. . . Charles’s brother James II (1685–1688) was a foolishly fearless Catholic admirer of French absolutism. Having gathered at his court a coterie [a select group] of Catholic advisers (among them Jesuits) and supporters of royal prerogative [right to rule with absolute power], James attempted to bend Parliament and local government to the royal will. . . . The upper classes wanted to avoid open warfare and preserve the monarchy as a constitutional authority, but not as an absolute one. . . .

In early 1688, Anglicans, some aristocrats, and opponents of royal prerogative . . . formed a conspiracy against James II. Their purpose was to invite his son-in-law, William of Orange, stadholder (head) of the Netherlands and husband of James’s Protestant daughter Mary, to invade England and rescue its government from James’s control. It was hoped that the final outcome of this invasion would be determined by William and his conspirators, in conjunction with a freely elected Parliament. This dangerous plan succeeded for three main reasons: William and the Dutch desperately needed English support against the threat of a French invasion; James had lost the loyalty of key men in the army, powerful gentlemen in the counties, and the Anglican church; and the political elite was committed and united in its intentions. Defeated in Ireland, James II fled to France, and William and Mary were declared king and queen by act of Parliament.

Source: Marvin Perry, et al., *Western Civilization*

**Directions:** In the passage below, a historian explains the origin and ultimate success of the Glorious Revolution in England in 1688. Use the passage to answer the questions below.

1. Which of the following statements was true of James II?
   A. He was tolerant of those who disagreed with him.
   B. He had a clear strategy to confront the dangers he faced.
   C. He had no supporters.
   D. He had poor judgment.

2. The conspiracy against James II succeeded for all of the following reasons EXCEPT
   A. The Dutch needed English support against the French.
   B. James ran out of money.
   C. James had lost the loyalty of key men in the army and in the church.
   D. Political opponents of James were united in their purpose.

**Test Your Knowledge**

Why was the removal of James II and the establishment of William and Mary as king and queen referred to as the Glorious Revolution?