

GCSE History

Elizabethan England, 1568-1603

Paper 2, Section B



EXAM DETAILS:

1 hr 45 minutes for Paper 1

Spend 50 minutes on Section B

Questions:

- 8 mark "how far do you agree with this statement?"
- 8 mark "explain"
- 8 mark "write an account"
- 16 mark- Essay Q linked to a specific site/ historic environment (4 marks for SPaG)

Topic 1:

Elizabeth and her government

Elizabeth's background and character

Tudor Dynasty

- In 1485, a civil war called the War of the Roses came to an end with the defeat of Richard III to Henry Tudor at the Battle of Bosworth
- This war had raged for over 30 years and split England apart
- Henry Tudor was crowned King **Henry VII** and he married Richard's niece, Elizabeth of York to cement control of the country



Henry's Great Matter

- Henry VII was followed by his son, **Henry VIII**
- He married Catherine of Aragon but in 20 years only produced a daughter, **Mary**
- Henry believed he was being punished by God AND had become obsessed with a lady at court called **Anne Boleyn**, who became his mistress
- He wanted a divorce, but years and years of diplomatic pressure and bullying failed and the Pope refused his request
- When Anne fell pregnant, Henry broke from Rome and made himself Head of the English Church
- It was vital that he married Anne before the birth of the child because so the child would be a legitimate heir to the throne
- Much to Henry's anger, another girl was born called **Elizabeth** on 7 September 1533 at the Palace of Greenwich
- An Act of Succession was passed which confirmed the new child as the heir to the throne, which also declared Mary (his eldest child) illegitimate



Elizabeth's early life

Early 1540s

- Exiled from court, Elizabeth rarely saw her father
- She was taught by governess Kat Ashley and later Roger Ascham. She was taught to use the modern italic style of handwriting, developed in Italy during the Renaissance
- By 14, Elizabeth could speak French, Italian, Spanish and Latin fluently and was able to read Greek
- She was not just intellectual, but athletic- being an accomplished horsewoman and dancer

1544

- HVIII 6th wife, Protestant reformer, Catherin Parr, influenced Elizabeth's Protestant religion
- A Third Act of Succession restored Elizabeth as an heir to the throne, but stated she could only succeed after her brother Edward and Mary

Jan 1547

- HVIII dies and is succeeded by 9yr old son Edward

- 1549 - Thomas Seymour, now married to Catherine Parr, began a flirtation with Elizabeth. Seymour was accused of treason and executed. Elizabeth was questioned on the ground that Seymour was plotting to overthrow Edward and marry Seymour.
- Elizabeth escaped, but learned not to trust anyone
- Summer 1553 - Edward VI dies and following the failure of Lady Jane Grey, Mary is proclaimed Queen
- 1554 - Mary's marriage to Phillip of Spain provokes the Wyatt rebellion.
- Elizabeth was suspected of working with the rebels and was imprisoned in the Tower of London
- imprisoned for 2 months and then released and placed on house arrest
- Nov 1558 - Mary dies
- Jan 1559 - Elizabeth's coronation ceremony



Elizabethan Politics

The Royal Court

- Run by the Lord Chamberlain, the Court was located wherever the Queen was
- It consisted of the Queen's household, made up of 500 nobles, advisors, officials, and servants and
- They were called courtiers
- Access to the queen was crucial to an politician
- Court=centre of political power

Progresses

- Elizabeth would travel with her Court on tours called **progresses**, visiting the homes of nobility
- Her journey covered the South East, Midlands and East Anglia
- It allowed Elizabeth to be seen by her subjects regularly, to build relations with her people and to flatter the nobles she stayed with
- Progresses allowed Elizabeth to live in luxury at the expense of her subjects, as the nobility worked hard to impress her
- The journeys also removed the Court from the capital at times when plague was rife allowing the Royal palaces to be fumigated

Performance

- The Court had a number of functions: social hub; entertainment; and the political centre
- Subtle propaganda, glorifying the Queen's image

Patronage

- Patronage involved the favouritism of individuals, by giving men important jobs
- It caused intense competition and rivalries between people
- This made everyone loyal to Elizabeth
- It also ensured Elizabeth remained at the heart of the whole political system

Privy Council

- The PC co-ordinated the financial departments
- Members were generally from the nobility, gentry and the church
- Elizabeth could choose and dismiss members of her PC
- PC met more often during Elizabeth's reign
- They would advise and direct policy to her, but she was not obliged to take their advice
- PC could issue proclamations and command arrest and imprisonment



Elizabeth's PC

- After Elizabeth became Queen, Mary's Catholic Council could act as a barrier to re-establishing Protestantism.
- Elizabeth's first Privy Council had 19 members (far more manageable and efficient than Mary's 40-member Council).
- Half were drawn from Mary's Council to maintain experience and avoid alienating important individuals.
- The other half were brand new, allowing Elizabeth to reward loyal followers and to promote men of ability. She was careful not to appoint any strong Catholics.
- Over time the nobility were gradually moved out and by the second half of her reign the PC was a small, highly efficient group of educated, professional, full-time politicians, largely from the gentry.

William Cecil/ Lord Burghley



- The most important appointment Elizabeth made was one of her first - William Cecil.
- Elizabeth came to rely heavily on him. Their successful working relationship lasted until his death 40 years later. He was in continual contact with the Queen.

- All her correspondence passed through him.
- Cecil was loyal, but also knew how to manage the Queen. He threatened to resign to make her co-operate and carefully used

Parliament to manipulate the Queen into taking the position he wanted.

- Elizabeth respected him for speaking his mind, but knew that he would carry out her wishes even if he personally disagreed. He also helped the Queen to manage the political patronage system and had his own patronage secretary - Sir Michael Hickes - who was responsible for dealing with the requests people made for various positions.
- Cecil had a difficult relationship with another key member of the Privy Council - the more radical and PURITAN Robert Dudley, a favourite of Elizabeth.

Divide and Rule

- Elizabeth knew how to control the PC- often showing affection and rewarding them
- Elizabeth deliberately appointed men who were hostile towards each other- by forcing rival factions to work together, led to men competing each other for her affection- divide and rule

- They would give contrasting advice, which would then allow her to make a measured decision

The Role of Parliament

- The monarch decided when Parliament was called and for how long. The Monarch needed Parliament's permission for any new laws or taxes and in return the Monarch would listen to Parliament's concerns.
- Elizabeth considered Parliament as an inconvenient necessity.
- Elizabeth's very first Parliament in 1559 created a new Protestant church by restoring royal supremacy over the Church of England. Since her father, Henry VIII had secured the Break from Rome with Parliament's help and laws which they had passed; Parliament's importance had increased significantly.
- The myth was that it was a political partnership between the monarch and Parliament but in fact it was not Parliament's role to govern but simply to turn Elizabeth's policies into laws.
- Elizabeth's financial issues meant that she had to rely on subsidies (taxes) from the MPs - she asked for these in all but 2 of the 13 times she called Parliament together in her reign.

Changes within Parliament

- MPs became more confident in arguing against the Queen= better educated (over $\frac{1}{2}$ had a university education)
- MPs made complaints about Elizabeth's marital status, trading monopolies and religious grievances - Elizabeth losing control?
- Elizabeth did limit Parliament's influence- attending Parliament in person, using speeches to charm and bully, she had the right to appoint the speaker who was able to control what topics were discussed and the Queen could block measures proposed by MPs through using the **royal veto**.
- She also imprisoned MPs such as Peter Wentworth in 1576 for arguing for freedom of speech
- Members of the PC sat in both the Houses of Commons and Lords
- Many MPs owed their seats to the patronage of the Queen or her councillors



Years of Decline

- By the 1590s, Elizabeth's government was in crisis - damaged by war, plague, increased poverty and repeated harvest failures
- The patronage system which had served Elizabeth so well began to fall apart as one by one, her trusted advisors died: Dudley (1588), Walsingham (1590) and Hatton (1591)
- Finally William Cecil died in 1598 and afterwards Elizabeth became increasingly angry, depressed, bad tempered and lost popularity - she was seen as in the way of progression by a new wave of younger courtiers - 1601 Essex rebellion showed this!

Essex's Rebellion, 1601

Causes:

- A new generation of ambitious politicians emerged which caused unrest in Court and Council led by Cecil's son, Robert Cecil and Dudley's stepson, the Earl of Essex
- Cecil took on an increasingly heavy workload as his father aged, this angered Essex
- Essex's action had often angered the Queen, for example when he married without her permission and when she refused to promote one of his supporters and he lost his temper shouting, '*her conditions are as crooked as her carcass*', Elizabeth then punched him and he was banished from Court
- He was given another chance to redeem himself when he was told defeat the rebellion in Ireland
- Essex ended up making peace against Elizabeth's orders
- When Essex returned to Court he had learned that Cecil had been promoted and so he burst into Elizabeth's chambers before she was wiggled or gowned
- This was disrespectful and he was placed on house arrest and lost all his jobs



Events:

- Essex gathered 300 supporters
- He began to fortify his mansion
- Rumours of treason and rebellion began to spread
- 4 PC went to his house to question him and he held them as hostages and proceeded to march to the centre of London in an effort to capture the Queen

Consequences:

- The Government responded quickly
- Londoners were unimpressed and most of his supporters deserted him when they were offered a pardon
- Essex found his route blocked as he returned home and he surrendered
- The rebellion lasted only 12 hours
- Accused of being a traitor Essex was executed in the Tower of London in 1601
- However, it showed how a royal favourite fell from grace and signalled Elizabeth's fading powers

The Succession Crisis

The marriage question

- Elizabeth was 25 when she became Queen and this was old by Tudor standards to be unmarried
- She had not married because of her awkward position during her fathers' and siblings' reign
- She was the last of HVIII children, so without an heir, the Tudor dynasty would die too
- The marriage of Elizabeth became an issue for her PC and Parliament and E lost her temper with Parliament in 1566 that after this they were not allowed to discuss her marriage ever again

Foreign suitors

- E received proposals from Prince Eric of Sweden and King Phillip of Spain (turned him down straight away, had married her sister and been unpopular in England- he was insulted by this rejection)
- Charles of Austria was another suitor, but negotiations failed when he seemed unwilling to move to England in 1567

English suitors

- Earl of Arundel and Sir William Pickering
- Robert Dudley, the Earl of Leicester- the 2 were close friends and E genuinely loved him
- Dudley wanted to marry her but was married
- His wife, Amy, mysteriously died- her body found at the bottom of the stairs
- An inquest was held and her death was ruled as accidental
- The rumours of her murder- either by Dudley's or E's orders- meant the marriage between the two would be scandalous
- Dudley waited for years but eventually married E's cousin in 1578, much to the Queen's fury

The last suitor

- Duke of Alencon, a younger brother of the King of France
- PC were divided on the match: Cecil in favour, Walsingham and Dudley against
- Negotiations failed when Protestants were killed in France in 1572
- Historians have debated whether E truly wanted to marry any of the suitors- a diplomatic game/ historical accident?
- The Cult by this point was that E, the 'Virgin Queen' was married to England

Possible heirs:

Suffolk Claim	Stuart Claim
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Descendants of HVIII's youngest sister, Mary, the Duchess of Suffolk• Her granddaughter, Lady Jane Grey, had already been executed but there was Lady Catherine and Lady Mary• Both were Protestants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Descendants if HVIII's eldest sister, Margaret, Queen of Scotland• Mary Queen of Scots had a stronger claim (part of the Scottish Royal Family)• MQS= devout Catholic

Resolution

- Scottish King, James VI, the only child of MQS
- Had a strong claim as both his mother and his father (Lord Darnley) were both grandchildren of E's aunt, Margaret
- By the 1590s James' claim to the throne was recognised by the Cecils
- E refused to officially name him her heir
- As the end of E's life drew nearer, Robert Cecil began secret correspondence with James from May 1601 onwards
- When E died in March 1603, Cecil had arranged for an easy transition



- The Tudor dynasty gave way to the Stuarts smoothly and calmly, with the whole of the island of Great Britain, for the first time in history, sharing a single monarch

Topic 2: Life in Elizabethan Times

Elizabethan culture: A Golden Age?

An English Renaissance

- The Elizabethan era saw an explosion of cultural achievement, influenced by **humanism**.
- London's population grew and the **gentry** became more important as they had disposable income and wanted to spend in order to impress others and earn promotion.
- This meant that artists, builders, musicians and writers did well, as their work was much more in demand
- The invention of the **printing press** in the 15C meant new ideas could spread with greater speed
- As new grammar schools and university colleges were set up the curriculum broadened and the English became better educated
- Development in scientific discovery, such as William Harvey.

The rise of the gentry

The gentry grew because:

- **The Tudors' suspicion of the 'old' nobility:** the Tudors had deliberately marginalised the nobles they saw as a threat by granting few new titles and excluding them from government. This left a vacuum which the gentry filled. For example Cecil came from the gentry class
- **The dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII:** the monasteries had owned about $\frac{1}{4}$ of all the land in England. Their dissolution had made more land available to buy
- **Increasing wealth:** growth of trade, exploration and population and rising prices helped gentry's families to make their fortunes.
- The gentry were keen to sponsor architectural, artistic and intellectual endeavours.

Fashion

- The wealthy used their money to buy expensive clothes. Fashion became a status symbol
- **Statutes of Apparel**, passed in 1574, strictly controlled the clothes people were allowed to wear depending on their social rank

Male fashion:

- Hat, cloak, sword, beard, silk stockings, ruff (collar worn around the neck)

Female Fashion:

- Farthingale (petticoat with wooden hoops), under gown, dyed hair with fake hair piled on top, heavy white makeup (lead-based and highly poisonous), blackened teeth, small hat



Architecture

- The building boom during Elizabeth's reign led to a period known as the '**Great Rebuilding**'
- Many new country houses were built to reflect the wealth and stability of the era
- New houses were often built to impress and host Elizabeth as she was on progress

External Designs

- Influenced by Italian **Renaissance** architecture
- Many houses had intricate chimney stacks and expensive leaded glass in large **mullioned windows** (large windows made up of lots of panes of glass divided by vertical supports)
- Many manor houses, however, continued to be less classically influenced, such as timber-framed **wattle and daub** (walls built from interwoven wooden strips covered in mud or clay) Speke Hall near Liverpool

Internal Designs

- Rooms were now very well light, because of the extensive use of glass
- Bedrooms were placed upstairs for the first time
- Long galleries for entertainment and to display art collections



Robert Smythson

- Was a leading architect
- Designed and built Longleat House in Wiltshire, and Hardwick Hall in Derbyshire

Theatre

- When Elizabeth became Queen, there were not theatres in the country
- Prior to this, people performed on temporary platforms in open places. Also, groups of actors would tour the country but were disliked by the government who saw them as a threat to law and order and acting was not considered to be a respectable profession

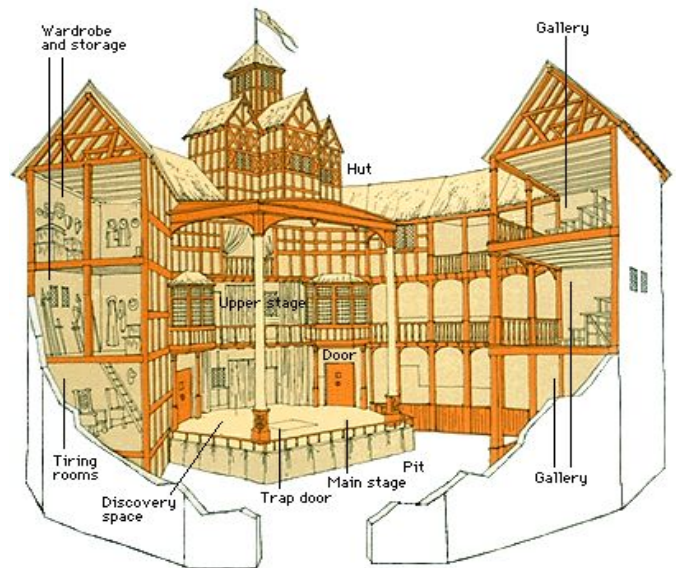
During Elizabeth's reign

- In 1572, Parliament passed a law that required all actors to be licensed. The law was brought in because of government suspicion
- However, it had an unexpected effect, it encouraged the actor companies to organise themselves and 4 years later the first purpose-built theatre was built in London
- Consequently, by the end of Elizabeth's reign there were 7 major theatres in London and 40 companies of actors
- Due to the authorities' opposition to them, theatres were located outside the city walls.
- Theatre-goers could also purchase refreshments, such as meat pies, fruits, nuts, beer and wine
- It allowed people to socialise, network for business purposes and meet prospective husbands and wives

Design

- Theatres usually had a circular pit surrounded by galleries

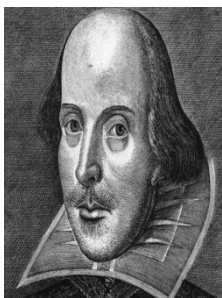
- As there was not artificial lighting, plays were usually staged in the afternoon, with a flag above the theatre signalling a performance
- Women were not allowed to perform, so boys played female roles
- Behind the stage was called the 'tiring house'
- Some actors became wealthy achieving fame such as Edward Alleyn, Will Kempe and Thomas Pope



Audience

- The cheap entrance fees made theatres affordable to all
- However, the rigid social order was held inside the theatre, with the cheapest tickets (costing a penny) being for the 'pit'
- It was more expensive to watch from the 3 tiered galleries, which could seat 2,000 spectators
- The richest audience members would watch from the 'Lords' room' above the stage or even sit on the stage

Playwrights



- The most famous Elizabethan playwright was William Shakespeare
- The themes reflected the interests of Elizabethans: violence, romance, magic and the ancient world
- Trapdoors on stages allowed dramatic entrances and exits
- Cannon balls were rolled to reflect thunder claps
- Pigs' bladders filled with blood were hidden beneath clothing were used for stabbing scenes

Change in Theatre

- From the 1570s and Elizabeth and her advisors started to see theatre for its **propaganda** purposes
- With the population increasing, the theatre provided a form of entertainment and source of distraction for the poor, making rebellions less likely
- Elizabeth enjoyed plays and often invited companies to perform at Court
- Some plays contained political messages that were designed to flatter Elizabeth and support her position
- They were also carefully **censored**
- The Elizabethans believed everything had its own place in a hierarchy called the **Great Chain of Being**. Shakespeare's plays often emphasised hierarchy and orderliness

Books:

- The most widely read book in Elizabeth's reign was John Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*, which was first published in 1563
- Foxe was a Protestant

- Mary's reputation as 'Bloody Mary' owes much to Foxe
- Foxe's work was designed to flatter Elizabeth and to strengthen her position
- The book reflected well on Protestant Elizabeth, whose accession had rescued England from the horrors of Catholic rule

The cult of Elizabeth

- Visual and literary propaganda created the cult of personality around E- worship
- From 1570s carefully manufactured images of E were promoted
- The portraits made clever use of symbols and she wore expensive clothing and jewels

The Poor

The poverty crisis

- The labouring poor made up around half of all families in Tudor England.
- They were illiterate, did not own land and spent 80% of their income on food and drink

Causes of poverty

Increasing population:

- The population rose from 43% between 1550 and 1600
- This placed huge pressures of resources- food, jobs
- With lots of workers available, wages stayed the same, but as demand for food increased, so did prices
- Inflation was a problem during E's reign

Rising prices:

- Henry VIII had made the problem of inflation worse by reducing the value of the coinage in the 1540s in order to pay for the wars against France and Scotland

Foreign wars:

- Whenever wars were fought, taxes had to increase, hitting the poor the hardest
- Once the wars were over, England was left with large number of -out-of-work soldiers and sailors
- Wars were also harmful on England's trade- the most important city of Antwerp
- The collapse of this market in the 1550s and later bans on trade with the Spanish ruled Netherlands in the 1560s, deprived England of much of its revenue
- E's government made the rich richer by pushing up prices

Agricultural crisis:

- Period saw many bad harvests
- There were dearth conditions in England before E became queen and again in the 1590s, which coincided with the outbreak of the plague- food was scarce and could have caused a famine
- Tenants became victims of rack-renting- high rents- which forced many into eviction
- Growth of enclosures- the division of land, including village common land, into separate fields, separating sheep and arable land farming
- Sheep farming led to the loss in jobs for farm labourers

- The removal of common lands led to the loss for the poor of a place to graze their animals

Closure of monasteries:

- Monasteries had been a key source of charity for the poor, providing food, shelter and medical care
- When Henry dissolved the monasteries in the 1530s, the poor flocked to the towns for a better life
- The towns could not cope with such numbers and this brought the issue of poverty to public attention

Government Policies

Local measures:

- Norfolk council introduced measures. Alms were charitable donations given to the poor and alms houses were established to house the poor. Censuses were carried out to make registers of the poor, work was provided for the unemployed in workhouses.
- In London, several hospitals were established such as St. Bartholomew's for the sick and St Thomas' for the elderly, Christ's Hospital for orphans and Bethlehem Hospital for the insane.

The Elizabethan Poor Laws:

- + Elizabethan Poor Laws were passed in 1563, 1572 and 1576 which impacted the country nationally.
- + The Poor Law of 1597 was known as the Act for the Relief of the Poor. This required everyone to pay towards a local poor rate. This local tax would pay for the setting up of workhouses and the payment of relief to the 'deserving poor'.
- + The Poor Law of 1597 required each parish to appoint 4 'Overseers of the Poor'. They were to ensure that orphans had apprenticeships, paid for by the parish, so they learned a trade. Alms-houses were also to provide for the old and ill to live in. This was known as 'outdoor relief'
- + The 1597 law stated that there was a third class of poor: those who were able bodied and genuinely unable to find work.

- _ Years of war with Spain and failed harvests meant that poverty was still a problem.
- _ There was still a strong belief that those in poverty were lazy and much of the legislation focused on preventing laziness by punishing those who were able, but unwilling, to work.
- _ The law stated that beggars should be punished through 'whipping 'til his back be bloody', after which they would be sent home to their place of birth.
- _ Beggars could also be imprisoned and put to work in a 'House of Corrections'. Some were sent away to work on galley warships. Persistent beggars would be hanged.

Conclusion

- The 1601 Poor Law lasted until 1834.
- No rebellion caused by poverty occurred during Elizabeth's reign. Therefore the law achieved its main aim: social order was preserved.

- Poverty continued to increase after the Poor Law was introduced and some have argued that it was unnecessarily harsh, focusing too much on punishment rather than supporting those in need.

Elizabethan Exploration

Causes of increased European exploration

- The Ottoman Empire was a Muslim empire and hostile to Christian Europe. They held power in the Mediterranean and placed high taxes on goods passing through their territory
- The astrolabe meant that ship's position could be plotted accurately (calculate latitude) and the magnetic compass was developed.
- There was growing belief that the world was round, therefore, it was suggested that ships could sail north around Russia or south around Africa in order to reach the Far East.
- The triangular lateen sail meant ships could now sail, regardless of the direction of the wind.



European explorers

- In the early 1500s Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama sailed around the southern tip of Africa-known as the Cape of Good Hope- eventually reaching India. This meant it was no longer necessary to pass through Ottoman land before reaching Europe.
- In 1492 Christopher Columbus 'discovered' the New World. 5 years after Columbus' voyage, the English John Cabot, funded by Henry VIII, reached what is now Newfoundland in Canada.
- There was then the first circumnavigation of the globe led by Portuguese sailor Ferdinand Magellan and took place between 1519 and 1522.
- Spain and Portugal dominated the world of exploration and became rich and powerful as a result. They both began to establish overseas empires, setting up colonies there.

The English join

- Catholic Spain did not allow other countries to trade with their colonies in the New World without a license and such licenses were rarely granted to English sailors.
- **Privateers**- English pirates robbed Spanish treasure ships and ports. No all these acts were illegal. Privateers were licensed by E government to commit such acts. The ships were privately owned, financed by merchants and often E

Trading companies

- Muscovy Company- set up before E accession in 1555 in Russia. It traded timber and furs with Russia
- Eastland Company- formed in 1579, it traded timber, tar, canvas and rope with Scandinavia and the Baltic
- East India Company- formed in 1600, traded with the Far East in silks, spices, cotton and tea

Sir Francis Drake- the first famous pirate?

Aims:

- Personal wealth and glory
- Patriot- hated Spain, he was a Puritan and hated Spanish Catholicism
- Revenge- he wanted to avenge the Spanish attack on his cousin's expedition in 1568 (John Hawkins)

Successes:

- In 1572 Drake captured £40,000 worth of Spanish silver when he attacked Spanish treasure ships travelling from Mexico and Peru.
- Drake set sail in 1577, after returning 3yrs later, he had circumnavigated the globe- the 1st Englishman to do so and the second person to do so in the world
- Drake also returned with £400,000 worth of treasure captured from the Spanish- amounting to about £200million in today's money
- E received half of this- more than her entire income for the whole year
- When the Spanish ambassador demanded Drake to be punished, E responded by knighting him on the deck of his flagship, the Golden Hind

Sir Walter Raleigh- the first English coloniser?

Successes:

- Courtier who led a number of voyages to the Americas
- He had received a royal patent (a license) to establish a colony
- He named the area of North America, 'Virginia' in honour of E, the so called 'Virgin Queen'
- It was believed the area had a huge supply of wine, oil sugar, and flax
- Raleigh was known for introducing potatoes and tobacco to England
- It was felt colonisation would reduce England's dependence on Europe for goods and help solve the poverty crisis through emigration

Failures:

- Raleigh's attempts at colonisation failed
- The 1st settlers faced food shortages and returned home in just under a year
- The 2nd colonists disappeared without trace
- Although Raleigh helped establish the idea of setting up English colonies in the Americas, it would be 4yrs after E's death that the first English colony was established in Virginia at Jamestown

Consequences

Short term:

- Elizabethan exploration increased hostility between Spain and England
- It made heroes of men such as Drake and brought great wealth to merchants and nobles who sponsored the voyages.
- The glory and riches won helped Elizabeth's personal image.

Long term:

- Economically, Britain became rich over time, as a result of the trading links throughout the world.
- Militarily, it led to the development of a powerful navy which dominated the seas until the 20C.
- Politically it led to the establishment of colonies that later grew into the British Empire, which covered $\frac{1}{4}$ of world's surface.

Topic 3: Trouble at home and abroad

Religious matters

Elizabeth's religious settlement

- E=Protestant
- She forbade the Catholic idea of transubstantiation- bread and the wine used in mass, transforms or turns into the body and blood of Christ
- E was not a religious radical and she liked certain elements of Catholicism- church decorations and church music

Aims of her religious settlement

- Political aims- heal the divisions between Catholics and Protestants
 - Pro was strong in the south east of England, Cath strong in the North and West Country
 - Maximise her personal power and wealth by control of the Church

Year	What Elizabeth did	Cath responses	Pro responses
1559	<u>Act of Supremacy:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It re-established the break with Rome and an independent Church of England E went with the title of Supreme Governor rather than Supreme Head- pacify Catholics who saw the Pope as head All members of the clergy swore an oath of loyalty to her 		
1563	<u>Thirty-Nine Articles:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church created was Protestant The New Book of Common Prayer- Catholic mass was abandoned; the Bible was in English; services were held in English; and the clergy were allowed to marry Attempts to pacify Catholics as the law stated that ornaments such as crosses and candles could be placed on the communion table Priest also had to wear traditional Catholics vestments rather than plain black ones worn by Protestants All members of the clergy had to swear acceptance of the bishops, the Prayer Book and the 39 Articles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholics unwilling to accept E as Head of the Church who held public office had their positions taken away Attendance at the Anglican Church was compulsory, failure to attend resulted in a fine of a shilling a week School for training English Catholics as missionaries was founded in the Netherland inn 1568. One yr later, Cath nobles led a rebellion in 	The existence of bishops and vestments worn by the clergy angered Puritans 300 ministers were suspended as they did not want to swear allegiance to all 39

		<p>the North, with the aim of disposing E</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1570 Pope Pius V excommunicated E - this meant that English Cath no longer had to be loyal to the Queen and were to disobey her laws or be excommunicated themselves 	
1571	<p><u>Treason Act:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denying E's supremacy and bringing the Pope's bull of excommunication into England could both be punished by death Anyone who left the country for more than 6 months had their land confiscated 		
1572	Puritan printing presses were destroyed after 2 pamphlets criticising the structure and beliefs of the Ch was published		
1576	E stated that MPs were not allowed to discuss religious matters without her permission, led to the imprisonment of Peter Wentworth, who challenged this		
1581	<p>Jesuits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This was a religious group dedicated to serving the Pope They were sent to England as educators They aimed to gain influence over the rich by turning them against the Queen Once in England they helped to smuggle other priests into the country <p>To deal with this problem, E passed a law which raised the fine for recusancy (refusing to attend Ch) to £20 and any attempts to convert people to the Cath faith was a treasonable offence</p>		
1585	<p><u>Act Against Jesuits and Seminary Priests:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Made becoming a priest treason All priests were ordered to leave England within 40 days on pain of death <p>Pursuivants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> These were officials who raided the 'safe houses' hiding Cath priests Searches could last up to a week and they ripped apart houses Jesuit Edmund Campion was caught within a year of his arrival 		
1593	<p>Catholics' were only allowed no further than 5 miles from their homes</p> <p><u>Act Against Seditious Sectaries:</u></p> <p>Execute anybody suspected of being a Separatist</p>		

Conclusion

- Government campaign against Cath largely successful- estimated that 10% of the population were Cath sympathisers, by the end of E's reign only 2% were recusants
- E's middle way satisfied most people- her Ch was a Pro Ch that looked Cath
- E religious settlement on 1559 remained in place
- Government measures applied pressure on those who could not accept the 'Middle Way'

Mary Queen of Scots

Mary's background

- Mary was pro-French, a Cath and a potential heir to the English throne
- When MQS arrived in England in 1568 she was placed under house arrest



The Northern Rebellion, 1569

Causes:

- MQS arrival in England
- Duke of Norfolk played a central role- he was an English noble
- He resented William Cecil's power as E's chief minister
- Norfolk= Cath sympathiser

Events:

- Norfolk planned on marrying Mary
- He enlisted the help of a number of courtiers, including 2 of E's councillors- including Nicholas Throckmorton and Robert Dudley
- Dudley soon confessed all to E and Cecil
- Once Dudley spilled, Norfolk fled Court, was captured and imprisoned
- There were still rumours that the uprising was going ahead so E summoned the Earl of Northumberland and Westmorland to Court (both Cath suspects)
- The 2 earls returned home humiliated and carried out the rebellion
- 5,000 rebels moved through the north of England
- Moved south and most of the land east of the Pennines was in rebel hands
- By December the rebels captured Barnard Castle and the port of Hartlepool where they awaited Spanish support

Consequences:

- Spanish support never came (they disliked MQS=French)
- Vast majority of English Cath and most of the nobility remained loyal to E
- The Pope had not issued the excommunication against E, had this been done more Cath may have supported the rebellion
- Rebellion failed- 450 rebels were executed, including Northumberland (Westmorland escaped abroad)
- E strengthened her control by reorganising the Council of the North and by confiscating the lands of the rebels
- Norfolk was imprisoned by 9 months and then released

Ridolfi Plot, 1571

Causes:

- Ridolfi= Cath Italian banker living in London
- Restore Cath

Events:

- The plan involved, MQS, the Pope, Phillip II of Spain and the Duke of Norfolk
- Plan: E to be assassinated and replaced by MQS
- The idea was for 6,000 Spanish troops to land at Harwich in Essex, led by the Duke of Alba
- Once E was murdered, MQS was to marry the Duke of Norfolk

Consequences:

- E's intelligence discovered the conspiracy
- The Spanish ambassador was expelled from England
- Norfolk was arrested and found guilty of treason and was beheaded in 1572
- Parliament passed a law that declared that anyone making a claim to the throne and knowing of a plan to assassinate the monarch should be removed from the succession
- MQS survived (E refused to have her executed)

The Throckmorton Plot, 1583

Events:

- Plan was hatched for a French Cath force, supported by the Spanish and Papal money to invade England
- MQS was to be freed, there was to be a Cath uprising involving Jesuits, seminary priests and English Cath
- E was to be murdered and replaced by MQS
- Francis Throckmorton, acted as the intermediary between MQS and the new Spanish Ambassador
- Walsingham discovered the plot and Throckmorton was tortured

Consequences:

- Bond of Association was established- anybody associated with an assassination plot against E would not be allowed to benefit from the Queen's death
- Throckmorton was executed in 1584
- No more Spanish ambassadors lived in England for the rest of E's reign
- The lack of evidence meant MQS escaped
- It made Walsingham more determined to find evidence of MQS's treasonous activity

Babington Plot, 1586

Causes:

- MQS became increasingly resentful of her situation- she had been imprisoned for 20yrs and cut off from the outside world

Events:

- MQS began secret correspondence with the French Ambassador, Sir Anthony Babington

- Letters between the 2 were written in code
- Plot was to free MQS, kill E, place MQS on the throne and re-establishing Cath with the help of a Spanish invasion force
- Walsingham knew about the letters and were deciphered before they reached MQS
- Mary eventually wrote a coded letter approving of the plot and the assassination of E
- Babington was arrested and along with 6 other conspirators was killed

Trial and Execution of MQS

Death warrant:

- MQS was put on trial and found guilty of treason
- Cecil prepared the death warrant but E refused to sign it
- Only of rumours of a Spanish landing in Wales did she sign it
- E told her secretary not to seal the death warrant, her instructions were ignored and in Feb 1587 MQS was beheaded

Elizabeth's response:

- When news came that MQS had been executed E=angry
- She had committed regicide- deliberate killing of a monarch
- She refused to see Cecil for 6 months and her secretary was imprisoned
- E knew that in killing MQS she had created a martyr for the Cath cause
- English Cath did not rise up in protest

Foreign relations:

- Angered Phillip II, the French and even the King of the Scots
- E deflected their anger by claiming her innocence, blaming her secretary
- Historians have questioned Whether E's grief over her cousin was genuine- was it an act to cover up E's ruthlessness in getting rid of Mary

Conflict with Spain

Causes of the conflict

Religious differences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E had rejected Phillip's marriage proposal • He hated E's religious settlement • P= Cath and saw E as a heretic-did not follow the official religion • Conqueror England and restore Cath
Rebellion in the Netherlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sp ruled the Neth • Neth was largely Pro • A Civil war in the Neth led Phillip to crush the war brutally • The brutality increased hatred of Sp in Eng • English economy depended on the cloth trade in Antwerp- various trade restrictions disrupted Eng business • E desires: Pro to overthrow Sp rule • Why? Neth was on Eng's doorstep and did not want a hostile Cath power so close by • However, if E was support the Dutch Pro it would lead to a war

	<p>with Sp which Eng could not afford</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solution: 'Peace-Party'- PC gave indirect help to the rebels. Unofficially Eng helped the Pro cause by allowing rebel ships to stay in Eng ports and allowing E pirates to disrupt So supply lines to the Neth and from 1581, E sent rebels funds
Privateers, plots and persecution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attacks on Sp treasure by Eng privateers- Francis Drake • Phillip had been plotting against E- Sp Ambassadors had been involved in plots surrounding MQS • E's persecution of Cath

Spanish plans for invasion

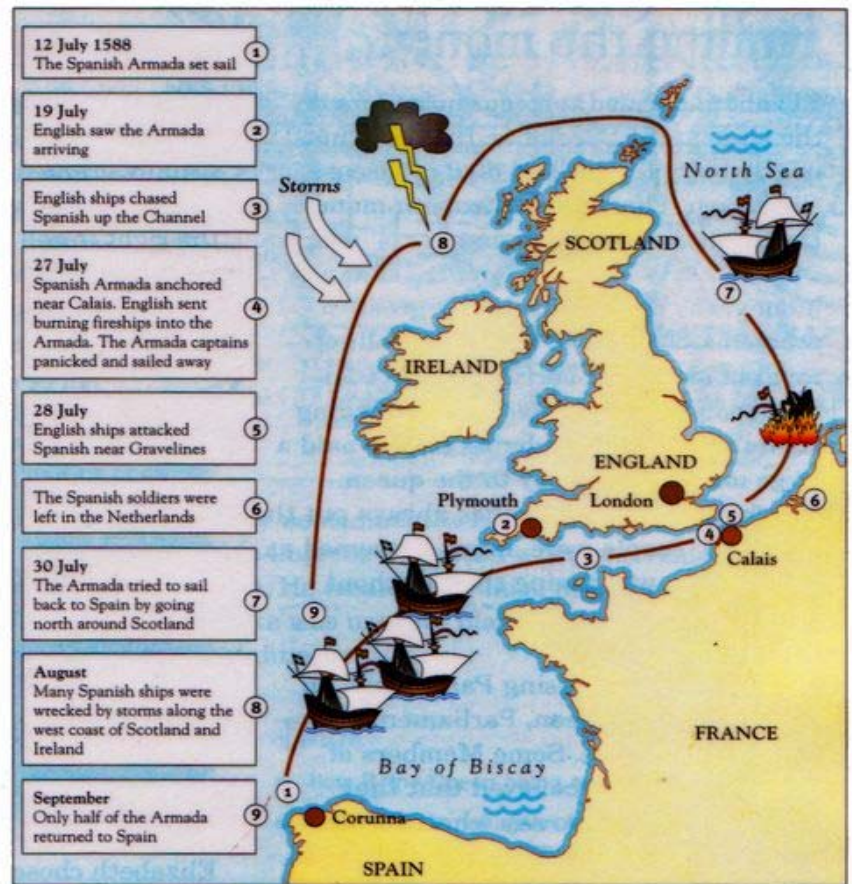
- Phillip prepared a fleet of 130 ships armed with 2,500 guns
- The plan was for the Armada to sail up the Eng Channel in order to meet the Sp army in the Neth
- This army, numbering 30,000 men, under the command of Duke of Parma, would capture ports on the south coast
- Once they had landed they would march to London

	Spanish side	English side
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duke of Medina Sidonia to lead the Armada • Chosen because of rank rather than ability • He had not experience of being at sea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lord Howard was Lord High Admiral and was assisted by Sir Francis Drake was second-in-command • SFD was experienced in hit and run tactics
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 130 ships • 2,500 guns • Potentially 30,000 men 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20,000 men, but with little training or equipment • The army was spread along the coast as E did not know Sp would land • 34 battleships, but private individuals and trading companies were ordered to make their ship available, so 200 ships were ready to use
Ships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large and slow • Guns required them to get close to the enemy, using short-range guns • Guns took up much deck space • Lost 5 ships and many were badly damaged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eng ships, due to Hawkins, were lighter, faster and more manoeuvrable • Distanced themselves from the Sp by using long-range guns, called culverins • Culverins could be reloaded quickly and aimed low, hitting the enemy below the waterline • Eng did not lose a single ship

The launch of the Armada

- Armada left Lisbon May 1558, but storms mean they lost supplies and had to head back for repairs
- Phillip's plan was to pick up troop in the Neth, so the Armada had to pass the Eng coast
- Given the size, this could not go unnoticed
- The Eng first spotted the Armada on 19 July at Cornwall

- A system of beacons had been built across the south east coast were lit to send the news of the Armada's arrival to London
- Sp sailed up the Channel and were followed by the Eng fleet
- The Armada anchored in Calais
- Drake decided to on 28 July send 8 old Eng ships, filled with tar and oil and set on fire, towards the anchored ships
- The Sp panicked and many fled out to sea
- They were then scattered by the winds
- At the Battle of Gravelines, thousands of Sp lives were lost
- E still feared a Sp invasion so she visited her troops at Tilbury



The route of the Spanish Armada

Defeat of the Armada

- The change in the wind's direction meant there was not chance for the Armada to meet with Parma's troops in the Neth
- Fleet headed home
- Could not go through the Eng Channel so they were chased up the north of England until Scotland
- Went past Ireland and by the time they returned to Sp, 60 ships made it back and an estimated 20,000 Spaniards had been killed

Aftermath

- Victory was celebrated in Eng- propaganda tool
- National pride was boosted
- Eng independence was safeguarded and Pro preserved
- Important role of the wind in Eng victory was a sign by God of his approval of Pro
- Eng established itself as a major naval power
- Anglo-Spanish war dragged on- Phillip launched further Armadas in 1596, and 1597, both driven back by storms
- Eng launched an unsuccessful counter-Armada against Sp in 1589
- The war placed huge strains on the Eng economy, causing inflation and hardship for the poor
- War lasted beyond the deaths of E and Phillip, ending in 1604.
- Neither side really won

Topic 4:

Historic Site: Hardwick Hall



Background

- Located near Chesterfield in Derbyshire
- It is one of the prodigy houses- mansions built by wealthy courtiers in E's reign. Many were built to host E as she went on her progresses, but she never visited Hardwick Hall
- It was built by Elizabeth, the Countess of Shrewsbury, more commonly known as '**Bess of Hardwick**'
- After the Queen, she was the wealthiest woman in England
- She was the daughter of a wealthy gentleman; she became enormously wealthy through her FOUR marriages.
- When her fourth husband, the Earl of Shrewsbury, died, Bess decided to use some of the money she inherited to build a statement house.
- It was built on the site of her old family home, where she was born.
- The Old Hall was an old fashioned building and the ruins still stand next to the new house.



Construction

- Construction started in 1590 and the house took 7yrs to build
- Bess lived in the area until she died in 1608
- Her granddaughter, Arabella Stuart, a potential heir to the throne, lived in Hardwick too
- The Hall was designed by Robert Smythson in the latest **Renaissance** style



Exterior design

- Influenced by Italian architecture, the house is built of stone and its symmetrical main façade is dominated by huge **mullioned windows** and a ground floor **loggia** (a gallery with one side opening into a garden)
- 'Hardwick Hall, more glass than wall'
- Proportion and symmetry were important



Interior design

- Each of the main 3 floors featured a higher ceiling than the floor below, reflecting the importance of the occupants and functions of the rooms
- The servants lived and worked on the ground floor
- Wide, winding staircase that leads up to the state rooms on the second floor
- There are grand alabaster fireplaces throughout and oak panelling
- The long gallery, a new architectural feature and the height of fashion, runs the entire second floor
- 50 metres long
- The gallery was used for indoor exercise, dancing and conversation
- There is also a grand room for receiving guests and holding banquets called the High Great Chamber
- It features tapestries and plaster frieze illustrating hunting scenes, the royal coat of arms features prominently in this room, to show Bess's loyalty to Queen Elizabeth
- Hardwick Hall reflects the increasing prosperity of the gentry, new fashions and stability

