



Key dates

November 1558
Elizabeth's succession

January 1559
Religious Settlement

April 1559
Treaty of Cateau-Cabresis

July 1560
Treaty of Edinburgh

August 1561
Mary, Queen of Scots, returns to Scotland

June 1566
Mary's son James is born

February 1567
Lord Darnley dies

May 1568
Mary, Queen of Scots, arrives in England



Key terms

Illegitimacy *Being born to parents not lawfully married to each other.*

Reformation *A Christian movement which broke away from Catholicism & introduced Protestantism.*

Nobility *The highest social class in a country.*

Royal Prerogative *The powers of a monarch to make decisions on war, etc.*

Papacy *The office of the Pope.*

Succession *The act of inheriting a title or office, e.g. becoming monarch.*

Privy Council *The committee of ministers appointed by Elizabeth who offer advice.*

Vestment *A robe worn by the clergy during services.*



Key knowledge & factors



- Elizabeth was declared illegitimate in 1536 when Anne Boleyn was executed for treason.
- When Elizabeth took the throne, England was in £300,000 of national debt.
- Elizabeth's Privy Council had 20 members – a reduction from Mary I who had 50.
- Acts of Parliament were used to enforce the laws introduced by Elizabeth.

- Act of Supremacy = Elizabeth is Supreme Governor & clergy swear an oath to her.
- Act of Uniformity = compulsory church attendance & Book of Common Prayer.
- Royal Injunctions were used by Cecil to enforce the Acts of Supremacy & Uniformity.
- Mary, Queen of Scots, gave up her claim to the English throne in 1560 but it wasn't approved.



Key individuals

Earl of Bothwell *The third and final husband of Mary, Queen of Scots.*

Francis II *French King & Mary, Queen of Scots first husband.*

William Cecil *Protestant MP who is Secretary of State, running government.*

Mary I *Elizabeth's devout Catholic sister who was Queen 1553-58.*

Lord Darnley *The second husband of Mary, Queen of Scots; James I father.*

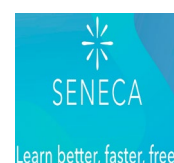
Mary, Queen of Scots *Elizabeth's cousin & Catholic heir to the throne.*

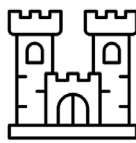
Robert Dudley *Close friend of Elizabeth & Privy Council member.*

Puritans *Devout Protestants who want to remove Catholic practices.*



Further resources





Key dates

1569
*Revolt of the Northern
Earls*

1571
Ridolfi Plot

1583
Throckmorton Plot

1586
Babington Plot

1584
*Assassination of
William of Orange
Treaty of Joinville*

1585
Treaty of Nonsuch

1587
*Singeing of the King's
Beard (Cadiz raid)*

1588
The Spanish Armada



Key terms

Commercial rivalry *Competition between nations who sell/make money from the same goods or services.*

Indirect involvement

Actions taken to help the Dutch, such as sending money and trained volunteers.

Fireships *A ship loaded with flammable material which is set adrift towards an enemy.*

Jesuit

A Catholic missionary priest who aimed to convert people/countries to Catholicism.

Galleon *A large sailing ship with several decks; originally used as a warship but later for trade.*

Sea beggars

Military units which opposed Spanish rule in the Netherlands.

Gravelines *A port in Northern France where Spanish troops were due to be collected in the Spanish Armada.*

Treason

The crime of betraying a country, e.g. attempting to kill or overthrow the monarch.



Key knowledge & factors

- The Northern Rebellion planned to marry MQoS to the Duke of Norfolk.
- Elizabeth was excommunicated in 1570, making Catholics less obliged to follow rules.
- The Ridolfi Plot planned to replace Elizabeth with MQoS.
- The Dutch Revolt only saw direct English involvement after 1585.

- The Throckmorton Plot planned an uprising of Catholics supported by France and Spain.
- The Babington Plot aimed to free MQoS which explicitly plotted the murder of Elizabeth.
- MQoS was executed in February 1587 after her involvement in the Babington Plot.
- After the raid on Cadiz in 1587, the Spanish Armada arrived in August 1588.



Key individuals

Duke of Alba/Alva *Head of the Spanish army during the Dutch Revolt & Armada.*

Phillip II of Spain

Catholic King of Spain; had been married to Mary I.

Anthony Babington *English nobleman who conspired to execute Elizabeth with MQS.*

Roberto Ridolfi

Italian banker who plotted to overthrow Elizabeth in 1571.

Duke of Norfolk *Elizabeth's second cousin & heir to the throne; executed in 1572.*

Francis Throckmorton

English Catholic who passed letters about an uprising in 1583.

Mary, Queen of Scots *Elizabeth's cousin & Catholic heir to the throne.*

Francis Walsingham

Secretary of State from 1573 who gather intelligence on the plots.



Further resources





Eggar's School History Department Knowledge Organiser Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88



KT3: Elizabethan society in the age of exploration, 1558-88



Key dates

1560-80
72 grammar skills open

1568
Statue of Artificers

1572
Vagabond Act

1576
Act of Relief for the Poor
First theatre opens

1577-80
Drake's
Circumnavigation of the world

1585
Raleigh's first expedition to Virginia

1586
Terrible harvest

1587
Raleigh's second expedition to Virginia



Key terms

Black comedy	<i>A play that deals with tragic or distressing subject matter in a humorous way.</i>	Indigenous	<i>People who have always lived in an area, developing their cultures & traditions.</i>
Colony	<i>A country/area under control of another country and occupied by settlers.</i>	Petty school	<i>Set up in a teacher's home for children up the age of 10 to learn basic reading/writing/arithmatic.</i>
Grammar school	<i>Privately funded, non-church school for the nobility or talented lower-classes.</i>	Vagabond	<i>A wandering beggar; also known as a vagrant.</i>
Groundling	<i>A fee of 1p allowed people to stand in the pit, close to the actors; but it was noisy.</i>	Virginia	<i>The area of America Raleigh aimed to set up his first colony, Roanoke.</i>



Key knowledge & factors



- Elizabeth's reign was a 'Golden Age' due to growing prosperity, education & leisure.
- All classes could enjoy the theatre; the pit cost 1p and sitting in the gallery was 2-3p.
- 72 grammar schools opened but only 30% of men and 10% of women were literate by 1603.
- Elizabeth's government accepted responsibility for the poor, as seen through the poor laws.
- Bad harvests occurred in two sequences; the early 1570's and mid-1590's.
- The galleon and compact caravel ships were stronger enabled faster overseas travel.
- Drake circumnavigation of the globe brought England land/valuables worth £140,000.
- Raleigh was responsible for planning and organising voyages to the Americas in 1558/7.



Key individuals

John Dee	<i>Developed an instrument to help determine true north whilst sailing.</i>	Christopher Marlowe	<i>English playwright who influenced the work of William Shakespeare.</i>
Francis Drake	<i>Knighted after circumnavigating; Vice Admiral of the Navy 1588.</i>	Gerardus Mercator	<i>A mapmaker who introduced sea charts with lat/longitude in 1569.</i>
Richard Grenville	<i>The captain of The Tiger which was run aground in 1585.</i>	Walter Raleigh	<i>A favourite of Elizabeth, responsible for the Virginia voyages.</i>
Ralph Lane	<i>The leader of Raleigh's 1585 expedition to the Americas.</i>	John White	<i>An artist hired to record the expeditions to Virginia.</i>



Further resources

