

## 1. Character & Aims

1	Royal Authority under Edward VI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Problems due to age (9)</li> <li>Country divided on religious grounds</li> <li>Crown finances ruined by H8 foreign policy</li> <li>Debased coinage = inflation and decline in real wages</li> <li>Crown had sold monastic land at discount price which could harm long term security</li> <li>Government fearful about keeping order and security, this is reflected through Archbishop Cranmer's homily on Obedience (1547) to be read at parish churches to reinforce obedience and authority of the King.</li> </ol>
2	What was Edward's education like?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early care and education overseen by Lady Margaret Bryan and Katherine Parr</li> <li>From 1544, John Cheke, a Humanist reformer, became Edward's tutor – possibly the origins of Edward's interest in religious reforms</li> <li>Interested in sport and had been taught to ride and compete in archery</li> <li>His education continued throughout his reign, with both Somerset and Northumberland encouraging his Protestant beliefs.</li> </ol>
3	The Regency Council	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henry VIII's will set up a Regency Council to govern in Edward's minority = 16 members, and 12 to assist, decisions to be taken by the majority.</li> <li>Balanced between protestants (Hertford, Cranmer, Denny) and religious conservatives (Wriothesley, Lord St John).</li> <li>The great noble families were under-represented.</li> <li>Regency council did not last long as it delegated its power to Hertford who was appointed Protector.</li> </ol>

## 2. Government

1	Duke of Somerset	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edward Seymour, earl of Hertford became Duke of Somerset</li> <li>Becomes Protector with the support of key figures including Archbishop Cranmer</li> <li>Members of Privy Council felt resentment towards the Protectorate – within a few weeks one of them had been arrested (Earl of Southampton)</li> <li>No guarantee of public acceptance of Somerset's protectorate = widespread fears about breakdown of law and order</li> <li>Fell from power after the rebellions of 1549.</li> <li>Executed in 1552</li> </ol>
2	Duke of Northumberland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Took control as Lord President of the Council – avoiding the title of Protector so as not to make same mistakes as Somerset</li> <li>He promoted Sir John Gates as Vice-Chamberlain of the Household so he could have control over the court.</li> <li>Effective government through the Privy Council Somerset's attempts counter coup = stopped by Northumberland and Somerset was executed.</li> <li>As a result, Northumberland becomes less conciliatory in his approach</li> <li>Northumberland had control of the Great Seal which would affix the King's signature to documents</li> </ol>
3	The Devyse	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan was created to alter succession. Edward VI anxious to ensure continuation of Protestantism.</li> <li>Saw Elizabeth and Mary as illegitimate</li> <li>Lady Jane Grey was chosen – Edward died before parliament could meet (6 July 1553) therefore the plan was illegal.</li> <li>Northumberland proclaimed LJG as Queen 3 days later.</li> </ol>

Key Dates	Events
1547	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accession of Edward VI</li> <li>Establishment of Regency Council</li> <li>Edward Seymour becomes Protector</li> <li>Issue of radical royal injunctions</li> <li>Battle of Pinkie against the Scots</li> <li>Dissolution of the Chantries</li> </ol>
1548	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enclosure commission</li> </ol>
1549	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Execution of Thomas Seymour</li> <li>Fall of Somerset</li> <li>John Dudley takes control of government</li> <li>Act of Uniformity and 1<sup>st</sup> Book of Common Prayer</li> <li>Western Rebellion</li> <li>Kett's Rebellion</li> </ol>
1550	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John Dudley takes titles of Duke of Northumberland and President of the Council</li> <li>Return of Boulogne to the French</li> </ol>
1552	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Execution of Duke of Somerset</li> <li>Act of Uniformity and 2<sup>nd</sup> Book of Common Prayer</li> </ol>
1553	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creation of the Devyse</li> <li>Introduction of the Forty-Two Articles of Religion</li> <li>Edward VI dies</li> <li>Lady Jane Grey is queen for 9 days</li> </ol>

### 3. Foreign Policy

1	Foreign policy under Somerset	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inherited failed foreign policy from Henry VIII</li> <li>Continued the policy of the Rough Wooing to Scotland</li> <li>Battle of Pinkie was a success for Somerset Sep 1547.</li> <li>Forts to expensive to garrison and Dunbar and Edinburgh were difficult to capture.</li> <li>Underestimated France and Edinburgh's cooperation. France was able to marry MQS to the heir of the French throne (Aug 1548)</li> <li>Led to further economic problems and failed his objective (marriage of E + MQS)</li> <li>Deterioration of relationship with France in 1549 led to threat of war and possibility of French invasion.</li> </ol>
2	Foreign policy under Northumberland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced foreign policy expenditure in order to stabilise crown</li> <li>Ended Wars in Scotland and France – returned Boulogne to France</li> <li>Relieved financial pressure and French paid £133,333 - Could have been perceived as a humiliating failure</li> <li>Abandoned English garrisons in Scotland, financial benefits outweighed any fears about French influence in Scotland</li> </ol>
3	What was the impact of Edward's foreign policy?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foreign policy mainly failed to achieve its aims</li> <li>Mary, Queen of Scots married Dauphin of France, strengthening the Auld Alliance against England.</li> <li>Foreign policy was incredibly expensive and resulted in higher taxation.</li> <li>Return of Boulogne to the French was a humiliating defeat.</li> </ol>

### 4. Society

1	What were the causes of the Western Rebellion?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Religious grievances: upset at the introduction of the Book of Common Prayer and the Act of Uniformity.</li> <li>Wanted to reverse the new religious reforms</li> <li>Taxation</li> <li>Sheep tax</li> </ol>
2	Events of the Western Rebellion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formation of Cornish rebel camp near Bodmin Moor</li> <li>Meet up with Devon Rebels at Crediton</li> <li>Rebels besiege Exeter</li> <li>Lord Russell advances on the rebels</li> <li>Rebels defeated at Clyst Heath</li> </ol>
3	What were the causes of Kett's Rebellion?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The enclosure system</li> <li>Dislike towards local land owners and officials in East Anglia</li> <li>Frustrations with the Howards</li> </ol>
4	Events of Kett's Rebellion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebels tear down hedges near Wymondham</li> <li>Protestors head for Norwich</li> <li>Rebels attack Norwich</li> <li>Earl of Northampton fails to recapture Norwich from the rebels</li> <li>Rebels finally defeated by forces led by the Earl of Northumberland.</li> </ol>
5	Impact of the Rebellions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kett convicted of high treason and hanged.</li> <li>The rebellions and the poor dealing with them led to the fall of Somerset.</li> <li>Some of the governments' attempts to deal with the rebels resulted in humiliating failures.</li> <li>1549 is argued to be the worst year for rebellions in the whole of the Tudor period</li> </ol>
6	What was the impact of Enclosure ?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Somerset was influenced by John Hales who argued enclosure was the root cause of social and economic problems. He set up a commission to investigate the problem.</li> <li>This raised the expectations of the poor and annoyed the landowners.</li> <li>Despite controversy, the rate of enclosure seemed to slow down</li> </ol>

### Key People

Edward VI	Protestant King of England 1547-1553.
Edward Seymour	Uncle of the King, Earl of Hertford and Duke of Somerset. Became Lord Protector in 1547 but was removed by coup in 1549 and executed in 1552.
John Dudley	Earl of Warwick and Duke of Northumberland. Lord President of the Council from 1550-53.
Archbishop Cranmer	Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury, responsible for many of the Edwardian reforms
Mary, Queen of Scots	Queen of Scotland. Subject of the Rough Wooing to marry her to Edward.
Sir Michael Stanhope	Key ally of Duke of Somerset and keeper of the king.
Sir John Gates	Key ally of the Duke of Northumberland.
Thomas Seymour	Uncle to the King and brother of Somerset. Executed in 1549.
Sir Walter Mildmay	Member of council responsible for introducing financial reform
Sir William Paget	Councillor who served under Henry VIII, Edward VI & Mary I
Lady Jane Grey	Named Edward's heir in the Devyse.
Guildford Dudley	Son of Duke of Northumberland and husband of Lady Jane Grey
Princess Elizabeth	Protestant half-sister of the king excluded from succession.
Princess Mary	Catholic half-sister of the king
Robert Kett	Rebel leader, executed 1549

## 5. Economy:

1	Debasement of Coinage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued the debasement of the coinage that had started in Henry VIII's reign</li> <li>Northumberland succumbed to one final debasement of the coin before it was officially revoked in October 1551.</li> </ol>
2	What was the influence of Walter Mildmay?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A commission was introduced under the influence of Mildmay</li> <li>It highlighted the failure of royal finances and a plan was drawn up to streamline the financial administration</li> <li>However, this did not come to fruition until Mary I's reign.</li> </ol>
3	Taxation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discontent due to money raised for Scottish war, this was done through land sales and borrowing which added to long-term problem of crown finance.</li> <li>Somerset introduced the sheep tax to prevent people profiting from converting enclosed land.</li> <li>This created huge financial pressure on small farmers who could not afford this but relied on sheep to support their livelihood.</li> </ol>
4	Inflation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rate of inflation increased rapidly in later stages of H8 reign.</li> <li>Reduction in real wages</li> <li>Problems worsened under Somerset as he continued H8 disastrous policy of debasing the coinage.</li> <li>A poor harvest in 1548 reinforced inflationary pressures further.</li> </ol>

## 6. Religion and ideas

1	Religion under Somerset	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Denunciation of images in London</li> <li>Royal injunctions issued attacking many features of popular Catholicism</li> <li>Dissolution of the chantries and religious guilds.</li> <li>Act of Uniformity ensured the same practices took place in church services across England</li> <li>Introduction of the first Book of Common Prayer written</li> </ol>
2	Religion under Northumberland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wanted to continue Somerset's Protestant reforms</li> <li>Wanted to plunder more of the Church's wealth</li> <li>Second Act of Uniformity, which laid down the publication of the second Book of Common Prayer</li> <li>Revised book of Common Prayer introduced – more radical than the 1549 version</li> <li>Forty-Two Articles of Religion published</li> </ol>
3	The role of Archbishop Cranmer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cranmer was initially cautious in religious reforms – first Book of Common Prayer was more moderate than the second.</li> <li>Was keen to avoid an increase in religious tension</li> <li>From 1550 onwards Cranmer was beginning to move in a more radical direction</li> <li>Edward began to work with Cranmer as he became more actively involved in religious reforms</li> </ol>
4	What was the impact of religious reforms	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence from wills suggest that people felt there was little point leaving money to the church.</li> <li>Clear that churches attracted less affection from their people due to services becoming plainer, plays and ales suppressed, and guilds abolished.</li> <li>Less candidates to become an ordained priest, potentially left church with shortage</li> </ol>

Key Words	Definition
Regency Council	Body of councillors appointed by the will of Henry VIII to rule on behalf of Edward VI.
Minority	When a monarch has not yet reached 18 years old and cannot yet rule independently,
Protectorate	The position or period of office of a Protector (eg Somerset)
Protestant	A Christian who recognizes the monarch as the head of the Church.
Act of Uniformity	Laws passed to ensure uniformity in church services in England
Injunction	An authoritative warning or order
Chantries	Chapels where Masses for the souls of the dead took place
Agrarian	Relating to cultivated land or the cultivation of land (farming)
Sheep tax	Tax introduced to deter conversion of arable land to pasture
Enclosure	Process of fencing in common land so as to make it private property
Foldcourse	Right to graze sheep on an enclosed piece of common land
Debasement	Lowering the value of a currency
Inflation	A general increase in prices and fall in the purchasing value of money
Real wages	The value of income in relation to prices of goods on the market, instead of actual money received