

What were the reactions to the Restoration of the Monarchy?

Source: Charles II riding through London in 1660



Look carefully at this picture. What can you learn from it about the attitude of the public to the restoration of Charles II? Can you find specific examples to support your answer?

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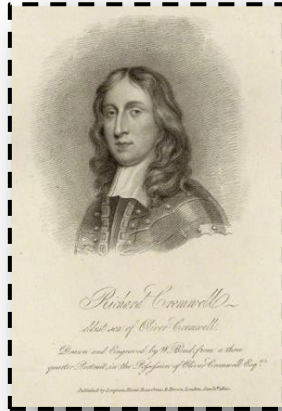
Cut and past the pictures of each character to this continuum to show their attitude to the Restoration. Add speech bubbles to explain their views.



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Activity

Read the information about each character carefully. Decide on how they felt about the Restoration. Cut and paste their picture onto the continuum. Insert a speech bubble to explain their view.



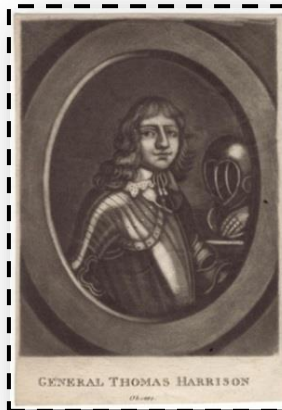
Richard Cromwell



Edward Montagu



John Hutchinson



Thomas Harrison



Queen Henrietta Maria



Dorothy White

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Character information cards

Read the information about each character carefully. Decide on how they felt about the Restoration.

Richard Cromwell	John Hutchinson	Thomas Harrison
<p>Son of Oliver Cromwell Richard became Lord Protector when his father died in 1658. He was a quiet family man who only fought briefly in the Civil Wars as a very young man. Richard Cromwell was a Puritan but he did not hold such strong Puritan views as his father. He did not like being Lord Protector and resigned in 1659 because the Army was beginning to challenge his authority: Richard thought that Parliament was more important than the Army.</p> <p>Richard did not oppose the Restoration but did leave England to go and live in Europe because he was worried that he might be arrested and executed as a traitor.</p>	<p>Hutchinson was a member of the Nottingham gentry (the upper class) who organised men on his estate to fight against the king in the Civil War. He went on to be a leading Parliamentary army commander.</p> <p>In January 1649, Hutchinson was a member of the High Court of Justice who tried King Charles I: Hutchinson signed the king's death warrant.</p> <p>Hutchinson did not agree that Oliver Cromwell should be so powerful and he spent most of the 1650s back in Nottingham. He became Sheriff of Nottingham in 1659.</p> <p>He was elected to the Convention Parliament of 1660 which invited Charles II back to England. He told everyone how sorry he was that he had signed Charles I's death warrant and narrowly avoided being executed as a regicide (for arranging the execution of the King). We know a lot about John Hutchinson because his wife Lucy, a well-educated woman, wrote a very detailed book about his life.</p>	<p>Harrison was the son of a butcher who joined the Parliamentary army in 1642. His bravery and skill led him to rise through the army ranks until he became in charge of a cavalry regiment.</p> <p>Harrison became well known for his very strong religious views and his hatred of the King. He signed the king's death warrant and fought against Charles Stuart (later Charles II) at the Battle of Worcester in 1650.</p> <p>Harrison thought that Parliament should be filled with only the 'Godly' (radical Puritans). He believed that Cromwell became too powerful in the 1650s and was furious that he had become Lord Protector. He moved to Staffordshire and did not get involved in politics or the army after 1653.</p> <p>In 1660, Harrison was arrested as a regicide (a traitor who had killed Charles I) and was executed shortly after Charles II was restored to the throne.</p>

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Edward Montagu	Queen Henrietta Maria	Dorothy White
<p>Edward Montagu became a colonel in the Parliamentarian army at the age of 18 and fought in several major battles until he left the army in 1645 to become Member of Parliament for Huntingdonshire. In 1648, he left Parliament and lived in the countryside until 1653 when he returned to London. He supported Cromwell's Protectorate, in which Cromwell was given the title 'Lord Protector' and powers rather like a king. Montagu served on the Council of State, which was Cromwell's advisory council.</p> <p>He became an important naval officer, called 'General-at-Sea', in 1656 and was one of a group of men who wanted Cromwell to make himself king of England. He was very loyal to Cromwell's son Richard and when Richard retired, Montagu retired too.</p> <p>In 1660, Montagu switched sides on the advice of General Monck and began to support Charles II. He commanded the fleet of ships that sailed to the Netherlands to collect Charles II and bring him back to England.</p> <p>Charles II rewarded Montagu by making him the first Earl of Sandwich.</p>	<p>Henrietta Maria was the French widow of King Charles I. She was one of the reasons why Charles had become so unpopular because she was a Catholic. During the early seventeenth century, England was a Protestant country and there were Catholic terrorists - such as the Gunpowder plotters - who caused a lot of fear and worry.</p> <p>During the Civil War, Henrietta Maria supported King Charles in every way she could. She spent a lot of time in Europe, trying to encourage foreign princes to support Charles with money and soldiers.</p> <p>After Charles I was executed, Henrietta Maria went to live in a convent near Paris. She came back to England in 1660 to support her son, the new King Charles II (who had been brought up to be friendly towards Catholicism), but she did not stay in England very long and returned to convent life in 1665.</p>	<p>There is little background information about Dorothy White who was a leading Quaker in the 1650s and 1660s. Quakers were Christians who believed that there was no need for priests or specially-trained Christian ministers. They were against formal religious traditions and particularly disliked the Catholic church. Instead, they called each other 'Friends', and they allowed all Friends, whether male or female, to take an equal role in their church services. Being a Quaker was one of the few ways that women could have a prominent role in the community during the 1650s.</p> <p>Dorothy White was known for having visions and prophetic words through which she expressed what she thought God was saying. One of her recorded prophecies from 1660 shows that she thought that the Restoration was going to bring in a new age of warfare between God and the King. In fact, she was quite right because Charles II encouraged the persecution of Quakers.</p>

Teaching notes

A PowerPoint presentation (for subscribers only) accompanies this resource to allow easy discussion of the stimulus image and continuum. Alternatively a SMART notebook version (subscribers only) is also available which would allow you to complete or review the continuum together as a class.

Initial stimulus: popular hand-coloured print of the procession of Charles II into London 1660.

Use this to demonstrate overall feeling of happiness that monarchy had been restored. You could also discuss why the procession includes pictures of trees (oak trees = reminder of the tree in which Charles hid after the Royalist defeat at the Battle of Worcester!)

Activity

The activity involves students creating a continuum of views from the information provided.

This could be developed into a role play:

Divide your students into groups of six. Each student takes on the role of one of the character described in the role cards. They write speeches in role and present to their group who use the information to plot a continuum of attitudes to the Restoration.

Plenary:

Look again at initial picture. Discuss how realistic is it in its portrayal of the happy return of the king? Why might it only tell one side of the story?

Image credits

Charles II (1630-1685) king of Great Britain and Ireland from 1660: Charles entering London on horseback 29 May 1660 after the restoration of the monarchy. At the front and back of the procession men are carrying banners showing an oak tree, a reminder of the tree in which Charles hid after the Royalist defeat at the Battle of Worcester. Popular hand-coloured print. / Credit: Universal History Archive/Universal Images Group / Copyright © Universal Images Group / For Education Use Only. This and millions of other educational images are available through Britannica Image Quest. For a free trial, please visit www.britannica.co.uk/trial

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Henrietta Maria portrait (1609-1669). / Credit: Lebrecht / Universal Images Group / Universal Images Group / Copyright © Lebrecht Music & Arts / For Education Use Only. This and millions of other educational images are available through Britannica Image Quest. For a free trial, please visit www.britannica.co.uk/trial

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