CND and Greenpeace Examples of use of power by Thatcher and Blair Key features of devolution in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland from 1997-1998 onwards Similarities and differences of the use of power of the coalition government from 2010 	Why did challenges to power in the 1980s fail? Were Thatcher and Blair as powerful as kings? Did devolution change claims, methods and challenges to power? Were the individuals with power, and the way they exercised it c.1980-2014 different to any other period studied?	





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