

***When did Prime Ministers and Parliament become more powerful than the monarch?***

## **Information Sheet**

### **Clue 1**

You agree to new rules that monarchs have to obey. Now you have to ask parliament for permission before you can leave the country or declare war. Score 1 point. Now add up the monarchy's score in William III's reign.

### **Clue 2**

You have lost your empire in America. It is a disaster. You want to keep fighting but in the end you have to give in. Gain 1 point. Go to Clue 24.

### **Clue 3**

William is on his way from Holland. You do not have enough support to fight and you remember the horrors of Civil War. You give in and flee abroad. A new king takes your place but has parliament won more power? Gain 1 point. Now add up the monarchy's score in James II's reign.

### **Clue 4**

A new law! You must call parliament every 3 years. In fact parliament meets every year because of all your wars and is becoming more powerful anyway. Score 2 points. Go to Clue 1 for more bad news.

### **Clue 5**

You try to stop the Prime Minister giving jobs to people you do not like – but you cannot stop him. Score 0 points. Go to Clue 12 – if you dare!

### **Clue 6**

People have stopped thinking that the king is God's choice so they have stopped expecting you to cure them of diseases just by touching them. Score 0 points. Now add up the monarchy's score in George I's reign.

### **Clue 7**

You do not have to call parliament but you do, every three years – you need parliament for money. Score 3 points Go to Clue 9 for some bad news.

### **Clue 8**

James Stuart invades Scotland, hoping to take your crown. You beat him easily. Score 5 points. Go to Clue 20. You are doing well so far.

**Clue 9**

At heart you are a Catholic but you have to be a Protestant. You dare not change the country's religion back to Catholicism or parliament will depose you, just like your father. Score 0 points. Now add up the monarchy's score in Charles II's reign.

**Clue 10**

You carry on promoting Catholics. By 1688 there are rumours that you will force the whole country to become Catholic. Nobles invite your daughter, Mary and her husband, William of Orange, to take over as Queen and King. The monarchy still has power but you have gone too far! Gain 1 point. Go to Clue 3.

**Clue 11**

At first you are able to stop politicians you dislike from becoming Prime Minister – but not always! Gain 3 points. Go to Clue 2 and get ready to cry.

**Clue 12**

It is 1827 and the Prime Minister is ill. You need to choose the next Prime Minister but you dither and don't do anything. Then you ask the other ministers to decide. You seem to have no power at all! Score 0 points. Now add up the monarchy's score in George IV's reign.

**Clue 13**

You begin by calling parliament. Although you are Catholic MPs seem happy that you are king. You have the same powers as your brother before you. Score 4 points. Go to Clue 22.

**Clue 14**

You take over as Regent when your father becomes ill but Britain is at war with France. You have no real power. The Prime Minister and the other ministers are running the war. Gain 1 point. Go to Clue 19.

**Clue 15**

You can still choose your own advisers and decide if the country goes to war – but you need parliament to give you taxes to pay for those wars. Score 4 points. Go to Clue 7.

**Clue 16**

You do not want Catholics to be able to vote or become Members of Parliament. You make Pitt resign as Prime Minister because he wants to give Catholics the vote. However you have to let him return later. Gain 1 point. Now add up the monarchy's score in George III's reign.

**Clue 17**

Great start! The people want a king again! Thousands expect you to cure them of a skin disease called the King's Evil – just by touching them! Score 5 points. Go to Clue 15.

**Clue 18**

The good news - you decide who your advisers are and lead your armies into wars. The bad news – you need parliament to give you money for the wars and you can no longer reject laws made by parliament. Score 3 points. Go to Clue 4.

**Clue 19**

You want to end your marriage to Princess Caroline and you ask the Prime Minister to arrange it. However parliament does not agree and so you have to stay married. Score 0 points. Go to Clue 5.

**Clue 20**

Someone has to run the country because you often go back to Hanover. Robert Walpole becomes the first Prime Minister but you still choose your advisers and declare war. Score 3 points. Go to Clue 6.

**Clue 21**

Parliament chose you as king because you are Protestant. Over 50 other people have a better claim to the crown but they are all Catholics. Gain 2 points. Go to Clue 8 to see if any of them challenge you.

**Clue 22**

As you are Catholic you decide to promote Catholics in the army and navy and as judges. You have the power to do this and at first there is no trouble although some people are worried. Gain 4 points. Go to Clue 10.

**Clue 23**

You have been chosen as king by Parliament but you can use England's wealth to stop France invading your lands in Holland. Parliament helps you fight wars against France throughout your reign – and you win! Score 4 points. Go to Clue 18.

**Clue 24**

Despite the defeat in America nobody wants to depose you and get another king. You are still powerful enough to help William Pitt stay as Prime Minister although he is only 24 and has many enemies. Gain 1 point. Go to Clue 16.

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**Summary Information Sheet**

1. What had Charles II learned from his father?
2. Why was James II deposed?
3. Why was the first Prime Minister appointed?
4. When did Prime Ministers and Parliament become more powerful than the king?
5. Write out these sentences and explain what evidence you would use to prove that they are true.
  - a. The monarch and parliament shared power after 1688.
  - b. By 1827 parliament and politicians were more powerful than the monarch.

**Stage 1: 1660 – 1688**

Charles II kept most of his power by staying on good terms with Parliament. He did not make changes which Parliament did not want. However, his brother, James II did not learn from Charles. James was a strong Catholic. MPs thought that James was trying to rule without Parliament and make the whole country change from Protestant to being Catholic so they deposed him. James fled abroad without fighting. Now Parliament had the chance to choose the new monarchs, William and Mary, James II's daughter, so Parliament's power increased. Now Parliament and monarchy shared power.

**Stage 2: 1688 – 1780s**

After 1688 the monarch and Parliament shared power. The most important change was the appointment of a Prime Minister. The Prime Minister needed the support of both the monarch and parliament to keep his job. He could not stay as Prime Minister just because the monarch wanted him.

**Stage 3: 1780s -1830**

Slowly the politicians took over more and more power from the monarch. Then in the late 1700s this change speeded up and Parliament took more and more control over how the country was run. It happened at that time, largely because of chance. King George III became ill in the 1790s and so took less part in government. Then, in 1811, he became insane and his son, Prince George, took his place as the Regent. Prince George was not interested enough to take part in government. When he became king himself in 1820 he let politicians decide the things that previous kings had always insisted on doing themselves. In 1827 he even let the politicians choose the new Prime Minister. George IV gave away the power that earlier kings and queens had fought so hard to keep!