



Knowledge Organiser  
Quiz Booklet  
**Elizabethan England**

*Year 8*  
*History*  
*Unit 1*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

History teacher: \_\_\_\_\_



## 1. England in 1558:

1. Who were Elizabeth's parents?
2. How old was Elizabeth when she became queen and how many years did she rule England? [2]
3. "Elizabeth I ruled England Wales and Scotland." State whether this statement true or false and give one reason why.
4. "Under Elizabeth England was a Catholic country." State whether this statement true or false and give one reason why.
5. Describe what kind of ruler Elizabeth was.
6. Where did most people live during Elizabeth reign?
7. Name three problems that Elizabeth faced when she became queen of England. [3]
8. Roughly how many people lived in England at the end of Elizabeth's rule?
9. Define what is meant by the term Justice of the Peace.
10. Name two reasons why there was a strain on England's economy. [2]
11. "Spain was Elizabeth's greatest ally". State whether this statement true or false and give one reason why.
12. What religion was Elizabeth I?

## England in 1558 (ANSWERS)

1. Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn.
2. She was 25 years old and she ruled England for 45 years.
3. False. Scotland was a separate country with its own monarch.
4. False. Elizabeth restored Protestantism in England.
5. Elizabeth was a cautious and pragmatic ruler.
6. Most people lived in the countryside as there were very few towns in Elizabethan England.
7. Elizabeth inherited massive debts; there was high inflation; widespread poverty and a huge gap between the rich and poor; England was religiously divided between the Protestants and the Catholics; Spain was a bitter enemy.
8. In 1603, there were roughly four million people living in England.
9. A Justice of the Peace is a person appointed to the counties responsible for keeping and enforcing law and order.
10. A growing population and the rebellion in The Netherlands put a strain on the English economy.
11. False. Spain had traditional been an English ally but during Elizabeth's reign England and Spain became bitter enemies.
12. Elizabeth I was a Protestant.

## 2. Timeline:

1. Define what is meant by the word glory.
2. In which year did England's first public theatre open?
3. What was the Gunpowder Plot?
4. What did Elizabeth do after the failure of her "Middle Way"?
5. What did Drake do in 1580?
6. Who ruled England after Elizabeth I?
7. In which year was Elizabeth excommunicated and what did that mean for her? [2]
8. In which year was the Spanish Armada?
9. When was The Renaissance? (start and end year) [2]
10. In which year was Elizabeth's first Poor Law passed?

## 2. Timeline (ANSWERS):

1. Glory means renowned for its success, courage and ground-breaking achievements.
2. England's first public theatre opened in 1576.
3. The Gunpowder Plot was a Catholic plot in 1605 to blow up Parliament and kill the king.
4. Elizabeth executed Catholics between 1577 and 1603 after the failure of her "Middle Way".
5. In 1580, Drake circumnavigated the world.
6. James I ruled England after Elizabeth I.
7. Elizabeth was excommunicated in 1570 which meant she was officially removed from the Catholic Church and the sacraments.
8. The Spanish Armada was in 1588.
9. The Renaissance was between 1440 and 1750.
10. Elizabeth's first Poor Law was passed in 1563.

### 3. A Glorious Age of Culture:

1. Why is Elizabethan England often described as a Golden Age?
2. Define what is meant by the term the Gentry.
3. Name three popular pastimes in Elizabethan England.[3]
4. “Edmund Spenser had a major influence on William Shakespeare”. State whether this statement true or false and give one reason why.
5. What was London’s first purpose-built theatre called and in which year was it opened? [2]
6. How many plays did William Shakespeare write?
7. Name the playwright who had major influence on William Shakespeare.
8. Give three reasons why there was an Elizabethan Golden Age. [3]
9. Define what is meant by the term propaganda.
10. Who was Edmund Spenser?

### 3. A Glorious Age of Culture: (ANSWERS)

1. Elizabethan England is often described as a Golden Age because there was an explosion on the Arts such as theatre, literature and poetry.
2. The gentry were wealthy landowners and people who made money through trade and who often held important positions such as Justices of the Peace.
3. Cock fighting, dog fighting and bear baiting were popular pastimes in Elizabethan England as was going to the theatre.
4. False. It was the playwright Christopher Marlowe who had a major influence of William Shakespeare.
5. London's first purpose-built theatre was called The Theatre and it opened in 1576.
6. William Shakespeare wrote 37 play including Richard III, Romeo and Juliet and The Tempest.
7. The playwright Christopher Marlowe had a major influence on William Shakespeare.
8. The Renaissance sparked a renewed interest in discovery and learning; the invention in 1450 of the printing press; and the rise of the Gentry class in England.
9. Propaganda is misleading information use to promote a cause.
10. Edmund Spenser was an Elizabethan poet, considered one of the greatest poets and he wrote the *Faerie Queene*.

#### 4. Age of Exploration:

1. Define what we mean by the word colony.
2. Name three reasons why England started explorations. [3]
3. What did English 'seadogs' do?
4. Name the countries who dominated the New World at the beginning of the Elizabeth period. [2]
5. Name two of Walter Raleigh's achievements. [2]
6. Name two consequences of England's establishment of new trading companies. [2]
7. Define what we mean by the word circumnavigation.
8. Name three English explorers.
9. "England was involved in the slave trade during Elizabeth I's reign." State whether this statement is true or false and give one reason why.
10. Who started the colony of Virginia in America?



#### 4. Age of Exploration (ANSWERS):

1. A colony is a country ruled by another country.
2. England started explorations because there was a Muslim dominance of the Mediterranean; Spain and Portugal were discoveries new trade routes; Spain and Portugal were dominating the New World with colonies and trade.
3. English 'seadogs', under government licence, attacked Spanish ships and stole their treasure.
4. Spain and Portugal dominated the New World.
5. Walter Rayleigh circumnavigated the world and established the colony of Virginia in America.
6. The colonisation of America and the beginning of England's involvement in the slave trade were consequences of England's new trading companies.
7. Circumnavigation means to travel all the way around something especially the world.
8. John Hawkins, Walter Rayleigh and Francis Drake.
9. True. England began being involved in the slave trade during Elizabeth's reign and the queen herself was directly involved.
10. Walter Rayleigh founded the colony of Virginia in America.

## 5. 1601 Poor Law:

1. Name three reasons why there was widespread poverty in the last years of Elizabeth's reign. [3]
2. What is a vagrant?
3. What were the two effects of increasing and widespread poverty? [2]
4. Name three reasons why the Government passed the 1601 Poor Law. [3]
5. What was the 1601 Poor Law?
6. What is the difference between a vagrant and a vagabond?
7. How did the Elizabethans divide the Poor?
8. What is an enclosure?
9. Under the 1601 Poor Law, who held the responsibility for dealing with the poor?
10. What name was given to the young, old and ill who could not work?

## 5. 1601 Poor Law (ANSWERS):

1. There was widespread poverty in the last years of Elizabeth's reign because of a series of bad harvests, higher taxation, a growing population and the increasing enclosure of land for sheep farming.
2. A vagrant is a homeless and unemployed person who wanders from place to place and begs.
3. Increasing and widespread poverty led to threats of unrest across England and an increase in vagrants and vagabonds.
4. The 1601 Poor Law was passed because of increasing and widespread poverty; threats of unrest across England; and an increase in the number of vagrants and vagabonds.
5. The 1601 Poor Law was a national code extending and improving previous poor relief legislation.
6. A vagabond steals and begs but a vagrant only begs.
7. The Elizabethans divided the poor into the deserving and undeserving poor.
8. An enclosure is the division of land, including common land, into individual fields with hedges to allow for an increasing in sheep farming.
9. The 1601 Poor Law placed responsibility for the poor on local government.
10. The young, old and ill who could not work were called the deserving poor.

## 6. Mary, Queen of Scots:

1. How was Mary, queen of Scots related to Elizabeth I?
2. Who was Mary's great grandfather?
3. How old was Mary when she fled to England?
4. What did the Elizabethan religious settlement do?
5. What did Elizabeth do when Mary arrived in England?
6. Define what we mean by the word treasonous.
7. Name three similarities between the Ridolfi and Babington Plots. [3]
8. Define what we mean by to abdicate.
9. Which countries backed the plots to assassinate Elizabeth?
10. Where and when was Mary, queen of Scots executed?  
[2]

## 6. Mary, Queen of Scots (ANSWERS):

1. Mary was Elizabeth's cousin.
2. Henry VII was Mary's great grandfather
3. She was 25 years old.
4. The Elizabethan religious settlement confirm England as a Protestant country but in doing so angered its Catholic population.
5. Elizabeth put Mary in prison when she arrived in England.
6. Something is treasonous if it threatens the monarch or the state.
7. They were both Catholic plots to kill Elizabeth and make Mary queen; they were all backed by Spain, and Mary, queen of Scots agreed to both plots.
8. To abdicate means to give up power and mainly refers to a king or a queen giving up the throne.
9. Spain and France backed plots to assassinate Elizabeth.
10. Mary, Queen of Scots was executed on 8<sup>th</sup> February 1587 at Fotheringhay Castle.

## 7. Spain and England

1. How were Philip II of Spain and Elizabeth I related?
2. Which other European country did Spain rule in the sixteenth century?
3. To whom had Philip II been married?
4. Why did Philip II want to overthrow Elizabeth I?
5. Define what we mean by heretic.
6. Why was England's trade and economy affected by the Dutch Rebellion?
7. "England openly supported the Dutch Rebellion from 1566". State whether this statement true or false and give one reason why.
8. Who signed the Treaty of Nonsuch and in which year?[2]
9. What effect did the Treaty of Nonsuch have on Spain?
10. What was Philip II's 'Enterprise of England'?

## 7. Spain and England (ANSWERS)

1. Philip II of Spain was Elizabeth I's brother-in-law.
2. Spain ruled The Netherlands in the sixteenth century.
3. Philip II had been married to Mary I.
4. Philip II wanted to overthrow Elizabeth I because, as a Protestant, he saw her as a heretic and believed it was his Catholic duty to overthrow Elizabeth.
5. A heretic is someone who rejects the established religion of the country.
6. England's trade and economy were affected by the Dutch Rebellion because Philip II imposed trading restrictions on The Netherlands which was one of England's key trading partners.
7. False. England secretly, unofficially supported the Dutch Rebellion but did not openly offer support until 1585.
8. England and the Dutch rebels signed the Treaty of Nonsuch in 1585.
9. The Treaty of Nonsuch meant Spain was at war with England
10. Philip II's 'Enterprise of England' was his plan to invade England and seize the English Throne for himself.

## 8. The Spanish Armada

1. What was the final push for Philip II to launch his 'Enterprise of England'?
2. Define what we mean by broadside.
3. What was the Spanish Armada?
4. Why was the Spanish Armada sailing up the English Channel?
5. Why was the Spanish Armada pushed on to Calais?
6. What had the Spanish wanted to do?
7. What is a fire ship?
8. What did the Spanish do when Drake sent fireships towards them?
9. What was the result of the fireships on the Spanish Armada?
10. Give three advantages the English had over the Spanish during the Battle of Gravelines.[3]
11. Give three consequences of the Spanish Armada.[3]



## 8. The Spanish Armada (ANSWERS)

1. The execution of Mary, Queen of Scots was the final push for Philip II to launch his 'Enterprise of England'.
2. A broadside is a firing of all guns at the same time from one side of a warship.
3. The Spanish Armada was a fleet of Spanish ships which posed the most serious threat to English security in the entire Tudor period.
4. The Spanish Armada was sailing up the English Channel to The Netherlands to collect Spanish troops.
5. The Spanish Armada was pushed on to Calais because it was being followed by the English fleet.
6. The Spanish had wanted to shelter in the English Channel to await news of their troops.
7. A fire ship is an old ship filled with tar and oil and set alight.
8. The Spanish panicked when Drake sent fireships towards them cut anchor and fled.
9. As a result of the fire ship attack, the Spanish broke their defensive crescent formation.
10. The English had faster ships, long-range guns; the Spanish defensive crescent formation was broke; the Spanish were forced to sail into the wind; a change of wind direction meant the Spanish could not meet up with their troops.
11. As a result of the Spanish Armada Elizabeth I's reputation was enhanced; England's independence was assured; England was not invaded; and it was a humiliating defeat for Philip II.

### Answering quiz questions :

1. Using scrap paper or a notebook, test yourself on quizzes set from the topic on the Elizabethan England (one at a time, spaced out over the week).
2. After you complete each quiz, mark and correct it in green pen using the answers in your quiz book.
3. Go back to read the knowledge organiser sections on which you have not done well. You can also come to see your history teacher for further support.
4. Bring your scrap paper or notebook to next week's lesson.

**Marking quizzes is as important as doing them; it doesn't matter if you get answers wrong, but you need to know how to improve!**