

Knowledge organisers: Elizabeth I – Remember, knowledge organisers are only the basics. You need to learn more to progress from the lowest grades.

## Elizabeth I and her government

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Elizabeth was the third of Henry VIII's children to rule England. She was a Protestant, unlike her predecessor Mary I. Highly intelligent and well-educated, she became an excellent politician who reigned for 45 years. |
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### Key events

|    |       |   |
|----|-------|---|
| 2  | 1533  | Princess Elizabeth born to parents Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn             |
| 3  | 1536  | Execution of Anne Boleyn, authorised by Henry VIII                        |
| 4  | 1547  | Henry VIII died; Edward VI King   |
| 5  | 1553  | Edward VI dies; Jane Grey queen for nine days; Mary I then queen          |
| 6  | 1558  | Elizabeth becomes queen   |
| 7  | 1559  | Elizabeth had appointed 19 members to her Privy Council                   |
| 8  | 1559  | Elizabeth's first progress  |
| 9  | 1559  | First Parliament meeting; 13 Parliaments 1559-1601 passing 434 laws       |
| 10 | 1569  | Northern Rebellion  |
| 11 | 1571  | Ridolfi Plot  |
| 12 | 1590s | Government in crisis; trusted advisers had died; lots of rivalry at court |
| 13 | 1596  | Earl of Essex, a favourite of Elizabeth's, praised for military success   |
| 14 | 1601  | Earl of Essex launched a rebellion, which failed. He was executed.        |

### Key ideas, developments and people

|    |                             |   |
|----|-----------------------------|---|
| 15 | Royal Court                 | The large group of people, from politicians to servants, who surround the monarch (king/queen). Even if they don't have an official political position, people at Court have influence because of their contact with the queen.   |
| 16 | Problems faced by Elizabeth | <u>Religion</u> was a very difficult issue in England at this time with argument between Catholics and Protestants; <u>foreign policy</u> was complicated, with Spain being a rival country; <u>finances</u> were also difficult: the government was in debt when Elizabeth became queen. |
| 17 | Progress                    | The queen went on many journeys around England to visit her subjects (the people of her country); these trips were called progresses. Hundreds of people would go with her.   |
| 18 | Robert Dudley               | One of the queen's favourites; she was possibly in love with him, but he was married to someone else. He became a Privy Councillor in 1562. Died in 1588.   |
| 19 | William Cecil               | Made Secretary of State (the most senior position in Elizabeth's government in 1558). Wanted to avoid war and unite the nation through moderate policies. When he died, his son Robert replaced him.  |
| 20 | Norfolk's Rebellion         | Split into two: the Northern Rebellion 1569 and the Ridolfi Plot 1571. Both of these were about power but also religion. Both failed to achieve their aims; leaders executed.   |

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| 21 | Essex's Rebellion          | After the death of William Cecil, the Royal Court split into <b>factions</b> , with Essex leading one and Robert Cecil leading the other. Essex was one of Elizabeth's favourites, but his actions trying to defeat the Irish were disastrous. He attempted to take power to defeat the Robert Cecil faction but was arrested and executed for treason. |
| 22 | Marriage: the Virgin Queen | Elizabeth never married, but many politicians wanted her to. Some <b>suitors</b> were Robert Dudley, King Philip II of Spain, Francis, Duke of Anjou (in France) and Eric XIV of Sweden. Parliament tried to persuade her to marry, but she refused.  |
| 23 | Privy Council              | A small group (under 20) of the most powerful politicians, including the Secretary of State, the queen's most powerful minister. They met frequently to advise the queen and discuss decisions about how the country should be run.   |
| 24 | Lord Lieutenant            | England was (and still is!) split into geographical areas called counties, and each of these had a Lord Lieutenant who was the representative of the queen in that area.  |

### Key words

|    |            |   |
|----|------------|---|
| 25 | suitor     | Someone who is courting, i.e. trying to get the attentions of someone so they can get married                               |
| 26 | factions   | Rival, disagreeing political groups with each faction having a number of followers.   |
| 27 | dynasty    | The ruling family   |
| 28 | inherit    | Gaining someone's title (e.g. monarch, Duke) and wealth after they die. To <b>disinherit</b> is to deprive someone of this. |
| 29 | patronage  | Using wealth, power and influence to make sure people are loyal to you.   |
| 30 | Protestant | Type of Christianity: no Pope, plain churches, English Bible  |
| 31 | Catholic   | Type of Christianity: Pope, decorated churches, Latin Bible.  |
| 32 | treason    | The crime of plotting against or trying to kill/get rid of your monarch (someone who does this is a <b>traitor</b> ).       |



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## Elizabeth I: life in Elizabethan Times

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|---|---|
| 1 | Elizabethan life was luxurious for some, such as the nobility and gentry. However, there was a sharp divide between rich and poor. It was a time of new styles of culture in clothing, architecture and life, but also half of England's population was poor. It was an exciting 'Golden Age' of exploration and discovery. |
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### Key events

|    |         |   |
|----|---------|---|
| 2  | 1536-41 | Henry VIII dissolved the monasteries, which had supported the poor  |
| 3  | 1559    | Elizabeth's first Parliament  |
| 4  | 1560s   | Poor Law passed, introducing a tax to raise money for the poor.     |
| 5  | 1564    | Drake and Hawkins's kidnapping of Africans                          |
| 6  | 1570    | Norwich conducted a survey finding 80% of the population in poverty |
| 7  | 1574    | Statutes of Apparel passed by Parliament                            |
| 8  | 1577-80 | Drake was the first Englishman to <b>circumnavigate</b> the globe   |
| 9  | 1584    | Elizabeth's permission to Raleigh to colonise non-Christian lands   |
| 10 | 1594-98 | Bad harvests led to food shortages and deaths from starvation       |
| 11 | 1597    | First Poor Law; the second was in 1601.                             |

### Key ideas, developments and people

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|----|---------------------|--|
| 12 | William Shakespeare | Wrote at least 37 plays and mostly during Elizabeth's reign His style and vocabulary has had a lasting impact on the English language. Part of the partnership who built the Globe Theatre.  |
| 13 | Christopher Marlowe | A poet and playwright who was a major influence on Shakespeare, who became better known after Marlowe's mysterious death in 1593 (stabbed to death, allegedly in a drunken brawl).   |
| 14 | Sir Francis Drake   | Took part in transatlantic voyages. Became famous as a captain and <b>privateer</b> after his successful voyage of 1572 when he returned with considerable stolen goods. <b>Circumnavigated</b> the globe between 1577 and 1580, returning with £400,000 worth of Spanish treasure (£200 million in today's money). Played a crucial role in the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588.   |
| 15 | Sir Walter Raleigh  | A landed gentleman, poet and soldier from a Protestant family in Devon. At Court he rose rapidly to become a favourite of Elizabeth. Elizabeth granted him a royal charter to explore new lands. He played a key role in exploring the <b>New World</b> and colonising North America. He introduced potatoes and tobacco to England. Raleigh was given permission by Elizabeth to explore, colonise and rule any land that was not ruled by a Christian. |
| 16 | Population          | Population increased from around 3 million to 4 million people during Elizabeth's reign. This led to an increase in food prices as production rose. London's populations increased from around 60,000 in 1500 to over 200,000 in 1600.   |

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| 17 | Acts of Supremacy   | In her first Parliament, Elizabeth I created a new Protestant Church by restoring Royal Supremacy over the Church of England (Act of Supremacy).  |
| 18 | Slave trading       | Francis Drake and John Hawkins kidnapped several hundred West Africans and sold as slaves to the South American coast with permission from Elizabeth.   |
| 19 | Statutes of Apparel | New laws which strictly controlled the clothes people were allowed to wear depending on their social rank. This type of law is called a sumptuary law.  |
| 20 | Poor Laws           | Under these laws, the poor rate became a national system of compulsory (i.e. not optional) taxation, meaning everyone who was well-off had to contribute money to a system which helped the poor. |

### Key words

|    |                  |   |
|----|------------------|---|
| 21 | circumnavigation | To travel all the way around the circumference of the world.  |
| 22 | deserving poor   | People who wanted to work, but weren't able to find a job in their home town or village.  |
| 23 | helpless poor    | Unable to support themselves – young orphans and elderly, sick or disabled.   |
| 24 | New World        | A sixteenth century term for North and South America, newly discovered at this time by Europeans.   |
| 25 | Privateers       | People licensed by the government to attack and loot foreign ships.   |
| 26 | re-coinage       | To stabilise the currency, old coins are melted down and new ones made  |
| 27 | undeserving poor | They were seen as a serious threat to society. (Beggars, criminals and people who refused to work).   |
| 28 | workhouse        | Institutions to provide shelter for the 'impotent poor', providing work for the 'able-bodied poor'. 'Houses of Correction' were to punish the 'idle (lazy) poor'. |



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## Elizabeth: I Troubles at Home and Abroad

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | When Elizabeth became queen she faced some hard decisions about religion in England. Her church settlements were designed to please both Catholics and Protestants but her reign faced many Catholic plots. |
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### Key events

|    |          |   |
|----|----------|---|
| 2  | May 1559 | Act of Supremacy  |
| 3  | May 1559 | Act of Uniformity   |
| 4  | 1563     | Thirty-Nine Articles defined practices of Church of England |
| 5  | 1568     | Mary Queen of Scots imprisoned                              |
| 6  | 1569     | Northern Rebellion  |
| 7  | 1570     | Pope Pius V <b>excommunicated</b> Elizabeth                 |
| 8  | 1571     | The Treason Act   |
| 9  | 1583     | The Throckmorton Plot                                       |
| 10 | 1586     | The Babington Plot and Trial of Mary Queen of Scots         |
| 11 | 1587     | Mary Queen of Scots executed                                |
| 12 | 1588     | Defeat of the Spanish Armada                                |

### Key ideas, developments and people

|    |                    |   |
|----|--------------------|---|
| 13 | The Middle Way     | Bringing both Catholic and Protestant elements to the Church of England to please the public. Many Catholics were executed for opposing the Middle Way  |
| 14 | Act of Supremacy   | This act re-established the break from Rome and an independent church of England. Elizabeth takes the title of 'Supreme Governor' rather than 'Supreme Head of Church'  |
| 15 | Act of Uniformity  | A new Book of Common Prayer was introduced containing protestant ideas. Many Catholic practices such as <b>Mass</b> were stopped.   |
| 16 | Northern Rebellion | Catholic nobles (Northumberland, Westmorland and Norfolk) led a rebellion to overthrow Elizabeth  |
| 17 | Ridolfi Plot       | A plan to assassinate Elizabeth and replace her with Mary Queen of Scots (Ridolfi and Norfolk)  |
| 18 | Throckmorton Plot  | A plan to assassinate Elizabeth and replace her with Mary Queen of Scots (Francis Throckmorton)   |
| 19 | Babington Plot     | A plan to assassinate Elizabeth and replace her with Mary Queen of Scots (Anthony Babington)  |
| 20 | Spanish Armada     | Tension existed between England and Spain as a result of religious views. Spain supported Mary Queen of Scots. The Spanish <b>Armada</b> was defeated in 1588 due to Spanish errors and English tactical skill. Elizabeth used this win as a propaganda tool (i.e. to make people like her more). |

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|----|------------------------|---|
| 21 | Philip II of Spain     | Married Mary I of England (Bloody Mary) in 1553. Philip and Elizabeth had poor relations due to religion and the fact that Elizabeth rejected his hand in marriage.   |
| 22 | Mary Queen of Scots    | Daughter of James V of Scots and Mary of Guise, she was Elizabeth's cousin. Mary Stuart became Mary, Queen of Scots and was considered by some to be the rightful Queen of England. She married the heir to the French throne and was a Catholic. She was involved in plots to replace Elizabeth as queen and was executed in 1587. |
| 23 | Edmund Campion         | An English <b>Jesuit</b> priest, he aimed to spread the message of Catholicism. He was caught and executed for treason.   |
| 24 | John Field             | A priest and leader of extreme <b>Puritans</b> in London who was banned from preaching due to his views.  |
| 25 | Duke of Medina-Sidonia | A devout Catholic and leader of the Spanish Armada  |
| 26 | Francis Drake          | Leader of the British ships against the Spanish <b>Armada</b>   |

### Key words

|    |                |   |
|----|----------------|---|
| 27 | Armada         | A fleet of warships   |
| 28 | bull           | A decree issued by the pope   |
| 29 | Calvinist      | Protestant followers of John Calvin                                   |
| 30 | conspiracy     | A secret plan to do something unlawful or harmful                     |
| 31 | excommunicated | To be expelled from the church  |
| 32 | heretic        | Going against the official religion of the country                    |
| 33 | Huguenot       | A French Protestant   |
| 34 | Jesuit         | Roman Catholic missionary priest                                      |
| 35 | martyr         | Someone who suffers or dies for their beliefs                         |
| 36 | mass           | A Catholic practice re-enacting the last supper                       |
| 37 | Puritan        | An extreme protestant preferring simple churches                      |
| 38 | recusant       | Someone who refused to go to church services                          |
| 39 | reformation    | The splitting of the church to establish a separate Protestant church |

