

England under Cromwell: A world turned upside down

In this lesson we are going to look at some of the different things that happened in England when Oliver Cromwell was in charge. Your task is to read the paragraph and then complete the question section.

When Oliver Cromwell was the Lord Protector of England many people wanted some changes to the way they lived. Many of the ideas were thought to be silly or even mad. Some women even thought that should be equal and as important as men, this idea was thought to be crazy.

The two main groups were The Diggers and the Levellers.

The Diggers were led by a man called Gerald Winstanley, they believed that all men were created equal by God and no man had the right to tell another man what to do.

The Levellers were led by John Lilbourne, they wanted the people of England to be any religion they wanted, even Catholic. They also wanted to pay less tax and for each parish to vote for its own priest. Cromwell did not like the Levellers and had the leaders arrested and put in prison.

QUESTIONS

1. Copy the text into your book and fill in the missing words.

When Oliver Cromwell was the _____ of England many people wanted some _____ to the way they lived. Many of the ideas were thought to be _____ or even _____. Some _____ even thought that should be _____ and as important as _____, this idea was thought to be _____.

From the **grey** section answer these two questions

1. Who was the leader of the Diggers?
2. What did they believe about the way god had created men?

From the **black** section answer these three questions

1. Who was the leader of the Levellers?
2. Did the Levellers want people to pay more or less tax?
3. What did Cromwell do to the leaders of the Levellers?