

## Elizabeth and her Government

### KEY WORDS

**Inherit:** An heir receives money, property or a title from someone who has died

**Treason:** Betraying the country you are from, in particular trying to kill or throw the person or people in charge.

**Privy council:** A group of people, usually noble men or politicians who give advice to a Monarch.

**Patronage:** Someone who has been given the power to control something and gets privileges.

**Succession:** When one person follows another in a position, usually gaining the title of the person before.

**Heir:** A person legally entitled to someone's property or title after they have died, they continue the work of the person before them.

**Parliament:** Is the highest assembly, consisting of the Sovereign (the Monarch), the House of Lords, and the House of Commons.

**Royal Court:** An extended royal household in a monarchy, including all those who regularly attend on a monarch, or another central figure.

**Justice of the Peace (JP):** Local Gentry who made sure that the laws passed by Parliament were properly enforced. They had the power to send someone to prison and more than one JP could have a criminal killed.

**Lord Lieutenant:** Appointed by the Queen to take care of an area of the country. They collected taxes and were responsible for raising militia to fight if the Queen needed.

**Secretary of State:** Is a member over the Privy Council in charge of the Government.

**Nobility:** a social class normally ranked immediately under royalty. They possess privileges and a higher status than lower classes. They help make up the Royal Court.

**Gentry:** The majority of the land-owning social class who did not have titles of nobility.

**Progress:** Elizabeth's tours around England, also means moving forward.

**Revolution:** An attempt to try overthrown a person or group in power and replace it with a new one.

**Rebellion:** An action taken to that goes against the people or person in charge. Armed forces can be involved.

**Exile:** When someone is kicked out of their country and not allowed to return.

**Militia:** A military force that is raised from the lower class people in an emergency to create an army.

**Monopoly:** Having exclusive control of a supply, trade or service.

### Write an account Question (8 marks)

- 1) Write an account of the problems Elizabeth faced in the first ten years of her reign.
- 2) Write an account of a rebellion you have studied that took place in Elizabeth's reign.

### Explain Question (8 Marks)

- 1) Explain what was important about the Privy Council
- 2) Explain what was important about Elizabeth's decision regarding her marriage.

### KEY INDIVIDUALS

**Elizabeth I:** A single female ruler at a time when men had the power. Was very intelligent but had a difficult childhood.

**Henry VIII:** The monarch of England between 1509 – 1547, he famously broke from Rome and was the first Head of the Protestant church in England. He had 6 wives and was the father to Mary I, Elizabeth I and Edward VI.

**Anne Boleyn:** Elizabeth I's mother, Henry broke from Rome to divorce Catherine his previous wife and marry her. She was executed for adultery.

**Edward VI:** Henry I third child and his only son. He was King first (1547 -1553)before his older sisters, he was a Protestant and put in place strict rules against Catholicism.

**Mary I :** Elizabeth's older sister. She became Queen in 1553-1558 and tried to make England Catholic. She was married to Phillip of Spain.

**Catherine Parr:** Henry's VIII's 6<sup>th</sup> wife, survived him. Married Thomas Seymour.

**Thomas Seymour:** Edward VI's uncle (the brother of Jane Seymour, Edwards mother). Wanted to get close to Elizabeth to gain power.

**William Cecil:** Secretary of State twice. Most trusted advisor. Key role in developing the Poor Laws and new religious policies.

**Francis Walsingham:** Secretary of State and one of her closest advisors until his death in 1573. Elizabeth's spymaster with 'eyes and ears' everywhere. Played a role in the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots.

**Robert Cecil:** William Cecil's son, was Secretary of State in the later half of Elizabeth's reign.

**Robert Devereux:** AKA Duke of Essex, a nobleman, one of Elizabeth's favorites, led the Essex Rebellion.

**Mary, Queen of Scots:** AKA Mary Stuart, Elizabeth's Catholic cousin, Queen of Scotland and first in line for the English throne.

**James VI of Scotland:** AKA James I of England, James I. Mary, Queen of Scots son who succeeded Elizabeth I.

**Robert Dudley:** Elizabeth's favourite from accession to death. Her best friend, one of her suitors.

**Phillip II of Spain :** King of Spain, was married to Elizabeth' sister Mary I and was a terrible husband.

Proposed to Elizabeth, she rejected him. King during the Spanish Armada. He was Catholic.

**Francis Duke of Anjou and Alençon:** A suitor from France. Elizabeth nicknamed him 'The Frog'.

**Interpretation C:** Written by the historian Hugh Oakley Arnold-Forster, in A History of England 1898.

"Who was the queen's husband to be, and what power was he to have over the government of the country? If he were a foreigner there was no knowing what power he might get over the Queen, power which he would very likely use forth egos of a foreign country and not the good of England. On the other hand, if he were an Englishman, he must be chosen from among the queen's subjects, and then it was certain that there would be jealousy and strife among all the great nobles in the country when they saw one of their number picked out and made king over them."

### How convincing is the interpretation Question (8 marks)

- 1) How convincing is Interpretation C about the reasons why Elizabeth did not get married? Explain your answer using Interpretation C and your contextual knowledge.

# Key Events Timeline

**KEY:**

**Succession**

**Mary, Queen of Scots**

**Ireland**

**Religion**

**Henry VIII dies (1547)**  
Henry's son, Elizabeth's younger brother, Edward becomes the king (Edward VI) at aged 9. Elizabeth aged 13 went to live with her step mother Katherine Parr and her new step father Thomas Seymour.

**Henry VIII breaks from Rome (1533)**  
The Protestant Reformation starts in England. Henry VIII becomes the Head of the Protestant church in England. He breaks from Rome in order to divorce Catherine of Aragon and marry Anne Boleyn.

**The Revolution in Ireland (1559)**  
Elizabeth considered herself the Queen of Ireland. Unfortunately, many in Ireland disagreed so started revolting. Several happened during her reign, she spent thousands of pounds trying to limit the Irish Rebellion.

**The Wyatt Rebellion (1554)**  
Thomas Wyatt and Elizabeth were said to be plotting together to rebel against Mary I and her marriage to Prince Phillip of Spain (later Phillip II Spain). The Protestant rebels were worried about growing Catholic power. The rebellion was found out and the leaders executed.

**Elizabeth gets smallpox (1562)**  
When Elizabeth got smallpox people were afraid that she would die without an heir. They started looking for people to succeed the English throne.

**Parliament openly discusses Elizabeth and marriage (1566)**  
Parliament were keen for Elizabeth to marry and have children after she nearly died from smallpox. Elizabeth annoyed at their involvement tells Parliament that they have no right discussing her personal business and they were only there to pass laws.

**The Northern Rebellion (1569)**

**The Ridolfi Plot (1571)**

**Essex Rebellion (1601)**

Angry and with little to lose Devereux decided to remove Robert Cecil from his post so began to gather supporters for a rebellion. He gathered 200 followed and marched to his London house with them. Robert Cecil responded quickly thinking it was another attempt on Elizabeth's life. Cecil branded Devereux a traitor and many of the rebels abandoned the march. Essex (Devereux) returned to his house where he was later arrested and executed in the tower of London for treason. Elizabeth cried for days.

**Elizabeth meets Robert Devereux (1587)**

Robert Devereux was one of the Queens favorites and she was fond of him. He was on her Privy council. As his power grew Elizabeth gave him the monopoly of sweet wine. After having a military success in Spain 1596 Devereux came back a hero, the power went to his head, and at a Privy Council meeting he got into an argument about Ireland with the Queen where he turned his back to her. She was unamused, hit him in the side of the head and put him on house arrest.

**Mary Queen of Scots executed for treason (8<sup>th</sup> February 1587)**

**The Babington Plot (1586)**

**1540**

**1555**

**1565**

**1575**

**1585**

**1595**

**1605**

**1530**

**1550**

**1560**

**1570**

**1580**

**1590**

**1600**

**Elizabeth is born (1533)**  
Her father was Henry Tudor (Henry VIII) and her mother was Anne Boleyn. Henry had divorced his previous wife Catherine of Aragon to marry Anne, in the eyes of many Catholics the marriage was not deemed legal, thus Elizabeth was illegitimate, a bastard child.

**Anne Boleyn is executed (1536)**  
Anne Boleyn was accused of committing adultery with many men in Henry's court. She was put on trial and executed. Elizabeth was sent away.

**Edward VI dies (1553)**  
His and Elizabeth's older sister Mary (Mary I) becomes the queen. She is a Catholic like her mother and starts to make the country Catholic again after the Protestant reformation.

**Elizabeth I was crowned Queen of England following the death of her sister Mary I (1558)**  
Elizabeth was 25 years of age and unmarried. The country were unhappy about having a young, inexperienced female ruler.

**Elizabeth was locked up in the Tower of London (1554)**  
Elizabeth was locked up by her sister Mary I in the Tower of London after Elizabeth was said to have been involved in Wyatt's Rebellion. No evidence found to suggest that she was involved thus Elizabeth was not executed.

**Mary, Queen of Scots is exiled from Scotland (1568)**  
Without a direct heir, the next in line was her cousin Mary Queen of Scots. This created a threat for Elizabeth as Catholics had an alternative Queen to fight for.

**The Throckmorton Plot (1583)**

**The Spanish Armada (1588)**

**Devereux is sent to Ireland (1599)**  
Elizabeth made Essex, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, it was his job to crush the rebellion in Ireland. Instead he made peace, exactly what he was told not to do. Elizabeth told him to never return to England, but he did, returning to the queen's palace dirty and caught her without her wig! Devereux fell from her favour and she took away his monopoly of sweet wine and put him under house arrest once more.

**Elizabeth dies (1603)**  
Elizabeth dies aged 70 without an heir. Her cousin James VI of Scotland, Mary Queen of Scots son, take the English throne as James I.

## KEY WORDS

**Poor Laws:** They required each parish to select two Overseers of the Poor. It was the job of the Overseer to set a poor tax for his or her parish based on need and collect money from landowners.

**Poverty:** The state of being extremely poor.

**Taxation:** Is when a Government or Monarch makes individuals or groups pay money to them.

**Gloriana:** The way of presenting the Elizabethan age was known as this. It was achieved through plays and festivals as well as the printing of special pamphlets.

**Alchemy:** The attempt to turn cheap metal into gold. A seemingly magical process that was very popular, as was astrology (using the planets to predict the future).

**Pauper:** A very poor person.

**Retinue:** Someone who advises or supports an important person like a private army.

**Reformation:** The process of changing an institution or practice. In this case changing England's main practicing religion from Catholicism to Protestantism.

**Monastery:** A building or buildings occupied by religious people, such as; monks.

**Enclosure:** An area that is surrounded by a barrier.

**Rack renting:** Landlords unfairly increasing rent knowing there was limited places to live.

**Inflation:** An increase in prices and a fall of the value of money.

**Urban:** Refers to a town or city, usually ever growing and changing.

**Deserving poor:** Poor that want to help themselves but are unable to.

**Almshouse:** Provided accommodation and food for those in need.

**Undeserving poor:** Untrustworthy beggars who had no interest in honest work.

**Stocks:** Restrained a criminals feet.

**Pillory:** Restrained a criminals hands.

**House of correction:** A type of prison were people who refused to work were sent.

**Flogged:** Beat someone with a whip or a stick as a type of punishment.

**Vagrant:** A person without a settled home or regular work who wanders from place to place and lives by begging.

**Ruff:** An elaborate collar that was worn around the neck of both men and women.

**Patron:** Is the term given to a person who funds a company. The company was usually gets its name from this person.

**Circumnavigate:** Sail all the way around.

## Life in the Elizabethan times

### KEY INDIVIDUALS

**John Hawkins:** Was a key figure at court. He was responsible for building up the Royal Navy. Was also involved in the slave trade and introduced tobacco. Francis Drakes cousin.

**Sir Walter Raleigh:** Was very loyal to Elizabeth and a favourite. Attempted to establish a colony in North America. He was banished for 5 years (secret marriage).

**Francis Drake:** Was an English hero but the Spanish called him a pirate. Led the defeat of the Armada. Was a privateer.

**William Shakespeare:** Was the most celebrated playwright of all time with 38 plays. Wrote for the Lord Chamberlain's Men, a theatre company.

**Richard Burbage:** Was one of the most celebrated actors of the Elizabethan period. He was a leading member of the Lord Chamberlain's men. He was also a theatre owner.

**The Duke of Medina Sidonia:** A Spanish nobleman who was appointed the commander of the Armada.

### KEY WORDS

**Privateer:** Was a private person or private warship authorized by a country's government by letters of marque to attack foreign shipping.

**Armada:** A fleet of ships.

**Lateen:** A triangle sail on a ship, they were designed to make ships go faster and make them easier to steer.

**Astrolabe:** A circular device used for measuring the position of stars and on ships for calculating the ship's position.

**Colony:** a group of people of one nationality or race living in a foreign place, or a place controlled by a foreign country.

Unemployment was a major cause of poverty. When large landowners changed from arable to sheep farming unemployment increased rapidly. The closing of the monasteries in the 1530s created even more unemployment. As monasteries had also helped provide food for the poor, this created further problems. Unemployed people were sometimes tempted to leave their villages to look for work. This was illegal and people who did this were classed as vagabonds.

### Write an account Question

- 1) Write an account of the ways in which Elizabeth's reign could be seen as a 'golden age'
- 3) Write an account of how the Poor Law system changed under Queen Elizabeth I.

### Explain Question

- 1) Explain what was important about exploration and trade in Elizabethan England.
- 2) Explain what was important about the voyages of discovery in the reign of Elizabeth I.
- 3) Explain what was important about the navy for Elizabethan England.

**Interpretation B:** Spartacus Educational, a history education website.

### How convincing is the interpretation Question

- 1) How convincing is Interpretation B about the causes of poverty in Elizabethan England? Explain your answer using Interpretation B and your contextual knowledge.

# Key Events Timeline

**KEY:**

Poverty

Exploration

The Arts

Beggars were publically whipped (1531 onward)  
If they were caught a second time a hole was burnt through their ear.

Beggars were punished with the stocks and pillories (1495 onward)

York appointed a master beggar to check on other beggars (1528 onward)

York issued begging licenses in 16 years before any other city (1515 onward)

Act for setting the poor on work (1576)  
The responsibility of finding the poor work was placed in the hands of the local authorities so national focus could be on punishments.

Thomas Harman published his book (1567)  
His book drew attention to conmen and women's scams and tricks. It was very popular and hardened some attitudes towards the poor.

Ipswich introduced a licensing system for beggars and increased support for the poor (1569)

The Levant company were given the monopoly of trade in Turkey and the Middle East (1580)

Francis Drake circumnavigated the world (1577-1580)

Francis Drake and John Hawkins took control of many Spanish ships and raided the ports in Cadiz (1587)

The Spanish Armada (1588)  
The British were led by Lord Howard and the Spanish were led by the Duke of Medina Sidonia.

The Rose Theatre opened (1587)  
The Rose Theater was the first theatre to house William Shakespeare's plays. It was built near the River Thames.

First ever Poor Law (1601)  
Elizabeth and her government introduced the first ever poor law, which saw the rich in each area of the country taxed to pay for care and support of the vulnerable, including the old and the sick.

Bad Harvests and Food Shortages (1594 -1598)  
Because of bad harvests and food shortages meant that people died of starvation . As well as this landowners were not renting their land for farmers to grow crops, because of these more farmers jobless and homeless so went to the cities to look for work.

1540

1560

1580

1600

The Debasing of coins (1542)  
Henry VIII saw economic problems in England and the cost of war was great. So to produce coins more cheaply he started mixing other metals with gold and silver.

Norwich authorities conducted a survey which found that 80% of the population lived in poverty (1570)

Closing of the Monasteries (1536-1540)  
When Henry VIII reformed England he made himself head of the church meaning he now had control of the churches. Many of the religious people working and living there were evicted. In addition to unemployment, the poor and sick who were being looked after by the monks and nuns at the Monasteries were also evicted. This continued until the Elizabethan times.

The Muscovy Company was created (1555)  
They were given the monopoly of trade with the city of Moscow in Russia. No other company could trade in the area.

John Hawkins got involved in the African slave trade, first seizing slaves from the Portuguese and then capturing them himself. (1562)

The population was 2.8 million (1558) and increased to 4 million in 1603.

1570

James Burbage opened his theater (1576)  
The famous actor of the Lord Chamberlain's men opened his theater 'Blackfriars indoor playhouse.' It was built in Surrey.

The Eastland Company were given the monopoly of trade in Scandinavia. (1579)

The Great Chain of Being (1579)  
Elizabethan society was based on this. In the Great Chain of Being God was at the top , followed by his angels and other residents of heaven. Human beings and animals were beneath. The Elizabethans broke this down further into subdivisions based on class with the Monarch at the top and the peasants at the bottom. It was pretty much impossible to move between subdivisions.

1590

Elizabeth gave Walter Raleigh permission to colonise and rule any land not ruled by a Christian. (1584)  
He tried to colonise America but failed the first time. The second time in 1587 was more successful but still ended badly.

Francis Drake was knighted by Queen Elizabeth (1581)  
This angered Philip of Spain and was said to be exactly why Elizabeth did it!

The Globe Theatre opened (1599)  
Was a theatre built in London by Shakespeare's playing company, the Lord Chamberlains men. It was destroyed by fire in 1613 and rebuilt several times after that.

William Shakespeare created his first play Henry VI (1589 -1590)

## KEY WORDS

**Treason:** Betraying the country you are from, in particular trying to kill or throw the person or people in charge.

**Rebellion:** An action taken to that goes against the people or person in charge. Armed forces can be involved.

**Catholic:** A branch of Christianity which sees the Pope as the leader of the religion.

**Protestant:** A branch of Christianity which believes that no human is as important as God, in England the monarch is head of the Protestant church.

**Puritan:** Stricter Protestants. Believe the Reformation didn't go far enough.

**Foreign policy:** A government's plan to deal with other nations.

**Jesuits:** A Catholic group recruited to educate people in Catholicism.

**Missionary:** A person sent on a religious mission, especially one sent to promote Christianity in a foreign country.

**Seminary:** An educational institute, which teaches people about how to spread the word about religion, in this case Catholicism.

**Recusancy fines:** Fines issued to anyone who refused to attend services of the Church or follow the laws regarding religion created by Elizabeth I and the government.

**Disbanded:** The break up of an organised group.

**Executed:** Carrying out a sentence of death on someone who has usually committed a crime, such as treason.

**Prophesying:** Religious training exercises favoured by Puritan clergy in England to practice the ideals of Protestantism.

**Clergy:** People ordained for religious services, particularly in the Christian church.

**Excommunicate:** Excluding someone from the Christian church.

**Counter-Reformation:** Catholic reformation that turns people from Protestants back to Catholics.

**Martyr:** A person that was killed because of their religious beliefs.

**Iconoclasm:** The destruction of religious images and sculptures.

## Write an account Question (8 marks)

- 1) Write an account of Elizabeth's changing policy towards Catholics.
- 2) Write an account of Puritanism during the reign of Elizabeth I.

## Explain Question (8 Marks)

- 1) Explain what was important about the execution of Mary Queen of Scots for Elizabethan England.
- 2) Explain what was important about the navy for Elizabethan England.

# Troubles at Home and Abroad

## KEY INDIVIDUALS

**Mary Queen of Scots:** Heir to the throne of England, Queen of Scotland and Elizabeth's cousin. She was Catholic and a lot of Catholics wanted to see her on the English throne.

**Pope Pius V:** Excommunicated Elizabeth from the Catholic Church.

**Sir William Cecil:** Secretary of State (his son was Robert Cecil)

**Cardinal William Allen:** Involved in the Throckmorton Plot and Spanish Armada. Also set up the college at Douai to train missionaries to spread the Catholic faith in England.

**Edmund Campion:** A English Jesuit who dressed as a merchant to hide himself. Was eventually captured and killed for treason.

**Anthony Babington:** An English Gentleman convicted of plotting the assassination of Elizabeth in the Babington Plot.

**Sir Francis Walsingham:** Secretary of State and Spymaster. Barely escaped France on St Bartholomew's day massacre in France.

**King Philip II of Spain:** King of Spain, was married to Elizabeth's sister Mary I and was a terrible husband. Proposed to Elizabeth, she rejected him. King during the Spanish Armada. He was Catholic.

**Duke Medina Sidonia:** In charge of the Spanish Fleet at the Spanish Armada

**William of Orange:** Protestant who led a rebellion against Spain in the Netherlands. One of Elizabeth's suitors but was much younger.

**Duke of Norfolk:** An English nobleman and politician, he was a strong Catholic and was involved in the Northern Rebellion.

**Earl of Westmorland:** An English noble with Catholic beliefs involved in the Northern Rebellion.

**Earl of Northumberland:** An English noble man with strong Catholic beliefs who led the Northern Rebellion and was killed for treason.

**John Field:** A British Puritan clergyman.

**Sir Francis Throckmorton:** English conspirator who was involved in the unsuccessful Throckmorton Plot to overthrow Queen Elizabeth.

**Interpretation A:** An assessment of the threats to Queen Elizabeth from The Life and Times of Elizabeth I, by Neville Williams (1972)

There were other plots against Elizabeth's life in later years. However the revelations of the Ridolfi conspiracy, coming so soon after the Northern Rebellion, alarmed her the most. That her own cousin, the Duke of Norfolk, should have plotted her downfall was the cruellest blow she had yet suffered.

## How convincing is the interpretation Question (8 marks)

- 1) How convincing is Interpretation A about the threats to Queen Elizabeth I? Explain your answer using Interpretation A and your contextual knowledge.

# KEY: ↓

## Key Events Timeline

### Religion

Elizabeth was Protestant but inherited the upheaval of the Reformation and her families changes. As a practical monarch she tried to bring compromise with her 'religious settlement'. This included priests could marry, book of common prayer and she declared herself 'governor'. Catholics - recusancy fines were low and many kept their own beliefs. Following the Papal Bull which excommunicated Elizabeth, Catholics were encouraged to rise against her. There was a change in policy clamping down on them - see dates. Jesuits were sent to convert Protestants back to Catholicism, including Edmund Campion who was executed, becoming a martyr. Puritans - strict protestants were disappointed in the settlement. Their prophecies criticised Elizabeth's church and in 1583 they were banned from unlicensed preaching and faced recusancy fines.

### Mary Queen of Scots

Mary was Queen of Scotland from 8 days old but was brought up in France. She returned to Scotland in 1560 but was very unpopular. It was suggested that she had been involved in the murder of her second husband Lord Darnley. In 1567 she fled from Scotland and her son James became King of Scotland. Mary was placed under house arrest and was moved around for 19 years. Mary was the legitimate heir to the English throne and was Catholic, this made her a threat to the childless Elizabeth. Several plots planned to put her on the throne, but during the Babington Plot, Walsingham found evidence that she knew of the plot. Mary was put on trial in October 1586 and found guilty of treason, even though she argued that as she was not English, and a Queen, they had no right to put her on trial. On 8/2/1587 Mary was executed at Fotheringhay Castle, making her a martyr.

### Foreign Policy - Conflict with Spain

Philip had been married to Mary Tudor and wanted England to be Catholic again. He had asked Elizabeth to marry him but she said she had married England. Elizabeth authorised the 'sea dogs' to steal Spanish Silver. Elizabeth also sent troops to help with William of Orange's rebellion against Spain. Advances in naval warfare meant ships were faster and more manoeuvrable. They had more powerful weapons and more accurate navigation with the astrolabe. The Armada failed because of poor tactics by the Spanish, including having a seasick man in charge - Duke Medina Sidonia. The English tactics including the use of fire ships. This was then followed by terrible storms that wrecked many of the Spanish ships on their way back round Scotland.

### College of Douai was created (1568)

William Allen was made a Cardinal by the Pope due to a recommendation of Phillip of Spain. The College was set up to train missionaries to go to England and convert people back to Catholicism. Phillip of Spain and France helped fund the college.

### Act of Supremacy (1559)

### Act of Uniformity (1559)

### Mary, Queen of Scots comes to England. (1567)

Mary had to escape Scotland after being accused of being involved in the murder of her second husband Lord Darnley. Elizabeth imprisoned her in England.

### Pope Pius V issued the Papal Bull and excommunicated Elizabeth from the Catholic Church (27<sup>th</sup> April 1570)

The Papal Bull excommunicated Elizabeth from the Catholic Church and called on Catholics to end her rule.

### Act against Jesuits and Seminary Priests (1585)

They had 40 days to leave or they would be killed.

### Treason to have a Catholic priest in your home (1585)

### Rules to crack down on Puritanism. (1583)

### The Ridolfi Plot (1571)

After the Papal Bull, an Italian Merchant named Ridolfi got involved with Norfolk, sending him coded letters. Ridolfi was going to raise an army in the Netherlands and Norfolk again in the North. Before it could happen the letters were found and Norfolk was executed.

1570

1560

### The Society of the Jesuits was created (1540)

They wanted the counter-reformation and hoped to make convert people back to the Catholic religion.

### The Northern Rebellion (1569)

Aka the Norfolk Rebellion. Elizabeth refused to let the Duke of Norfolk marry Mary, Queen of Scots so he and two Catholic nobles in the North led a rebellion against her hoping to replace her with Mary. They held an illegal Catholic mass and then 4600 of their men marched to London. The Earl of Sussex raised an army for Elizabeth, the Northern army disbanded and Norfolk was imprisoned.

### Recusancy fines (1571)

1580

### Recusancy fines increased (1581)

### Treason to attend Catholic mass. (1581)

### The Throckmorton Plot (1583)

Throckmorton coordinated the plot. He too wanted to kill Elizabeth and put Mary, Queen of Scots on the throne. His plan was that Henry, Duke of Guise would raise an army in France and invade England and Throckmorton would raise an uprising of the English Catholics. The plot also involved the Spanish ambassador. Unfortunately for them, the plot was discovered. Throckmorton was discovered and Mary Queen of Scots was placed under even closer guard.

1590

### Mary Queen of Scots put on trial (15<sup>th</sup> October 1586)

She was put on trial for treason - being involved in an assassination attempt against Elizabeth.

### The Babington Plot (1586)

This was another attempt to murder Elizabeth and place Mary, Queen of Scots on the throne. Led by Anthony Babington, it was the discovery of this plot that led to Mary's trial and execution when it was found that she had known about and agreed with the plot all along.

1600

## Historical Environment: Kenilworth Castle

### KEY PHYSICAL FEATURES

**The Great tower/Keep:** The keep is an important architectural and defensive feature of this castle. Built as the main defence.

**Saintlowe Tower:** The Saintlowe Tower, great chamber and lesser chamber were built by John of Gaunt to provide comfortable accommodation for important guests and state apartments for himself

**The Causeway:** The Medieval entrance to the castle served as a thoroughfare and as part of the system of dams which created the Mere.

**Leicester's Gatehouse:** This is a typical Elizabethan gatehouse, built by Robert Dudley as the main entrance to the castle. He altered the entrance making it wide enough for wheeled carriages and troops of horsemen

**Lunn's Tower:** Lunn's Tower is part of King John's defensive wall and is purely military in purpose. It incorporates fish-tailed arrow slits and controls the Northeast angle of the defences

**Leicester's Building:** The height of Elizabethan luxury, the three upper floors of this four-storey building were grand state rooms and bedrooms for the Queen and her ladies-in-waiting, each room being decorated and furnished in the most luxurious manner.

**Mortimer's Tower:** This was a gatehouse which controlled access to the outer court of the castle and in Medieval times was protected by the Mere, which came up to its base.

**Leicester's Stables:** Nearly 49 metres long, the Tudor stables are built against the East outer curtain wall and are exceptionally well preserved. The upper floor, built of timber frames with brick and plaster infill, was probably used for servant accommodation and storing hay.

**Great Hall:** Constructed between 1361 and 1399, John of Gaunt's Great Hall was one of the finest in 14th century England and shows his wealth and power.

**Elizabethan Gardens:** Formal gardens were essential aspects of the Elizabethan house. They continued the Medieval tradition of an earthly paradise. They also showed off the owner's wealth and status. Robert Dudley built these in honour of Elizabeth.

**Kitchen and Strong tower:** Set apart from other buildings to reduce the risk of fire, this area contains the kitchens, living quarters for domestic servants and storage areas.

**Curtain Walls:** Built as an extra defence around the grounds of the castle.

### KEY INDIVIDUALS, KEY GROUPS and INFORMATION

**Simon de Montford:** Was granted the castle by Henry III and was part of a rebellion against the King. He was killed at the battle of Evesham.

**Elizabeth I:** Queen of England and was a guest at Kenilworth in 1575. The gardens and many improvements to the buildings were done in her honour as Robert Dudley attempted to gain her hand in marriage.

**Robert Dudley:** Was one of Queen Elizabeth's favourites and made vast improvements to Kenilworth in order to gain Elizabeth's hand in marriage.

**King John:** Changed Kenilworth from a Motte and Bailey timber castle into a stone building. Starting with the Keep.

**John of Gaunt:** Was an extremely powerful Noble with links to the royal family, he made huge renovations to Kenilworth turning it from a castle for just defence into a royal residence.

**The Normans:** Were catholic and had conquered England through William the Conqueror 1066. They also brought their skill in building castles. They followed a strict class system which was the Feudal System.

**The Angevins:** Were the Kings of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Century. They were strong Catholics and kept the same class system as the Normans. They had problems with rebellions from the nobility.

**The Lancastrians:** Catholic and religion was very important. John of Gaunt was a very wealthy and powerful noble during this reign and made Kenilworth fit for a King.

**Reformation:** Change in religion from Catholic toward Protestants.

**Gloriana:** Massive change towards culture, arts, painting etc. 'Cult of Gloriana'. Kenilworth improved to impress Elizabeth I.

**Trade:** The location of Kenilworth meant it was on most of the trade routes.

**Geoffrey de Clinton:** Built an earth and timber castle in the area to keep an eye on the Earl of Warwick for the King, who was fearful of Warwick castle.

### TYPICAL FEATURES OF ALL ELIZABETHAN COUNTRY/ MANOR / STATELY HOMES

Symmetrical buildings (like Dudley's Gatehouse)  
Large glass windows  
Elizabethan private garden and courtyard  
Paintwork and Tapestries on walls  
Large fires in each room  
Large private bedrooms  
Large private chambers

Mainly over 3 floors  
Belongs to owner with multiple manor houses  
Expensive stone and brick work

### Example Historical Environment Factors Question (16 marks)

1)The main changes that Elizabethan stately homes demonstrated were the new fashions of the time. How far does a study of Kenilworth Castle support this statement? Explain your answer. You should refer to Kenilworth Castle and your contextual knowledge. 16 marks

# Key Events Timeline

1000

Kenilworth is mentioned in the Domesday book. (1086)

1100

Geoffrey de Clinton built an earth and timber castle (1100 – 1135)

1200

Henry III granted the castle to Simon De Montford. (1244)

1300

John of Gaunt renovates castle's role from total defence to palatial (1361-1399)

1400

Gaunt's son became King Henry IV. Kenilworth becomes part of the crown. (1399)

Robert Dudley is made the Earl of Leicester (1564)

Elizabeth gets smallpox (1562)

She tells her government that in her absence Robert Dudley is to be Protector of the Realm.

Robert Dudley married Amy Robsart (1550)

John Dudley was granted the castle (1553)

Elizabeth I criticised Kenilworth Castle and picked out all of its flaws. (1570)

Robert and Ambrose (his brother) become the last of their house 'The Dudley's' as neither of them have an heir. (1573)

Robert Dudley marriage to the Countess of Essex (1573)

The Countess 'Lettice' was the Queen's cousin. Elizabeth was not happy and never spoke to Lettice again. She was angry at Dudley but they rekindled their friendship.

Elizabeth honoured Dudley with 4 visits to Kenilworth Castle. He was developing at immense cost into a 'wonder house' for her entertainment. (1566, 1568, 1572 & 1575)

Robert Dudley reveals his matching life size portraits of Elizabeth and himself, they were said be 'true love' portraits. (1575)

1500

Amy Robsart is found dead at the bottom of the stairs (1560)

People at court start rumours that Robert Dudley killed his wife by pushing her down the stairs. It was said that he killed her so that he could pursue his 'true love' Elizabeth.

Robert Dudley, John's son, granted the castle and turns it into an Elizabethan palace. (1563)

Elizabeth gave Dudley Kenilworth as a gift to appease him after she tried to marry him off to Mary Queen of Scots.

Leicester's building (the Gatehouse) was built at Kenilworth Castle (1570-1572)

It was built to impress Queen Elizabeth I. It has luxurious apartments and was not built for defense purposes.

Elizabeth's 4<sup>th</sup> and final visit to Kenilworth (1575)

Dudley entertained the queen here for 19 days of festivities, this was the longest she had ever stayed with one of her courtiers. The 'princely shows' included fireworks which were heard 20 miles away and the garden which was created for her visit. The expensive show was said to be a 3 week long wedding proposal from Dudley to Elizabeth.

Dudley's gardeners worked all night to create a pop-up version of the Garden under Elizabeth's window. (1575)  
She complained that she couldn't see it properly from her purpose-built lodgings in 'Leicester's Building',

Robert Dudley died unexpectedly. (1588)

Elizabeth locked herself in her room for days and mourned him.

