

1. How was Tudor society structured?	
1. What was the Great Chain of Being?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tudor people imagined society as the Great Chain of Being.</li> <li>2. God was at the top, followed by angels and others in heaven.</li> <li>3. Humans were beneath, followed by animals and plants.</li> <li>4. Humans were subdivided with the monarch at the top, followed by the nobility, the gentry, and the peasants. This hierarchy was fixed and moving between the groups was almost impossible.</li> </ol>
2. Who were the nobility?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The nobility were the richest, most respected members of society.</li> <li>2. The highest title was duke, followed by earl and baron. These titles were passed on and only rarely awarded by the monarch.</li> <li>3. Nobles were protected from torture and public humiliation, and even if found guilty of treason would be beheaded rather than hanged.</li> <li>4. Most nobles were landowners and passed land and money from father to son. They made up 1% of the population but had about 14% of its income.</li> <li>5. However, nobles were dependent on the monarch for influence.</li> </ol>
3. Who were the gentry?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The gentry were landlords of the countryside. They lived by the labour of their tenants rather than working themselves.</li> <li>2. They had incomes between £10 and £2000 a year and some were richer than the poorer nobles.</li> <li>3. They had power in the form of important posts, so were often JPs or members of parliament.</li> <li>4. The gentry grew as people made money in trade.</li> </ol>
4. Who were the peasants?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Peasants were the poorest in society and worked on the land.</li> <li>2. They often struggled for regular work and poverty was common.</li> <li>3. Luckier peasants with reliable lords could support families.</li> <li>4. Other peasants who fell out with their lords faced difficulties.</li> <li>5. Some were dependent on charity and were known as paupers. They begged or went to the local church for help.</li> </ol>

2. How did the wealthy live?	
1. How did people show their wealth?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. While the country was secure and stable, the rich were able to show off their wealth and status.</li> <li>2. They built impressive country houses and many hosted huge banquets featuring dishes of meat and expensive wines.</li> <li>3. Fashion was important and women wore fine clothes with white, lead-based make-up, to show they did not need to work outside.</li> <li>4. Men and women wore elaborate ruffs around their necks.</li> </ol>
2. What were country houses like?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. These were private residences not communal buildings.</li> <li>2. They were designed to show wealth rather than for security.</li> <li>3. Renaissance designs were often based on Greek or Roman architecture with a symmetrical appearance, oak panels, colourful tapestries, expensive glass windows, and stacked chimneys.</li> <li>4. The centre of the house was the <b>great chamber</b> surrounded by as many rooms as possible. Servants had their own 'quarters'.</li> </ol>
3. What was the role of the theatre in society?	
1. What was Tudor theatre like?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Public theatres were popular with rich and poor.</li> <li>2. Playwrights and acting companies became successful.</li> <li>3. All actors were male with boys playing the female roles.</li> <li>4. Theatre developed during Elizabeth's reign from plays put on at an inn to a fully developed, purpose-built attraction.</li> <li>5. Performances were chaotic with audiences pushing and heckling.</li> <li>6. The nobility had expensive seats and often chose to be patrons of a theatre company to show how cultured they were.</li> <li>7. The poor stood nearer the stage to watch the performance.</li> </ol>
2. What opposition to theatre existed?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Some people felt theatre was sinful and wanted it banned.</li> <li>2. Theatres were associated with drunkenness, crime and disease.</li> <li>3. People feared large gatherings would spread disease.</li> <li>4. Puritans believed people should spend their free time praying and studying the Bible rather than watching plays.</li> <li>5. The theatre remained popular, and Elizabeth herself enjoyed plays.</li> </ol>
3. Who was involved in theatre?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. William Shakespeare (1564-1616) was the head writer for the Lord Chamberlain's Men.</li> <li>2. He wrote 38 plays – tragedies, comedies and history plays.</li> <li>3. Richard Burbage (1568-1619) was a leading actor in the Lord Chamberlain's Men and played many famous roles. He also owned a theatre.</li> </ol>

Key Word	Definition
<b>Duke</b>	The highest rank of the nobility
<b>Great Chain of Being</b>	The hierarchy that Tudor society was based on
<b>Landlord</b>	A landowner who rented his land to tenants
<b>Pauper</b>	The poorest peasants who were dependent on charity
<b>Peasant</b>	The lowest members of society who were mostly farm labourers
<b>Playwright</b>	A professional writer of plays
<b>Ruff</b>	A type of frilly garment worn round the neck
<b>Tenant</b>	A person who rented land either for cash or providing labour
<b>Treason</b>	The act of betraying the monarch, punishable by death

4. How did the poor live?

1. What problems did Elizabeth inherit?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henry VIII's policies made life for the poor harder. Closing the monasteries removed a source of support and 'debasing' the coinage damaged trade and jobs.</li> <li>During Edward IV's reign, the cloth trade collapsed.</li> <li>Peasants were dependent on lords for security and could be cast out, so their lives were very insecure.</li> </ol>
2. What problems emerged in agriculture?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bad harvests between 1594 and 1598 caused food shortages and starvation in some areas.</li> <li>The new system of land enclosure required fewer workers and left many people jobless and homeless.</li> <li>Many headed to the towns and cities for work but although these grew, there were still not enough jobs to go around.</li> </ol>
3. What problems were created by population growth?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During Elizabeth's reign the population grew from 2.8m to 4m people.</li> <li>The birth rate increased and the death rate decreased.</li> <li>As there were fewer available homes landlords increased rents (rack-renting).</li> <li>Bad harvests meant less food which caused food prices to increase (inflation).</li> <li>A flu outbreak in 1556 killed 200,000 people, mostly poorer farm labourers, so less food was produced.</li> </ol>

Poverty case studies

- York:** 1515 introduced beggar licences, 1528 appointed a Master Beggar to keep control of beggars, 'House of Correction' set up to offer work in weaving and spinning. Those who refused were sent back to their villages.
- Ipswich:** 1569 introduced beggar licences, opened a hospital for the elderly and poor, trained young people to find a trade, had a House of Correction.
- Norwich:** Offered the 'idle poor' work and gave food and care to the 'unfortunate poor'. Taxed rich citizens to pay for 'poor relief'.

5. What was society's attitude to the poor?

1. Sympathetic attitude	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Great Chain of Being obliged higher people to look after those below them. This usually meant charitable donations rather than anything more significant.</li> <li>Attitudes changed in Elizabeth's reign because of growing poverty.</li> <li>More effort was made to help the 'deserving poor' find jobs or get charity. Almshouses were built to provide food and shelter.</li> </ol>
2. Harsh attitude	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 'undeserving poor' were beggars who didn't want honest work.</li> <li>In 1567 Thomas Harman produced a guide to beggars and the tricks they used to con honest people out of money.</li> <li>Many wealthy people became hostile to beggars. They were seen as the 'idle poor': lazy and deserving of punishment.</li> </ol>
3. What types of beggars were identified?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Counterfeit Crank bit soap to pretend to froth at the mouth.</li> <li>The Baretop Trickster was a woman who lured men in by removing clothes, who were then beaten and robbed by her accomplices.</li> <li>The Clapper Dudgeon put on dirty bandages or wounded themselves to gain sympathy, claiming they had been wounded fighting for England.</li> <li>Tom O'Bedlam would pretend to be mad and follow people, so they would give him money to go away.</li> </ol>

6. How did the government deal with poverty?

1. Punishment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under Tudor kings beggars were generally punished harshly.</li> <li>They could be put in the stocks, whipped or mutilated.</li> <li>In 1576 an Act was passed so localities could find work for the poor.</li> </ol>
2. How did towns and cities deal with poverty?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poverty was especially bad in urban areas.</li> <li>In London, Bridewell Palace was used as a shelter for the homeless.</li> <li>Bedlam was established as a hospital for the mentally ill.</li> <li>Hospitals were opened for orphans and the sick.</li> <li>Conditions were still poor and poverty continued to grow, so crime grew as a result. Local authorities often struggled to cope with this.</li> </ol>

Key Word	Definition
<b>Almshouses</b>	Institutions offering food and shelter to the poor. First set up by Archbishop Whitgift in London.
<b>Beggar</b>	A person who had no work and begged for money or charity
<b>Deserving poor</b>	Honest people who were poor through no fault of their own (unfortunate poor). Sometimes split into 'helpless poor' to be cared for and 'able-bodied poor' to be given work.
<b>Undeserving poor</b>	People who chose to beg rather than work (idle poor)
<b>Inflation</b>	A rise in the cost of a product e.g. food
<b>Land enclosure</b>	A new style of farming that limited the area needing to be worked upon
<b>Poor relief</b>	Charity given to the poor funded by tax payers
<b>Rack renting</b>	Deliberately putting rents up to exploit the level of need and make more money

### 7. Elizabeth and the Poor Laws

1. What were the Poor Laws?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 1601 Elizabeth introduced the Poor Laws after seeing successes in dealing with poverty in some towns and cities such as York.</li> <li>In each area of the country, the wealthy would be taxed to provide relief for the poor, old and sick.</li> <li>The idle poor would still be treated harshly.</li> <li>These kinds of taxes had never existed on this scale.</li> </ol>
2. Successes of the Poor Laws	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helped distinguish between authentic beggars and vagrants.</li> <li>Helped those who were genuinely poor while punishing those who were lazy or dishonest.</li> <li>The numbers of beggars decreased.</li> </ol>
3. Failures of the Poor Laws	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inconsistently applied across the country</li> <li>Decrease in begging may have been due to fears of House of Correction rather than helping them</li> <li>Areas argued over which paupers they had to help and sometimes just sent them elsewhere</li> </ol>

### Key Question: Was Elizabethan England a Golden Age?

1. Arguments in favour	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Growth of culture: art, theatre, literature, education (even for some girls!)</li> <li>Incredible accomplishments in science, architecture, exploration</li> <li>England became a hugely wealthy trading empire</li> <li>Military power grew and territory expanded hugely</li> <li>England was largely peaceful and national pride grew enormously with Elizabeth seen as 'Gloriana'</li> </ol>
2. Arguments against	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cruel torture and punishments</li> <li>Huge divisions of wealth and class</li> <li>Low life expectancy and widespread disease</li> <li>Some superstitious beliefs (eg alchemy, astrology)</li> <li>Brutal culture eg blood sports, attitude to beggars</li> </ol>

### 8. Francis Drake and the Age of Exploration

1. Who was Francis Drake?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A slave trader who took slaves from Africa to Mexico but was betrayed by the Spanish and attacked. He escaped and sought revenge, becoming a privateer and raiding Spanish ships for treasure</li> <li>Circumnavigated the globe between 1577 and 1580</li> <li>Knighted in 1581 and helped defeat the Spanish Armada in 1588</li> <li>Seen as a hero by the English and a pirate by the Spanish</li> </ol>
2. What changes helped to enable exploration?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technology in shipbuilding enabled long voyages.</li> <li>New 'lateen' sails made them faster and easier to steer.</li> <li>Better defences and weapons improved fighting abilities.</li> <li>The astrolabe and better compasses improved navigation.</li> <li>Voyages were still dangerous – Drake's big voyage returned with only one ship of the five that left.</li> </ol>
3. How did voyages help trade?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most voyages were structured around buying and selling goods.</li> <li>People began to look beyond Europe to the Far East to acquire new and exciting products such as spices.</li> <li>Middlemen bought products directly and sold them on to English buyers, but this was expensive so the English wanted to extend their own trade.</li> <li>Many attempts to reach the Far East failed but the Americas were discovered in the process.</li> <li>Companies were founded to become experts in particular areas, for example the Muscovy Company (1555) traded in Russia.</li> <li>The East India Company was founded in 1600 and obtained products like silks, spices and porcelain.</li> </ol>
4. How did the slave trade develop?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drake and his cousin John Hawkins (1532-95) led the first voyage to kidnap West Africans and sell them in Mexico in 1564.</li> <li>Hawkins was a spy who became an important naval commander and trader, introducing tobacco to England after discovering it in America.</li> <li>The slave trade grew as there was a huge demand for agricultural labour in the Americas, to enable products to be sent back to Britain.</li> </ol>
5. How were colonies established in the New World?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 1584 Elizabeth gave Walter Raleigh permission to conquer and rule any land not ruled by Christians.</li> <li>In return he would give her 1/5<sup>th</sup> of the gold and silver he found.</li> <li>Raleigh went on voyages and sent others to colonise North America.</li> <li>A colony was eventually established at Roanoke in 1587 but the settlers mysteriously disappeared. England never fully set up a colony in North America until after Elizabeth had died.</li> </ol>

Key Word	Definition
<b>Alchemy</b>	A type of science combined with magic that sought to e.g. turn lead into gold
<b>Astrolabe</b>	A navigational tool that calculated a position using the stars
<b>Circumnavigate</b>	To travel around the globe back to a starting point
<b>Gloriana</b>	A nickname for Elizabeth showing her as a glorious figure
<b>Poor Laws</b>	The laws introduced in 1601 to help deal with the poor
<b>Slave trade</b>	The growing trade in African slaves sold to work in North America
<b>Spanish Armada</b>	The Spanish invasion fleet of 1588
<b>Trading companies</b>	Firms that were responsible for trading in certain areas
<b>Vagrants</b>	Another term for travelling beggars, the idle or undeserving poor