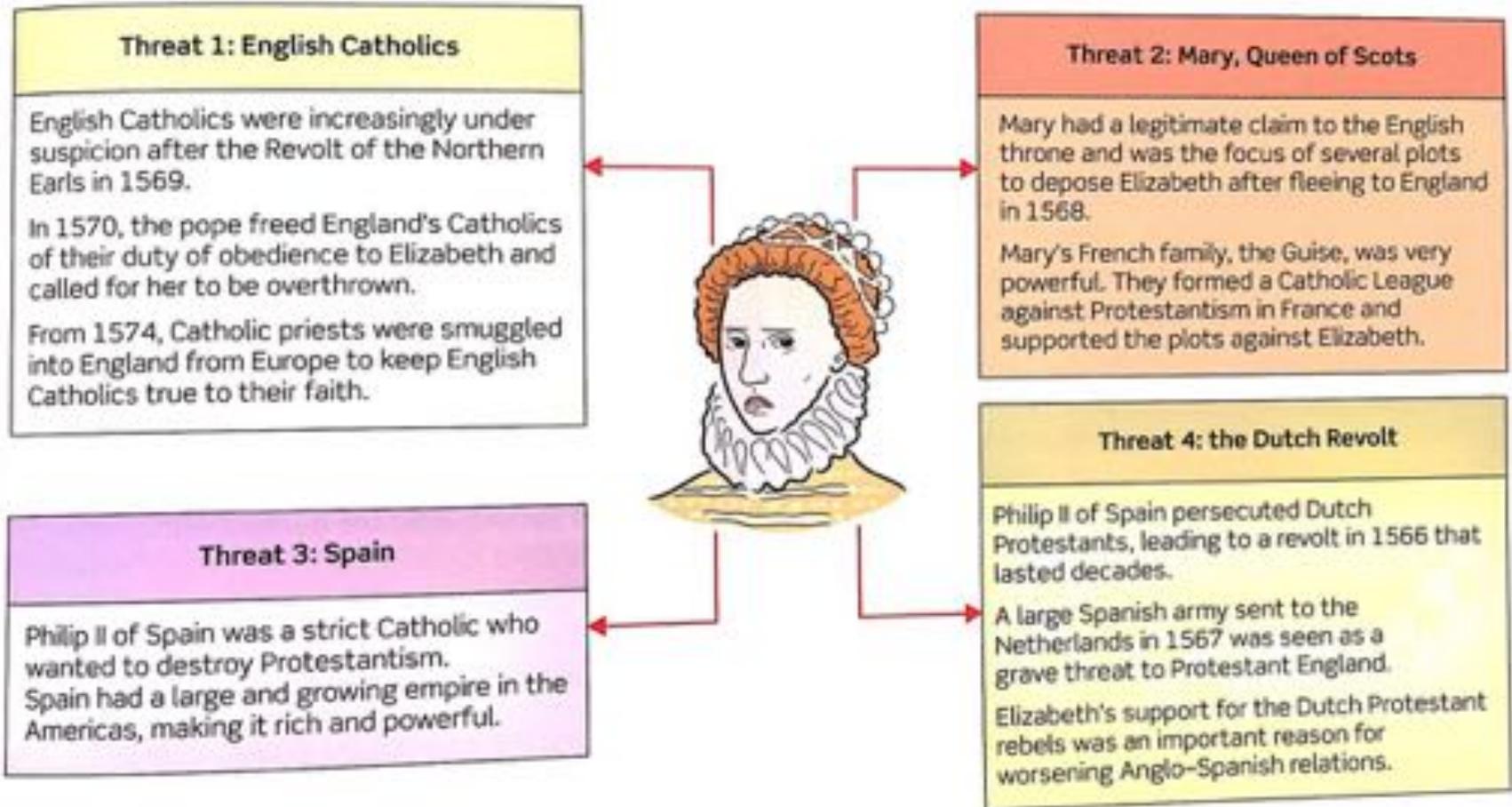


PLOTS & REVOLTS AT HOME

1569-1588



WHAT WERE ELIZABETH'S MAIN THREATS?



Thinking about what you know so far, rank these threats in order of danger





SIR FRANCIS WALSINGHAM'S FAME



- Walsingham became Elizabeth's Secretary of State in 1573
- He created a spy network both in England and abroad and played a crucial role in uncovering the plots against Elizabeth
- He had spies in every county and major town turning ordinary people to spy on their neighbours for money
- By 1580, he had agents in 12 towns in France, 9 in Germany, 4 in Spain, 3 in Italy
- He mastered writing in code (ciphering)
- He also used captured Catholic priests to inform
- He didn't use torture were possible believing it would make people sympathetic to the "criminal"

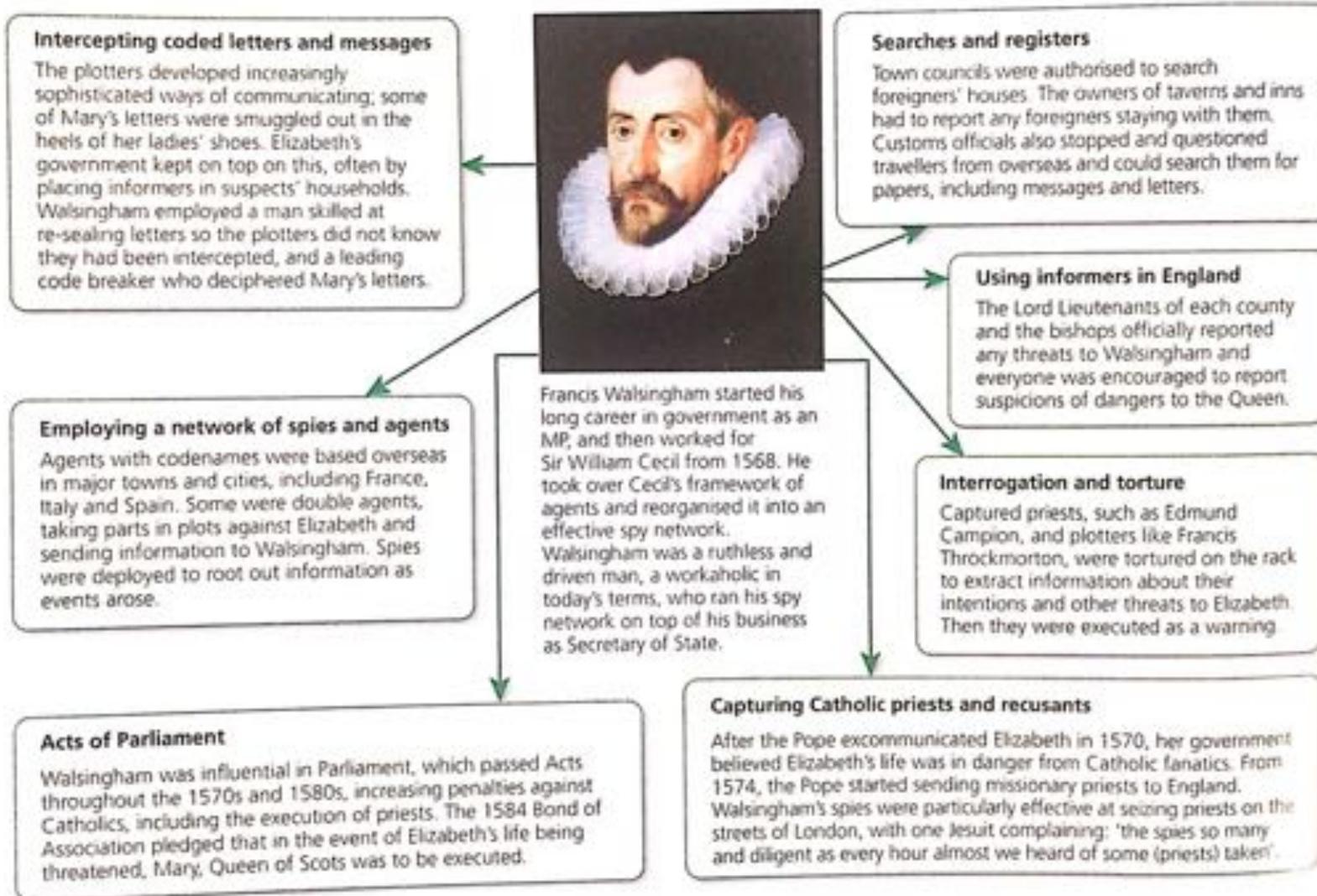
Describe the key features of Walsingham's spy network

4marks



CRACK THE CODE.....

- No instructions – work it out!



**Stick in
Walsingham's
system**



HOW THREATENING?

<i>Threat level</i>	Were the leaders effective, powerful and dynamic?	Did they have a clear and realistic plan for overthrowing Elizabeth?	Was there a lot of support from the English people?	Was there strong foreign support?	Did the Queen make mistakes in dealing with the threat?
Yes – a significant threat					
Possibly – a slight threat			Northern Rebellion		
No – not threatening at all	Northern Rebellion	Northern Rebellion		Northern Rebellion	Northern Rebellion

You have a sheet with the above table on, as we go through each of the following plots, place them in the categories above.

As well as this table, for each plot we'll consider the danger ratings / levels (1-5)

1	2	3	4	5
The revolt had no chance of success	This revolt raised a slight concern for Elizabeth	This revolt had some chance of success	This revolt caused serious concern	This revolt had a high chance of success



NORTHERN REBELLION 1569



Create 3 columns: **Causes**

Religion	Politics	Mary, Queen of Scots

Cut your cards and place them in the appropriate column

Which of these statements do you agree with and why?

- Religion was **definitely** the main cause
- Religion was **probably** the main cause
- Religion was **possibly** the main cause
- Religion was **definitely NOT** the main cause

1. The Earls had political grievances against Elizabeth, as she had weakened their powers in the North. The Earl of Northumberland had lost an important position as Warden of the Middle March, defending the border against Scotland. Elizabeth extended central control from London by putting her cousin, Lord Hunsdon, in charge of Berwick, and she appointed the Earl of Sussex as President of the Council of the North.

2. The rebels wanted to re-establish Catholicism as the country's religion.

3. At the start of the revolt, the Earls stormed into Durham Cathedral and held a Catholic service.

4. Elizabeth had taken lands from these nobles, so their grievances were personal. Northumberland had lost copper mines, costing him money. Many northern nobles were facing financial hardship.

5. The Earls wanted to get rid of 'evil councillors', such as Cecil, who they blamed for religious changes and their loss of political power.

6. The rebels wore Catholic badges and emblems.

7. The Earls had already taken part in a plan to marry Mary, Queen of Scots to the Duke of Norfolk, the most powerful noble in England. They hoped this would help Mary to become Elizabeth's successor. However, nobles loyal to Elizabeth (such as the Earl of Leicester) had also been part of this plan, because they hoped this marriage would force Elizabeth to name a successor. These loyal nobles told Elizabeth about the plan.

8. After Elizabeth found out about the Norfolk plan, she summoned the Earls to court. They feared prison or execution. They may have thought their only option was to revolt.

9. After the failure of the Norfolk plot, their more hot-headed followers wanted the Earls to take action. Lady Westmorland encouraged her husband not to back down.

10. The Catholic rulers, Philip II of Spain and the Pope, appeared willing to support the revolt.

11. Government of the north of England was now carried out by the Council of the North, rather than by the traditional nobility.

12. The Earls wanted Mary to be recognised as Elizabeth's successor and for her imprisonment to end.



NORTHERN REBELLION 1569



- Westmoreland and Northumberland's **AIMS:**
 - Restore the Catholic faith
 - Restore the political power of the Northern nobility (nobles)
 - Remove evil councillors influencing the Queen away from the true faith (Catholicism)
- There was no mention of Mary, Queen of Scots or removing Elizabeth
- They weren't sure if they were to overthrow Elizabeth and replace her with Mary, Queen of Scots or just free Mary and have her named as heir, Elizabeth just moved Mary to a new prison!
- Westmoreland and Northumberland were not effective, brave or decisive leaders. As soon as they heard Sussex was moving toward them with a large royal army, they panicked and fled
- Most support for Westmoreland and Northumberland came from their own tenants, who had no choice to fight for them.
- Most English Catholics did not support the revolt
- Neither did the French, Spanish or Pope! Philip II didn't want Mary Queen because of her ties with France
- Elizabeth's government didn't panic, her officials in the north prevented key towns being taken and Elizabeth could easily raise a big army
- 700 people were executed for taking part – Perhaps suggesting she had been frightened?



NORTHERN REBELLION 1569



- On **A3** paper, you need to produce a detailed newspaper report on the rebellion.
- As a minimum it should include:
- **Reasons for the rebellion focusing on RELIGION & POLITICS**
- **An interview with all key members saying why they have rebelled**
- **A summary of Mary Queen of Scots story and importance**
- **The plan for the rebellion**
- **Key events of the rebellion**
- **The papal bull**
- **Significance (outcome) of the rebellion**

Page 41-45

You can use laptops for
pics to add to your
newspaper



HOW SIGNIFICANT WAS THE NORTHERN REBELLION?

- The first serious rebellion by English Catholics
- Treason laws became harsher and definition of treason refined
- Prompted harsher treatment of Catholics in England
- Majority of Catholics remained loyal
- Pope Pius VI excommunicated Elizabeth, his Papal Bull marked a turning point for English Catholics, their loyalty to the Queen would now always be in doubt - Loyalty to both was not possible and this was a direct order from The Pope

On your sheet, circle where the Northern Rebellion should be as a danger, in your books justify your decision.

1	2	3	4	5
The revolt had no chance of success	This revolt raised a slight concern for Elizabeth	This revolt had some chance of success	This revolt caused serious concern	This revolt had a high chance of success



NORTHERN REBELLION 1569



Does the Northern Rebellion help explain why Mary, Queen of Scots was executed in 1587?

Yes it can

It showed that as long as Mary was held in captivity in England there will always be Catholics who will rebel in order to free Mary & restore Catholicism

Elizabeth must have been frightened to order the execution of so many people who were involved

No it can't

The rebels did not come close to achieving their aims

It was another 18 years before Mary was executed, so it cant have been that important?



PLOT 2: RIDOLFI PLOT 1571

- Roberto Ridolfi was a spy for the pope, living in England
- **AIMS:**
 - Murder Elizabeth I
 - Launch a Spanish invasion
 - Put Mary Queen of Scots on the throne of England
 - Again, marry Duke of Norfolk to Mary
- Ridolfi left England to meet with the pope, Philip II and Alva with a letter from Norfolk saying he would lead the rebellion if Philip would support it. Philip agreed to send 10,000 men!
- Cecil & Walsingham uncovered the coded plot and proved that Norfolk was guilty again of treason
- Parliament was called in 1572, it demanded that Norfolk and Mary be executed, Elizabeth signed Norfolk's death warrant, but again refused to sign Mary's.



A handwritten signature of Elizabeth I in a highly decorative cursive script, featuring elaborate flourishes and loops.



HOW SIGNIFICANT WAS RIDOLFI PLOT?

- Coming so soon after the 1570 Papal Bull excommunicating Elizabeth, it reinforced the threat posed to Elizabeth from all Catholic sides
- It also reminded Elizabeth of the threat from Spain, as well as adding to the tension already building with the persecution of the Protestants in the Netherlands.
- It led to Elizabeth trying to improve relations with France as a buffer to Spain's threat.
- Pressure was put on Elizabeth to be harsher to Catholics in England, but a French massacre of Protestants in 1572 led to fear of a similar Catholic attack in England

What is the danger level of the Ridolfi Plot? 1-5

Explain (in your books) your reasoning for the level you have given



POPE INNOCENT X

The pope smuggled priests into England from 1574 to try and strengthen the Catholic resistance to Protestantism.

They stayed with Noble Catholic families. This was dangerous and Elizabeth began keeping these Nobles under surveillance

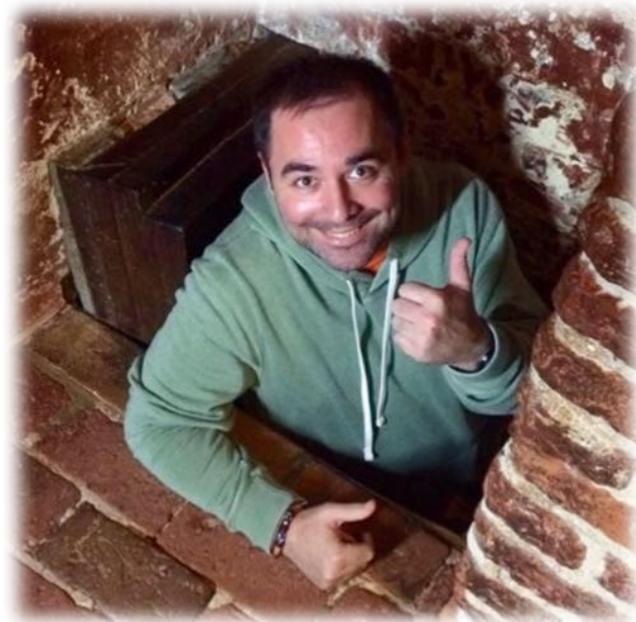


Government agents, under Walsingham (Elizabeth's spymaster) began raiding Catholic homes, any priests discovered risked being hanged, drawn and quartered. Priests hid in 'Priest holes' well hidden in these homes.

Source B

A raid on a Catholic house in Northamptonshire, described by a Catholic priest, John Gerard, who was staying there. He managed to hide in the priest hole without being caught.

There they were, straining and shouting to get through and search the house, yet they halted in an unlocked room just long enough to allow us to reach the hiding-place and shut ourselves safely in. Then they... burst into the lady's apartment while others raged round the remaining rooms.



'Priest hole' in Oxburgh Hall





HOW DID ELIZABETH RESPOND TO RISING DANGERS...

- In 1581, Parliament passed **2** laws against Catholics...
 - **Recusants would now be fined £20 – bankrupting most families**
 - **Attempting to convert people to Catholicism was now treason**

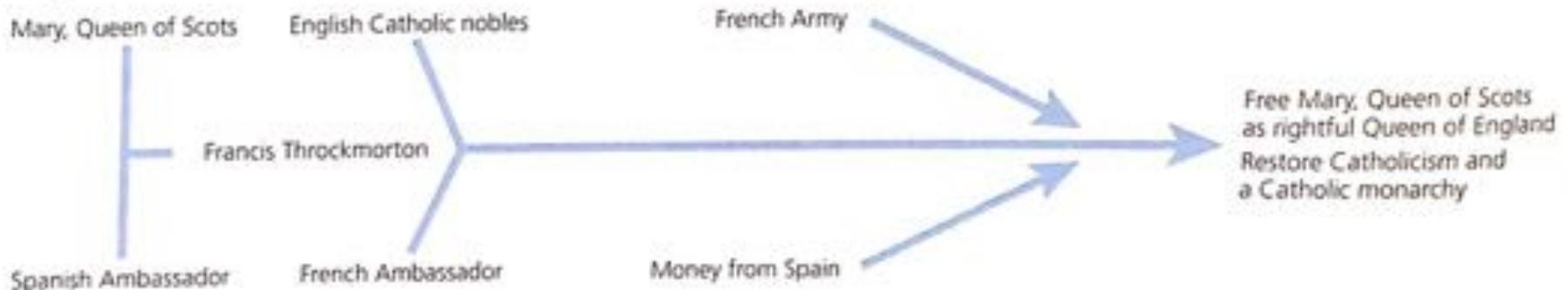
What do these laws, added to the priest raids, suggest about Elizabeth's state of mind? Or do you think these responses were still quite weak?



PLOT 3: THROCKMORTON PLOT 1583

- Francis Throckmorton, a young Englishman planned for
 - The French Duke of Guise, Mary's cousin, to invade England
 - Overthrow Elizabeth
 - Restore Catholicism
- Philip II would provide financial support
- The Pope also knew about the plot, and approved!
- Walsingham again, uncovered the plot, finding papers in Throckmorton's house. Mary's involvement was never proven
- Throckmorton was tortured and executed in 1584

The plotters and their aims



HOW SIGNIFICANT WAS THROCKMORTON?



- Again, it emphasised the threat from abroad
- Dutch leader William of Orange was executed, adding to Elizabeth's fears
- It also showed the potential threat if France & Spain joined forces
- Throckmorton's papers included a list of Catholic sympathisers suggesting that the government's fears of a 'threat within' was true and real
- Life became very hard for Catholics, they were treated with great suspicion. Many fled, 11,000 were imprisoned in the Tower, or kept under house arrest
- Concrete evidence against Mary was now priority
- Another law passed in Parliament in 1585 said
 - **Helping or sheltering Catholic priests would be punishable with death**

What is the danger level of the Throckmorton Plot (1-5)

Explain (in your books) your reasoning for the level you have given



PLOT 4: BABINGTON PLOT 1586

- Anthony Babington was an English Catholic with links to France
- **The plot:**
 - Murder Elizabeth I
 - Encouraged English Catholics to rebel
 - Again, Duke of Guise would invade with 60,000 troops putting Mary on the throne
 - Philip II & The Pope supported this plot
- Babington wrote to Mary about the plot, but she was very closely watched by 1586, her letters were intercepted by Walsingham's team from the beer barrels they were hidden in, and the codes had been cracked.
- Walsingham arrested 6 Catholics including Babington, who were all executed
- This time, Mary was tried by the Privy Council as there had been too many plots in her name!



HOW SIGNIFICANT WAS BABINGTON?

- This was especially significant as by 1585, relations between England and Spain had totally broken down and the English were supporting the Protestants in The Netherlands, as a result, Spain's support of it really could lead to success
- England was fully at war with Spain
- Elizabeth's government were now determined to crush Catholicism
- 300 recusants were arrested in North London alone, 31 priests were executed
- Mary would be executed as a result of this plot and thus, the end of a Catholic monarch replacing Elizabeth
- Last straw perhaps in leading to the Spanish Armada

What is the danger level of the Babington (1-5)

Explain (in your books) your reasoning for the level you have given



EXAM QUESTION

Exam-style question, section B

Describe **two** features of the plots against Elizabeth I in the years 1571–86.

4 marks

Exam tip

This question is worth only 4 out of a possible 32 marks. Although 4 marks can make a difference to your overall result, you should only spend about 4–6 minutes on it. This means you must be very clear and concise.



Warrant for the Execution of Mary Stuart Queen of Scots.

[The body of the document contains several columns of dense, handwritten text in an old script, which is largely illegible due to fading and blurring.]

[A handwritten signature or name, possibly "R. S. ...", is written in the lower right quadrant of the document.]



Mary Queen of Scot's death warrant



MARY'S JOURNEY: SUMMARY

Although Mary's trial took place in October 1586, Elizabeth would not sign her death warrant until 1 February 1587, and even then she refused to send it, blaming her secretary for its eventual arrival at Fotheringhay.

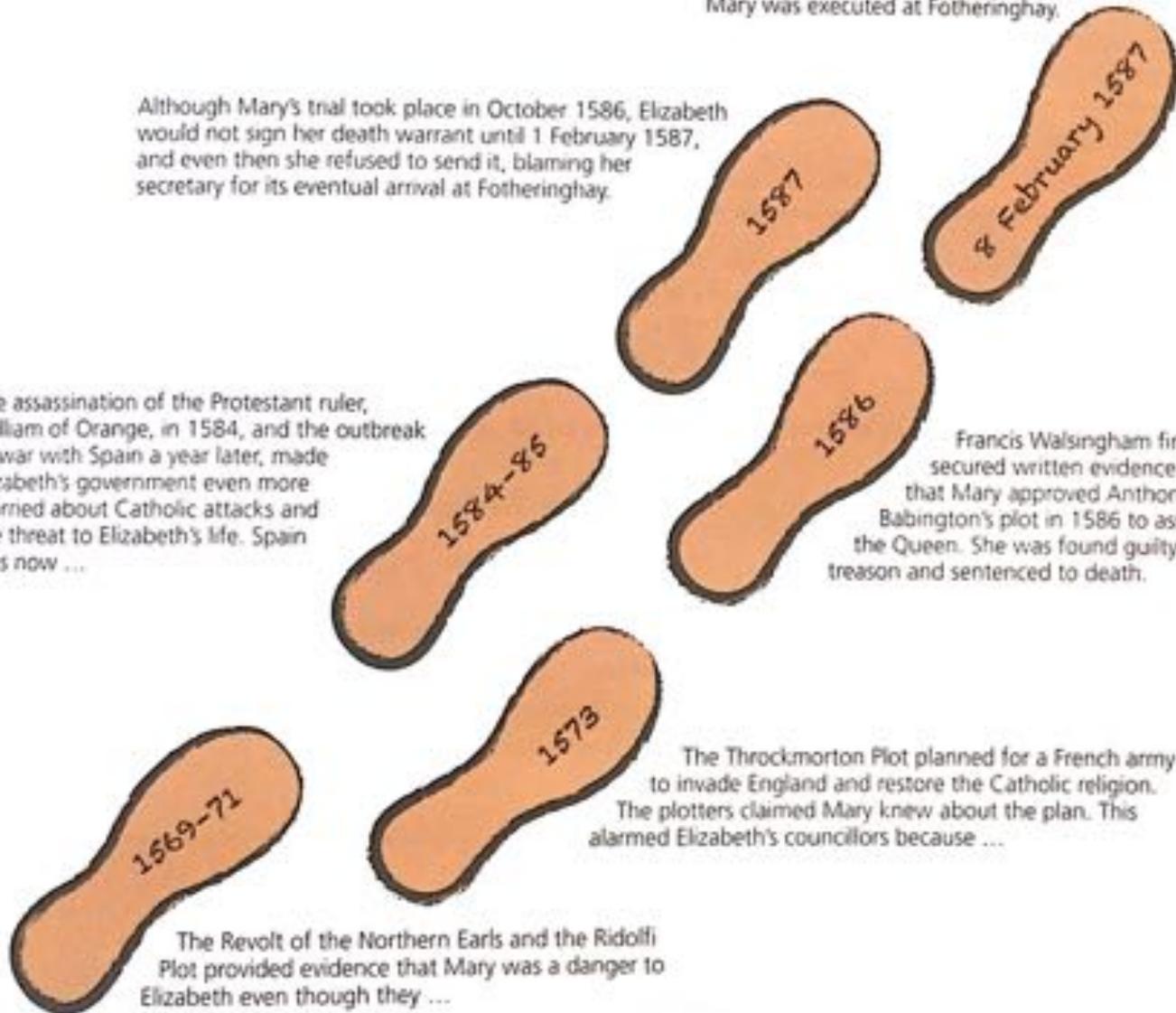
Mary was executed at Fotheringhay.

The assassination of the Protestant ruler, William of Orange, in 1584, and the outbreak of war with Spain a year later, made Elizabeth's government even more worried about Catholic attacks and the threat to Elizabeth's life. Spain was now ...

Francis Walsingham finally secured written evidence showing that Mary approved Anthony Babington's plot in 1586 to assassinate the Queen. She was found guilty of treason and sentenced to death.

The Throckmorton Plot planned for a French army to invade England and restore the Catholic religion. The plotters claimed Mary knew about the plan. This alarmed Elizabeth's councillors because ...

The Revolt of the Northern Earls and the Ridolfi Plot provided evidence that Mary was a danger to Elizabeth even though they ...



MARY'S EXECUTION

So why execute her now, after 20 years of plots and threats?

- A law passed in Parliament in 1585 (**The act for the preservation of the Queen's safety**) said in the event of Elizabeth's assassination, Mary was to be barred from the throne, therefore making it pointless killing Elizabeth! But also anyone involved in trying, would be executed Very clever! 😊
- Nothing could happen to Mary until her role had been investigated and a trial had found her guilty

Source C

Painted c1613. The execution of Mary, Queen of Scots, at Fotheringhay Castle on 8 February 1587.



- Walsingham's evidence was enough and she was found guilty under the above act.
- Elizabeth **FINALLY** signed the death warrant in February 1587
- It was also clear that Philip II was planning a major attack on England, so it was important to get rid of the prize for that invasion

Plots video



HOW SIGNIFICANT WAS MARY'S EXECUTION?

- The execution removed the target and prize of any future plot
- Philip II had been planning to invade England since 1585, the execution of a Catholic queen gave him one final reason to remove Elizabeth
- Mary left her claim to the English throne to Philip II on her death
- Mary would be executed as a result of this plot and thus, the end of a Catholic monarch replacing Elizabeth
- Last straw perhaps in leading to the Spanish Armada

Homework: Essay question

Explain how significant the threats Elizabeth I faced between 1569-88 were.



Summary

- The Revolt of the Northern Earls in 1569 was a serious rebellion focused on overthrowing Elizabeth I and restoring Catholicism.
- Elizabeth I's excommunication in 1570 put English Catholics in a difficult position between loyalty to their political leader, Elizabeth I, or their spiritual leader, the pope.
- Plots against Elizabeth were encouraged by Spain and the pope.
- Three other plots aiming to replace Elizabeth I with Mary, Queen of Scots, were Ridolfi (1571); Throckmorton (1583); and Babington (1586).
- Mary, Queen of Scots, was executed in 1587 after the Babington Plot.
- Plots against Elizabeth failed because Sir Francis Walsingham had an extensive network of spies and informers.
- Catholic priests were smuggled into England to support English Catholics.

Checkpoint

Strengthen

- S1** Give two pieces of evidence of each of the following factors in the Revolt of the Northern Earls in 1569.
- a** Political factors **b** Religious factors
- S2** Give one important outcome for each of the plots against Elizabeth I: the Revolt of the Northern Earls; the Ridolfi, Throckmorton and Babington plots.
- S3** Give three reasons why Sir Francis Walsingham's spy network was so effective.

Challenge

- C1** Give three reasons why the Revolt of the Northern Earls in 1569 was such a major threat to Elizabeth I.
- C2** Compare the threats to Elizabeth I from 1571–86. Which was the most serious and why?
- C3** Explain why Mary, Queen of Scots, was executed in 1587 and not earlier.

If you are not confident about any of these questions, your teacher can give you some hints.

