

Y7 history homework

Oliver Cromwell

Ever since Oliver Cromwell became Lord Protector of England there have been different interpretations of him. In the nineteenth century historians considered Cromwell to be a great reformer and a man of principle. In modern times many historians use examples from his actions in Ireland to say Cromwell was an inhumane monster.



Between 1649 and 1658 Cromwell had more power than anyone else in Britain. In 1649 he took the New Model Army to Ireland. During the English Civil War Cromwell had heard terrible stories from Protestants in Ireland. He heard that Catholics committed horrible cruelties such as cutting off people's hands and feet and beating women's brains with poles. There were many such stories.

Whether the stories were true we don't really know – but Cromwell believed them. He was a Puritan, a strong Protestant. Puritans believed it was their duty to punish the Catholics. He went to Ireland determined to do just this!

Your homework for this term is to research Cromwell. What actions did he take? What reasons did he have for them? How did he rule Britain in the absence of a monarch as Britain's Lord Protector?

I would like you to present to me your findings in any way you would like. It could be a poster, a report, an essay or a PPT. I don't mind how you present your work just make sure you answer the below question:

Was Oliver Cromwell a hero or a villain?

Your homework is due in the w.b. 27th June 2022.

I look forward to seeing what you manage to find out and we shall debate your thoughts in class.