By 1644, Parliament had the support of Scotland. The Scots sent 20,000 soldiers to fight King Charles’ army, and helped Parliament defeat the Royalists at the Battle of Marston Moor. This victory helped Parliament seize control of Royalist northern England.

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King Charles believed that he would win because God was on his side, and that other monarchs from Europe would send soldiers, weapons and money to help him. Unfortunately for Charles, they didn’t. Charles had very few allies.

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King Charles was convinced that he’d win because he had rich supporters, and would be supported by other countries. But the war dragged on, and he and his supporters soon ran out of money as they controlled the poorer areas, e.g. Wales and the North of England.

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After Parliament lost the Battle of Newbury in 1644, it created the New Model Army. The soldiers were well trained, efficient, disciplined, well equipped, etc. There was also a New Model Cavalry. This gave it an advantage over the Royalists.

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Prince Rupert was an important Royalist general. He was very brave, but often made decisions without thinking them through properly. He was not always in full control of his soldiers, and lost key battles.

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Oliver Cromwell was an important general for Parliament. He always thought out his tactics, and hardly ever made mistakes. He also made sure his soldiers were well disciplined and committed to carry out orders.

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Although the Royalists won most of the battles during the early stages of the Civil War, Parliament won the important ones later on, e.g. the Battle of Marston Moor, Montgomery and Naseby.

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Royalists were very skilled horsemen, and had good weapons – but they wore fancy clothes to battle! They also argued amongst themselves. Parliamentarians wore armour for protection, and were more united.

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Parliament controlled London and the richest areas of England – it could afford a long war. This meant it could collect a lot of tax to pay for weapons etc., and pay their soldiers more regularly - their soldiers were keener to fight and didn’t desert the army.

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Parliament controlled the navy and stopped supplies from reaching King Charles’ army by sea. All of England’s major ports were controlled by Parliament – this meant Parliament had a steady supply of materials. This strengthened its chances of winning.

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At the Battle of Naseby in June 1645, the Royalists were crushed by the New Model Army, and most of Charles’ best fighters were killed. After the Battle of Preston, the Royalists were completely defeated. C:\Documents and Settings\rhh\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\BN5FJ54S\MCj02324460000[1].wmf

King Charles made some mistakes – for example he asked the Catholic Irish to help him against Parliament. This gave Parliament more support because most of the people hated and feared the Catholics.

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