

Knowledge Organiser 1 – Elizabethan England 1568-1603: Elizabeth and her Government

Timeline of key events	
7 th Sept. 1533	Princess Elizabeth was born to King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. An act of succession followed which named Elizabeth, and not Mary (her Catholic sister born to Henry VIII’s first wife, Catherine of Aragon), as heir to the throne.
May, 1536	Henry VIII allows the execution of Anne Boleyn on charges of adultery, treason and witchcraft. Henry was almost immediately betrothed to Jane Seymour.
Jun. 1536	The Second Act of Succession: removed both Elizabeth and Mary from the line of succession leaving no heir. Edward VI was born 12 th October 1537.
Jul. 1543	The Third Act of Succession: returned Mary and her heirs followed by Elizabeth and her heirs to the line of succession after Prince Edward and his heirs.
Jan. 1547	Henry VIII died, Edward VI became King of England.
1549	Thomas Seymour, who married Catherine Parr (Henry VIII’s 6 th wife) shortly after Henry’s death, was executed on grounds of treason following the scandal with young Elizabeth.
Jul. 1553	Lady Jane Grey was Queen of England for 9 days following Edward’s changes to his Devise (will). Mary became Queen of England following the nobles plot to put Protestant Lady Jane Grey on the throne.
17 Nov. 1558	After being imprisoned in the Tower of London, followed by a term of house arrest on command of her older sister, Elizabeth succeeded Mary following her death in November 1558.
15 th Jan. 1559	Elizabeth’s coronation. Elizabeth inherited huge debts of around £300,000 but spent £16,000 on a grand coronation.
1559-1601	Parliament met for 13 sessions during this period meeting for 140 weeks in total over a period of 45 years. During this period Parliament passed 434 Acts.
Jan. 1559	By January 1559 Elizabeth had appointed 19 members to her Privy Council. ½ were from Mary’s Council (experience) and ½ were brand new (allowing Elizabeth to award loyal followers). By the second half of her reign the Privy Council was a small, highly efficient group of educated, professional, full-time politicians largely from the gentry.

Timeline of key events continued.	
Jan-May 1559	In her first Parliament, Elizabeth I created a new Protestant Church by restoring Royal Supremacy over the Church of England (Act of Supremacy).
Summer 1559	Elizabeth went on her first progress. This allowed Elizabeth to be seen by her subjects regularly, to build up a relationship with her people and to flatter nobles who she chose to stay with (while living at the expense of her nobles during the disease ridden summer months which mainly affected London).
1590s	Elizabeth’s government was in crisis. The country had been damaged by war, plague, increased poverty and harvest failures. One by one Elizabeth’s trusted advisors died which led to factional rivalry.
1595	Earl of Essex, Robert Devereux, became one of Elizabeth’s favourites and she made him a Privy Councillor in 1595. Elizabeth gave Essex the monopoly of sweet wine in England. This meant by law anyone who wished to bring in sweet wine from abroad would have to pay him a tax making him wealthy.
1596	Essex gains further attention from Elizabeth due to his military success against the Spanish .
1598	Essex failed to defeat the Earl of Tyrone’s rebellion (the Nine Years’ War). He made a truce with them and abandoned his post and returned to England without the Queen’s permission. He faced house arrest, was banished from court and took away most of his public offices. In November 1600 she also took away his monopoly.
8 th Feb. 1601	Essex launched a rebellion in London. He aimed to seize the Queen and force her to replace her closest advisers, especially Cecil, with himself and his follower.
25 th Feb. 1601	Essex was executed for treason. His rebellion had failed within a few hours as he received no support from ordinary Londoners and most of his supporters abandoned him too.

Focus
Elizabeth was inexperience when she became Queen, but she quickly became an expert politician. The Royal Court was a political centre with a corrupt patronage system and where different groups competed for power and influence (factional rivalry). The Royal Court was also a social and cultural centre, designed to impress visitors with its magnificence and ceremony. The Queen famously went on progress most summers as public relations exercises. Elizabeth relied on a small group of trusted advisors who sat on a committee called the Privy Council. Elizabeth disliked Parliament, which was mainly called in order to grant taxes. Parliament grew in confidence and independence, at times being quite outspoken in its criticism of Elizabeth’s government. Elizabeth’s key advisors died, leaving her isolated and bitter towards the end of her life. A rebellion was mounted by one of her former favourites towards the end of her reign. There was great prejudice against female monarchs. Elizabeth disagreed with Parliament and Council over her succession and marriage. Elizabeth chose not to marry, keeping her independence but resulting in the end of the Tudor Dynasty.

Key terms	
Abdicate	When a monarch gives up their throne.
Accession	The time when an individual becomes a monarch.
Ambassador	The official representative of a foreign ruler at the Court.
Bull	A decree issued by the pope
Bureaucracy	A system of government involving lots of departments and paperwork.
Court	The residence of the monarch and their household
Courtiers	Members of the Royal Court who attended and advised the Queen.
Death Warrant	An official order for the execution of a condemned person. It had to be signed by the monarch, the authenticated with Royal Seal, and then delivered to the place of execution.
Dynasty	A ruling family.
Debasement	To reduce the amount of precious metal in a coin
Gentry	Well-born families who owned land, but did not have titles and so were below the rank of the nobility.
Great Chain of Being	An idea that everything in the universe had its place in a rigid hierarchy.
Heir	Next in line to inherit the throne.
House Arrest	The state of being kept a prisoner in a house, rather than prison.
Illegitimate	The opposite of legitimate, meaning a child born out of wedlock.
Justices of Peace	A JP is a magistrate who hear minor cases in local areas.
Legislation	Acts of Parliament (laws) had to be approved by the monarch and both Houses of Parliament.
Monopolies	Royal licences giving individuals sole right to sell or make a product, leading to their profit and often leading to high prices.
Patronage	Using wealth, power and influence to promote individuals who then owe their patrons loyalty.
Peers	Members of the nobility sitting in the House of Lords.
Personal Monarchy	Where politics and government revolve around the monarch and their court.
Privy Councillors	Members of the Privy Council, the committee of ministers appointed to advise the monarch.
Progresses	Royal tour visits to the homes of the nobility.
Puritan	An extreme Protestant.
Queen Regnant	A queen ruling in her own right rather than because she is married to a king.
Regent	A person who governs on behalf of another who is incapable of ruling due to age, ability, illness or location.
Recoinage	To stabilise the currency, old debased coins were melted down and new coins issued.

Reformation	A movement for the reform of abuses in the Roman Catholic Church which ended up splitting the Church with the establishment of separate Protestant churches.
Regent	A person who governs on behalf of another who is incapable of ruling due to age, ability, illness or location.
Regicide	The deliberate killing of a monarch.
Renaissance	An intellectual and cultural movement originating in Italy in the Middle Ages, heavily influenced by the Ancient Greeks and Romans.
Sceptre	An ornamental wand held in the hand of a ruling monarch at the coronation as a sign of their power and godliness.
Suitor	A man who pursues a relationship with a particular woman, with a view to marriage.
Small Pox	An often-fatal viral disease, the symptoms of which included blisters and fever.
Suitor	A man who pursues a relationship with a particular woman, with a view to marriage.
Traitor	Somebody guilty of treason.
Treason	A crime involving disloyalty to your country, monarch or government.
Uniformity	All being the same.
Yeoman	A farmer who owned his own small estate.
Key people	
Sir William Cecil, Lord Burghley	A member of the Lincolnshire Gentry. Made secretary of State in 1558. Wanted to avoid war and unite the nation through moderate policies. Given the title Lord Burghley in 1571 and made Lord Treasurer the following year due to his loyalty and his skills at managing Parliament. Died in 1598 and was replaced as Elizabeth’s chief minister by his son, Robert.
Sir Francis Walsingham	Norfolk gentry. Puritan. Fiercely loyal to Elizabeth. Served as ambassador in Paris in the early 1570s. Appointed to the Privy Council in 1573, became secretary of state with special responsibility for foreign affairs. Knighted in 1577. Frequently clashed with Cecil. An ally of Dudley. In charge of Elizabeth’s secret service (spy network) and was a very effective spy master who uncovered a number of plots against Elizabeth. Died in 1590.
Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester	Younger brother of the disgraced Duke of Northumberland who had been executed at the beginning of Bloody Mary’s reign. Spent some of Mary’s reign imprisoned in the Tower of London: like Elizabeth. Rumours of a romance between him and Elizabeth. A member of the Court and was personally responsible for Elizabeth’s safety as he was Master of the Horse. Became a Privy Councillor in 1562. Frequently argued with Cecil about the succession, foreign policy and religion. Given the title Earl of Leicester in 1564. Died in 1588.
Sir Christopher Hatton	Northamptonshire Gentry. Studied Law at Oxford University. He became a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber and the Captain of the Queen’s Bodyguard after Elizabeth was impressed with his dancing at Court. Helped Elizabeth organise Elizabeth’s famous progresses. He was a Protestant who hated Puritans and sympathised with Catholics. Helped Elizabeth control the MPs and secure their support. Became Lord Chancellor in 1587, in charge of judges and law Courts. Died in 1591.
Edward VI	Protestant King of England from the age of 9, January 1547-July 1553, son of Henry VIII and Jane Seymour (third wife)
Mary I	Queen of England, July 1553 – November 1558, daughter of Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon. Restored the Tudor Dynasty after Lady Jane Grey, The Protestant 9 day Queen of England and great-granddaughter of Henry VII was proclaimed queen following the death of Edward VI.

Knowledge Organiser 2 – Elizabethan England 1568-1603: Life in Elizabethan Times

Timeline of key events	
1536-1541	Henry VIII had dissolved the monasteries and sold of most of their land. They had performed important social functions, including support for the poor, ill and disabled people.
1542	Henry VIII began to debase coinage as economic problems increased and the cost of war was great. This damaged trade and jobs and led to inflation.
1556	Outbreak of flu killed around 200,000 including many workers who were involved in producing food.
1558-1601	Population had increased from around 3 million to at least 4 million people during Elizabeth’s reign. This led to an increase in food prices as production couldn’t keep up with the increase in population.
Jan-May 1559	In her first Parliament, Elizabeth I created a new Protestant Church by restoring Royal Supremacy over the Church of England (Act of Supremacy) .
1560s	John Hawkins made three voyages to the Caribbean, trading slaves he had captured in West Africa with the Spanish Colonies.
1560s	The government passed a Poor Law which introduced a tax to raise money for the poor (known as poor rate) as voluntary donations were no longer sufficient to fund the poor.
1563	Statute of Artificers placed wage limits on skilled workers to slow down the rate of inflation.
1564	Francis Drake and John Hawkins kidnapped several hundred West Africans and sold as slaves to the South American coast with permission from Elizabeth.
1566	During every Parliament Elizabeth was pressured by Parliament to marry. During the third Parliament, Elizabeth lost her temper for daring to raise the issue of marriage. Parliament was not allowed to discuss her marriage ever again.
1567	Thomas Harman published a very popular book that drew attention to some of the scams and tricks used by the ‘undeserving poor’ . This hardened attitudes towards the poor.
1569	Ipswich introduced a licensing system for beggars and increased support for the poor. It became the first town to open a hospital specifically to help the old and sick who couldn’t afford treatment. A youth training scheme was introduced to help children learn a trade. The first town to build a house of correction .
1570	Norwich conducted a survey which found that 80% of the population lived in poverty. They separated the poor into two categories: ‘idle poor’ and ‘unfortunate poor’ .

1572	Parliament passed a law which said that actors were to be punished as vagabonds if they were not licensed. 4 years later the first purpose built London theatre opened. The Curtain opened in 1577, The Rose in 1587, The Swan in 1596 and The Globe in 1599. By 1603 there were 7 major theatres in London and 40 companies of actors.
1572	Francis Drake captured £40,000 worth of Spanish silver travelling from Mexico and Peru and captured the Spanish port of Nombre de Dios in Panama.
1576	‘Act for setting the poor on work’ placed the responsibility for finding work for the poor in the hands of the local authorities while the national policy still focussed on punishment.
1574	Statutes of Apparel was passed. This was a new Sumptuary Law which strictly controlled the clothes people were allowed to wear depending on their social rank.
1577-1580	Drake was the first Englishman (and the 2 nd human) to circumnavigate the globe. Returned with over £400,000 of Spanish treasure (£200m today) to give to investors, the queen and leaving £10,000 for himself.
1582	Queen Elizabeth sent Ralph Fitch to India and the Far East and when he returned he told the queen that profitable trade was more than possible.
1584	Elizabeth gave Sir Walter Raleigh permission to explore, colonise and rule any land that was not already ruled by a Christian. Had to give the queen 1/5 of all gold and silver that he found.
1594-1598	Bad harvests leading to food shortages and deaths due to starvation = poverty crisis.
c. 1594	Shakespeare’s plays begin to be performed in London theatres.
1597	Poor Law , amended in 1601 and titled the Act for the Relief of the Poor . This stated there was a third class of poor: those who were able bodied and genuinely unable to find work. Everyone had to pay towards the Poor Rate or face penalties/imprisonment.
1598	Act on Husbandry and Tillage : a law introduced by the government to slow down the trend for enclosure to protect rural jobs.
1601	Poor Laws were passed in 1597 and 1601. Under these laws, the poor rate became a national system of compulsory taxation . It was collected locally by the official called the Overseer of the Poor .
1600	London’s populations increased from around 60,000 in 1500 to over 200,000 in 1600.
1600	East India Company was established to oversee this trade.

Focus
Elizabeth’s culture was influences by the Italian Renaissance . Political stability, the rise of the gentry and competition among the nobility all helped to develop a cultural ‘Golden Age’ . New styles of architecture appeared, particularly in house building (Hardwick Hall). Elizabeth and her minister encouraged the development of the theatre and Shakespeare became the most successful and enduring playwright. Government censorship meant that cultural output was very closely controlled. Government propaganda , particularly portraits, created a ‘cult of personality’ around Elizabeth as ‘Gloriana’ and the ‘Virgin Queen’ . This was a period of massive population growth and high inflation. About ½ of England’s population were poor. Many people were moving from the countryside to the towns. Elizabethans drew a distinction between the ‘deserving poor’ and ‘undeserving poor’ . At the time people believed that there was a poverty crisis. Poverty was a threat to social order, and many feared a large-scale rebellion. Various laws came together in the Elizabethan Poor Law of 1601 , which remained in place until the 19 th century. Goods from the Far East were in high demand in Europe but difficult to transport. New ideas and inventions prompted a wave of European exploration . Spain and Portugal dominated and colonised areas of the New World. Elizabethan ‘sea dogs’ were pirates and privateers who stole from Spanish ships and ports. Francis Drake was the most famous Elizabethan explorer, circumnavigating the globe. The achievements of Elizabethan explorers contributed to the idea of a ‘Golden Age’ . Elizabethan exploration triggered Britain’s rise as a global superpower .

Key terms	
Apprenticeships	Poor children were given apprenticeships which usually lasted at least 7 years.
Alms	Charity given to the poor. Alms houses are houses provided for poor people to live in.
Arable land	Land used for growing crops.
Astrolabe	An instrument used by navigators to calculate latitude.
Censorship	To block something from being read, heard or seen, usually by the government.
Census	A population count
Circumnavigation	To travel all the way around the circumference of the world.
Colony	An area ruled over by another country.
Cult	A system of devotional worship directed towards a particular figure.
Dearth	When food is so scarce and expensive that it threatens famine.
Debasement	To reduce the amount of precious metal in a coin
Enclosure	The division of land, including the village common land, into separate field with hedges, allowing a change from arable to sheep farming.
Deserving Poor	People who wanted to work, but weren't able to find a job in their home town or village.
Flax	A plant used to make linen.
Hemp	A plant that could be used to make rope.
Helpless Poor	Unable to support themselves – young orphans and elderly, sick or disabled.
Humanism	Intellectual branch of the Renaissance, drawing on classical texts and stressing the dignity of mankind.
Inflation	Rising prices.
Lord Chamberlain's Men	The only company to perform Shakespeare's plays and became the leading London playing company.
Monasteries	The religious houses occupied by monks, dissolved by Henry VIII between 1536 and 1540.
New World	A sixteenth century term for North and South America, newly discovered at this time by Europeans.
Ottoman Empire	A Muslim empire centred on Turkey that was rapidly expanding at this time, extending across North Africa, Arabia and Eastern Europe.
Patent	A licence that gives a person sole right to do, make, use or sell something.
Plantation	A type of colonisation involving the establishment of a government-sponsored settlement of emigrants.
Poor Rate	Compulsory tax which was used to provide hospitals and housing for the elderly, sick and disabled.
Printing Press	Invented in the 15 th century in Germany, it allowed the mass production of books and images.
Privateers	Pirates licensed by the government to attack and loot enemy ships.

Propaganda	Something that spreads a message in order to encourage people to think or behave in a particular way.
Rack Renting	Charging extortionately high rent.
Recoinage	To stabilise the currency, old debased coins were melted down and new coins issued.
Tavern	A public house serving alcohol and good as well as providing accommodation for travellers.
Vagabonds	A homeless vagrant, wandering from place to place who would beg and steal.
Vagrant	A homeless, unemployed person who wanders from place to place and begs.
Undeserving poor	Under the Poor Laws of the 1590s, the undeserving poor were to be publicly whipped and then forced to return to their home parish. Repeat offenders could be sent to prison. They were seen as a serious threat to society. (beggars, criminals and people who refused to work).
Workhouse	Institutions set up by the Poor Law to provide shelter for the ‘impotent poor’, providing work for the ‘able-bodied poor’ and ‘Houses of Correction’ were to detain the ‘idle poor’.

Key People	
William Shakespeare	From Stratford-upon-Avon. Received a grammar school education but did not go to university. Moved to London to be an actor, joining the Lord Chamberlain's Men. Wrote at least 37 plays, mostly during Elizabeth's reign, creating 2 a year on average. His style and vocabulary has had a lasting impact on the English language: ‘mum's the word’, ‘a heart of gold’ and ‘a wild goose chase’. Part of the partnership who built the Globe Theatre. Retired during the reign of James I and died in 1616.
Christopher Marlowe	The son of a shoemaker in Kent. Awarded a degree from Cambridge. A poet and playwright who was a major influence on Shakespeare, who became better known after Marlowe's mysterious death in 1593 (stabbed to death, allegedly in a drunken brawl). Arrested and questioned by the Privy Council in 1593. The reason is not recorded.
Sir Francis Drake	The puritan son of a Yeoman farmer from Devon. Took part in transatlantic voyages of his cousin Hawkins in 1560s. Became famous as a captain and privateer after his successful voyage of 1572 when he returned with considerable stolen goods. Circumnavigated the globe between 1577 and 1580. Regarded as a hero to the English but was hated by the Spanish. Knighted in 1581, he became an MP in the 1580s. Played a crucial role in the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588. His later campaigns were less successful. He died of dysentery in 1596.
Sir Walter Raleigh	A landed gentleman, poet and soldier from a Protestant family in Devon. At Court he rose rapidly to become a favourite of Elizabeth. Elizabeth granted him a royal charter to explore new lands. He played a key role in exploring the New World and colonising North America. He introduced potatoes and tobacco to England. Knighted in 1585 and an MP on several occasions. Dismissed from court in 1592 for marrying without Elizabeth's permission but was soon in Elizabeth's favour again. Served as Governor of Jersey from 1600 to 1603. Imprisoned under James I but released to lead another expedition. Eventually executed under Spanish pressure in 1618.

Timeline of key events	
May 1559	Act of Supremacy was passed. It re-established the break from Rome and an independent Church of England (like Henry VIII in 1534). As a compromise, Elizabeth chose the less controversial title of Supreme Governor rather than Supreme Head of the Church (to please the Catholics due to removing papal authority).
May 1559	Act of Uniformity was passed. This created a new Book of Common Prayer which was moderately worded but contained radical Protestant ideas. Catholic Mass was abandoned. The Bible and services were in English and the clergy were allowed to marry. Old catholic practices like pilgrimages and saints’ images were banned. To please Catholics Priests were to wear traditional Catholic-style vestments and ornaments such as crosses and candles could be placed on the communion table (which replaced the altar).
1563	Thirty-Nine Articles defined the doctrines and practices of the Church of England.
1567	Mary, Queen of Scots, is forced to abdicate the throne.
1568	Mary, Queen of Scots, is imprisoned in England after fleeing Scotland.
1568	A school for training seminary priests was founded by William Allen in Douai in the Netherlands to train English Catholics as missionaries to go back to England and keep Catholicism alive.
1569	Northern Rebellion: Leading Catholic nobles, including the Dukes of Northumberland and Norfolk, led a rebellion in the North aiming to depose Elizabeth.
1570	Pope Pius V excommunicated Elizabeth which allowed all Catholics to disobey her laws or be excommunicated themselves.
1570s	Puritans were also unhappy with the religious compromise. They found the Catholic parts of Elizabeth’s ‘Middle Way’ offensive. Many puritans were senior people at Court, in the Church and in Parliament.
1571	The Treason Act was passed as Elizabeth was increasingly threatened by Catholic plots and assassination attempts. Denying Elizabeth’s supremacy and bringing the Popes bull of excommunication into England could both be punished by death and if anyone left the country for more than 6 months their land would be confiscated.
1571	Ridolfi Plot to assassinate Elizabeth and replace her with Mary Queen of Scots.
1572	Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, is executed for treason.
1572	Fear of Catholicism in England grew as St Bartholomew’s Day Massacre in France occurred – thousand of French Protestants were killed in mob violence, believed to be brought about by the Catholic government.
1576	MPs no longer allowed to discuss religious matters without Elizabeth’s permission.
1580s	Jesuits were sent to England as educators to gain influence over rich and powerful families and to turn them against the Queen and Anglican Church (serving the Pope).
1580	A famous English Jesuit Priest, Edmund Campion, arrived in Lancashire where Catholicism was strongest. Later he moved to London, holding church services in the homes of important catholic families.
1581	Due to increasing Catholic activity, new laws were passed. The fine for recusancy was raised to £20 and any attempt to convert people to the Catholic faith was made a treasonable offence.

1583	The Throckmorton Plot - an attempt by English Roman Catholics to murder Queen Elizabeth I of England and replace her with her first cousin once removed, Mary, Queen of Scots.
1585	Act Against Jesuits and Seminary Priests. This made becoming a priest treason, and all priested were ordered to leave England within 40 days on pain of death.
1586	Babington Plot and trial of Mary, Queen of Scots, for treason. It was a plan in to assassinate Queen Elizabeth I, a Protestant, and put Mary, Queen of Scots, her Roman Catholic cousin, on the English throne.
February 1587	Mary, Queen of Scots, is executed at Fotheringhay Castle (increased already hostile tensions with Philip II of Spain).
1588	Defeat of the Spanish Armada.
1593	Large gathering of Catholics were made illegal in 1593 and Catholics’ freedom of movement was restricted. They were allowed to travel no further than 5 miles from their homes.
1596 and 1597	Philip launched 2 further Armadas but both were driven back by storms.
1597	The priest-hole builder, Nicholas Owen, helped to mastermind the escape of a Jesuit, John Gerard, from the Tower of London.
1603	By 1603, the government had been largely successful at wiping out the Catholics as a serious force. Around 10% of the population were Catholic sympathisers by the end of Elizabeth’s reign, but only 2 per cent were actual recusants.

Focus
Elizabeth’s ‘Middle Way’ brought both Catholic and Protestant elements into the Anglican Church. Some Catholics were involved in rebellions and plots against Elizabeth. Around 3000 mercenaries and Jesuits tried to revive Catholicism in England. Puritans spoke out in Parliament, preached and published pamphlets. The government took a harsher line from the 1570s. A new Treason Act and various laws were passed by the government to deal with those who disagreed with the ‘Middle Way’. Nearly 200 Catholics were executed during Elizabeth’s reign. Religious civil wars did not take place as they did in Europe. Mary, Queen of Scots, was considered the rightful Queen of England. After she fled, Mary was held a prisoner in England for 19 years in remote locations. Mary was involved in Catholic plots against Elizabeth and Walsingham eventually entrapped Mary in the Babington Plot which saw her being trialled and executed for treason. Elizabeth’s instructions regarding Mary’s death warrant were ignored by her councillors. Tensions between England and Spain, and Elizabeth and Philip, existed for years before they actually went to war. A rebellion in the Netherlands threatened Spanish power and disrupted English trade. Spain supported Mary, Queen of Scot’s Catholic plots. The Spanish Armada of 1588 were defeated due to Spanish mistakes, the tactical skill of the English and the weather. This boosted national pride and was a great propaganda victory for Elizabeth.

Key terms	
Armada	A fleet of warships.
Beacon	A fire set up in a high position as a warning. A chain had been built across England prior to the Armada.
Broadside	A firing of all the guns from one side of a warship.
Bull	A decree issued by the Pope.
Calvinist	Protestant followers of John Calvin of Geneva.
Chaplain	A clergyman attached to the private chapel of a prominent person.
Clergy	Churchmen, including priests, bishops and archbishops.
Conspiracy	A secret plan to do something unlawful or harmful.
Culverins	A type of cannon used on English ships that was light, easy to reload and had a long range.
Episcopal	A Church hierarchy structured around bishops.
Excommunicated	To be expelled from the Church.
Galleon	A large shp, especially used by Spain, either as a warship or for trading.
Galley	A type of ship with sails and oars.
Gauntlet	An armoured glove worn by a soldier.
Heretic	A person who did not follow the official religion of the country.
Huguenot	A French Protestant. They suffered severe persecution and many emigrated.
Jesuit	Roman Catholic missionary priests
Martyr	Somebody who suffers and dies for their beliefs.
Mass	One of the seven sacraments, re-enacting the last supper. A key Catholic ritual.

Nationalism	Patriotic feelings marked by a desire for superiority over other countries.
Prophesising	Prayer meetings where the Bible was discussed and sermons said.
Puritan	An extreme Protestant, favouring very plain churches and simple church services without music.
Pursuivants	Government priest-hunters who would search houses suspects of hiding Catholics.
Recusant	Someone, usually a Roman Catholic, who refused to go to Church services.
Reformation	A movement for the reform of the abuses in the Roman Catholic Church which ended up splitting the Church with the establishment of separate Protestant Churches.
Sacrament	A sacred ritual recognised as of particular importance.
Sceptre	An ornamental want held in the hand of a ruling monarch at the coronation as a sign of their power and godliness.
Seminary	A school providing training for priests.
Transubstantiation	The belief that the bread and wine used in the Mass turn into the actual body and blood of Jesus Christ.
Uniformity	All being the same.
Vestments	The garments worn by clergy.

Key People	
Mary, Queen of Scots.	Daughter of James V of Scots and Mary of Guise. Mary Stuart became Mary, Queen of Scots, at ages 6 days but lived in France between 1548 and 1561. Her mother ruled as regent in her absence. Brought up as Roman Catholic. Beautiful, intelligent, music and an accomplished linguist. She married the heir to the French throne and was briefly Queen of France for 18 months but her husband, Francis II, died aged only 16. 2 nd marriage was to Henry, Lord Darnley, but was brief and unhappy. However, she produced a male heir called James. Darnley’s murder and Mary’s third marriage to Earl Bothwell triggered a chain of events that led to Mary’s forced abdication in 1567. She was succeeded by her baby son James VI. Mary fled to England and lived in captivity, though in relative luxury, for 19 years. She was executed following the Babington Plot in 1587.
Philip II of Spain.	Married Mary I of England (Bloody Mary) in 1553. Both monarchs were Catholic. Philip didn’t serve Mary well as husband, dragged England into a war against the papacy and France and allowed France to absorb Calais which had belonged to England since the 1340s. Philip and Elizabeth had poor relations due to religion and the fact that Elizabeth rejected his hand in marriage.