

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER. Part 1: Elizabeth's Court and Parliament

Key People	
Elizabeth I	William Cecil
Henry VIII	Robert Dudley
Edward VI	Christopher Hatton
Mary I	Francis Walsingham
Anne Boleyn	Earl of Essex
Peter Wentworth	James I

Key problems faced by Elizabeth when she became Queen (1558)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> England was a Catholic country. Elizabeth was a Protestant and so she wanted to re-establish an independent Church of England. Elizabeth was unmarried, had no children and reluctant to name a successor. Her mother was Anne Boleyn, Henry's second wife. Anne was beheaded for treason. People questioned Elizabeth's legitimacy. People questioned Elizabeth's ability to rule based on her being a woman. England was at war with France and had no allies. Elizabeth's government inherited a huge debt of £300,000 from Queen Mary I. Harvest failure and inflation (currency becoming worthless because of rapid price rises) meant that people were living in poverty and likely to rebel.

Key words for how government worked during Elizabeth's reign.
Court. Progresses. Patronage. Performance. Privy Council. Secretary of State. Parliament. Nobility. Gentry. Lord Lieutenants. Justices of the Peace (JPs).

Key profile of Elizabeth's early life
Elizabeth's birth (1533) was a disappointment to her father. Henry VIII was desperate for a son and heir.
Elizabeth's mother was executed for treason just before her third birthday.
A Second Act of Succession (1536) declared Elizabeth, like her older half-sister Mary, to be illegitimate with no right to inherit the throne.
Elizabeth was given a brilliant education (languages, poetry, history, music and athletics). This prepared her for Royal Court .
Edward VI, aged just nine, became King (1547).
Elizabeth formed a close bond with her step-mother, Katherine Parr
After Katherine's death there were accusations made that her husband, Thomas Seymour, and Elizabeth were to marry to gain influence over the young King. Elizabeth's loyalty came under suspicion.
Mary became Queen (1553)
Elizabeth was imprisoned in the Tower of London (1554) after she was accused of supporting a rebellion.
Elizabeth became Queen (1558)

Key facts for the structure of government	
Royal Court: Centre of political power <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile and so not confined to a particular building. Located wherever the Queen was. Met daily. Members called 'courtiers.' Made up of about 500 nobles, advisors, government officials and servants. Not the government. But members of the court alongside the Privy Council made up central government. Allowed Queen to call nobles and officials for advice. Part of system of patronage. This involved showing favouritism by giving particular men important jobs. Performance was central to court life. It displayed the Queen's power and magnificence to the nobility and visiting foreign guests through art and culture (lavish banquets, musical performances, plays and tournaments) Members of the Court travelled with Elizabeth when she travelled around the country visiting the houses of wealthy noblemen. Known as royal progresses. 	Privy Council: Carried out day-to-day running of country. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met at Court Members from the nobility, gentry and the Church. But over time the Council was made up of a small, highly efficient group of educated, professional, full-time politicians, largely from the gentry. The Council was led by Secretary of State. Meetings were daily. But the Queen did not always attend. Members were Queen's main advisors. Dealt with issues, including military and foreign affairs, religion and the Queen's security. The Queen was not obliged to take their advice. Ultimately it was Elizabeth who made policy decisions. Issued instructions to local officials such as Lord Lieutenants and Justices of the Peace.
Lord Lieutenants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lord Lieutenants and Justices of the Peace made up the local government. Appointed by the Queen to take responsibility for a particular area of the country. Involved in settling disputes, collecting taxes and raising a militia (non-professional army) to fight for the Queen if needed. From the nobility. Many were members of Privy Council. 	Justices of the Peace (JPs): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each county had several JPs to ensure order was kept. Main role was to ensure that laws passed by Parliament were properly enforced. A single JP had the power to send somebody to prison, but more than one was needed to sentence a criminal to death. JPs swore to treat everyone who they dealt with equally, whether they were rich or poor. Always selected from the local gentry.

Remember 3Ps for court life!

Key arguments for marriage	Key arguments against marriage
The Privy Council and Parliament put constant pressure on Elizabeth to marry or name her successor.	Marrying a foreign prince or king, such as the Duke of Anjou (heir to the French throne) or King Philip of Spain, could lead to England falling under their control .
In 1562, Elizabeth contracted smallpox and nearly died . If Elizabeth died without an heir, there would be a risk of civil war , with different groups competing for the throne.	Her sister Mary's marriage to King Philip of Spain had failed to produce an heir . It also led to England becoming involved in an expensive war with France .
Marriage could have created an alliance with a foreign country . E.g. An alliance with Spain if she had married Philip II or with France if she had married Francis, Duke of Anjou.	Marrying a member of the English nobility (like Robert Dudley) would create anger and resentment amongst those who were not chosen. This would cause conflict in the Privy Council .
Marriage could win the support of a powerful English family . By marrying, Elizabeth could produce an heir to succeed her and continue the Tudor line.	Marrying a Catholic would have been unpopular and undermined Elizabeth's rule. The religious settlement (1559) had made England a Protestant country .
Marriage and children would prevent Mary, Queen of Scots (a Catholic and Elizabeth's cousin) from ruling England after Elizabeth's death. This was not a concern after 1587!	Remaining unmarried meant Elizabeth kept her independence . Marriage in the 1500s was not a partnership. The husband legally had authority over their wife . Giving birth was also risky for women, often resulting in the death of the mother.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER. Part 1: Elizabeth's Court and Parliament

Key People in the Privy Council

William Cecil (Lord Burghley). Secretary of State twice. Lord Treasurer. MP himself. Elizabeth's most trusted advisor. Highly skilled at convincing MP's to support the Queen's policies

Francis Walsingham. MP. Secretary of State, with special responsibility for foreign affairs. Head of Elizabethan 'secret service.' Spy master, controlling a network of spies at home and abroad, and uncovering numerous plots against Queen.

Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. Childhood friend of Elizabeth. Rumours of romance. Member of Court. Master of the Horse (personally responsible for Queen's safety).

Christopher Hatton. Queen impressed by his dancing at Court. Gentleman of Privy Chamber and Captain of the Queen's Body-guard. Organised progresses. MP. Helped secure support for Queen's policies.

Key Features of Parliament

Had the function of giving advice to the Queen, approve the raising of taxes and pass new laws.

The Queen never gave way to pressure from Parliament. She could bypass getting Parliament's approval to pass new laws by issuing royal proclamations.

Elizabeth only called 13 sessions of Parliament during her 44 year reign. She also had the right to dissolve Parliament whenever she wished.

MPs were supposed to have special privileges, allowing them freedom of speech and freedom from arrest.

Elizabeth attended Parliament in person. She was a strong public speaker and used speeches to both charm and bully MPs.

The Speaker, who kept order in Parliament, was chosen by the Queen. The Speaker controlled which topics were discussed and steered the direction of the debate in the Queen's favour.

Members of the Privy Council sat in Parliament. Acted as royal spokesmen and helped steer debates in the Queen's favour. Cecil was particularly effective in convincing MPs to support the Queen's policies.

Key problems that Elizabeth and Parliament clashed over

• **Succession:** Parliament repeatedly asked Elizabeth to marry or name her heir, but she always refused. In 1562, Elizabeth had smallpox and nearly died. When Parliament asked Elizabeth to find a husband in 1563, she refused to discuss the matter. In 1566 Elizabeth even banned Parliament from discussing the issue again. The MP Peter Wentworth ignored the Queen's orders and demanded that MP's have freedom of speech. Elizabeth had him imprisoned and imposed limits on MP's right to speak freely.

• **Mary, Queen of Scots:** Without a direct heir, the next in line to the throne was Elizabeth's Catholic cousin Mary. In 1568, Mary was exiled from Scotland to England and became a real threat to Elizabeth's rule. Catholics now had an alternative queen to fight for. Parliament pushed for Elizabeth to agree to the execution of Mary Queen of Scots. Elizabeth refused as she did not want to set the precedent of killing a Queen!

• **Religion:** Elizabeth's Parliament in 1559 passed a bill (law) that created a new Protestant Church. This restored the royal supremacy over the Church of England. Parliament initially refused to pass the bill. Some MP's wanted to make England more Protestant (Puritan), but in the end all but one bishop accepted the bill.

• **Ireland:** In 1559 there was a revolt in northern Ireland, the first of several during Elizabeth's reign, as many of the Irish did not recognise her as Queen. In 1581 and 1601 Parliament granted taxes to pay for an army in Ireland. However, MP's used these opportunities to raise their own complaints. This included the issue of trading monopolies, which were royal licences giving individuals sole right to sell or make a product. This was a way of raising money for the Crown, but caused anger amongst MPs who lost out. Elizabeth agreed to cancel some monopolies.

• **Taxation:** Elizabeth inherited a huge debt of £300,000 as a result of Mary I funding an expensive war against France. At a time of great poverty it was very risky to raise taxes. However, under Elizabeth, taxes were approved in 1563 and 1566 to fund wars against France. In 1576 the Queen even asked Parliament's permission to raise taxes when the country was at peace. MPs agreed to the taxes.

• **Foreign policy:** Parliament was called a number of times to approve taxes to pay for war against Spain. They agreed to the taxes, but MPs used these opportunities to make complaints about issues that were not on the government agenda. This included Elizabeth's marital status, trading monopolies and religious grievances.

Timeline of the Essex Rebellion

1595 Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, became a member of the Privy Council. Queen gave him the monopoly of sweet wine. But Essex developed a rivalry with Robert Cecil (son of William Cecil). Cecil was made Secretary of State and held much power. This caused division in the Council.

1598 Essex became involved in an argument with Elizabeth during a Privy Council meeting. Essex turned his back on the Queen and she retaliated by hitting him on the side of the head. Essex almost drew his sword. Elizabeth put him under house arrest.

1599 Elizabeth made Essex Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Essex failed to crush the rebellious Irish. When Essex returned, he rushed into the Queen's bedchamber and caught her without her wig. Essex experienced a spectacular downfall. The Queen did not renew his sweet wine monopoly.

1601 With little left to lose, Essex gathered supporters to start a rebellion to remove his long-term rival, Cecil. Essex had 200 followers and took 4 Privy Councillors hostage.

Cecil responded by labelling Essex a traitor and many rebels abandoned him. The hostages were released by supporters who had abandoned his cause.

Essex and his remaining supporters were arrested. He was put on trial for treason. Essex was executed at the Tower of London on 25 February 1601.

What it shows about Elizabeth's authority at the end of her reign?

The Queen did not manage her Court and Privy Council as effectively towards the end of her reign.

The rebellion showed how easy it was for a member of Court and Privy Council to lose the Queen's favour.

Elizabeth was ultimately in control of Court and the system of patronage.

Even the Queen's favourites were prepared to rebel.

The Queen and Council were able to deal with rebellions quite easily.

The rebellion showed how dangerous it was to rebel against the Queen.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER. Part 2: Life in Elizabethan times

Structure of Elizabethan society:

Key terms:	
Great Chain of Being	Elizabethan society was based on a hierarchy. In the Great Chain, God is at the top, followed by the monarch, nobility, gentry and peasants at the bottom.
Monarch	King or queen.
Nobility	Lords and ladies who owned most of the land in England and had titles. They were given special rights and privileges.
Gentry	Well-born families who owned land, but did not have titles and so were below the rank of the nobility.
Peasants	Poorest group of society. They did not own land.

Growing prosperity and rise of the gentry:

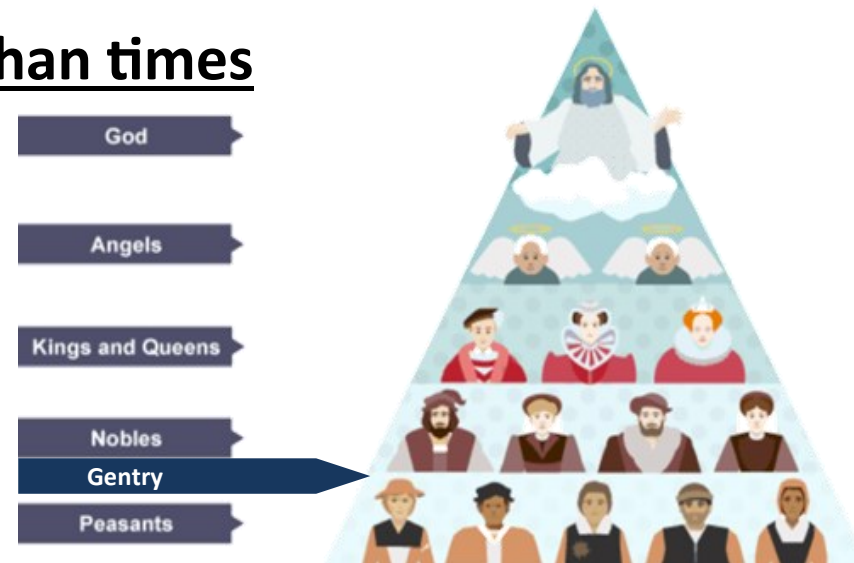
SIZE: The gentry grew massively in Elizabeth's reign. Tudor monarchs saw the nobility as a threat to their power and influence. As a result, the nobility were granted fewer titles and positions in government. This left a vacuum which the gentry filled and they became very powerful politically. Under Elizabeth many of the key members of the Privy Council- including William Cecil and Francis Walsingham- came from the gentry class. The gentry also dominated the House of Commons in Parliament, and they gained power locally through their work as Justices of the Peace.

TRADE: Growth in trade and exploration helped many, such as Francis Drake and Walter Raleigh, to make their fortune. When Drake circumnavigated the globe he brought back £400,000 worth of treasure captured from the Spanish, which would be about £200 million today! Drake made about £10,000 and the rest was paid to investors, including members of the gentry such as Cecil. After his voyage, Drake was given the title of knighth, which confirmed his position as a gentleman.

HOUSES: The dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII made more land available for the gentry to buy. The gentry showed off their wealth by building grand country houses. These new houses were often built to impress and host Elizabeth while she was on progress. Elizabeth's long reign of peace and order had an impact on design. For example, Hardwick Hall, one of the grandest houses of the period, was designed with a focus on style and comfort, rather than defence and security. The design of buildings was symmetrical and often decorated with classical columns and expensive glass. Houses did not need moats and drawbridges, and instead were surrounded by decorative gardens.

MARRIAGE: Members of the gentry like Bess, owner of Hardwick Hall, rose in status and power through marriage. Through her four marriages Bess gained a place at court, became nobility and the richest woman in England after Queen Elizabeth. The gentry, like Bess, made money by renting out land to farmers who reared sheep for the wool trade. This was a lot more profitable than growing and selling grain. Bess also owned coalmines and glassworks. Glass was very expensive and so made Bess huge profits from this.

FASHION: The gentry also showed off their wealthy by buying expensive clothes in the latest styles. Fashion was an important status symbol. Women often paired fine clothes with whitened faces. This was to show they did not have to do manual labour outside and get a tanned face. The effect was created using lead-based make-up! A key element of both men's and women's fashion was the elaborate ruff worn around the neck. Clothes were considered so important that laws were passed, called the Statutes of Apparel (1574), which strictly controlled what people could wear depending on their social class.



Portrait of William Cecil, Lord Burghley.



Portrait of Bess of Hardwick, Countess of Shrewsbury.



Hardwick Hall, built between 1590-1597, in Derbyshire.

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Key terms:	
Alms	Gifts of money or food, as charity, for the poor.
Almshouses	When charitable giving is used to build houses for the poor to live in rent free.
Peasants	Poorest group of society. They did not own land.
Poverty	The state of being extremely poor. People without work lived in poverty. They relied on charity for most of Elizabeth's reign.
Vagabonds	A wandering beggar who often turned to crime. Vagabonds were seen as a serious threat to the social order and were severely punished.
Vagrancy	When someone has no settled home or work who wanders and lives by begging.

Key dates:	
1558	When Elizabeth became Queen, the population was around 2.8 million
1576	Act for setting the poor on work made <u>local authorities</u> in towns and cities responsible for finding work for the poor.
1601	The <u>Poor Law</u> was introduced by Elizabeth's government in an attempt to deal with poverty across the country. The rich were to be taxed to help the poor.
1603	By the end of Elizabeth's reign the population had increased to 4 million. This was a huge increase in such a short time. This contributed to a growing number of people living in <u>poverty</u>, which was a major problem in Elizabethan society. It was <u>peasants</u> who were the victims of poverty.

Attitudes to the poor:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabethan society was based on the idea of 'the <u>Great Chain of Being</u>' This led the rich (<u>nobility</u> and <u>gentry</u>) to believe they were better than the poor <u>peasants</u>. The wealthy were expected to give help through <u>alms</u> (charity) to those below them. For example, the poor who were sick or old. But attitudes to the poor were largely unsympathetic. As unemployment and poverty grew in Elizabeth's reign there was a change in attitude. The rich began to accept many poor people wanted to help themselves, but no fault of their own could not find work. These were known as the '<u>deserving poor</u>'. <u>Almshouses</u>, funded by charity, were built to give accommodation and food to the poor. Many wealthy people also felt there was another group of the poor that were '<u>undeserving</u>'. These were untrustworthy beggars who had no interest in honest work. In 1567, Thomas Harman published a book that drew attention to some of the scams and tricks used by these conmen and women. The book was very popular and hardened some attitudes towards the poor. Many wealthy began to question the honesty of all beggars. They were seen as criminals and referred to them as the '<u>idle poor</u>'. 	

Government action to deal with poverty:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before Elizabeth became Queen, the government used <u>punishment</u> to deal with poverty. In <u>1531</u>, under King Henry VIII, beggars without a license were publicly whipped. If they were caught for a second time they would have a hole burned in their ear. A third time they were hanged. Most of the 1531 laws remained in place for most of Elizabeth's reign. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabeth's government passed a law, called the <u>Act for setting the poor on work (1576)</u>, that made <u>local authorities</u> in towns and cities responsible for finding work for the poor. Local authorities <u>helped the poor</u>, whilst national policy still focused on punishment. In the city of <u>York</u>, to control the amount of beggars, they were given <u>licences</u>. Licensed beggars had to wear a badge so they would be identified. Beggars were expected to work. In York this included weaving and spinning to support the city's growing textile industry. Beggars who refused to work were sent to the <u>House of Correction</u> (a type of prison) or were sent back to the town or village they had come from. In the town of <u>Norwich</u> the authorities did a <u>survey</u> (census) which found out that 80% of the population lived in poverty. The authorities taxed its rich citizens to pay for food and care of the 'deserving poor.' The 'idle poor' were given work. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The success of local authorities, in places like York and Norwich, convinced Elizabeth's government that a new approach was needed to deal with poverty across the country. In <u>1601</u> the first ever <u>Poor Law</u> was introduced. The law said in each area of the country, the wealthy should be taxed to pay for the care and support of the vulnerable, including the old and sick. The fit and healthy poor were to be given work. The 1601 Poor Law showed a change in attitude to the poor. The government accepted <u>national policy</u> needed to <u>help the poor</u> genuinely in need. Punishment alone would not deal with the problem of poverty. However, there was not a total change in policy. Those who were seen as the 'idle poor', who refused to work, were still punished. They were whipped and then placed in a House of Correction. Also not all areas of the country followed the Poor Law. As the law made each area responsible for its own poor, some wealthy people simply refused to pay the taxes. There were also arguments over where poor people belonged to. Without a clear home, some were simply sent from one area to another. This meant the wealthy could avoid paying more taxes. 	



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Elizabethan theatre:

Key words:

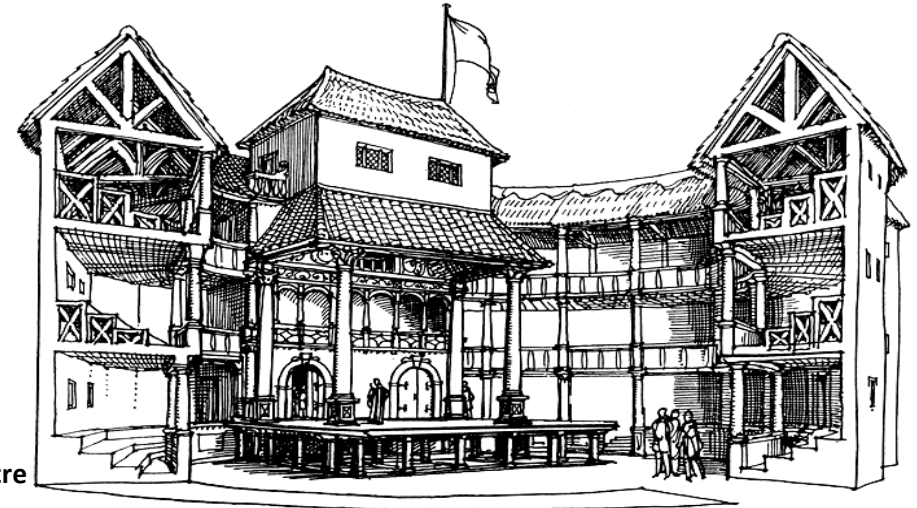
Censor	To block something from being read, heard or seen, usually by the government.
Propaganda	Deliberately chosen information presented in order to influence people to think in a particular way.
Patron	Someone who funds the work of an artist or performing groups.

Key dates:

1558	When Elizabeth became Queen, there were no theatres in the country. Plays were performed on <u>temporary</u> platforms in open spaces such as market squares and inn (pub) yards. These plays were attended by the poor.
1572	Law passed required all bands of actors to be <u>licensed</u> . This encouraged <u>actor companies</u> to organise themselves. Rich people provided funding and became patrons of these companies.
1576	The first <u>purpose-built</u> theatre opened in London, named 'The Theatre.' Theatres became popular amongst the rich and poor.
1599	The <u>Globe Theatre</u> opened.
1603	By the end of Elizabeth's reign there were seven major theatres in London and 40 companies of actors.

Attitudes to theatre (Opposition)

- At the start of Elizabeth's reign actors were thought to be a threat to law and order. Acting was not considered a respectable profession, with actors being thought of as no more than beggars.
- In 1572 Parliament passed a law that said actors needed a license or were to be punished like beggars. Up to the early 1570s plays continued to be seen as a threat to law and order.
- Performances attracted large crowds, which worried the government in case these became disorderly. Theatres were seen as a place where drunkenness, crime and immoral behaviour took place.
- Outbreaks of plague in Elizabeth's reign led the Lord Mayor to ban plays in the City of London, for fear of spreading disease. This meant theatres were built on the outskirts of the city.
- Puritans wanted theatres closed down as they saw them as a distraction. They believed people should spend their free time praying and studying the Bible, not watching plays.
- Puritans thought theatres were the work of the Devil. When a great earthquake struck the south east of England in 1580, many considered it a sign of God's anger at the theatre.



The Globe Theatre

Attitudes to theatre (Support)

- From the 1570s Elizabeth and her government had started to see the potential for theatre to encourage social stability. London was a busy and overcrowded city. By providing entertainment, the theatre could **act as a distraction** for the poor and discontented lower classes, making a rebellion less likely. This encouraged the building of purpose-built theatres, like the Globe Theatre.
- Elizabeth and her government realised if the content of plays were carefully policed and censored they could be used to influence the public. Plays acted as propaganda to **increase support and loyalty** to the Queen. William Shakespeare's play 'Richard III' glorified the Tudors. It shows Elizabeth's grandfather, the first Tudor King, Henry VII, to be the saviour of the nation.
- The design of theatres like the Globe also reflected '**the Great Chain of Being**', as each social group had a specific ticket and place to sit (or stand). Plays also emphasised **hierarchy and orderliness**. This suited Elizabeth and her government very well.
- Theatres became enormously popular because entry fees were cheap. In the Globe Theatre poor people could buy the cheapest tickets (costing one penny) in the pit. Here, the audience- known as 'groundlings' would stand in noisy and smelly conditions, exposed to the weather.
- Theatres were popular because they were very entertaining. Themes in plays reflected the interest of Elizabethans, such as violence, romance, magic, exploration and patriotism. Plays even included special effects. Trapdoors in the stage allowed dramatic entrances and exits.
- Theatres were also very popular with the rich. In the Globe Theatre the richest audience members could watch from the 'Lords' rooms' above the stage. This allowed the nobility to **show off their wealth and status** in a very public way.
- The nobility could show off their wealth and status by being a patron of actor companies. Elizabeth's cousin Lord Hunsdon formed the 'Lord Chamberlain's Men', who built the Globe. William Shakespeare was the main playwright for this company. The support of nobles made actors and theatres more respectable.
- The Queen never visited a public theatre herself, but she enjoyed plays and invited actor companies to perform at Court. She became an important patron of actors. She allowed one group of actors to be called 'The Queen's Company'. Elizabeth's enjoyment of plays made them the height of fashion.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER. Part 2: Life in Elizabethan times

English sailors:




John Hawkins

Key exploration
African slave trader




Key impact
Developed better fighting galleons





Francis Drake

Key exploration
Circumnavigated the globe



Key impact
Piracy against the Spanish



Walter Raleigh

Key exploration
Set up a colony on Roanoke Island



Key impact
Colonisation of North America



John Hawkins

- **Hawkins** was the first English privateer to take part in the Atlantic slave trade. He made three slave-trading voyages.
- In 1564 Hawkins and his cousin, Francis Drake, sailed to Africa and captured people as slaves to sell to the Spanish colonies in the 'New World' of America.
- The Spanish had banned English sailors trading with their colonies.
- Hawkins' first two voyages were very profitable, but on his last expedition he was confronted by Spanish ships off the coast of Mexico and most of his fleet was destroyed.
- Hawkins and Drake escaped, but wanted revenge on the Spanish. As privateers, they attacked Spanish treasure ships making them (and Queen Elizabeth) a fortune.

Francis Drake

- Although **Francis Drake** circumnavigated the globe between 1577-1580, he probably did not set out to do so.
- He was sent by Elizabeth to explore the coast of South America, looking for opportunities for English colonisation and trade.
- Drake's voyage was funded by powerful people at Royal Court, including Elizabeth and Cecil.
- Drake was a privateer and made money by raiding Spanish treasure ships and colonies.
- In order to get this treasure safely home, Drake had to return by a different route, which meant he circumnavigated the globe.
- On the route home, Drake landed in North America and claimed the area for Queen Elizabeth, naming it New Albion (New England).
- Drake brought back £400,000 worth of treasure captured from the Spanish, which would be about £200 million today!
- Drake made about £10,000. The rest was paid to investors, with the Queen receiving a half-share of the money, which was more than her entire income for the whole year.

Walter Raleigh

- In 1584 Queen Elizabeth gave **Walter Raleigh**, a favourite at Court, permission to explore and colonise any land that was not already ruled by a Christian.
- In return Raleigh had to give the Queen one fifth of all the gold and silver that he found there.
- Elizabeth wanted Raleigh to establish a colony on the Atlantic coast of North America.
- Raleigh sent 108 settlers to establish a permanent colony on Roanoke Island (Virginia). However, the settlers faced food shortages and returned home after just a year.

Trade

- English merchants became interested in trade with Asia, and began exploring routes to the region.
- In 1582 Queen Elizabeth sent **Ralph Fitch** to India and the Far East. When he returned he told the Queen that profitable trade was more than possible.
- The **East India Company** was established in 1600 to oversee this trade. This company brought products to England that had rarely been seen before, such as spices, silks and tea.

Key words

Circumnavigation: To travel all the way around the world.

Colony: An area ruled over by another country.

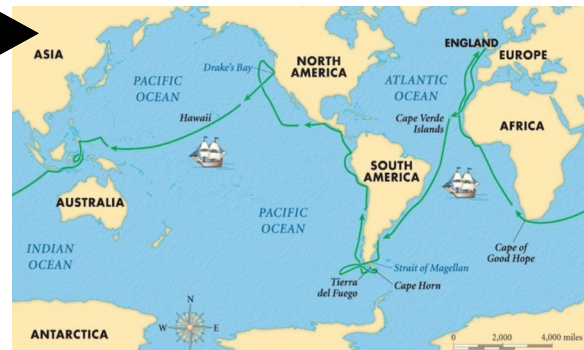
Merchants: A person or company involved in trade, especially one dealing with foreign countries.

New World: A sixteenth century (1500s) term for North and South America, newly discovered at this time by the Spanish and Portuguese.

Privateer: Pirates licensed by the government to attack and loot enemy ships.

Trade: The action of buying and selling goods.

Nationalism: Pride for your country which can lead to a desire to gain superiority over other countries.



Impact of voyages and trade

Wealth By raiding Spanish ships and ports, English sailors brought riches back to England. Powerful people at court, including the Queen, invested in the voyages. They made huge fortunes and this added to the country's wealth.

Power English sailors improved their skills in sailing and in fighting at sea. New, faster ships equipped with quick firing cannons were built. This led to the English navy growing in strength, which helped defend the country.

Trade English sailors helped to open up new areas for English trade. New trading companies were established under Elizabeth, which added to the country's wealth.

Empire England failed in its first attempt to build a colony in America. However, English explorers and settlers did not give up and in later periods built a huge overseas Empire.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER Part 3: Troubles at home (Religious matters)

Key words:

Recusant: People who refused to attend services of the Church of England.

Hierarchical structure: In relation to the Church of England, the clergy were ranked according to their status and authority.

Seminary: A place where priests are trained.

Missionary: Someone sent on a mission to spread their faith.

Excommunicated: To be expelled (kicked out) of the Church.

Papal Bull: An official document issued by the Pope.

Heretic: Someone whose beliefs went against the Church.

Religious change in Tudor England:

- Henry VIII (Elizabeth's father) made England Protestant, but little changed.
- England became much more Protestant under Edward VI (Elizabeth's brother).
- Mary I (Elizabeth's sister) returned England to the Catholic faith.
- When Elizabeth became Queen, England was religiously divided.
- Elizabeth was Protestant, but set about a compromise to bring the two faiths together in a **religious settlement**. It is known as the **'middle way.'**

Features of the CATHOLIC and



- Pope is the head of the Church.
- Bible and church services in Latin.
- Churches are decorated with paintings, statues and stained glass windows.
- Priest should not marry.
- Priests are ordinary people's link with God.

PROTESTANT Church in England



- Monarch is the head of the Church.
- Bible and church services in English.
- Churches are plain and simple with little decoration
- Priests are allowed to marry.
- Ordinary people can connect to God through prayer.

Elizabeth's religious settlement:

- In 1559, the **Act of Supremacy** was passed. This dealt with Elizabeth's political aims regarding her Church.
- A second law was passed in the same year, the **Act of Uniformity**. This aimed to end quarrels between Catholics and Protestants by making the beliefs of the Church of England clear.
- The two laws established a **moderate Protestant Church**.
- It was compulsory to go to church. The Pope ordered English Catholics not to attend. **Recusants** who followed the Pope's orders were fined a shilling a week.
- Elizabeth allowed Catholics to worship in their own way in private.

Act of Supremacy:

- It re-established that the Church of England was independent– not ruled by the Pope in Rome.
- Elizabeth chose the less controversial title of Supreme Governor, rather than Supreme Head of the Church, which had been used by her father and brother.
- All members of the clergy had to swear an oath of loyalty to the Queen.

Act of Uniformity:

- The Catholic Mass was abandoned.
- The Bible was written in English and church services held in English.
- The clergy were allowed to marry.
- But as a compromise to Catholics, churches were allowed to keep some decorations, such as crosses and candles.
- Priests had to wear traditional Catholic-style vestments (robes).
- The wording of the communion service (an important Christian ceremony) was kept deliberately vague.

Some Puritans opposed Elizabeth's religious settlement:

- **Puritans** were extreme Protestants.
- They wanted to **get rid of all Catholic features** and the **hierarchal structure** of the **Church of England**.
- In **1570** the Puritan **Thomas Cartwright** made a speech that directly challenged the Church hierarchy, including the Queen's authority. Cartwright was put in prison.
- **Puritan printing presses** were destroyed in 1572 after two pamphlets criticising the structure and beliefs of the Church of England were published.
- The Queen rejected any bills proposed by **Puritans in Parliament**. In 1576 she stated MPs were no longer allowed to discuss religious matters without her permission. This prevented Puritan MPs promoting their beliefs.
- In 1570s Puritans introduced '**prophesyings**', which were meetings to improve education and preaching of priests.
- Elizabeth saw prophesyings as a threat as she feared these meetings would spread Puritan ideas across the country.
- In 1576 the Queen ordered **Edmund Grindal**, **Archbishop of Canterbury**, to ban prophesyings. Grindal was a moderate Puritan and refused to obey the Queen's orders. Grindal was put under house arrest.
- In 1583 Grindal died and Elizabeth made **John Whitgift**, Archbishop of Canterbury. Whitgift launched an attack on Puritan clergy. All priests had to accept the rules of the Church of England. Between 200 and 300 Puritan priests were suspended.
- Some Puritans broke away from the Church of England. These were known as **separatists**. They threatened the unity of Protestant England. In 1593 Elizabeth's government passed a law that allowed anybody suspected of being a Separatist to be executed.
- There were **Puritans in the Privy Council**. These included **Robert Dudley and Francis Walsingham**. However, their deaths by 1590 meant Puritans lost powerful support.
- Puritan **John Stubbs** had written a pamphlet criticising the Queen. He had his right hand chopped off as a result.

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER Part 3: Troubles at home (Religious matters)

<p>Catholics opposed Elizabeth's religious settlement:</p>	<p>Repression of Catholic opposition:</p>	<p>Timeline of the threat of Mary, Queen of Scots:</p>	<p><i>Why was Mary's presence in England important?</i></p>
<p>1559 The Pope ordered English Catholics not to attend Protestant church services. Recusants who followed the Pope's orders were fined a shilling a week. Catholics kept their own beliefs private and in return the government would not seek out disobedience.</p>	<p><i>Elizabeth took harsher action against Catholics after the Northern Rebellion and the Pope's excommunication.</i></p>	<p>1568 Mary's arrival in England was a serious threat to Elizabeth: ⇒ Mary was <u>Elizabeth's cousin</u>. This meant she had a <u>strong claim to the English throne</u>. ⇒ Mary believed that she was the <u>rightful Queen of England!</u> ⇒ Mary was a <u>Catholic</u> and so her claim to the throne was <u>supported by English Catholics</u>.</p>	<p><i>Mary was a political and religious threat to Elizabeth.</i></p>
<p>1568 A seminary was set up in the Spanish Netherlands. The seminary aimed to train missionary priests who would travel to England and convert it back to the Catholic faith.</p>	<p>1571 The Treason Act stated that denying Elizabeth's supremacy and bringing the Pope's bull of excommunication into England could be punished by death. Anyone who left the country for more than six months had their land confiscated. This was to prevent English Catholics travelling abroad and training as missionaries.</p>	<p>⇒ The <u>Privy Council and Parliament</u> called for Mary's execution, as they saw her as a threat to Protestant England. ⇒ But Elizabeth was very reluctant to execute Mary. She chose to keep Mary under <u>house arrest</u> in isolated locations. ⇒ Mary was Elizabeth's prisoner for <u>19 years</u>, although she lived in relative luxury. ⇒ After the Babington Plot was uncovered, Parliament and the Privy Council insisted Mary should be executed, ⇒ Elizabeth's most trusted advisor, <u>William Cecil</u>, eventually prepared the death warrant for Mary. ⇒ When Mary was finally executed Elizabeth was so angry she banished Cecil from Court and refused to see him for six months.</p>	<p><i>Mary caused conflict between Elizabeth and her political advisors.</i></p>
<p><i>Some Catholics plotted and rebelled against Elizabeth.</i></p>	<p>1580 Jesuit missionaries first arrived in England and posed a new threat. Jesuits travelled secretly around the country hiding in the homes of wealthy Catholics. They held Mass to keep Catholic beliefs alive in England.</p>	<p>1569 Mary wasn't involved, but inspired the Northern Rebellion. 1571 Ridolfi Plot aimed to kill Elizabeth. Mary would marry the Duke of Norfolk and become Queen. The plot involved an invasion of around 6000 Spanish troops that would coincide with another northern rebellion. 1583 Throckmorton Plot aimed to kill Elizabeth and replace her with Mary. The plot involved an invasion by Catholic France and an uprising of English Catholics. The plot also involved the Spanish ambassador. ⇒ Both plots were uncovered before anything happened. Although Mary had been the focus of the plots, there was not enough evidence that she was involved.</p>	<p><i>Mary became a rallying point for Catholic plots and rebellions.</i></p>
<p>1569 The Northern Rebellion</p>	<p>1581 A law was passed making it treason to attempt to convert people to the Catholic faith or to attend a Catholic Mass. Recusants were now fined £20 a month, a significant sum, even for the more wealthy.</p>	<p>1586 Babington Plot Walsingham used his spy network to gather evidence of Mary's involvement in the plot. He intercepted and decoded Mary's letters, including one which approved plans to kill Elizabeth. The evidence gathered by Walsingham persuaded Elizabeth to put Mary on trial. ⇒ Mary was found guilty of treason and sentenced to death. 1587 After hesitating for several months, Elizabeth eventually agreed to the execution. Mary was executed in February 1587. 1588 Mary's execution led King Philip of Spain to send his Armada to invade England and overthrow Elizabeth.</p>	<p><i>Elizabeth set a dangerous precedent (example) by having a monarch killed. But there were no more major plots involving English Catholics in her reign.</i></p>
<p>Causes: Elizabeth refused to allow the Duke of Norfolk marry the Catholic, Mary Queen of Scots. This inspired the northern Catholic Earls of Northumberland and Westmorland to lead the Northern Rebellion. They planned to free Mary, marry her to the Duke of Norfolk who would then overthrow Elizabeth, and return the country to the Catholic faith.</p>	<p>1585 Parliament passed the Act against the Jesuits and Seminary Priests. This made becoming a priest treason, and all priests were ordered to leave England within 40 days or face execution. Anyone found to have a priest in their home could be killed. Priests were executed and noble Catholic families faced the loss of their lands and wealth if their loyalty to the Queen was placed in doubt.</p>	<p>⇒ Mary was found guilty of treason and sentenced to death. 1587 After hesitating for several months, Elizabeth eventually agreed to the execution. Mary was executed in February 1587. 1588 Mary's execution led King Philip of Spain to send his Armada to invade England and overthrow Elizabeth.</p>	
<p>Events: The Earls captured Durham and held an illegal Catholic Mass in the cathedral. They then marched south with 4,600 men to where Mary was imprisoned. Before the rebels reached Mary, a large royal army forced them to retreat. Many of their troops deserted, and the two Earls fled to Scotland.</p>	<p>1603 By the end of Elizabeth's reign there were still Catholic sympathisers, but only 2% were actual recusants.</p>		
<p>Consequences: The Northern Rebellion was the most serious rebellion of Elizabeth's reign. It showed the danger that Mary, Queen of Scots, represented as a rallying point for English Catholics. Westmorland fled abroad, but Northumberland was executed, as were at least 400 rebel troops.</p>			
<p>But there was little support for the rebellion among the rest of the Catholic nobility and ordinary people. 1569 was the last time English Catholics tried to remove Elizabeth by force.</p>			
<p>1570 The Pope excommunicated Elizabeth from the Catholic Church in a papal bull. He called on Catholics to end her rule. Many English Catholics chose to ignore the bull, but some now saw it as their duty to plot and rebel against Elizabeth.</p>			

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER Part 3: Sheffield Manor Lodge



Key terms:	
Heir	The next in line to the throne.
Abdicate	Giving up your throne to somebody else.
Captivity	Being held prisoner against your will.
Plotted	Made secret plans usually to assassinate the Queen.
Deer Park	Land filled with deer used for hunting by wealthy nobles.
Heraldry	Symbols and images usually found on a coat of arms that represent a families heritage.
Cloth of State	Decorated cloth used as a canopy and backdrop behind a throne.
Ridolfi Plot	A 1571 plot to assassinate Elizabeth and replace her with Mary stopped by spies.
Embroidery	Using needles and thread to sew patterns onto cloth.
Chandeliers	A hanging light used for decoration.
Throckmorton Plot	A 1583 plot to assassinate Elizabeth and replace her with Mary stopped by spies.
Babington Plot	The 1586 plot against Elizabeth where Mary's coded letters were found proving her involvement.
Master of Justice	A role given to Shrewsbury that required him to ensure justice was served by criminals.

Key facts:	
1	Elizabeth's cousin, Mary Queen of Scots, was sent to live in Catholic France at the age of 6. She was engaged to the heir to the throne, eventually married him, then became a widow when he died soon after. When Mary returned to Scotland it had become a Protestant country. Mary was forced to abdicate her throne by Scottish nobles, leaving her son James behind. Mary fled to England in 1568 .
2	Mary was a significant threat to Elizabeth. Firstly Mary was Elizabeth's cousin and, because Elizabeth had no heir, was the next in line to the English throne. Mary was also Catholic giving her support in England from angry Catholics who wanted Mary to be Queen. Elizabeth wanted to avoid Mary gaining support in Scotland or France, and didn't want to execute her, so had her initially imprisoned at Carlisle Castle in northern England.
3	Elizabeth chose to put George Talbot, the 6 th Earl of Shrewsbury in charge of Mary's captivity . He was a loyal protestant of high status who Elizabeth felt she could trust. He had huge wealth and would have been able to pay for keeping Mary secure. He also had a large number of properties and estates in the Midlands in the most secure part of the country: away from the coast, Scotland and London. He had also just married Bess of Hardwick, a high class woman, who would be able to keep Mary company.
4	In 1569 the Catholic Northern Earls of Westmorland and Northumberland plotted with the Duke of Norfolk and launched the Northern Rebellion . The rebellion was eventually forced to retreat, Northumberland was executed, and Norfolk was put in prison. Elizabeth wanted to make sure that Mary was more securely held so had her moved to Sheffield Castle under the watch of 70 armed guards.
5	From 1569 onwards Mary was mostly held at Sheffield Castle which was cold, damp and smelly. When the Castle was being sweetened she was moved to the nearby Sheffield Manor Lodge , visiting for the first time in 1573 . The Lodge was at the top of a hill in Sheffield Park, surrounded by a large deer park . A lot of Shrewsbury's land could be seen from the Lodge, and it was visible to others from miles around.
6	In the 1570s Shrewsbury rebuilt parts of Sheffield Manor Lodge to make it an even grander residence. The three storey Turret House was built as an entrance to the estate and contained rooms decorated to suit Mary's taste including 'Mary's room' which featured marigold flowers, grapes (French), and thistles (Scottish). Mary's heraldry was included in the plaster work on the ceiling.
7	Shrewsbury also had an expensive gatehouse built with two red brick towers as the entrance to the main buildings. This was an imposing and impressive entrance to the Lodge. Inside the main building was a gallery, a tower room, Mary's main chambers, stables for horses, kitchens, a bakehouse, a chapel for prayer, and many other rooms for servants and workmen.
8	To the left of the main entrance was the Long Gallery which was home to paintings, tapestries, and expensive furniture. The walls were clad with oak, and Shrewsbury's armour was displayed. The main buildings also contained the Great Hall where banquets were held and Mary would eat her meals under a ' cloth of state '.
9	Shrewsbury was given a difficult task: he had to treat Mary both as royalty and at the same time like a prisoner. After the Ridolfi Plot against Elizabeth was discovered in 1571 , Shrewsbury had to tighten security around Mary, reduce her court from 50 to 15 people, and make her give an hours notice to leave her rooms. Generally, Mary lived a very restricted life and was closely guarded. She couldn't go out without supervision and spent many hours inside writing letters and doing embroidery with Shrewsbury's wife, Bess.
10	On the other hand Mary was also kept like a queen. Between 1573 and 1581 Mary's court was allowed to rise to over 40 people. She ate 4 times a day and often had 16 course meals. She ate from silver plates and her rooms were decorated with Turkish carpets and gold chandeliers . She had dogs as pets and kept exotic birds in an aviary in the garden.
11	Rumours that Shrewsbury was having an affair with Mary, and criticisms that Mary was not securely held captive made people question his ability as her jailor. In 1583 the Throckmorton Plot was stopped by spies and Mary was thought to be involved. In 1584 Mary was removed from Shrewsbury's care and in 1586 was found to have been plotting against Elizabeth in the Babington Plot . Mary was put on trial and sentenced to death. As Master of Justice , Shrewsbury witnessed Mary's execution in 1587 .
12	Shrewsbury was ruined by keeping Mary captive. Mary's captivity cost £3000 per year which he paid for out of his own finances. He wrote to Elizabeth asking for money, but she refused. He was also kept permanently away from Elizabeth's court and was accused of being disloyal. Rumours of an affair with Mary destroyed his marriage to Bess. Shrewsbury died three years later in 1590 .

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER Part 3: Troubles abroad

(Conflict with Spain)

Reasons for conflict between England and Spain:

Philip's hatred of Elizabeth:

- **King Philip of Spain** had been married to **Queen Mary I** (Elizabeth's sister). Philip wanted to keep his influence and title of King of England. He proposed marriage to Elizabeth I in **1559**. Elizabeth's immediate rejection angered him.
- **Catholic** Philip hated Elizabeth's religious settlement of 1559, which had re-established the **Protestant** Church of England. Philip saw Elizabeth as a **heretic** who should not be on the throne.
- The Pope had **excommunicated** Elizabeth in 1570, and encouraged Philip to plot against Elizabeth. The Spanish Ambassador in England had been involved in the **Throckmorton Plot (1583)**. Elizabeth's reaction to the plots was to persecute English Catholics.
- The execution of the Catholic **Mary, Queen of Scots**, in **1587** made Philip determined to overthrow Elizabeth and make England Catholic again.

Dutch Revolt:

- Elizabeth helped **Dutch rebels** in the Netherlands who were fighting against Spanish rule. The rebels were Protestant and so did not like being ruled by Catholic Spain. Elizabeth allowed the rebels to dock their ships in English ports. From, 1581, Elizabeth sent money to the rebels.
- Elizabeth supported **English privateers**, like Francis Drake, who attacked Spanish treasure fleets carrying gold and silver from the Americas to Spain. English privateers disrupted funds that Spain needed to fight the Dutch.
- In **1585**, the **Treaty of Nonsuch** was signed between England and the Dutch rebels. Elizabeth agreed to send 7000 troops to support the rebellion in the Netherlands. Philip saw the treaty as a declaration of war on Spain.

Key events for the defeat of the Spanish Armada:

- ⇒ 1585 **King Philip of Spain** built a huge fleet of ships (an **Armada**) to invade England.
- ⇒ **Queen Elizabeth** had known about Philip's plans. In 1587 she sent **Francis Drake**, the famous explorer and privateer, to attack the Spanish port of Cadiz. The raid destroyed Spanish ships and their supplies.
- ⇒ **LEADERSHIP: Duke of Medina Sidonia** was commander of the Spanish Armada. Philip had chosen him more because of his rank (loyal and wealthy nobleman) than ability. The Duke had no experience at sea.
- ⇒ English fleet was led by commanders like Drake, who were very experienced at sea.
- ⇒ **SHIPS:** English navy had 34 battleships, whereas the Spanish Armada was made up of 130 ships.
- ⇒ **However**, English ships were lighter, faster and more manoeuvrable. These ships had been developed by **John Hawkins**. The Armada consisted of large, slow galleons (warships).
- ⇒ **CANNONS:** English had developed cannons that had a long-range and were easy to reload.
- ⇒ In contrast, Spanish cannons had a short-range and were poorly designed. Spanish cannons took up so much deck space they were impossible to reload after just firing once.
- ⇒ **POOR PLANNING:** Armada set out from Spain in July 1588. The plan was to sail up the **English Channel** to **Calais** where it would pick up Spanish soldiers from the Netherlands. As the Spanish sailed up the English Channel, they were followed and attacked by English ships.
- ⇒ **TACTICS: Warning beacons** had been set up along the coast of England. When the Armada was sighted these beacons were lit to send news to Elizabeth in London.
- ⇒ Spanish sailed up the English Channel in a **crenscant formation**. This made it hard for the English to attack the Armada. Formation allowed the large, armed galleons to protect the unarmed supply boats. Armada anchored at Calais and waited for the soldiers from the Netherlands, who were delayed.
- ⇒ English filled eight unmanned ships with tar and oil then set them on fire. These fireships were then sent into the Spanish fleet. Spanish panicked, cut their anchor ropes and sailed out to sea.
- ⇒ The day after the fireship attack, the English launched a full-scale attack at the **Battle of Gravelines**, off the north coast of France. The English had the advantage as they had broken the Spanish crenscant formation and forced the Armada to sail into the wind.
- ⇒ The usual battle tactics of the Spanish were ineffective. They relied on getting close to the enemy, using their short-range cannons and **grappling hooks** to board enemy ships. But the English ships were lighter and faster than the Spanish ships. The English were careful to keep their distance.
- ⇒ English fired their long-range and easy to reload cannons constantly. This made it impossible for the Spanish to regroup. When the Spanish fired their cannons they were out of range.
- ⇒ The battle was a disaster for the Spanish. About a thousand Spanish lives were lost. Five Spanish ships were destroyed and many more badly damaged. No English ships were lost.
- ⇒ **WEATHER:** Fierce winds- **God's 'Protestant wind'** as the English called them- forced the Armada into the **North Sea**. Duke Medina Sidonia decided to return home by sailing round Scotland and Ireland.
- ⇒ In the stormy weather many ships sank or were wrecked on the Scottish and Irish coasts. Ships also ran short of supplies, and many men died of starvation and diseases.
- ⇒ 90 ships returned to Spain, but only half were fit for use again. 20,000 Spaniards had been killed.



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



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



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



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