

## QUEEN ELIZABETH I

Became Queen in 1558 aged 25. Her father was Henry VIII and he had executed her mother Anne Boleyn. She inherited an unstable kingdom divided by religion, increasing poverty and increasingly powerful foreign enemies.



### Elizabeth's strengths: PEP

- **Parents:** She had English parents, Anne Boleyn and Henry VIII. This meant that she would be free from overseas influences.
- **Education:** Elizabeth had a difficult childhood and had to use her intelligence in order to survive during the reign of her Catholic half-sister. Elizabeth spoke French, Flemish, Italian and Spanish, and many other languages; she was one of the most educated women of her generation.
- **Popularity:** Elizabeth was popular with many people in England and her reign was seen as a fresh start.



### Elizabeth's challenges: REMEMBER : GRIM

- **Gender:** Some feared a female ruler meant that England would be seen as weak. There were also worries about who Elizabeth might marry; a foreign prince could end up taking control.
- **Religion:** Henry VIII, had broken away from the Roman Catholic Church and started his own Church of England. Elizabeth's sister, Mary I had made England a Catholic. Elizabeth now had to settle the tension and threat from Puritans (extreme Protestants) and Catholics who said she shouldn't be Queen (they didn't recognize her mothers marriage to Henry).
- **Invasion:** Elizabeth's cousin, Mary, Queen of Scots, had a claim to the throne. Mary was a Catholic and married to the heir to the French throne. They could try to invade and threaten Elizabeth's position. Spain and France also had the support of the Pope.
- **Money:** Elizabeth's sister, Mary, had left debts of £250,000, which was a great deal of money at the time. Liz had to raise taxes an unpopular policy with so much poverty.

**TEST YOURSELF:**



What does PEP stand for?

.....  
.....

What does GRIM stand for?

.....  
.....

Who had the power?

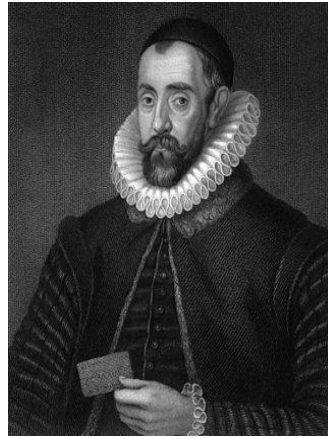
The Royal Court was the center of power it included the Privy Council

Mix and match

A) Privy Council	1. House of Lords and House of Commons. Influenced tax and could pass laws. The Queen called them when she liked and could ignore their advice.
B) Justices of the Peace	2. Appointed by Liz. Ran areas of the country and had to raise militia for the Queen when needed.
C) Parliament	3. Several in every county and they maintained law and order. Only met 13 times in the 45 year reign of Liz.
D) Lord Lieutenants	4. Day to day running of the country and giving advice to the Queen. The Queen could technically appoint whom she chose but she had to be careful to appoint the most powerful landowners to prevent a rebellion. If they united the Queen had to do as they said but they usually argued.

Answers: A4, B3, C1, D2

**Key figures:**



- 1) William Cecil -Secretary of State- most important advisor
- 2) Sir Francis Walsingham-The Spymaster
- 3) Robert Dudley -Earl of Leicester and advisor (rumors that he was Elizabeth's lover)



PRACTICE EXAM QUESTION:

Write an account of how the Elizabethan government worked.  
 Explain the importance of the Privy Council.

Marriage

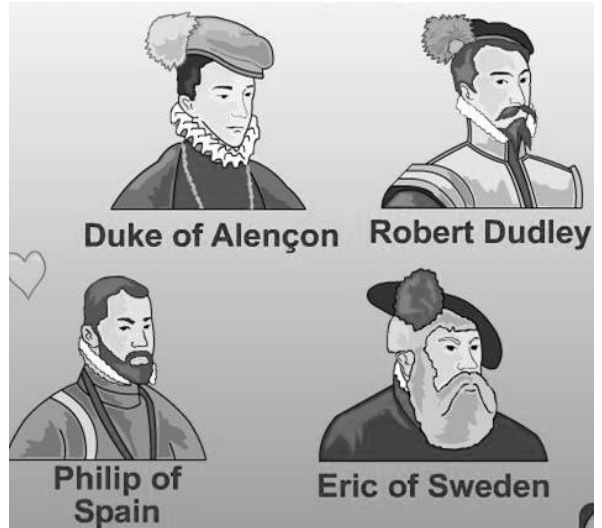
Highlight the arguments below into FOR and AGAINST marriage

Bad experience watching her fathers relationships	Reduce risk of invasion
Create an alliance with a foreign country	Guarantee the loyalty of a powerful English family
Produce an heir for stability and guard against the threat of MQS	Risk of death in childbirth
Loss of authority -husband takes power	Use marriage as a bargaining chip when dealing with foreign leaders and important figures in England

**The suitors**

1) King Phillip of Spain- One of the wealthiest and most powerful men in the world. Catholic. Was married to Elizabeth's sister but rarely visited England and the marriage had not resulted in an heir.

2) Robert Dudley Earl of Leicester- childhood friend of Elizabeth, one of her favourites. Gossip suggested they were lovers. He was a member of the Privy Council and key member of the royal court. The suspicious circumstances of his wife's death made it difficult for Elizabeth to marry him.



3) Duke of Alençon and Anjou- French King's brother and heir to the throne. By the time marriage was proposed Elizabeth was 46 and probably beyond having a child which could result in England falling under French control. He was a Catholic. Many important figures in Elizabeth's court were against the marriage.



4) Research Eric of Sweden & William of Orange

INSTEAD ELIZABETH CREATED THE CULT OF 'THE VIRGIN QUEEN' MARRIED TO HER COUNTRY.



PRACTICE EXAM QUESTION:

Explain what was important about the issue of Elizabeth's marriage

REBELLIONS: Use the info below & your own research to complete the table



**The Northern Rebellion (1569)** In 1569, Thomas Percy (Earl of Northumberland) and Charles Neville (Earl of Westmorland) led a rebellion to release Mary Queen of Scots, as they believed she had a better claim to the throne as she was Catholic. The Duke of Norfolk left the royal court to join their rebellion in **the North**. An army of 4600 men marched south. Elizabeth struggled to gather an army but soon one of her trusted lords, the Earl of Sussex raised an army and the rebels split up. 400 rebels were executed, Northumberland was executed, Norfolk was imprisoned in the Tower, and an Act was later passed stating that it was now treason to question Elizabeth's position as Queen.

**Ridolfi Plot (1571)** The Ridolfi plot was a plot in 1571 to assassinate Queen Elizabeth I of England and replace her with Mary, Queen of Scots. The plot was hatched and planned by

Roberto di Ridolfi, an international banker who was able to travel between Brussels, Rome and Madrid to gather support without attracting too much suspicion. Norfolk became involved with this plot and it the plan was for him to marry Mary Queen of Scots. Also the plan was for the Netherlands to invade England at the same time as another Northern rebellion. Elizabeth's network of spies proved too much for the plotters and a letter was discovered on its way north. Norfolk confessed his involvements and was executed in 2 June 1572.

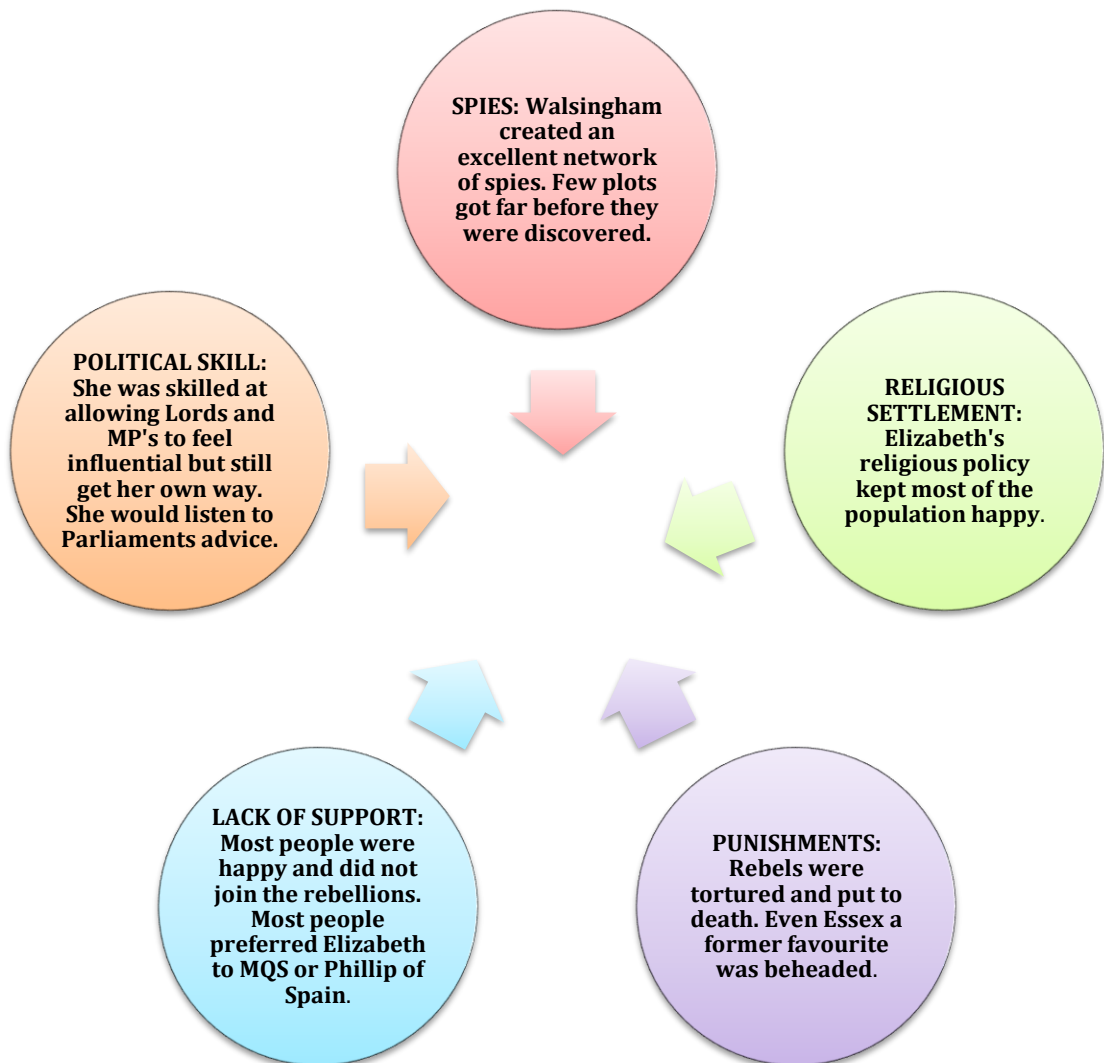
**The Babington Plot (1586)** This was another attempt to murder Elizabeth and place Mary Queen of Scots, on the throne. Led by Anthony Babington, it was the discovery of this plot that led to Mary's trial and execution when it was found that she had known about and agreed with the plot all along. Walsingham had intercepted her letters and he allowed the planning of the plot to continue knowing Mary would eventually fall into a trap.

**Essex's Rebellion (1601)** In 1601, the disgruntled Earl of Essex led a rebellion in an attempt to seize power from an aging Queen. Essex had gradually lost favour with the Queen and saw few advances in his social position towards the end of her reign. Elizabeth eventually pushed Essex into action by ruining his economic future in September 1600 when she refused to renew Essex's monopoly on the import of sweet wines. In February 1601 Essex rallied a group of noblemen. Essex took 4 of the queens' privy councillors' hostage and with 200 followers marched to his **London** house with them. Robert Cecil responded quickly, he labelled Essex a traitor and many of the rebels abandoned the march. Essex returned to his house to find the hostages had been released by supporters who had abandoned the causes. Two weeks later, he was put on trial for treason and executed in February 1601.

**The Throckmorton Plot, 1583** Led by Sir Francis Throckmorton, the plan was to assassinated Elizabeth and replace her with MQS. Once Elizabeth had been killed, there would be an invasion by the French Catholic, Henry, Duke of Guise, and an uprising of English Catholics. The plot also involved the Spanish ambassador (representative). Francis Throckmorton acted as a go between (a messenger), when Francis Walsingham found out he put Throckmorton under surveillance (followed). Throckmorton was executed and MQS was placed under even closer guard. The Spanish ambassador was sent back home and was the last of the Spanish ambassadors to be invited to court during the rest of Elizabeth's reign.

NAME, DATE & CAUSES	KEY DETAILS/ EVENTS	CONSEQUENCES

## Why did rebellions fail?



### PRACTICE EXAM QUESTIONS

Write an account of the failure of Essex's rebellion

Write an account of how Elizabeth dealt with plots and rebellions against her rule

Explain what was important about the advantages Elizabeth had over those plotting rebellions against her.

Write an account of the ways in which the Babington Plot affected Elizabeth's policy towards MQS

Explain the importance of the execution of MQS

## Mary Queen of Scots:



MQS was Elizabeth's cousin (not to be confused with Mary I, who was Elizabeth's sister), so she had a dynastic claim to the line of succession to the English throne. However, MQS was a Catholic and also half-French, making her unsuitable as a monarch to the majority of English people.

Her first two husbands died and she was implicated in the second one's murder. She was forced to abdicate and was imprisoned. She managed to escape and fled to England where she sought refuge from Elizabeth in 1568.

Mary's threat to Elizabeth suddenly became more immediate now that she was in the country. In the short term, Elizabeth allowed Mary to live in Carlisle Castle as a closely guarded 'guest'. But now she was faced with a dilemma: what should she do with MQS?

## Elizabeth's Options:

- Getting Mary out of the country - sending Mary back to Scotland or France could backfire, allowing her to gather more support to challenge Elizabeth.
- Keeping Mary imprisoned - this would reduce the risk of Mary gathering more support back in Scotland or France and allow Elizabeth to keep tight control. But unlawfully imprisoning Mary could provoke international outcry and attacks anyway.
- Executing Mary - whilst this would remove the figurehead for Catholic challengers, it could also provoke international attacks and set a precedent for killing a queen.

In the short term Elizabeth decided to keep Mary as a closely guarded royal 'guest', moving her from castle to castle so she would not be the focus of plots.

Alongside Mary's challenge, Elizabeth faced many other challenges and plots against her. Most of them were led by Catholics aiming to get Mary on the throne and return England to Catholic rule. By 1572 MPs were pressurising Elizabeth to have Mary executed in order to keep England secure.

## Mary was executed

Mary was put on trial, found guilty of treason and was executed on 8 February 1587. The executioner held up her severed head and shouted "God save the Queen".





Elizabeth feared the reaction of two Catholic countries-can you name them?

- 1)
- 2)

Although MQS was seen as a martyr and there was much outrage even MQS' son accepted the apology for his mothers death.



RESEARCH: Who were the Jesuits?

Who was Edmund

Campion?

Elizabeth & Religion



1571 Recusancy fines for Catholics who didn't attend Protestant services- the rich could easily afford this but it wasn't enforced strictly.

1593 Statute of confinement- Catholics needed permission to travel more than 5miles from home

Protestant	Middle Way
Church services and Bible in English	Called herself 'Supreme Governor'
Act of Uniformity (1559)	Many elements of the Catholic services were allowed
Punished those who refused to go to Church of England services (recusants)	English and Latin prayer book
Executed Catholic plot leader	Changes to Communion service
Catholic priests conducting secret services were executed	

Why did Elizabeth's religious policy change?

Match up the two sides of the table

Abroad-threats from	The popularity of people like Campion undermined Elizabeth -she needed to stop them spreading their message.
Powerful Catholics	Although these plots failed they showed Elizabeth she had enemies who wanted to overthrow her and restore the Catholic Church.
Jesuit missionaries	The North of England had several powerful Catholic families who mostly remained loyal but there was growing concern that they might rebel following the Pope.
Plots-Ridolfi, Throckmorton and Babington	Spain and France were powerful Catholic countries. Invasion was a real threat. The Spanish Armada 1588 showed the threat was serious although after its defeat the threat declined.

**Powerful Puritans:**

Hardline Puritans were known as Presbyterians

Sir Francis Walsingham (largely kept his views to himself)

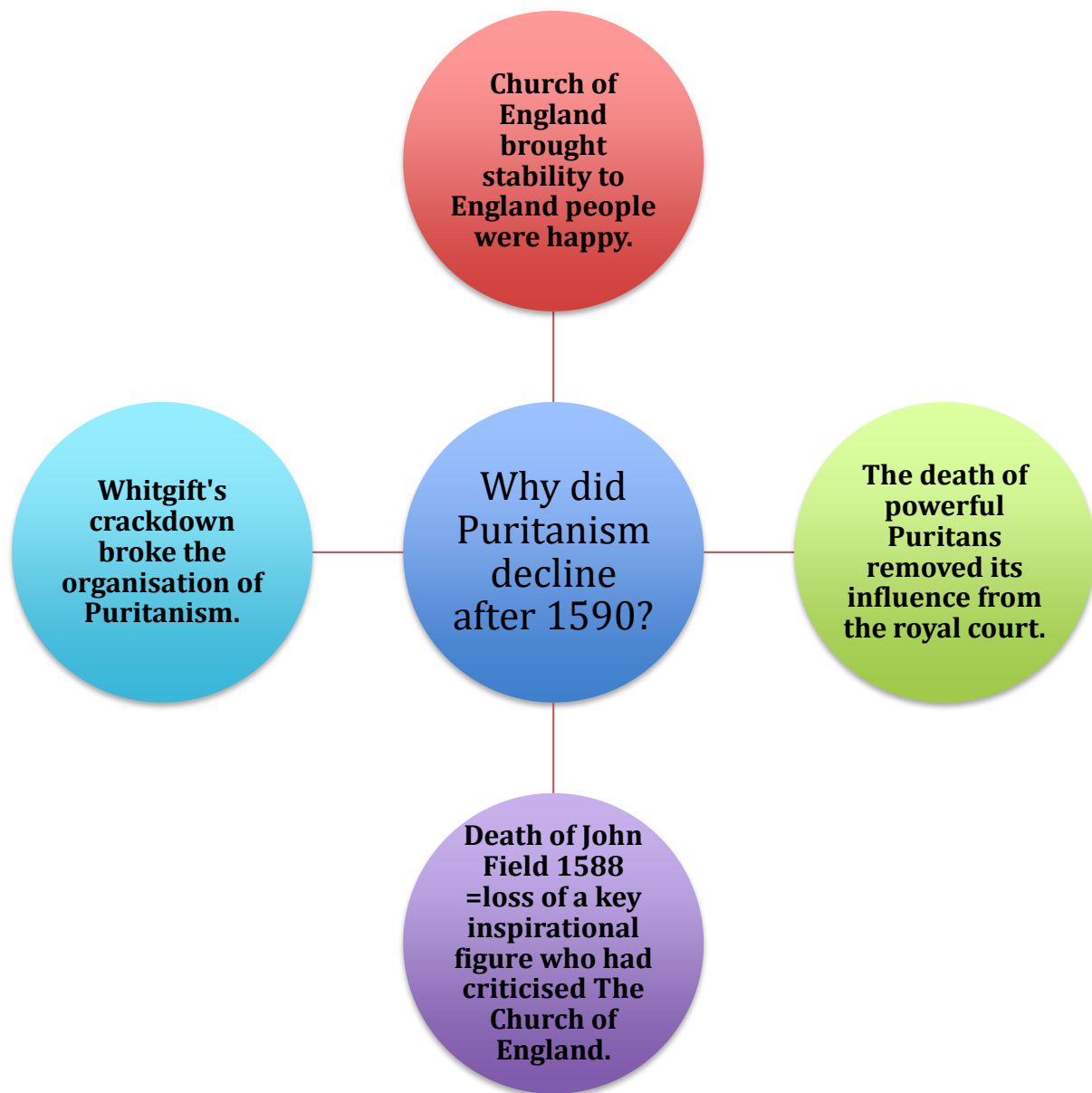
Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester

Peter Wentworth & Anthony Cope (MP's tried to pass bills but not much support)

**Measures against Puritans :**

- 1) Whitgift was a new Archbishop who was anti-Puritan he brought in rules banning unlicensed preaching and forcing Church attendance with recusancy fines.
- 2) Imprisonment of hundreds of clergymen
- 3) Punishment of printers spreading the Puritan message
- 4) High profile Puritans punished such as Anthony Cope who was put in the Tower of London





**PRACTICE EXAM QUESTIONS:**

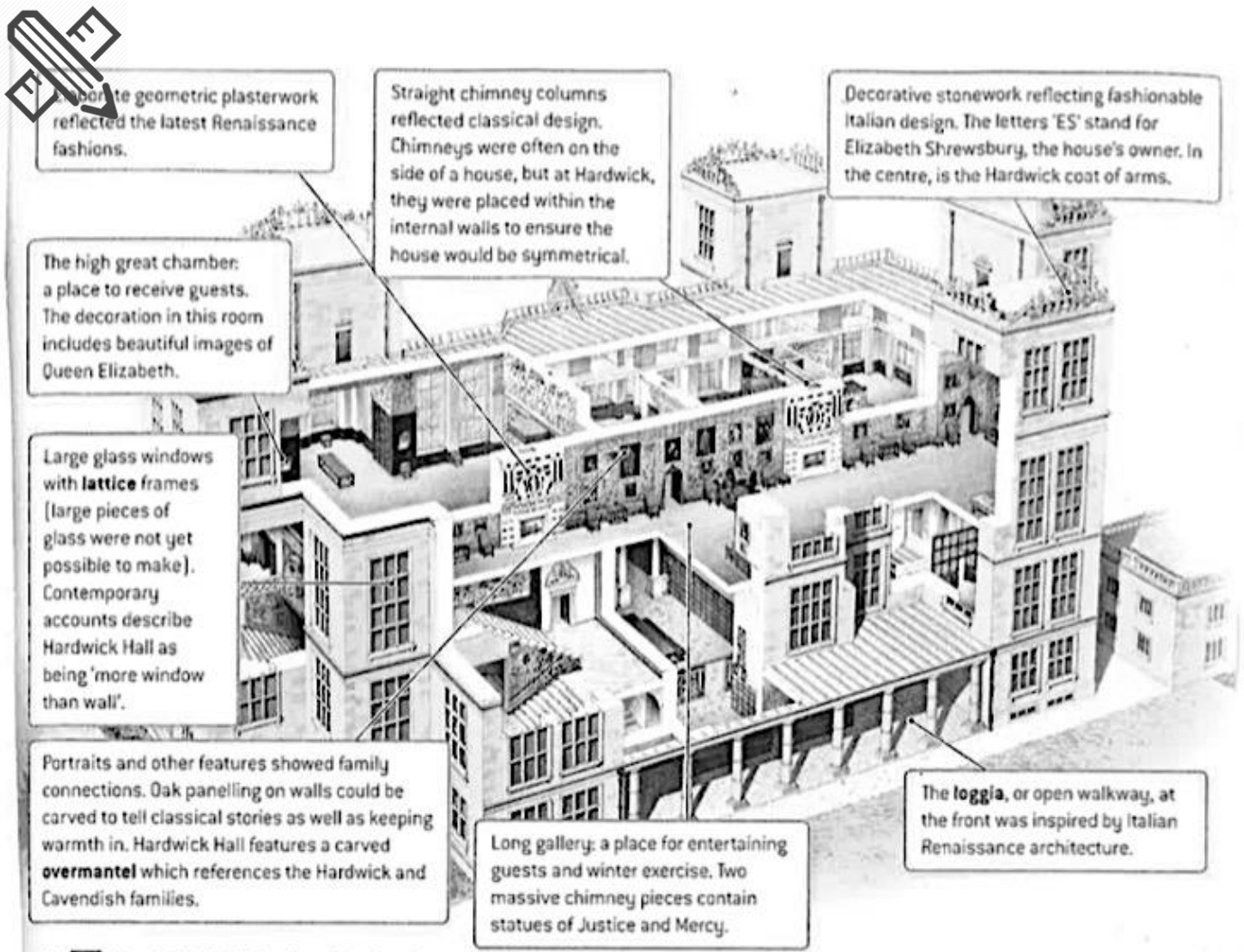
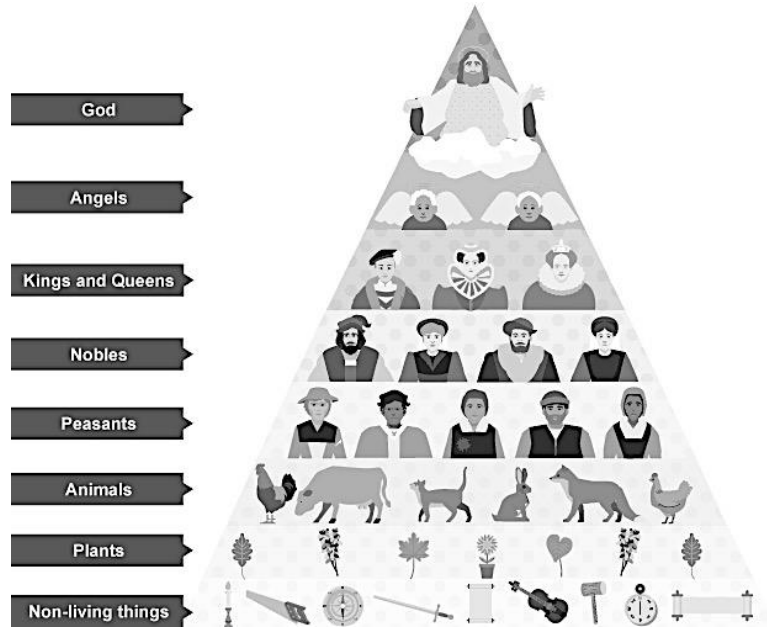
Write an account of the ways in which Puritans challenged the Elizabethan Church

Explain the importance of Archbishop John Whitgift in the decline in Puritanism in Elizabethan England

The Great Chain of Being  
 Everyone knew their place  
 but under Elizabeth's reign  
 the gentry grew and began  
 to fill powerful positions  
 in Parliament and as JP's.

Changing homes:  
 To show off wealth &  
 privilege

- 1) purpose -no longer for defense
- 2) symmetrical-with open courtyards (no longer need closed for defense)
- 3) expensive glass windows to show off wealth
- 4) Medieval great hall replaced by great chamber
- 5) Privacy-the increased number of rooms led to separation of owners from servants

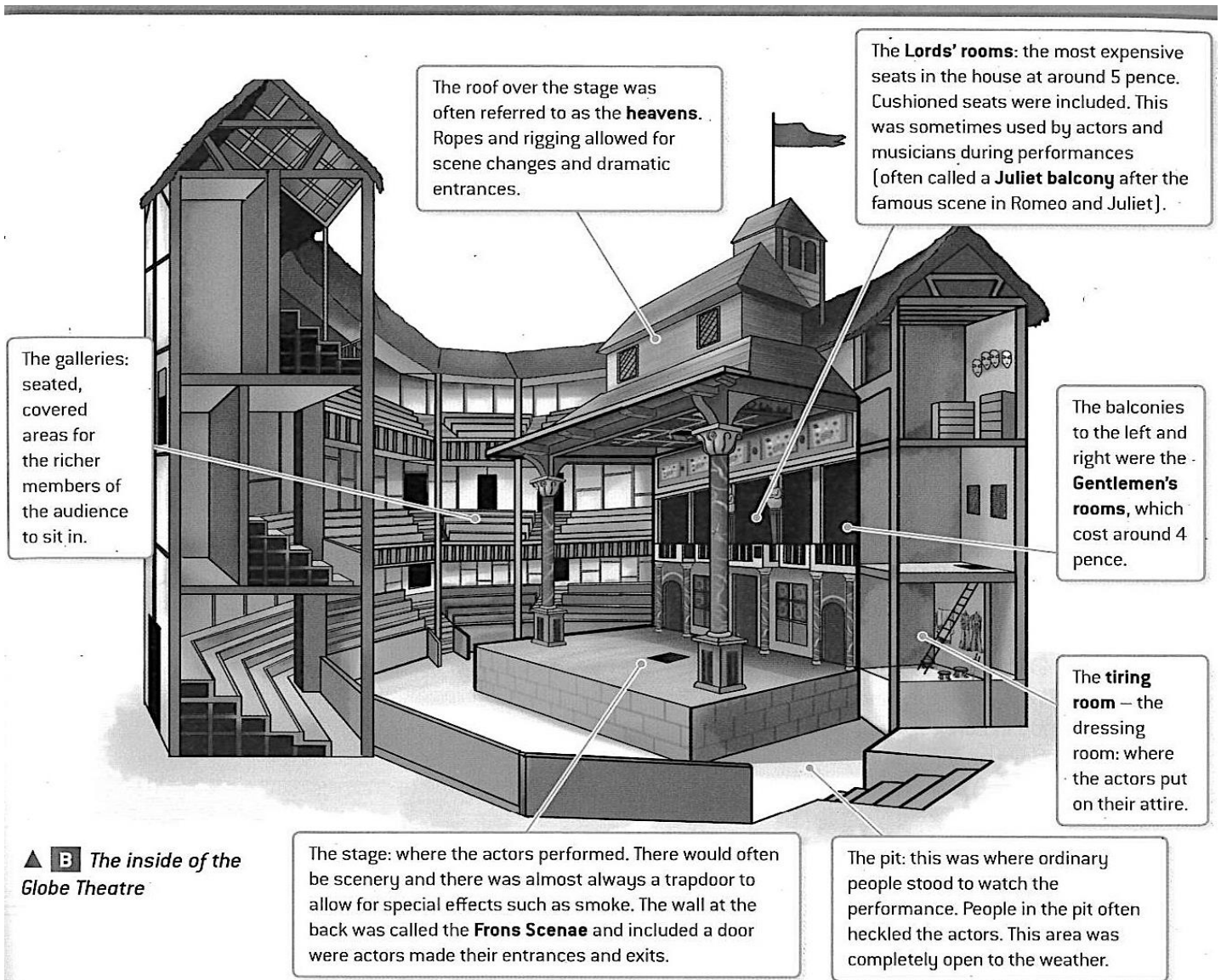


▲ B Hardwick Hall: details of the interior and exterior

'The main reason for building stately homes in Elizabethan times was to demonstrate the success and wealth of its owner.' How far do you agree...?

**Elizabethan Theatre** True or False (annotate to add the correct answer)

- a) Women and men performed on stage
- b) Shakespeare only wrote comedies
- c) Richard Burbage was a famous actor
- d) Companies had patrons who provided funding
- e) Performances usually began at 3pm



Answers a) F b) F c) T d) T e) T

Why was the theatre so popular?

It was cheap for poor- the rich could show off



It was new, exciting and sociable  
It was contemporary and many plays carried  
messages



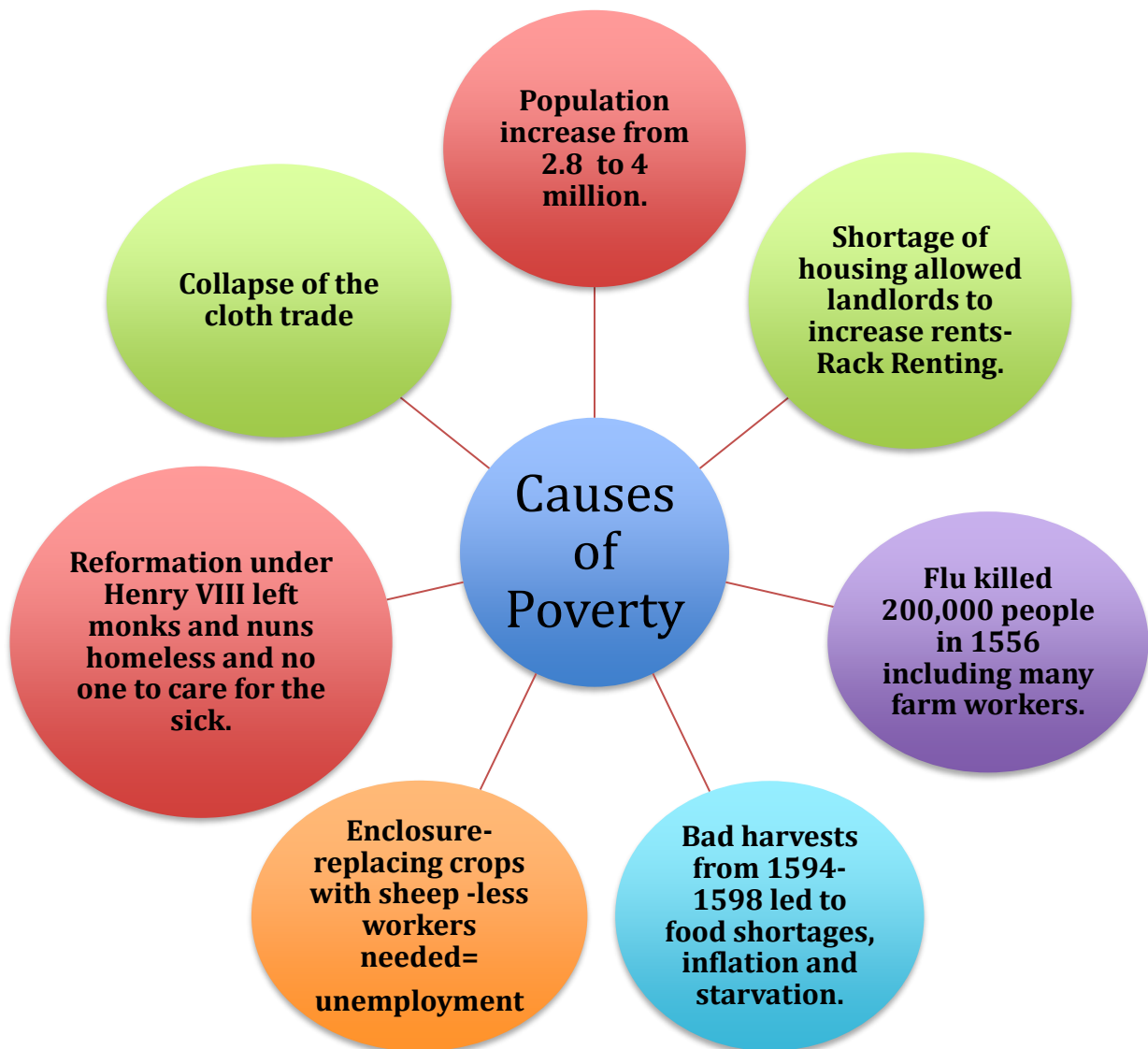
Who opposed the theatre?

Puritans saw it as a distraction from prayer  
Some feared big crowds would spread disease  
Some thought it was sinful and full of thieves, crime, drunkenness  
and immoral behaviour



EXAM PRACTICE QUESTION: Explain what was important about  
Elizabethan theatre

### Poverty



Reactions:

Great Chain of Being- duty to help the poor  
Increased almshouses and charities

Undeserving Poor: vagabonds & sturdy beggars

Thomas Harman published a book which made people aware and fear  
STURDY BEGGARS

Mix and match:

The Counterfeit Crank	Pretended to be mad and stuck chicken heads in his ears or barked like a dog.
Baretop Trickster	Bit soap so he frothed at the mouth hoping people would give him money out of sympathy.
Clapper Dudgeon	Cut themselves and tied dirty bandages around the wounds to gain sympathy and money.
Tom O' Bedlam	Women who tricked men into following them by removing clothing. The men would then be beaten and robbed by her accomplices.

**Previous attempts:**

YORK: 1515- beggar licenses were issued  
 If beggars refused to work they were sent to the House of Correction

IPSWICH: Opened a hospital to help the old and sick  
 Introduced a youth training scheme to teach them a trade so they could escape poverty

NORWICH: Rich citizens were taxed to pay for the care of the vulnerable

**POOR LAW 1601**

- Each parish had to look after its own poor. If anyone was found without money, he was sent back to his own village. If he did not return to his own village, he was flogged.
- In each parish, Overseers for the Poor collected a tax called the Poor Rate. They could use this to buy tools and materials for the poor to work, and to see that pauper children were apprenticed to learn a trade.
- Anybody who refused to work was punished usually sent to the House of Correction or whipped

These laws remained in force for more than 200 years.

3 categories:

HELPLESS POOR (SICK & OLD)	Given food and accommodation
ABLE BODIED POOR (FIT)	Had to work in exchange for food
IDLE POOR	Punished and sent to HOC



What are the positives about the new approach in 1601?

.....  
.....  
.....

Think, think, think.

Why problems can you foresee?

.....  
.....  
.....

### Explorers

What changed to allow exploration?  
Defences- better weapons such as cannons

Navigation-astrolabe allowed sailors to judge position & better compasses

Technology-better designed ships with lateen sail made them faster



**John Hawkins**

**Key exploration**  
Circumnavigated the globe

**Walter Raleigh**

**Key exploration**  
Set up a colony on Roanoke Island

**Key impact**  
Colonisation of North America

RESEARCH: Find out more key details of what the above individuals achieved and list them below. Also examine the role of East India Trading Company



## CONFLICT WITH SPAIN

- 1) MARRIAGE: Phillip proposed to Elizabeth in 1559 but she kept him waiting for an answer. Tensions grew as it became clear she wasn't interested.
- 2) RELIGION: Elizabeth returned England to a Protestant country. Spain was Catholic.
- 3) Papal bull: 1570-the Pope excommunicated Elizabeth and called for all Catholics to challenge her rule
- 4) SAILORS: Drake and others had raided Spanish ships and ports including at Cadiz. Elizabeth had encouraged this.
- 5) NETHERLANDS: Elizabeth had supported the Protestant uprising against the Spanish rulers by sending money and allowing English volunteers to fight. In 1585 she sent Dudley with 7000 soldiers (they had little impact).



EXAM PRACTICE QUESTION: Write an account of the growing conflict between England and Spain between 1568 and 1587.

Changes to Naval Warfare: Add your own notes here

Size of the fleet grew under commander John Hawkins

Lines of battle

Raids

Fireships

Cannons-more powerful

Lateen sails- faster more maneuverable ships

Astrolabe -greater accuracy of navigation

THE SPANISH ARMADA:



1. Armada sets sail for England
2. The Armada is sighted and beacons are lit along the English coast



3. The Armada sails through the English Channel - little damage inflicted
4. The Armada anchors near Calais and the English send in fireships. The Armada panics and scatter out of their crescent formation.



5. Strong storms/wind push the Spanish fleet towards Gravelines where 'The Battle of Gravelines' takes place. The English inflict heavy damage here.
6. The wind/ storm forces the Spanish fleet north and the English turn back.



7. The Armada sails home but has to go around Scotland and Ireland - and many ships are wrecked.
8. The Spanish fleet arrives back home but most ships are lost.

RESULTS :



How was the Armada defeated?

<b>No reinforcements</b>	The Spanish plan relied on stopping to pick up the Duke of Parma's army to boost their numbers, but the fleet was unable to anchor and so never picked them up.
<b>Tactics</b>	Spanish tactics were to get close enough to English ships to board them, whereas the English tactic was to attack from a safe distance.
<b>Ships</b>	Spanish ships were slower and less equipped for the bad weather than the English ships.
<b>Weapons</b>	The English ships had cannon they could fire at a safe distance and could be reloaded quickly. The design of the Spanish cannon meant that they could only fire over short distances and were slow to re-load.
<b>Weather</b>	The lack of a secure port where the Spanish could take shelter meant that the Spanish ships were buffeted by the wind. The thinking was that God intervened and the windy weather was a sign that God was on Elizabeth's side.

Let's Recap



In what ways was Elizabeth's reign a GOLDEN AGE? Look back through the booklet to complete your table:

GOLDEN AGE	NOT GOLDEN
------------	------------

--	--