



**TheGOALKeeper's
Guide to**

**GCSE EDEXCEL HISTORY
9-1 (1H10)**

**EARLY ELIZABETHAN
ENGLAND**

First Edition



BREAK YOUR BOUNDARIES©

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2. This guide should not be used as your primary resource for study. Use this guide as an aid to your revision. Your primary area of study should be conducted directly from the exam boards website through the specification.
3. In most cases, each bullet point represents a mark in the exam.
4. For hard calculation questions examples are shown as these are best learnt when practiced.

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1. Summary of Problems in Elizabethan society-

Problems from 1558-66-

- **1558 onwards:** Legitimacy
- **1558 onwards:** Gender and heir
- **1558 onwards:** Finances
- **1558 onwards:** French alliance with Scotland (Auld Alliance) and Mary Queen of Scots link to France (Half French and married to King of France).
- **1559:** Calais returned to France
- **1559:** Religious settlement
- **1560s:** Puritan Challenge
- **1560s:** Recusants fail to attend the new church. Worsens after.
- **1566:** Papacy's counter reformation/ Pope's Papal Bull for Catholics not to attend English Protestant churches.
- **1566-68:** Dutch rebelling against the Spanish (Dutch Revolt)

Problems from 1566-88-

- **1566-68:** Dutch Rebelling and sheltering rebels (Sea Beggars)/Genoese Loan.
- **1568:** Mary Queen of Scots in England.
- **1569:** Revolt of the Northern Earls + Papal Bull.
- **1571-86:** Further plots (Ridolfi 1571, Throckmorton Plot 1583, Babington Plot 1586).
- **1587:** Execution of Mary Queen of Scots.
- **1570-1588:** Spain angered over Drake's piracy.
- **1570-87:** England and Spain clash over Netherlands (non direct and direct action).
- **1588:** Spanish Armada attack.

How did Elizabethan society work-

Elizabethan society worked on a clear social structure-

- **Nobility**– Were at the top (Queen included in this) royalty and titles.
- **Gentry**– Were the wealthy who owned lots of lands.
- **Yeoman**– Were men who held a little bit of land and did professional jobs.
- **Tenant farmers**– Rented land that was owned by the gentry or yeoman.
- **Landless or laboring**– Poor simply worked on the land.
- **Vagrants**– Were seen as criminals & came at the bottom of society with the homeless.

2. How the Elizabethan government worked-

Court-

- The court was mostly made up of members of the nobility referred to as courtiers.
- They were the monarch's key servants, advisers and friends.

Role-

- To entertain and advise the monarch.
- Courtiers had influence with the monarch rather than actual power.

Privy Council-

- The privy council were the monarchs most trusted advisers (her inner circle).
- They met at least three times a week and the meeting were often attended and presided over by the monarch.

Role-

- To advise the monarch.
- Make sure the monarch's final decisions were carried out.
- Oversaw law and order and the security of England.

Parliament-

- Parliament could only be called and dismissed by the monarch.
- Elections held, but only a few people could vote.

Role-

- Raise taxes for the monarch.
- Passed laws.
- Offered advice to the monarch.

Lord Lieutenants-

- Each country had a Lord lieutenant chosen by the monarch.
- They maintained the monarch's power and England's defenses.

Role-

- In charge of raising and training the local militia and overseeing the country's defenses.

Justices of the peace (JPS)-

- JPS were large land owners who kept law and order in their local areas.

- They reported to the Privy Council.

Role-

- To make sure all social and economic policies were carried out.
- Heard county cases every three months for serious crimes.

The monarch-

- **Divine Right** – It was believed that god had chosen the monarch to rule.
- The monarch could declare war, dismiss parliament or reject it's laws.
- Grant titles or positions to people. This was known as patronage.

The Secretary of state-

- Elizabeth's most trusted privy council member.
- Most famous is Sir William Cecil.

The Monarch and parliament-

- The government could raise extraordinary taxes in an emergency.
- Some laws needed to be approved by parliament.
- There were some things only the monarch decided. This was known as the Royal Prerogative and covered things like foreign policy, a monarch's marriage and succession.

3. Elizabeth's character and strengths-

- She was very intelligent with an excellent grasp of politics.
- She spoke multiple languages (Latin, Greek, French and Italian).
- She understood the dangerous world of court politics and betrayals.
- She did have a temper that people feared.
- She was very persuasive and spoke confidently.
- She sometimes took a long time to make a decision.
- They reported to the Privy Council.

4. Early threats and problems for Elizabeth-

Problem 1 – Legitimacy

- To be a legitimate monarch it was expected the parents would be married.

- Elizabeth's parents Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn had been married. However Henry had only married Anne Boleyn after divorcing his first wife Catherine of Aragon. Henry had had to form his own church & break away from Catholicism to get a divorce as the Pope would not grant one.
- Many Catholics didn't accept Henry's new marriage. The Pope hadn't agreed & so Elizabeth was therefore illegitimate & could not be queen.
- Henry himself even said at one point Elizabeth was illegitimate.

Problem 2 – Gender and marriage-

- It was still unusual to have a queen rather than a king and religion taught men should have authority over women.
- Women were not considered to as strong as men in any way.
- Elizabeth's sister Mary I had been hated by many due to burning people at the stake, losing a war to France, leaving England in debt and marrying the King of Spain who was unpopular in England. Many felt they did not want another queen in charge.

Problem 3 – Finances-

- Elizabeth could raise money through land rents, taxes, special emergency extra taxes (subsidies), but parliament had to agree to this or through fines or loans (although some loans were forced and never repaid).
- However England was still £300,000 in debt which was a huge sum in 1558.
- Defending England was costly and raising taxes was unpopular.
- Relying on parliament to help raise taxes was risky as they grow in power

Problem 4 – France and Scotland-

- England's enemy France had recently got into an alliance (Auld Alliance) with another of England's traditional enemies Scotland.
- Mary Queen of Scots (Elizabeth's cousin) had a claim to the English throne and she was married to the French heir to the throne.
- People thought Mary was the legitimate queen.
- Mary's mum, who was called Mary of Guise, had been ruling Scotland for her daughter whilst she was away in France and had Mary of Guise had placed French troops near the English border in Scotland.

Problem 5 – France and Calais-

- Elizabeth's sister Mary I had lost this port back of Calais to the French in an unsuccessful war that England and Spain had fought against France.
- Elizabeth wanted it back to demonstrate England's strength.

- France and Spain were no longer at war and there was a real possibility they may unite against England. This was because they were both Catholic.

5. The English Reformation-

- Reformation means the reforming the church (changing it to Protestant).
- Reformation happened in Europe as people believed the Catholic Church had grown corrupt.
- The Reformation began in England as Henry VIII wanted a divorce but the Pope would not allow it so Henry started his own Protestant Church.

Protestantism Vs Catholicism-

Protestantism-

- No Pope.
- Bible and church services should be in English.
- People should have own direct relationship with God.
- Priests are not special and should not wear special robes.
- Churches should be plain places.

Catholicism-

- The Pope is the head of the Church.
- The bible and church services were in Latin.
- You need to talk to the Church to have sins forgiven.
- Priests are special and should wear special robes (vestments).
- Churches should be highly decorated.

6. Religious division in England 1558-

- Although Elizabeth was Protestant most of the country was Catholic. Many Catholics in England wouldn't accept Elizabeth as queen. They saw her as illegitimate.

Clergy problem (Religious divide)-

- In 1558 most bishops were Catholic and wouldn't want to change religion.
- Many Catholic bishops were involved in parliament. Parliament was needed to agree a change in religion and the Catholic bishops would try to resist.

Geographical divisions (Religious divisions)-

- The north of England was strongly Catholic.
- The south of England especially in and around London was Protestant.

Puritans (Religious divisions)-

- Puritans were dedicated Protestants (They wanted to purify religion).
- Puritans wanted all traces of Catholicism removed.
- They did not believe a monarch should be the head of the Church Elizabeth's Religious Settlement 1559 Elizabeth needed to find a compromise that both the Catholics and Protestants could accept (The Religious Settlement).
- Elizabeth ruled out Puritan ideas as they were too extreme.

What Elizabeth decided and did: Her Religious Settlement-

The Act of Supremacy-

- Made Elizabeth the head of the Church and all clergy (members of the Church) had to swear an oath to be loyal to her.
- A high commission was set up to carry out the Queen's Religious Settlement.

The Act of Uniformity-

- This was an order that every church had to have the same appearance.
- Also ordered that everyone must attend church on Sunday and holy days.
- All churches to have a common prayer book that was in English.
- Priests should be allowed to wear special clothing and there could be some statues in churches to keep the Catholic's happy.

The Royal injunctions-

- Set of instructions on how to carry out the Act of Supremacy & Uniformity.
- All Clergy had to teach that the monarch was the head of the Church.
- All those failing to attend the new church were reported to the Privy Council.
- No one was allowed to preach without a license.
- Royal injunctions made churches have a bible in English, pilgrimages to fake monuments were banned and ensured priest wore special vestments.

Impact of the Religious Settlement on the clergy-

- 8000 out of 10,000 priests took the Oath of Supremacy accepting the Religious Settlement. However only 1 Catholic bishop out of 28 took the oath so they had to be replaced.

Impact of the Religious Settlement on the people-

- Most ordinary people accepted Elizabeth's Religious Settlement.
- The new prayer book helped this as the wording could be interpreted in.

The role of the Church-

- It gave guidance to people in times of hardships.
- It helped enforce the Religious Settlement.
- There was a church court that solved moral issues such as...
 - Ensuring couples were not being forced to marry & no underage marriage
 - Sexual offences such as bigamy (being married to more than one person)
- The Church also dealt with wills deciding who received an inheritance.

Enforcing the Religious Settlement-

- Protestant bishops visited churches ensuring Settlement was followed.
- First visits resulted in 400 clergy being fired as not following Settlement.
- Some of those doing the inspection destroyed the Catholic decorations and statues that were actually allowed under the settlement.
- Elizabeth was clear she did not want people's beliefs being investigated too closely however as she didn't want to cause the Catholics to get angry.
- The visits check the preaching licenses of the clergy but also professionals.

Challenges to the Religious Settlement (PURITANS)-

Crucifix controversy-

- The crucifix is the symbol of the cross that Jesus died on.
- Puritans did not like the cross as it was an unneeded object. Catholics would not want them removed.
- Elizabeth gave into the Puritans as the Puritan bishops threatened to resign and she did couldn't replace them.

Puritan challenge-

- Puritans began disobeying the Religious Settlement as they were unhappy with the Catholic parts Two biggest challenges were over crucifixes & clothing.

Vestment controversy-

- Puritans believed priest shouldn't wear fancy robes. (vestments)
- Catholic believed priests should wear special robes.
- Elizabeth didn't back down.
- Book of Advertisements set out what priests wear.
- An exhibition was held in London to demonstrate what priest must wear.
- 37 refused to attend and lost their jobs.

Challenges to the Religious Settlement (Catholic)-

- The Papacy (The Pope) Encouraged Catholics to wage war against Protestants (Known as the Counter Reformation) and instructed Catholics not to attend the Protestant Church services.
- Elizabeth didn't punish harshly those Catholic Recusants who didn't attend, if she killed those who refused they could become martyrs and get sympathy Challenges to the Religious Settlement (CATHOLIC).

Challenges to the Religious Settlement (Problem with France and Spain)-

- Protestantism was trying to break out in France and Elizabeth agreed to help the French rebels in the hope of gaining their support.
- She had successfully used this tactic before in Scotland.
- Her hopes failed when the French Protestants and Catholics made peace.
- Elizabeth now had to officially accept England had lost Calais (Treaty of Troyes) to avoid a backlash from Catholic France.
- Elizabeth had now angered the King of Spain by supporting Protestant rebels.

7. The problem of Mary, Queen of Scots-

- Mary had a strong claim to the English throne. She was currently in France as she was married to the French king, Francis II.
- Elizabeth's mum Mary of Guise had been ruling Scotland, but was overthrown by Scotland's Protestant lords who supported Elizabeth.
- With Mary of Guise overthrown the Treaty of Edinburg was signed which said Mary Queen of Scots would give up her claim to the throne.
- Elizabeth would never name Mary her heir due to her being Catholic and that it would then divide the country again.
- Mary returned to Scotland in 1560 when the French King died. Although she was queen, the Protestant lords controlled most of Scotland.

Mary, Queen of Scots arrives in England 1568-

- Mary remarried in 1565 to a man called Lord Darnley.
- In 1567 Lord Darnley was murdered & Mary then married the main suspect in the murder the Earl of Bothwell in 1567. Most people thought she was involved.
- The Protestant Scottish Lords were furious and forced Mary to abdicate.
- Mary fled to England begging Elizabeth to help her retake her Scottish throne.

What to do with Mary, Queen of Scots-

- Letting Mary go abroad would anger the Protestants and the Scottish lords.
- A court case was called to hear whether Mary was guilty for murder.
- Mary said the court had no right to try her as she was an anointed monarch.
- Court reached no decision as because Elizabeth couldn't decide what to do.
- Killing her would anger the Catholics in England, Spain and France.
- In the end Elizabeth just kept Mary locked up for now.

8. Revolt of the Northern Earls, 1569-

Why did they revolt-

- Many ancient noble families remained loyal to the Catholic religion.
- Elizabeth appointed protestant, James Pilkington as the Archbishop of Durham (in the north) turning the northern -ers against Elizabeth.
- These families had been powerful under Elizabeth's Catholic sister Mary's reign. They often advised Mary. They lost power under Elizabeth as she promoted people who she trusted (known as 'new men').
- For example the Earl of Northumberland had been removed from his task of looking after the Scottish border.
- They wanted Mary Queen of Scots to be queen to solve their problems.

Who was involved in the revolt-

- **Thomas Percy (Earl of Northumberland)** –Had lost power & was a Catholic.
- **Charles Neville (Earl of Westmoreland)** –From an important Catholic family.
- **Thomas Howard (Duke of Norfolk)** – Was actually a Protestant but angry at losing power to Elizabeth's 'new men'.
- **Mary, Queen of Scots** – Plot was to put her on the throne.

What happened during the revolt-

- Initially the plotters wanted to get Mary Queen of Scots to marry the Protestant Northern Earl Thomas Howard. They believed that Elizabeth might then name Mary her heir as if they had a child it would be a future protestant king.
- However the plot developed and soon changed to overthrow Elizabeth and place Mary in charge (Spanish troops were going to help this happen).
- Elizabeth was tipped off about the plot and arrested Thomas Howard.
- Mary, who Elizabeth had in captivity already, was moved further south so the plotters could not free her.

- Elizabeth eventually crushed the rebellion as she had far more troops and the Spanish never came to help the rebels.
- Earl of Westmoreland escaped. Earl of Northumberland was executed.
- Elizabeth didn't execute Mary as she still believed she was an anointed (chosen) monarch & was concerned of France & Spain's reaction.

Significance (importance of the revolt)-

- The failed revolt led the Pope to issue a papal bull (a written order from the Pope) that excommunicated Elizabeth (cut her off from the Catholic Church) and ordered Catholics to try to overthrow her.
- Elizabeth reacted by passing a law saying it was treason to question her.
- Elizabeth was now prepared to give harsher treatment to the Catholics.
- Most Catholics remained loyal to Elizabeth despite the Papal Bull.
- Elizabeth was now suspicious of all Catholics however.

9. Plots against Elizabeth-

The Ridolfi Plot, 1571-

- Roberto Ridolfi was a spy for the Pope.
- He plotted to murder Elizabeth & replace her with Mary, Queen of Scots.
- The plot was to have Mary to marry Thomas Howard the Duke of Norfolk.
- Ridolfi left England to discuss the plot with the Pope and King Philip II of Spain. Philip was prepared to send 10,000 men to overthrow Elizabeth.
- The plot was discovered whilst Ridolfi was away & so he never came back.
- Thomas Howard was executed as there were letters proving his guilt.
- Elizabeth still would not have Mary, Queen of Scots executed.

Significance of Ridolfi Plot-

- It was now clear that Spain was a threat to England and so Elizabeth was determined to have better relations with France.
- Mary, Queen of Scots, would remain a symbol of hope for plotters.
- Catholic priests were now sent to England to keep Catholicism alive.
- Some Catholics hid the priests in hiding places known as priest holes.
- Caught priests would be executed by being hung, drawn and quartered.
- Parliament passed two laws to deal with the Catholic situation.

- Recusants would be fined £20. Enough to bankrupt them in those times.
- Trying to turn someone Catholic was treason and punishable by death.

The Throckmorton Plot, 1583-

- Mary's cousin the French Duke of Guise would invade and overthrow Elizabeth and replace her with Mary.
- Philip II of Spain would provide the finances & the Pope supported the plot.
- The Plot was named after the person delivering the messages between Mary and Duke of Guise. His name was Francis Throckmorton.
- Elizabeth's Secretary of State and Spymaster Sir Francis Walsingham discovered the Plot and Throckmorton was arrested and executed. Significance of the Throckmorton Plot.
- It was clear that Mary Queen of Scots, the Pope and King Philip II of Spain were a continual threat to Elizabeth.
- A list of Catholic sympathizers was found at Throckmorton's house helping Elizabeth to believe there was a big Catholic threat in England.
- Life got tougher for Catholics. Elizabeth passed a law punishing people to death for hiding Catholic priests.

The Babington Plot, 1586-

- This plot was the same as the Throckmorton one.
- Again the Pope and King Phillip II of Spain supported the plot.
- Anthony Babington was this time the man delivering the messages between Mary and the French Duke of Guise.
- Elizabeth's Spymaster discovered the plot and Babington was executed.

Significance of the Babington Plot-

- Elizabeth finally decided to put Mary on trial. She was found guilty and executed on the 8th February 1587.
- The relationship with Spain had completely broken down (England was also helping Dutch rebels fight against the Spanish at this time too).
- Elizabeth was now determined to crush Catholicism in England.

Why was Mary finally executed-

- The Preservation of the Queen's safety stated action could be taken against Mary if there was proof she plotted.
- Elizabeth's spymaster Francis Walsingham found evidence.
- Mary alive gave Catholics hope she would replace Elizabeth.
- It is important to note Mary's execution gave Philip II of Spain another reason to invade England.

Sir Francis Walsingham's spy network-

- The aim was to protect Elizabeth.
- Walsingham used trained spies and ordinary people.
- Walsingham had spies in Europe & England.
- Used ciphers (hidden codes) to hide his plans for catching plotters.
- Walsingham threatened to murder Catholic priests if they didn't give info.
- He used agent provocateurs to get arrests (they encouraged others to plot so they could then arrest them).

10. Spain problems-

Part 1– The Dutch Revolt 1566-68

- Netherlands (The Dutch people) belonged to Spain and their King Philip II.
- Philip had banned English cloth in the Netherlands.
- Elizabeth retaliated and ceased trading altogether with the Netherlands.
- Dutch people were becoming unhappy at being 'owned' by Spain.
- Philip decided to reorganize the Dutch government making sure the Dutch were loyal to the Catholic faith. Those who resisted were tortured or burned alive (event known as the Spanish Inquisition).
- Dutch Catholics and Protestants united in anger and revolted (Dutch Revolt).
- The rebels were crushed by the Spanish Duke of Alba's forces.
- Elizabeth would not support the Dutch rebels from fear it could lead to the stronger Spain declaring war on England.
- She did however shelter some Dutch rebels in England (known as the Sea Beggars) knowing they would go onto attack Spanish ships.
- A Spanish ship attempting to hide from the Dutch sea beggars took refuge in England. It had gold coming from Genoa in Italy meant Spain. Elizabeth stole it. The event was known as the Genoese Loan & angered the Spanish 12.

Part 2– The New World and Francis Drake-

- England finding it difficult to trade with Europe as the main trade route was through Spain controlled Netherlands.
- The New World (America) offered new resources but Spain controlled it.
- Elizabeth used a ship trader Francis Drake (really a pirate) to help her steal resources like Gold from the Spanish ships in the New World.
- Elizabeth would not openly thank Drake at first. She did not want it to be known she was using him as King Philip of Spain was furious at his piracy.

- On one Journey (1577-80) to raid Spanish colonies in the new World Drake became the first Englishman to circumnavigate (go round) the globe.
- When Drake returned to England he also brought back £400,000 in Spanish treasure & claimed a region in California for Elizabeth calling it New Albion.
- Elizabeth now publicly knighted Drake. Spain now knew Elizabeth used Drake to disrupt Spain's trade routes.
- Drake's knighthood showed Elizabeth was prepared to now confront Spain.

Part 3– Indirect help to Netherlands 1570s– 1584-

- Elizabeth's was under pressure to help the Dutch but that could mean war with Spain so Elizabeth took indirect action (not directly confronting).
1. Promised to marry the heir to the French throne the Duke of Alencon if he used French troops to fight the Spanish in the Netherlands
 2. She got Drake (pirates) to continue attacking Spanish colonies and ships.
 - Due to Drake stealing their gold the Spanish troops in the Netherlands went unpaid .They completely sacked (looted) the Dutch town of Antwerp as they were after money. This was known as the Spanish Fury.
 - The Spanish Fury united Dutch Catholics and Protestant who made a treaty called the Pacification of Ghent. This demanded the Spanish troops leave.
 - Elizabeth sent a loan of £100,000 to the Dutch rebels to help them fight.
 - In 1577 Philip II's brother Don Juan arrived to sign the Pacification of Ghent. It appeared Spain had lost in the Netherlands.

Part 4– Spain regains The Netherlands-

- Philip II sent a new army later in 1577 to retake the Netherlands.
- Avoiding direct action Elizabeth hired a mercenary (soldier who fights for money) to raise volunteers to help the Dutch fight the Spanish.
- Plan backfired as the mercenary army destroyed Catholic churches & persuaded Dutch Catholics to make peace with Spain.
- Elizabeth now left it to the French Duke of Alencon to fight the Spanish.
- Alencon was defeated by the Spanish however.
- Duke of Alencon died in 1584 & Dutch Protestant rebel leader was killed.
- At the end of 1584 the French King signed the Treaty of Joinville. This meant that France had agreed to fight Protestantism. Effectively France and Spain were now allies against Protestantism. Elizabeth now had nothing to lose. She decided to take direct action.

Part 5– Direct action in Netherlands 1585-88-

- In 1585 Elizabeth signed the Treaty of Nonsuch with the Dutch Protestants (officially will help them). England and Spain were now at war.
- She sent 7400 troops the Netherlands led by her ‘favorite’ Robert Dudley.
- Francis Drake attacked Spain’s New World settlements to disrupt Spain’s money & so a furious Philip told the Pope he was now going to invade England.
- England’s campaign did not go well as Elizabeth did not send enough money or men and so were losing. It got worse...
- England were betrayed by one of their English army captains who switched sides to the Spanish along with another Englishman Sir William Stanley who handed over control of some of the forts and a town England had controlled.
- Many Dutch protestants lost faith in England after this and Dudley was twice recalled to England. The final time he returned signaled England’s defeat in the Netherlands.

Part 6– The Spanish Armada-

Why did Philip II send the Armada-

1. Religion: Elizabeth was a heretic and the Pope wanted her removed.
2. Provocation: Drake’s actions and the Netherland’s angered Philip.
3. Politics: After the Treaty of Joinville France would not stop Spain.
4. Circumstance: Spain’s had a large army and navy and Philip thought England was weak after their failure in the Netherlands.

What was Philip II’s plan-

- 130 ships to attack.
- 30,000 men would go.
- Duke of Medina-Sidonia would sail from Spain to the Netherlands and would join forces with Duke of Parma who was waiting in the Netherlands.
- Together they would land in Kent and march to London.
- Elizabeth would be removed and a new Catholic government would be set up.

11. Defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588-

Reason 1 for Spanish defeat: DRAKE-

- As Philip Prepared his armada to attack, Drake attacked them first as they were docked in Cadiz harbor. Drake destroyed 30 ships & Spanish supplies in an event known as the singeing of the King of Spain’s beard.

- Drake attacked Spanish New World treasure ships meaning Spain had to stop preparing the Armada to defend itself. Drake had now delayed the Armada's attack by a year giving England more time to prepare.

Reason 2 for Spanish defeat: English ships-

- England built new ships known as Galleons that were faster and more maneuverable (easier to turn) than the Spanish ships.
- There was more room around the cannons to allow the English sailors to reload the cannons much quicker than the Spanish (they could fire more!).

Reason 3 for Spanish defeat: Spanish supplies-

- Spanish food supplies were running low meaning the men were in poor health.
- They were short on cannonballs.

Reason 4 for Spanish defeat: Planning and communication issues-

- Spain didn't control any deep water ports in the Netherlands so smaller boats were needed to load cargo onto the bigger ones & that took 2 days.
- The Spanish ships leaving Spain sent a message they were starting the attack to their other fleet. It took a week to arrive. When the message arrived the Spanish fleet were already off the coast of England. It would be 48 hours before the other fleet was ready. By then it would be too late.

Reason 5 for Spanish defeat: English tactics-

- English ships came up behind the Armada and would fire then move out of range to be hit back. The English ships chased the Armada down the Channel.
- Battle of Gravelines – England sent fireships in amongst the Armada causing chaos and scattering them. With quicker ships that could fire more often the Spanish panicked and fled

Reason 6 for Spanish defeat: The Weather-

- As the Armada fled round Scotland towards Ireland they were hit by bad weather and many ships were sunk ending any hope of re-attacking

Reason 7 for Spanish defeat: Philip II-

- Philip II ignored the suggestions of his military commanders who did not like his plan whereas Elizabeth left key decisions to Drake & her commanders.

Consequences of the English Victory-

- Elizabeth claimed God favored Protestants as the weather had helped them.
- England's victory encouraged the Dutch rebels to renew their fight against the Spanish.
- A strong English-Dutch alliance grew.
- England had shown they had a strong navy.

12. Elizabethan education-

- Different educations aimed at different social groups and genders.
- Only small percentage of children went to school and hardly any girls did.
- Some humanists believed education should be improving humanity and some Protestants believed people should be literate to read the bible.

Grammar Schools-

- Private schools for boys from well off families (E.g the gentry).
- Fees to pay if family wealthy.
- Main topic taught was Latin but also study History and philosophy.
- Lots of reciting big pieces of text.
- Time was put aside for sports too.
- Debating was seen as important.

Nobility education-

- Tutored at home.
- Taught foreign languages, History and politics for example.
- Girls taught needlework & music.
- Boys also taught fencing, swimming and other sports.
- Older kids sent to other noble households to finish education.

13. Elizabethan Leisure-

Sports for nobility and rich-

- Hunting with hounds (dogs)
- Hawking/Falconry (hunting birds)
- Fencing (men only)

Sports for everyone else-

- **Football** – But very different (very violent and deaths were not uncommon). Usually many more players than today.
- **Public wrestling**
- **Swimming**

Spectator sports-

- **Bear Baiting** – Dogs fight a chained up bear Special arenas were built.
- **Bull Baiting** – Same ideas but with Bulls. This fight was usually to the death.
- **Cock Fighting** – Cockerels had metals spurs attached to them and they would fight in special arenas with betting on the outcome.
- The Puritans disapproved of it happening on Sundays (holy days) and the mistreatment of animals.

Theatre-

- Religious plays were initially common. As religion was a difficult subject at that time new non religious (secular) plays became more common. Comedies and tragedies were popular. Theatre companies were set up, and big theatres were built especially for plays such as the Red Lion, the Rose & the Globe Theatre.
- The authorities began to fear that plays could encourage rebellions. This fear was worsened as many of the characters dressed as vagrants and beggars.
- It was also believed that the gatherings of large crowds to watch performances helped to spread diseases such as the plague.
- As a result a law was passed in 1572 banning strolling players from touring the country unless they had a license to perform from the Lord Chamberlain.

Playwrights-

Shakespeare- Wrote 37 plays and was the most popular. Elizabeth was a fan.

Christopher Marlowe- One of the greatest of his time. Famous for tragedies.

Thomas Kyd- Famous for developing dramas and the 'revenge tragedy'.

Thomas Drekker- Wrote a large number of comedies.

14. The problem of the poor-

- Elizabethan society concerned with the poor. Many needed financial help (poor relief) or begged or were itinerants (moved area for work).
- A survey done in Norwich showed 40% of the poor were under 16

- Widowed women were often the poorest.
- Even households with men spent 80% of their wages on food.

Why poverty increased-

Reason 1: Population growth and rising prices:

- England's population grew by 35%.
- Food not grown in the cities. It was brought in from the countryside.
- With more mouths to feed and bad harvests prices went up.
- More people meant lower wages. People then struggled to pay for bread.
- With more people, cost of rent went up as there was competition.

Reason 2: Sheep farming-

- English wool was England's biggest export & was very profitable.
- Sheep farmers had lots of sheep and they needed land to keep them on.
- Sheep farming took land that had been used for growing crops or it took the common land (land that was free for all people to use).
- Some crops were only grown for sheep to eat taking up more land.
- Sheep farming did not need many workers so unemployment rose again.

Reason 3: Enclosure-

- This meant replacing large fields with smaller privately owned ones
- This led to small farms merging and tenant farmers being evicted
- Farmers enclosed to stop animals walking across crops. It also meant you could grow one crop in one field making them more likely to grow.
- Although arable farming (growing crops) on enclosed land improved farming now less need for laborer's to work on the land. Unemployment rose again.
- Common land was often enclosed and no longer free for everyone to use. This stopped subsistence farming where people grew crops there to survive.

Problems from poverty: Vagabondage-

- Poverty led to an increase in vagabondage (homeless people who beg/steal).
- Many left the countryside to unsuccessfully look for jobs in the city.

- The situation was made worse due to an economic recession (England was struggling to make money through trade because of the problems with Spain).
- These vagabonds lived in terrible shacks and crime was common.

Changing attitudes to the poor-

- Some help such as poor relief raised from a local tax known as the poor rate already existed. There were also charities.
- Elizabethans identified the poor by putting them into categories:
 - Deserving or Impotent poor who were deserving who couldn't work due to illness or age. They were given badges and licenses to beg.
 - Able bodied or idle poor who could work but chose not to. This group were punished.

Government takes action-

- With the amount of poor & vagrants growing National action was needed. She passed laws to help the impotent and deserving poor, as well as punishments for the able bodied or idle poor. These poor laws are seen below:

1563 Statute of Artificers-

- If you refused to pay the poor rates you could be imprisoned.
- Officials who did not collect the poor relief could be imprisoned.

1572 Vagabonds Act-

- Vagrants whipped and a hole drilled in each ear.
- Vagrants imprisoned and/or branded if caught a second time. Death penalty if caught a third time.
- JPs had to keep a register of the poor.
- Towns were responsible for finding work for the poor.

1576 Poor Relief Act-

- Justices of the Peace to provide able bodied poor raw material to make and sell things.
- Able bodied to be sent to a special poor rate funded prison known as the house of correction if they refused to work.

1601 Act for the Relief of the Poor-

- A realization that government had responsibility to help the poor.

- Set up a legal framework to tackle poverty.

Impact of the poor laws-

No impact-

- Poverty continued to be a problem as pamphlet writers continually stirred up fears of vagabonds robbing them and some local towns didn't follow the law and punish Vagrants, instead they just gave them money to go away as it was quicker.

Good impact-

- There was now a recognition that unemployment was a problem needing sorting. There was also recognition that some poor people were not lazy and needed help. Places like Ipswich really helped by opening schools & hospitals for the poor.

15. Exploration and voyages of discovery-

Factors promoting exploration-

- The sixteenth century was a period of exploration and English seamen took part.
- Stories of fabulous wealth came back from the Americas; Spain received vast quantities of silver. Hawkins, Drake and others attacked Spanish colonies and ships.
- 'New Spain' was a major incentive to exploration because it offered the possibility of increased trade.
- Trading companies such as Merchants Adventurers were doing well. The Eastland Company had monopoly of Baltic Trade.
- The Russia Company was founded 1555. The Levant Company was founded in 1581. The East India Company began trading in Indian Ocean in 1581.
- These companies were given monopolies over the trade in their area. Only the East India Company (1600) made a real contribution to trade.

Ship construction and navigation-

- Sir John Hawkins introduced new lines into the construction of the English ships.
- The high castles at poop and stem had been reduced, the length increased, the beam diminished. More sails, top-gallants, spritsails, topsails were introduced.
- Heavier anchors could be used after the introduction of the capstan.
- Guns were carried on gun-decks and not in castles; ships became much more stable.
- Hawkins introduced the sheathing of ships against the teredo worm, by nailing boards below the water-line coated on the inner side with tar.
- Navigation was easier through the development of better astrolabes and an improved quadrant.

Sir John Hawkins-

- Hawkins was important in creating the navy that was to defeat the Spanish Armada in 1588.
- From 1562, Hawkins made three voyages to Africa to exploit the fast growing slave trade.
- The voyages were financed by City merchants and financiers while the second one had an added incentive to succeed as Elizabeth invested some of her money into it.
- The third voyage was a complete failure. Hawkins fleet had to take shelter in San Juan in Mexico to repair the Queen's ship 'Jesus of Lubeck'.
- This was Spanish territory and Hawkins had to get permission from the Spanish Viceroy to be there.
- Despite that, Spanish troops attacked him in September 1568. Only two ships in his fleet got away.
- After his return to England, Hawkins became a MP in 1571 and in 1577 he succeeded his father-in-law as Treasurer of the Navy.
- Hawkins was determined to create a modern navy. He wanted ships that were fast and streamlined yet well-armed with cannon.
- Hawkins wanted guns to be the determining factor in battle as opposed to crews relying on boarding parties.
- Hawkins also made life in the Royal Navy more attractive by increasing the wages paid to the crews.
- He attacked corruption within the navy that accounted for too much money going astray.
- Hawkins was third in command of the English fleet that fought the Spanish in 1588.
- He was given command of the 'Victory' and knighted for his leadership on July 26 1588.
- Hawkins was keen to adopt a strong anti-Spanish foreign policy. He sent out the navy to attack Spanish silver fleets off the West Indies and the Azores.

Sir Francis Drake-

- Francis Drake was born in Tavistock, Devon in around 1540 and went to sea at an early age.
- In 1567, Drake made one of the first English slaving voyages as part of a fleet led by his cousin John Hawkins, bringing African slaves to work in the New World.
- The Spanish became a lifelong enemy for Drake and they in turn considered him a pirate.
- In 1570 and 1571, Drake made two profitable trading voyages to the West Indies.
- In 1572, he commanded two vessels in a marauding expedition against Spanish ports in the Caribbean.
- He saw the Pacific Ocean and captured the port of Nombre de Dios on the Isthmus of Panama.
- He returned to England with a cargo of Spanish treasure and a reputation as a brilliant privateer.
- In 1577, Drake was secretly commissioned by Elizabeth I to set off on an expedition against the Spanish colonies on the American Pacific coast.
- He sailed with five ships, but by the time he reached the Pacific Ocean in October 1578 only one was left, Drake's flagship the Pelican, renamed the Golden Hind.

- To reach the Pacific, Drake became the first Englishman to navigate the Straits of Magellan.
- He travelled up the west coast of South America, plundering Spanish ports. He continued north, hoping to find a route across to the Atlantic.
- In July 1579, he turned west across the Pacific. He visited the Moluccas, Celebes, Java and then sailed round the Cape of Good Hope.
- He arrived back in England in September 1580 with a rich cargo of spices and Spanish treasure and the distinction of being the first Englishman to circumnavigate the globe.
- Seven months later, Elizabeth knighted him aboard the Golden Hind, to the annoyance of the king of Spain.
- In 1585, Drake sailed to the West Indies and the coast of Florida where he sacked and plundered Spanish cities.
- On his return voyage, he picked up the unsuccessful colonists of Virginia, which was the first English colony in the New World.
- In 1587, war with Spain was imminent and Drake entered the port of Cadiz and destroyed 30 of the ships the Spanish were assembling against the British.
- In 1588, he was a vice admiral in the fleet that defeated the Armada.
- Drake's last expedition, with John Hawkins, was to the West Indies. The Spanish were prepared for him this time, and the venture was a disaster.
- Drake died on 28 January 1596 of dysentery off the coast of Portobello, Panama.
- Hawkins died at the same time, and their bodies were buried at sea.

Raleigh and Virginia-

- In 1578, Raleigh sailed to America with explorer Sir Humphrey Gilbert, his half brother.
- Raleigh has been credited with bringing potatoes and tobacco back to Britain, although both of these were already known via the Spanish. Raleigh did help to make smoking popular at court.
- Raleigh first came to the attention of Elizabeth I in 1580, when he went to Ireland to help suppress an uprising in Munster.

Virginia-

- In 1584, Queen Elizabeth granted Raleigh a royal charter, to explore, and colonize.
- This charter gave Raleigh seven years in which to establish a settlement, or else lose his right to do so.
- Raleigh and Elizabeth intended that the venture should provide riches from the New World and a base from which to send privateers on raids against the Spanish treasure fleets.
- The first voyage was in 1584 to survey the area and returned with skins and pearl necklaces.

- A colony was founded and named 'Virginia' in 1585. The settlers survived until 1586, when they were brought back to England by Sir Francis Drake.
- They brought potatoes and tobacco with them

Roanoke-

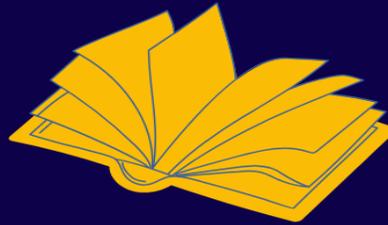
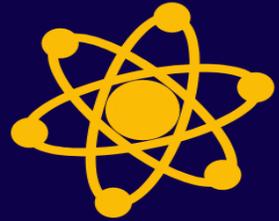
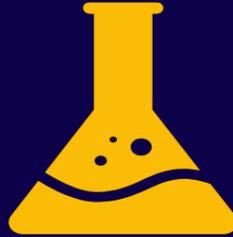
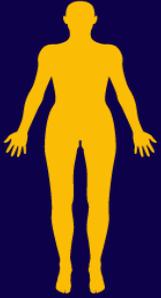
- In 1587, Raleigh established a settlement on Roanoke Island. Some entire families went under the leadership of John White.
- White returned to England to obtain more supplies for the colony, planning to return in a year. Unfortunately for the colonists at Roanoke, one year became three.
- When the supply ship arrived in Roanoke, three years later than planned, the colonists had disappeared.
- The only clue to their fate was the word 'CROATOAN' and letters 'CRO' carved into tree trunks.
- White had arranged with the settlers that if they should move, the name of their destination be carved into a tree or corner post.
- This suggested the possibilities that they had moved to Croatian Island, but a hurricane prevented John White from investigating.
- In 1592, the queen discovered Raleigh's secret marriage to one of her maids of honour, Elizabeth (Bessie) Throckmorton.
- This discovery threw Elizabeth into a jealous rage and Raleigh and his wife were imprisoned in the Tower.
- On his release, in an attempt to find favor with the queen, he set off on an unsuccessful expedition to find El Dorado, the fabled Golden Land.
- It was supposed to be situated somewhere beyond the mouth of the Orinoco river in Guiana (now Venezuela).

Why did Virginia fail-

- The settlers depended on supplies from England; they could wait six months or even a year to arrive.
- The settlers were not equipped for life in America. In 1585 they arrived too late to plant crops and seed was ruined by salt water.
- There were arguments between the settlers; Raleigh never went to North America himself but left others to do the work.
- Relations with the Native Americans were not well managed. The local chief was friendly with the first settlers, but Lane, the leader, arrested the chief apparently for no reason.

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