



**Key Events:**

- 1533 – Elizabeth I born.**
- 1534 – Henry VIII and the Reformation**
- 1536 – Anne Boleyn (Elizabeth’s mother) executed for treason.**
- 1547 – Henry VIII died, his young son became Edward became King at 9 years old. Protestant Church fully established under Edward.**
- 1553 – Edward died, replaced by Mary his older sister. Brought up a Catholic she turned the country back to being Catholic with the Pope as head of the Church in England. Protestants punished for not converting.**
- 1558 – Mary I died. Elizabeth became Queen.**
- 1558 – 9 – French threat.**

**Key people:**

Henry VIII: Broke away from the Catholic Church in order to divorce his first wife Catherine of Aragon and marry Anne Boleyn.

Anne Boleyn: Second wife of Henry VIII, mother of Elizabeth. Executed for treason in 1536.

William Cecil: Secretary of State twice. Elizabeth’s most trusted advisor who had a key role in developing the Poor Law.

Francis Walsingham: Elizabeth’s ‘spy-master’ and one of her closest advisers. Secretary of State after Cecil. Played a key role in the trial and execution of Mary, Queen of Scots.

King Philip of Spain: Catholic King of Spain, the most powerful European power at the time. Husband to Mary I (Elizabeth’s older sister). Proposed marriage to Elizabeth, she refused.

**Key Words:**

Gentry	High social group just below the nobility
Heir	Someone, who by law, takes on the title and property when another person dies – King or Queen.
Inherit	To gain possessions after someone dies
JP’s	Elected from the gentry to help keep order and enforce the law.
Lord Lieutenants	Appointed by the king to administer an area of the country.
Militia	Non-Professional Army
Nobility	Most respected members of society who had a title – Lord, duke, earl. They owned most of the land and had special rights.
Parliament	Country’s law making body. Main influence over tax.
Patronage	Land, titles and money given out by the king or queen to gain support.
Privy Council	The Monarchs special council who managed the day to day running of the country. Contained the most powerful landowners in the country.
Royal Court	The nobles, advisers and others who surrounded the monarch.
Secretary of State	Leader of the Privy Council, most powerful position in the Royal Court.
Treason	Attempt to kill or overthrow a monarch or betray the country. Punishable by death.

**Elizabeth’s problems:**

- **Legitimacy** – Most Catholics did not see her as a legitimate heir. The Pope had refused to allow Henry VIII to divorce his first wife.
- **Gender and Marriage** – Many saw a woman as weak and thought Elizabeth should be married to get strong leadership and an heir.
- **Finance** – Mary I left a debt of £300,000; annual income £267,000.
- **Religion** – Most of England was Catholic, Elizabeth was Protestant.

**Concept: Cause and Consequence**