

AQA GCSE (9–1) History

RESTORATION ENGLAND

1660–1685

Janet Few



My revision planner

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How to use this book

Features

Each topic from the specification is covered in a double-page spread with the following features:

Key term

- Key terms are **highlighted** and defined in the glossary at the end of each chapter.
- These are the terms that you need to understand in order to write clearly about a topic. Precise use of language is very important for top marks.

Revision point

Instead of headings the content is divided into revision points. These are worth learning in their own right. They summarise the three to five key points about each topic. Take the revision points together and you have the course covered.

Bullet points

This is the detailed knowledge you need to back up the revision point. The GCSE course emphasises the use of relevant, precise and detailed knowledge. Think of the revision point as the headline and the bullet points as the detail you can use in your answer.

- Learn this your own way – make mnemonics, use highlights.
- Mark this up. Use your pen. This should look like your book once you have finished.
- Sometimes we have used tables and charts to make it easier to remember. A good way to revise is to turn a table into bullet points or turn the bullet points into tables. Whenever you change the format of the knowledge your brain has to process it.

Key point

If you forget everything else remember this.

1.2 Relations and issues with Parliament

Charles II had a changing relationship with Parliament

- 1660–1661: Charles II's first Parliament, the **Convention Parliament**, was split between Royalists and Parliamentarians. They agreed to give Charles money each year to run the government.
- 1661–1667: was known as the **Clarendon Ministry**, after Charles's Chief Minister Lord Clarendon. The MPs supported the King but there were still arguments over religion, **foreign policy** and money.
- 1664: Charles passed the **Triennial Act** which said the King only had to call Parliament once every three years, so weakened Parliament's power, but in return, he had to agree to laws limiting religious toleration.
- 1668–1673: Charles's chief advisers were known as the **Cabal**. They were a powerful group of ministers who controlled government policy.
 - The Cabal were members of the **House of Lords**, which had more power than the **House of Commons** at this time.
 - The Cabal agreed to fund the army and grant Charles more money but disagreed among themselves on religious toleration and Parliament's powers.
- 1674–1679: the **Danby Ministry** was led by the Earl of Danby.
 - Party politics began to emerge, as MPs divided into **Whigs** and **Tories**. The Whigs disapproved of the King's lavish lifestyle, wanted toleration for **Dissenters** but feared Catholics and wanted to stop James, Duke of York, from becoming king after Charles. The Tories supported the King and the **Anglican Church** and thought James should succeed.
- 1679–1681: the **Exclusion Parliaments**, when there were many arguments over the succession issue, whether James, Duke of York, a Catholic, should be Charles II's heir (see pages 14–15).

There were arguments about finance and tax

- The plague, the Great Fire of London and wars with the Dutch contributed to economic problems.
- Unpopular taxes included a **poll tax** and the **hearth tax**.

There were arguments about religion

Conformists	Non-conformists
Anglicans/Church of England	Catholics Dissenters or Protestant non-conformists, such as Puritans, Quakers, Presbyterians and others

- In 1662, the King made a **Declaration of Indulgence**, promising toleration for Catholics, Puritans and other Dissenters but was forced to change his mind when Parliament delayed granting him money because of this.
- Parliament passed a series of Acts known as the **Clarendon Code**, making life difficult for Catholics and Dissenters.

REVISED

Key point

Charles II faced problems over money, religion and foreign policy.

The Earl of Clarendon – Lord Clarendon

An advisor to Charles during his exile.
Charles II's Chief Minister at the beginning of his reign.
Exiled in 1667 after the Battle of the Medway.

The Earl of Danby – Lord Danby

An opponent of the Clarendon ministry.
An Anglican who opposed toleration for Catholics and Dissenters.
He secretly tried to get money from France to help Charles.

James, Duke of York

The King's younger brother.
Became a Catholic.
Married Anne Hyde and had two surviving daughters, Mary and Anne, who were raised as Protestants.
Later married Mary of Modena, a Catholic.
There were arguments over whether he should be Charles's successor (see pages 14–15).

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Quick quizzes and answers at www.hoddereducation.co.uk/myrevisionnotesdownloads

Answers online

At www.hoddereducation.co.uk/myrevisionnotes we have provided model answers for all tasks and exam-style questions. However, just because you write something different from us it does not mean yours is wrong! Often history does not have right and wrong answers. As long as you can explain your point clearly and support your argument with evidence you can say many different things.

Progress tracker

Tick this box to track your progress:

- One tick when you have revised and understood the content.
- Two ticks when you have tackled the Revision Tasks and/or practice questions.

Revision task

These tasks develop your exam skills. Sometimes you write in the book; sometimes you write in your notebook.

Our advice is to work through each chapter twice:

- The first time learning the content.
- The second time using the revision tasks and practice questions.

Answers to revision tasks are provided online.

1661 Corporation Act	1662 Act of Uniformity	1665 The Five Mile Act	1664 Conventicle Act	1673 The Test Act
Anyone who held public office must swear an oath supporting the King and the Church of England.	The Book of Common Prayer was made compulsory. All clergymen who disagreed were ejected (told to leave) and replaced.	Priests who had been ejected from the Church could not hold services or teach within five miles of their old church.	Groups of more than five people could not worship together unless it was in the Church of England.	Anyone holding a position of authority had to declare that they were not Catholic or resign from their position.

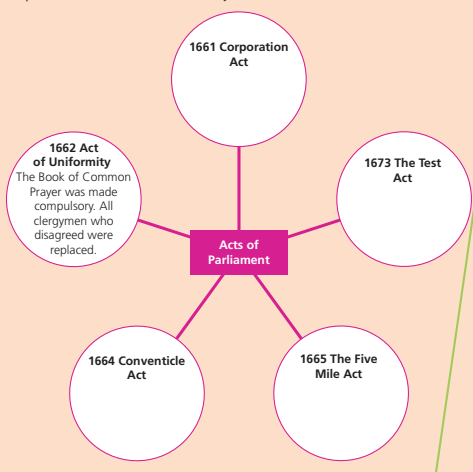
- In 1672 Charles issued a second Declaration of Indulgence but again was forced to withdraw it.

There were arguments about war and foreign policy

- In 1667, the Dutch were victorious in the Battle of the Medway. Clarendon was blamed and sacked.
- In 1670, the **Treaty of Dover** was a public alliance with Louis XIV and Catholic France against the Protestant Dutch. Charles also signed a secret Treaty of Dover, promising to become Catholic if Louis XIV gave him money and agreed to send troops if there were anti-Catholic rebellions in England.

Develop the detail

The diagram below summarises the main Acts that were passed between 1661 and 1673 in order to restrict the activities of Catholics and Dissenters. Use the information on this spread to add further detail to each point. One has been done for you.

**Test yourself**

- 1 What were the three main causes of disagreement between Charles II and Parliament?
- 2 Name two taxes that were imposed to raise money.
- 3 Describe three differences between the Whigs and the Tories.
- 4 What was the Treaty of Dover?

Practice question

Explain what was important about the Clarendon Code. [8 marks]

There is advice about answering 'importance' questions on page 43.

TIP

Make sure that you turn a description into an explanation by using phrases such as:

- This was important because ...
- This meant that ...
- This had an impact on Restoration England by ...

Part 1 Crown, Parliament, plots and Court life

Practice question

- All the main question types are practised either as a part of a revision task or as practice questions.
- Model answers to the practice questions are available online: www.hoddereducation.co.uk/myrevisionnotes.

Tip

Throughout the book there are regular tips that explain how you can write better answers and boost your final grade.

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Test yourself

- As you revise the content the first time use these to check your knowledge and recall.
- Try answering them without looking at the bullets. See how you get on.
- Usually the answers are obvious but in case they are not, there are answers at www.hoddereducation.co.uk/myrevisionnotesdownloads.
- Don't worry about these questions second time through. Focus on the revision tasks instead.
- If you want to revise on the move, there are also self-marking knowledge quizzes on each topic here: www.hoddereducation.co.uk/myrevisionnotes. These can be used on your phone or computer.

Part 2 Life in Restoration England

2.1 The Great Plague of 1665

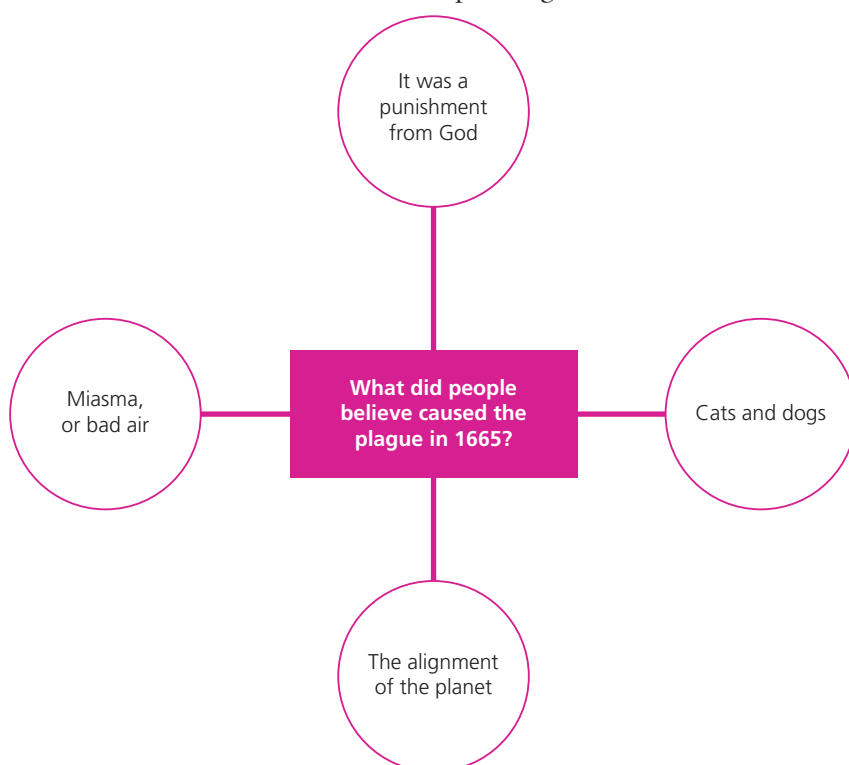
REVISED

In 1665 England suffered from the Great Plague

- There had been outbreaks of plague since the Black Death in 1348 but the 1665 outbreak was the most serious since then.
- **Bubonic plague** is caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis*. If the bacteria reached the lungs, victims developed pneumonic plague, which usually led to death.
- We now know that most plague victims became infected when they were bitten by fleas which lived on the rats that carried the bacteria, but the causes were not understood at the time, making it difficult to treat and prevent the disease.
- **Bills of mortality** listed the causes of death in different parts of London, so the authorities could see how it was spreading.

Key point

The Great Plague killed thousands of people. The causes were not understood, making treatment difficult. The authorities had to try to find ways to halt its spread.



Measures were put in place to combat the plague

- Households with the plague were quarantined for 40 days. Victims were shut up in their homes. Red crosses and the words 'Lord have mercy upon us' were painted on the doors.
- In-coming ships were quarantined for 40 days.
- Anyone wanting to travel had to have a health certificate.
- **Watchers** were appointed to enforce the regulations.
- **Searchers** examined dead bodies to see if they had died from plague.
- Victims were buried after dark in mass graves or plague pits.
- Some pest houses were built for the sick but there were not enough of them.
- Public gatherings such as plays and meetings of the Royal Society were banned.

- Dogs and cats were killed.
- People were responsible for sweeping up rubbish outside their own house.
- Advice about how to prevent and cure the plague included some strange ideas, such as putting chicken feathers on the buboes (boils), drinking a potion of herbs soaked in urine or smoking a pipe to keep the bad air away.
- Some people carried charms or passages from the Bible because they thought that would save them.



Test yourself

- 1 What did people believe caused the plague?
- 2 List the ways in which the authorities tried to stop the plague.

The plague affected England in several ways

Effects on the population	Effects on the economy	Effects on medical ideas	Effects on opinions
Hundreds of thousands of people died across England but London was the worst affected, as up to 100,000, a quarter of London's population, died. There are no exact figures as records are incomplete. The poor suffered the most as the rich could leave the city.	There was a short-term impact on the economy as trade was halted. Farmers did not want to travel to markets in towns. Colchester's cloth trade was badly hit but soon recovered. It was not safe to collect taxes such as the hearth tax. This made it difficult to raise money at a time when money was needed to pay for the wars against the Dutch.	Some of the ideas used during the plague, such as quarantine, were used in later outbreaks of infectious disease in 1709 and 1712.	The King became unpopular for leaving London. Some people were blamed for causing the plague because of their immoral lifestyle or lack of religion.



You're the examiner

Question 3 of your exam asks you to write an account of how something affected, or changed, Restoration England. For example:

Write an account of the Great Plague and how it affected Restoration England.

(8 marks)

Here is an answer to that question. Connect the comments to the highlighted sections to show good features of this answer. There are hints on answering this type of question on page 44.

The Great Plague badly affected the population as many thousands died. Poor record keeping means that there are no exact figures but Bills of Mortality help us to understand how many people died in each part of London. It is estimated that up to 100,000 people died in London, a quarter of the city's population. The poor suffered the most as the rich were able to leave affected places. The economy was affected in the short term as trade was halted and markets were closed. The cloth trade in Colchester was badly hit but soon recovered. Taxes, such as the hearth tax, could not be collected. This was important as money was badly needed to help fight the Dutch. Ideas for coping with epidemics, such as the use of quarantine, were used in later outbreaks of infectious disease, such as those in 1709 and 1712. The King left London during the plague, this made him unpopular. People also had opinions about why the plague was started and blamed those who were not living in a Godly way.

Makes a point that directly answers the question

Explains the point

Develops the explanation of the consequences

Use of relevant historical terms

2.2 The Fire of London 1666

REVISED

In September 1666 a great fire engulfed London

- No one really knows how the fire started but it probably began in the bake house of Thomas Farriner in Pudding Lane.
- Much of what we know about the fire comes from the diaries of Samuel Pepys and Wenceslas Holler's map of the fire damage, which was commissioned by Charles II straight after the fire.
- Coming immediately after the devastation of the plague, the consequences of the fire were particularly serious.

Why did the fire spread so quickly?

- At the time, ways of fighting fires were not very effective. There was no proper fire service.
- Fire fighters used 'squirts', leather buckets, wooden ladders and long hooks to pull thatch from roofs to stop the fire spreading. Buildings were pulled down to make fire breaks but they often didn't clear the wood, thatch and plaster away, so the fire still spread.



Key point

From the 2nd to the 6th September 1666, a fire raged in London. Fires were common but this one was particularly destructive and had short- and long-term consequences for the city, the people and the country.

Samuel Pepys

His diaries describe life in Restoration London, the Plague, the Great Fire and the Second Dutch War.

He worked for the Admiralty.

A member of the Royal Society.

An MP from 1679.

There were short- and long-term consequences of the fire

- A third of the city was affected and more than 13,000 homes destroyed.
- Not many people died, probably less than ten, but record keeping was poor, so we don't know the exact number.

- Out of London's 109 churches, 87 were destroyed, including St Paul's Cathedral.
- Warehouses lost valuable cloth and it was also difficult to collect the hearth tax. This meant that Charles II lost money just when he needed it to fund the wars against the Dutch.
- Many left the city to escape the fire. Those with boats or carts charged very high prices to hire them out, so although they made plenty of money, it meant only the rich could try to save their possessions in this way. This upset the poor.
- There were those who saw the fire as a punishment from God for Charles's ungodly lifestyle. James, Duke of York, took command and ordered the demolition of houses for a fire break. Charles did not desert the city as he had during the Plague. This improved the reputation of the royal family.
- Afterwards, there were rumours that the fire had been started deliberately. People particularly blamed England's 'enemies': the Dutch and the French. Robert Hubert, a French watchmaker, confessed and was hung but could not have been responsible.
- Those who had lost their homes and businesses wanted someone to blame. This added to anti-Catholic feeling, which later contributed to the Exclusion Crisis. In the 1680s, signs appeared in London blaming a Popish (Catholic) conspiracy for the fire.
- Longer term, better fire-fighting techniques and fire insurance were introduced.

London was reconstructed

- Plans were drawn up by Christopher Wren (see pages 26–27) and John Evelyn to rebuild London in the elegant style of Paris.
- The plans were not carried out as arguments over who owned the land could not be resolved. Businesses needed to get back to work quickly so there was not time for elaborate re-building to a different plan and there was a lack of money due to the Dutch wars.
- Some churches, including Christopher Wren's new St Paul's Cathedral, were built.
- There were some improvements in building design: brick was used and **jettying** and thatched roofs were banned and windows had to be rebated (set back from the walls). This was another long-term consequence of the fire.



Test yourself

- 1 Give five reasons why the fire was able to do so much damage.
- 2 Describe three methods that were used to try to tackle the fire.
- 3 Who or what did people blame for the fire?
- 4 Give three reasons why Wren and Evelyn's plans for the new city of London were not carried out.



Practice question

Write an account of the ways in which the Great Fire of 1666 affected Restoration England.
(8 marks)



Develop the explanation

In the exam, Question 2 will ask you to explain the importance of an aspect of Restoration England. This is more than just describing. The statements below describe some of the ways in which the Great Fire was important. For each one, add one or two more sentences to turn it from a description into an explanation. The first one has been done for you.

Statement	Explanation
Cloth warehouses were destroyed.	This meant the country lost money. It was especially important at this time, as Charles II needed money to fund the Dutch wars.
Many buildings were destroyed.	
Ways of fighting fires were not very effective.	
People looked for someone to blame.	

2.3 Restoration theatre

REVISED

Charles gave his patronage to two theatre companies

- Charles II loved the theatre and regularly visited.
- Theatres had been closed by Parliament during the Interregnum.
- Charles II granted two new companies a **patent** to put on plays.
- The King's Company was run by Thomas Killigrew and the Duke's Company by William Davenant.
- Thomas Betterton was an actor who later managed the Duke's Company.
- The companies competed to put on new plays and have the most popular actors.

Key point

Restoration theatre was patronised by Charles II. It had its own style, with new plays including witty comedies that often made political points. Women were given new opportunities through Restoration theatre.

Elaborate theatres allowed for spectacular special effects

- Lavish new theatres were built, including some designed by Sir Christopher Wren.
- They were lit with many candles.
- The new theatres were smaller than those built in Tudor times and were designed for a wealthier audience.
- Theatres were extravagantly decorated, with tiered seats for the richest customers. Others preferred to stand in the pit where they could be seen.
- Theatres were designed with sliding scenery and a **proscenium arch**, which could hide props and scenery until they were required.
- Players would move in front of the arch to be close to the audience.
- They made good use of sound effects and special effects.

The theatre was a popular form of entertainment

- Wealthy people would go to the theatre, hoping to catch sight of the King.
- It was important to be the first to see a new play.
- The women in the audience often wore masks.
- Refreshments, such as oranges, were served.

Women had an important role to play in Restoration theatre

- Women had very few rights in society but for the first time could act in plays.
- Aphra Behn was a famous female playwright.
- Nell Gwynne was an actress who became the King's mistress.

There were typical features in Restoration comedies

- The plays had complicated plots and sub-plots, which often featured disputes between rival lovers.
- The dialogue contained witty arguments, sexual references and double meanings.
- The actresses often had parts that required them to be disguised as men, or to wear revealing clothes.
- Key male characters were the **fop**, who was obsessed with his appearance and tried to be witty but was usually outdone by the **rake**, who was a wealthy character, with bad habits but was witty and likeable.

Aphra Behn

She spied for Charles II in the Netherlands.

She turned to writing because she was in debt.

She was a famous playwright, which was very unusual for a woman.

She supported the Tories during the Exclusion Crisis.

Her plays portrayed the Whigs in a bad light.

Nell Gwynne

She was an orange-seller in the theatre.

Thomas Killigrew, who ran the King's Theatre Company, gave her parts in his plays.

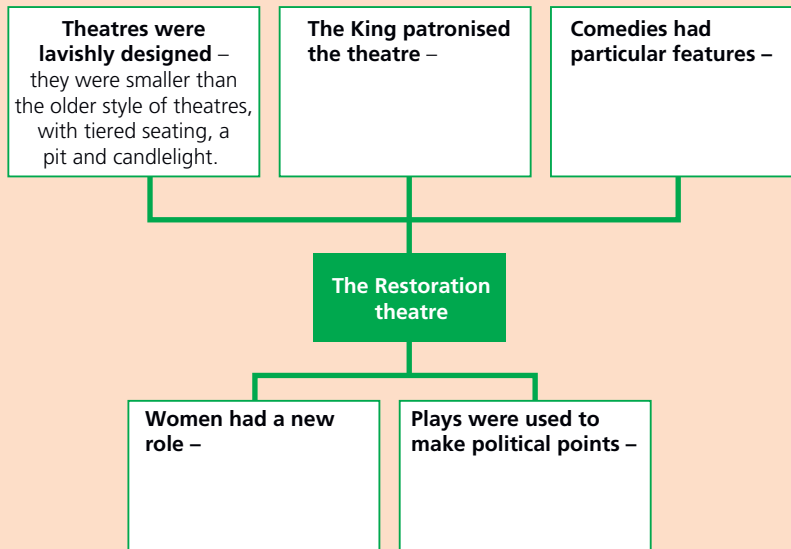
She became a popular actress.

She was mistress to Charles II and they had two sons.

- **Satire** was an important element in the plays, especially at the time of the Popish Plot and during the Exclusion Crisis. Plays might poke fun at the Whigs or the Tories.

Develop the detail

The diagram below summarises features of Restoration Theatre. Use the information on this spread to add further detail to each point. One has been done for you.



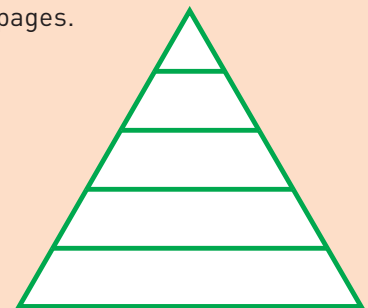
Test yourself

- 1 Who was Aphra Behn?
- 2 Name two theatre companies that were given patents by Charles II.

Topic summary

Copy and complete the diagram below using the information on these two pages.

- **One** phrase to sum up the topic.
- **Two** names of women who were famously connected to Restoration theatre.
- **Three** names of theatre managers.
- **Four** features of a Restoration theatre.
- **Five** aspects of a Restoration comedy.



Practice question

Question 1 in your exam will ask you to comment on an interpretation, saying how convincing you think it is.

Read Interpretation A below. How convincing is this interpretation about the Restoration theatre?

[8 marks]

There are hints on answering this style of question on page 42.

INTERPRETATION A *Extracts from Restoration Theatre by Kristy Ferreira and Shanna O'Berry, University of Massachusetts, Boston*

Restoration theatre became a way to celebrate the end of Puritan rule, with its strict moral codes ... Restoration comedies became social commentaries; they were not a mirror of society, but rather exaggerations of society that the audience would recognize and appreciate. ... Another theme presented in multiple plays was seduction; with women on the stage and influences in Charles's Court, sexuality could not be ignored. ... One major factor in the success of Restoration theatre was the support of Charles II.

AQA GCSE (9–1) History

RESTORATION ENGLAND

1660–1685

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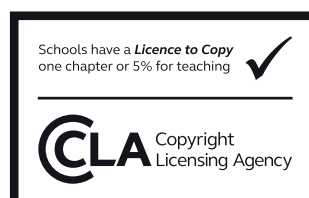
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