

## 1. Character & Aims

1	Childhood and education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn.</li> <li>Made illegitimate at the age of 3 after execution of her mother.</li> <li>Education overseen by her stepmother Katherine Parr, Kat Ashley, William Grindal and Roger Ascham.</li> <li>Had a shrewd grasp of political processors.</li> <li>Generally a better judge of character than Mary I had been.</li> </ol>
2	What were Elizabeth's aims as queen?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consolidate her position as queen.</li> <li>To settle religious issues.</li> <li>To pursue a peaceful settlement with the French.</li> <li>Elizabeth had no desire to involve herself in government in the same manner as Henry VII but she did take an informed interest in the decision making process.</li> <li>She was prepared to use her royal prerogative when necessary.</li> </ol>
3	How did Elizabeth consolidate her power?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mary recognized Elizabeth as her successor before her death.</li> <li>Mary's key councilors accepted her accession to the throne.</li> <li>William Cecil was appointed as her principal secretary.</li> <li>She proceeded quickly with her coronation (within two months of her accession)</li> <li>Gained international recognition from foreign powers.</li> </ol>

## 2. Government

1	The Royal Court	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key to the Elizabethan decision-making process.</li> <li>Had two main areas: Presence Chamber and the Privy Chamber.</li> <li>Royal Court was under the jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain.</li> <li>The roles of politician and courtier became more intertwined.</li> <li>Elizabeth relied on the support and advice of key figures such as Cecil and Leicester.</li> <li>Elizabeth's government became less successful from the late 1580s onwards.</li> </ol>
2	What was the impact of court factions?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structure of government helped to prevent factional rivalry in the early stages of the reign.</li> <li>No single minister had complete control and various families helped to balance power.</li> <li>Factional rivalries began to develop in the 1590s as a result of clashes between Robert Cecil and the Earl of Essex.</li> <li>Essex lost power and influence that culminated in his 'rebellion' of 1601.</li> </ol>
3	What was the role of Parliament?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less important under Elizabeth than it had been under Henry VIII.</li> <li>Elizabeth regarded Parliament as a necessary evil.</li> <li>Parliament served 3 key purposes: law making; granting taxation and giving advice.</li> <li>Parliament occasionally irritated Elizabeth and challenged her prerogatives.</li> </ol>

Key Dates	Events
1558	Accession of Elizabeth I William Cecil appointed secretary
1559	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act of Supremacy and Uniformity.</li> <li>Aids the Lords of the Congregation in Scotland</li> </ol>
1562	Elizabeth becomes seriously ill with smallpox
1569	The Northern Rebellion
1571	Ridolfi Plot
1573	Walsingham appointed secretary of state
1579	Marriage negotiations with Duke of Anjou
1581	Tightening of anti-Catholic laws
1583	Throckmorton Plot
1584	Bond of Association
1585	Parry Plot Start of war with Spain
1585	Babington Plot and Mary, QoS guilty of treason
1587	Mary, QoS executed
1588	Death of Earl of Leicester
1589	Death of Walsingham
1591	Robert Cecil promoted to Privy Council
1596	Robert Cecil appointed secretary of state
1601	'Rebellion' and execution of Earl of Essex

## Key People

William Cecil	Principal secretary from 1558 to 1590s. Promoted to Lord Burghley in 1571.
Robert Dudley	Close friend, favourite and advisor of Elizabeth. Master of the Horse and made Earl of Leicester in 1564.
Sir Francis Walsingham	Secretary of state from 1573. Elizabeth's spymaster.
Sir Christopher Hatton	Lord Chancellor of England and favourite of Elizabeth I. He was involved in the trial of Mary, Queen of Scots.
Robert Devereaux	Earl of Essex. Favourite of Elizabeth until his fall from grace after a coup in 1601.
Robert Cecil	Son of William and his eventual successor as Elizabeth's principal advisor.

### 3. Foreign Policy

1	What was Elizabeth's early foreign policy like?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>England and France sign the peace Treaty of Cateau-Cambr�sis in 1559. This agreed the position of Calais after it was lost to the French in 1558.</li> <li>Accession of Francis II of France made Mary, Queen of Scots, Queen of France.</li> <li>Scotland becomes a client state of France.</li> <li>England provides support to the Protestant Lords of the Congregation.</li> <li>Elizabeth and Dudley support the cause of the Huguenots in France.</li> </ol>
2	What was the influence of Mary, Queen of Scots?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Queen of Scotland from 1542 to 1586. Queen of France from 1560-1562.</li> <li>Elizabeth provided support to the Protestants in Scotland.</li> <li>Mary wished to be recognized as Elizabeth's heir.</li> <li>Mary forced to abdicate in 1567, she fled into England the following year and was kept under house arrest.</li> <li>Mary was the focus of numerous plots and Elizabeth was finally forced to authorize her execution in 1587.</li> </ol>
3	Marriage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elizabeth became known as the Virgin Queen</li> <li>Her single status caused issues as there was no clear heir to her throne should she die.</li> <li>There were numerous suitors for Elizabeth throughout her reign: Philip II of Spain, Robert Dudley, Archdukes Ferdinand and Charles, Prince Erik of Sweden and the Duke of Anjou.</li> <li>Elizabeth declared her marriage a matter of royal prerogative and prevented Parliament from discussing it.</li> </ol>
4	Why did relations with Spain worsen?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relations with Spain worsened throughout the reign.</li> <li>Trading activity of John Hawkins and other privateers caused tensions.</li> <li>Elizabeth's involvement in the Spanish Netherlands worsened relations.</li> <li>Philip II sent an armada in 1588 which was defeated by Lord Howard and Francis Drake.</li> <li>War with Spain continued over disputes with the Sea Beggars and the Netherlands until after Elizabeth's death.</li> </ol>

### 4. Society

1	Change and Continuity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Nobility became more peaceable than in previous reigns.</li> <li>The nobles focused on building grand houses to demonstrate their prestige.</li> <li>Elizabeth created no more dukes after the execution of Norfolk in 1572.</li> <li>Gentry class increased in size and influence.</li> <li>Gap between rich and poor widened.</li> <li>Population was roughly 4 million, with most people living in the countryside.</li> </ol>
2	Poverty and Poor Relief	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduced several further measures to relieve poverty.</li> <li>Poor Law Act of 1576 created a national system of poor relief.</li> <li>Each parish was responsible for the impotent poor.</li> <li>Elizabeth's government took care of the deserving poor.</li> <li>Treatment of the undeserving poor remained harsh.</li> </ol>
3	The Regions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catholic Ireland differed greatly from Protestant England.</li> <li>Numerous rebellions broke out in Ireland, some linked to the Spanish war.</li> <li>Essex sent to Ireland to deal with rebels; failed in his objectives.</li> <li>Welsh border no longer a problem.</li> <li>North of England remained problematic.</li> <li>Elizabeth continued to appoint southerners as wardens of the North.</li> </ol>
4	The Northern Rebellion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Took place in Durham and North Yorkshire in 1569.</li> <li>Numerous motivations:</li> <li>Catholic discontent</li> <li>Loss of political influence</li> <li>Restore Mary, Queen of Scots to the Scottish throne.</li> <li>Defeated by Elizabeth's forces and the rebels were treated harshly.</li> </ol>

### Key People

Mary, Queen of Scots	Queen of Scotland from 1542 to 1567. Executed in 1587.
Philip II of Spain	Catholic ruler of Spain until 1598. Sent the Armada in 1588.
John Knox	Scottish Protestant preacher who spoke against female rulers.
James Stewart	Earl of Moray. Half-brother of Mary QoS & regent for James VI.
John Hawkins	English privateer, slave trader and merchant who stole gold from Spanish ships.
James VI	King of Scotland from 1567.
Francis Drake	Leader of the English Navy against the Spanish Armada.
Earl of Tyrone	Irish clan chief who rose up against Elizabeth in 1595.

### Key Dates

1559	Treaty of Cateau-Cambr�sis
1560	Treaty of Edinburgh
1564	Treaty of Troyes
1567	Mary, QoS forced to abdicate
1569	Northern Rebellion
1576	Poor Law Act introduced
1579	Marriage negotiations with Duke of Anjou
1586	Treaty of Berwick
1587	Mary, QoS executed
1588	Defeat of the Spanish Armada
1594	Start of Tyrone Rebellion in Ireland
1598	Defeat of English in Ireland at Yellow Ford.

## 5. Economy:

1	What was trade like?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internal trade was more successful than foreign trade.</li> <li>Wider range of luxury goods imported.</li> <li>Cloth trade declines in importance.</li> <li>New trading routes and companies established.</li> </ol>
2	Exploration and colonisation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extension of trade to North America.</li> <li>Attempts to set up a colony in Virginia.</li> <li>Expeditions to Roanoke Island and North Carolina – but the settlements were unsuccessful.</li> <li>Walter Raleigh, Humphrey Gilbert and Richard Hakluyt were key figures in exploration.</li> <li>Francis Drake becomes first Englishman to circumnavigate the globe between 1577 and 1580.</li> </ol>
3	Prosperity and Depression	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landowners benefitted from economic trends.</li> <li>Great country houses were built.</li> <li>Farmers benefitted from a rise in prices.</li> <li>Some new towns began to prosper, others declined.</li> <li>Real wages fell.</li> <li>Depression of the 1590s impacted the North.</li> </ol>

## Key Dates

1559	Act of Supremacy and Uniformity.
1563	Thirty-Nine Articles issued.
1570	Elizabeth excommunicated by Pope Pius V.
1577	Francis Drake begins circumnavigation voyage.
1581	Tightening of anti-Catholic laws.
1585	Patent to colonise Virginia issued.

## 6. Religion and ideas

1	What was the Religious Settlement of 1559?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act of Supremacy 1559 restored royal supremacy.</li> <li>Act described Elizabeth as 'supreme governor' of the Church of England instead of 'head'.</li> <li>Act of Uniformity specified the use of a single Book of Common Prayer.</li> <li>Royal injunctions 1559 were a set of instructions about the conduct of church services.</li> </ol>
2	What was the impact of early religious developments?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The religious settlement was Protestant and accepted by most.</li> <li>Matthew Parker made Archbishop of Canterbury.</li> <li>Most of the new bishops were returning Protestant exiles.</li> <li>Elizabeth shared some views about the clergy that were more in line with Catholic beliefs.</li> <li>Some believed that the settlement did not go far enough, and this belief encouraged the emergence of Puritanism</li> </ol>
3	Puritanism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An important influence in the 1560s and 1570s.</li> <li>Believed in the eradication of Popish superstition</li> <li>The Vestarian Controversy caused tensions about the clergy's dress.</li> <li>The Presbyterian movement believed the Church of England should be further reformed.</li> </ol>
4	Catholics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fines imposed for recusants who did not attend Church services.</li> <li>Northern Rebellion (1569) provoked a punitive attitude towards the Catholics.</li> <li>1571 Act made publishing papal bulls treasonable</li> <li>1581 Act made it treason to withdraw support for the Queen.</li> <li>1585 Act made it treasonable for priests ordained under the Pope to enter England.</li> </ol>

Key Words	Definition
Factionalism	Disputes between two or more small groups from within a larger group.
Patronage	System where Crown distributes favours to those seen as loyal.
Prerogative	Rights the monarch can exercise without consent of Parliament.
Presence Chamber	Place where private contact between Queen and courtiers takes place.
Privy Chamber	Private rooms where monarch would meet with their councillors
Huguenots	French Protestants
Regicide	Killing of a monarch
Poor Relief	Assistance given to the poor from state or local funds.
Deserving Poor	Poor people (old, widowed etc) who deserved help from the government
Undeserving Poor	Beggars and vagrants who did not deserve help from the government
Armada	Fleet of Spanish warships
Sea Beggars	Dutch pirates licensed by William of Orange
Exploration	Exploring an unfamiliar area
Colonisation	Process of establishing control over an area
Calvinism	Ideas about the Protestant church from John Calvin
Jesuit	Religious order of Catholic priests
Injunctions	an authoritative warning or order
Puritanism	Belief that religion needs to be purged of superstitious practices
Recusant	Refused to attend CoE services