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# GCSE HISTORY

Paper 2 Section B/D: Restoration England, 1660–1685

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## Interpretations Booklet

**Interpretation A** for use in answering Question 01



1 9 6 G 8 1 4 5 / 2 B / D

**Interpretation A** An interpretation of the relationship between Parliament and Charles II.

Adapted from an article by Graham Goodlad in 'History Today', 2010.

When Charles II returned to England in 1660, the country wanted stable government and showed goodwill towards the monarchy. However, royal government depended upon the co-operation of Parliament which controlled the king's ability to raise taxes. Charles' extravagant lifestyle meant he struggled to match his income with his spending. This lifestyle combined with the pleasure-seeking royal court upset many MPs. The Protestant Commons had a strong commitment to the Anglican religion which made them suspicious of anything that suggested Catholicism and the all-powerful government of France. Parliament was also deeply concerned about the succession.

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## END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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