What kind of ruler was Oliver Cromwell?

Case study 1: Cromwell in his own words

One obvious way to try and understand the puzzle of Oliver Cromwell is to look at his own words. We are lucky that there is a collection of his speeches and letters. See what they tell you about him.

Order from Cromwell to the Tower of London, 1654

Order about publication of pamphlets, 1654

Document appointing a Major General, 1655

Cromwell’s reply when asked to be king, 1657

Speech on the Humble Petition and Advice, 1657

Cromwell’s thoughts about his job, April 1657

http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/