



Highsted Knowledge Organiser

Subject History

Year 8

<p>What I need to know</p> <p>Threats to Elizabeth I's reign</p> <p>Was Elizabeth I's reign successful</p>	<p>Key Vocabulary</p> <p>Patriarchal – Male dominated society</p> <p>Catholic- Universal Christian religion before the Reformation</p> <p>Reformation – Religious change driven by Protestants in the 15th and 16th century</p>
<p>Student reference point</p> <p>Threats to Elizabeth I's reign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Elizabeth I reigned from 1558 to 1603. She was the daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, Henry's 2nd wife.-When she came to the throne in 1558 not everyone respected her authority because:-She was a woman in a male-dominated (=patriarchal) society.-She was unmarried and had no heir to the throne (and without any other surviving Tudors this made the dynasty vulnerable).-She was a Protestant at a time when England was divided between Catholics and Protestants. Many Catholics believed she had no right to rule (=legitimacy) because Henry should never have had his marriage to Catherine of Aragon, his 1st wife, annulled (=legally cancelled) (i.e. for many Catholics Anne Boleyn was never properly Henry's wife).-Catholics in England, with support from the Pope and other Catholic powers in Europe, staged a number of attempts to murder Elizabeth and replace her with her Catholic cousin, Mary Queen of Scots.-These plots included the Revolt of the Northern Earls (1569), Ridolfi Plot (1571), Throckmorton Plot (1583) and Babington Plot (1586). <p>Was Elizabeth I's reign successful?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-The success of Elizabeth's reign can be explored through her handling of:-Her public image as an unmarried woman via portraits etc (=propaganda). Elizabeth portrayed herself as a powerful, wealthy, independent individual, and as a 'Virgin Queen' married only to England.-Her handling of the religious divisions in England between Catholics and Protestants in the attempt to bring most people on side with an officially Protestant Church of England (Anglicanism). This is called the Religious Settlement. Elizabeth did not seek to punish Catholics who did not go to Anglican services, and allowed some elements of decoration and ornate clothes to be kept in Church of England establishments. This annoyed some Puritans (=extreme Protestants).-The defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588. The Armada was defeated because of mistakes by the Spanish, English naval skill, Elizabeth's rallying leadership (e.g. the Tilbury speech), and luck (the Spanish experienced bad weather and the remnants of the Armada ran aground).	
<p>Challenge question</p> <p>What does Elizabeth I's reign tell us about one woman in a man's world?</p>	
<p>Suggested reading</p> <p>Threats to Elizabeth's reign</p> <p>https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zqcn4i6/revision/8</p> <p>Was Elizabeth I's reign successful?</p> <p>https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/inspire-me/blog/articles/why-was-queen-elizabeth-i-so-important/</p>	



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Term 4 Year 8

What I need to know

The successes and failures of Elizabeth I (1558-1603)

Witchcraft accusations in the 16th and 17th centuries

Key Vocabulary

Propaganda – an attempt to persuade or create an impression (e.g. via images or speeches)

Heir – a successor to a throne

Armada – an attempt in 1588 by Catholic Spain to invade England using a large fleet of ships

Familiars – small animals (sometimes fantastical) which supposedly helped a witch cast spells

Witchfinder – men who went around the country trying to locate witches

Misogyny – prejudice against women

Scapegoat – when somebody is blamed for problems in society

Student reference points

1. The successes and failures of Elizabeth I (1558-1603)

- Elizabeth was often successful in how she had herself portrayed in paintings
- Elizabeth managed to steer a mainly effective middle course between Protestants and Catholics in religion (see term 3)
- Elizabeth did not get married and had no heir – this left England vulnerable
- The Spanish Armada was defeated in 1588; Elizabeth can take some (but not all) credit for this in her speech at Tilbury

2. Witchcraft accusations

- Women in the 16th and 17th centuries were often accused of being witches – some lost their lives as a result
- This was partly a product of misogyny – many women were also single women and elderly or vulnerable
- Monarchs such as James I passed laws against witches, which encouraged people to believe that they were real
- People were also accused of being witches at times of high social stress (e.g. crop failure, civil war), and to explain away the seemingly inexplicable (e.g. disease, illness, bad luck). This made them scapegoats.

Challenge question

- Elizabeth I was a woman – did attitudes to her have anything in common with attitudes to ordinary women accused of witchcraft around 1600?

Suggested reading

- 'The Queen's Likeness: Portraits of Elizabeth I', National Portrait Gallery, available at: <https://www.npg.org.uk/collections/research/programmes/making-art-in-tudor-britain/case-studies/the-queens-likeness-portraits-of-elizabeth-i>
- Dr Jessica Nelson, 'An examination of witches in the 17th century', The National Archives, available at: <http://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/an-examination-of-witches-in-the-17th-century/>