



Learning outcomes

- Understand the structure of Elizabethan society in 1558.
- Understand the circumstances Elizabeth I found herself in when she came to the throne, including the issue of her legitimacy.
- Understand the challenges Elizabeth faced, both at home and abroad, during the early years of her reign.
- know and understand how English society and government were organised
- know and understand what problems Elizabeth faced on becoming queen
- know and understand how Elizabeth dealt with the problems caused by England's religion
- know and understand why Mary, Queen of Scots, was a threat to Elizabeth.

What was England like in 1558?

Elizabeth's accession – was it smooth?



Learning outcomes

- Understand the structure of Elizabethan society in 1558.

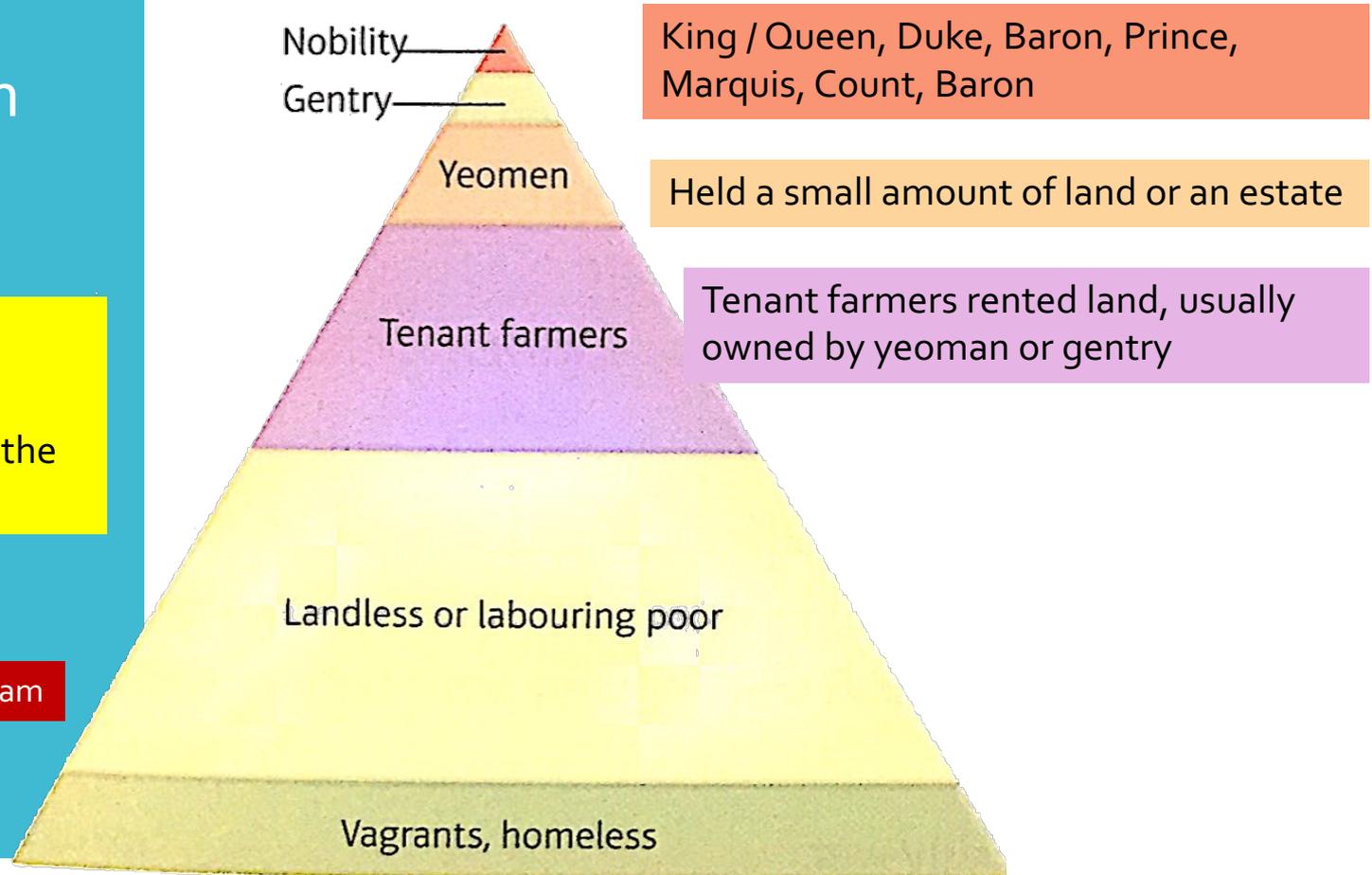
Society in 1558

Key fact:

90% of England's population lived in the countryside

Copy this diagram

Elizabethan England was violent and dangerous, there was no police force. In order to keep order, the Tudors relied on strict hierarchy and structure. Equality was not important to Elizabethans.



The social hierarchy of Elizabethan England

- Understand the structure of Elizabethan society in 1558.

Society in 1558

Describe 2 features of Elizabethan Society in 1558

[4 marks]

Q5a: Describe 2 features of ... in (date) [4]

A01(4) (knowledge)

(1-2 Marks) – K1 K2

- Identify 1 feature
- Add supporting information & knowledge

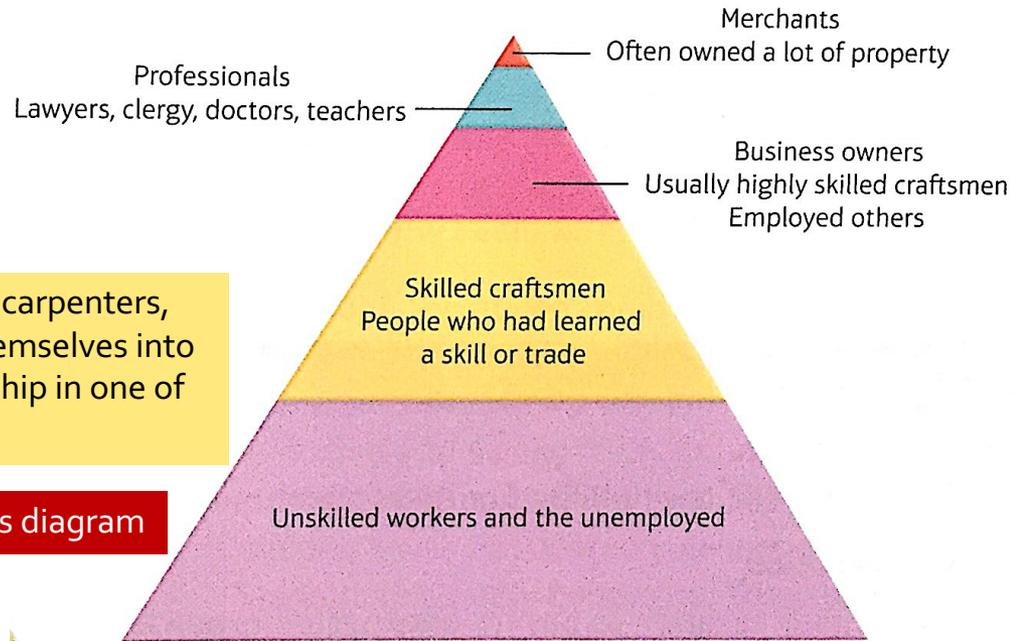
(3-4 Marks) –

- As above for a 2nd feature

TOWNS

Silversmiths, glovers, carpenters, tailors – organised themselves into guilds, an apprenticeship in one of these was 7 years

Copy this diagram



The social hierarchy of towns in Elizabethan England

In towns, the hierarchy was based on wealth and job. Wealthy merchants were at the top, followed by professionals, then skilled craftsmen. Unskilled labourers and unemployed were at the bottom of society

Wherever you were in society, you were obedient to those above you, and had to look out for those below you. Households were run in the same way – husband and father were head of the household, then his wife and children, then any servants (all of whom were expected to be obedient to him)

Fact reminder: England's population rose from 2-4 million in the Tudor period 1485-1603

MUST KNOW INFORMATION:

H/W:

Produce a leaflet guide to Tudor London

Due: Friday



Look familiar?



Why do you think so many people moved to London?

What impact might that have had on the living conditions and people's jobs?

- The most **important** city in England and largest city in **Europe**
- Tower of London
- Trade using the Thames
- Population of London rose from 50,000 in 1530 to 225,000 by Elizabeth's death in 1603

Trade:

- Wool Trade was **90%** of England's exports
- Most of London's trade was based on the cloth trade, which was the finished product of wool. Everybody wanted English cloth
- Europe's biggest trading port was Antwerp, keep in mind for the battles with Spain later, remember England's livelihood is on the wool & cloth trade...
- The numbers of **Gentry** rose in Elizabeth's reign because of their new wealth from the Wool Trade, they could now marry into the nobility! Good Times!

Government

Learning outcomes

- know and understand how English society and government were organised

Elizabethan government, like today, had many different features.

Different organisations had varying roles to keep England governed and running smoothly

Key terms:

Courtiers: Usually members of the nobility spending much of their lives in the court of Elizabeth I

Militia: A military force of ordinary people rather than soldiers, usually raised in an emergency

Extraordinary taxations: Occasional, additional taxation to pay for unexpected expenses, usually war

How does government work in Britain today?



Maybe these pictures will help?

Monarch



The Court

Parliament

Secretary of State



Privy Council



Local Government

Lords Lieutenant

Justices of the Peace / Sheriffs

On a clean page draw this spider diagram – Summarise the information on page 10-12 for each part of Elizabeth's government

The Monarch:

The government in Elizabethan England centered on the monarch, partly due to the belief in Divine Right Monarchy.

Elizabeth made all of the important decisions, taking advice from her Privy Council.



Other things Elizabeth could do:

- Declare war and make peace
- Call and dismiss parliament, and agree to, or reject, any laws they voted for – this is important as she needs Parliament, but they need her too!
- Rule in some legal cases, for example, if the law was unclear or if people appealed a judgement
- Grant titles, lands, money and jobs
- Marriage, succession and foreign affairs could only be decided by Elizabeth, this was her “Royal Prerogative”

To provide some one with an important job or position is known as **patronage**. This could involve a grant of land, a title or championing a cause. Patronage is a very effective way of getting support from people and controlling them. What the queen gave, she could also take away if displeased.

Why do you think Patronage could be useful in controlling the people?

Summary:

Responsibilities and duties of the monarch:



Decide policy on war, peace, **religion**, day to day running of government, appointing officials, building relationships with other countries, securing the succession and promoting economic growth & trade

Enforce policy, providing laws to protect people from crime and disorder. Dealing with threats to internal security and ensuring the courts work effectively



Raise money:

Collect money from the **ordinary** sources (rents, taxes, customs duties, fines etc)

Sometimes collecting from **extraordinary revenues** – asking Parliament at times of war or attack



The Secretary of State:



Sir William Cecil, Sec. State until 1573

Cecil was Elizabeth's chief advisor and oversaw the whole of government. He became Lord Treasurer in 1572 after being promoted, with a new title **LORD BURGHLEY** in 1571.



What can you infer from Burghley House about William Cecil?

Govt & Pment clip up to 1.50 mins



Court

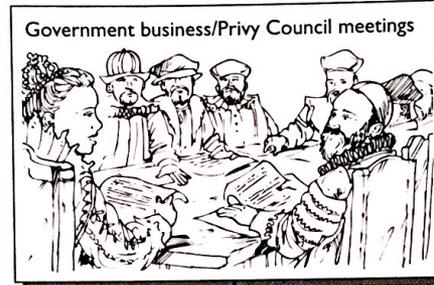
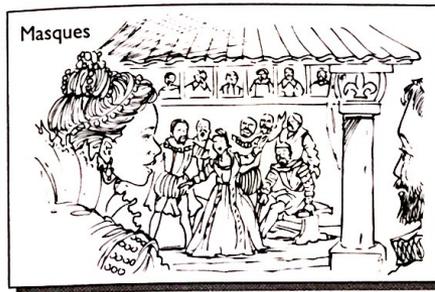


Robert Dudley was a favourite at Court

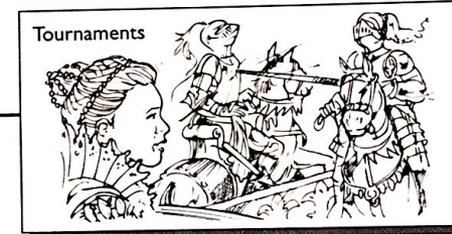
The Court was a body of people who lived in, or near, the same palace or house as the monarch. The court was made up of members of the nobility. They were the monarch's key servants, advisers and friends. Attending court required the monarch's permission and they were required to **entertain** and **advise** the monarch. As such, they could influence and persuade the monarch to take action in their best interests. Foreign visitors (ambassadors) would also be at court.



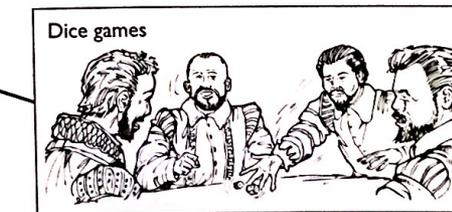
Life at Court



In the Queen's presence



In the Queen's absence



Privy Council



William Cecil, Secretary of State

The Privy Council was made up of leading advisers, as well as nobles and very senior government officials, like Sir William Cecil. There were approximately **19** (Elizabeth reduced the privy council from 50 in her sister Mary's reign, making it easier to control and manage) members on the Privy Council, chosen by the monarch. They met at least three times a week and debated current issues and made sure the monarch's final decisions were carried out. They made sure that the rest of government worked efficiently; monitoring the Justices of the Peace, influencing Parliament and keeping law and order.



Should I choose nobles and gentry because of their power and class, or the men who have the most ability?

My half-sister Mary's councillors are all Catholics. Should I get rid of them all or keep some because of their experience?

I need men I can trust. Should I just choose men I know from the past?

Should I choose people who all have the same opinions, or people with a range of different views?

I need the advice of powerful nobles, but I have to show I am in charge of them. This could be a difficult balancing act, much harder for a woman.



Listen to some of Elizabeth's concerns and think about what advice you can give her

Structure of the Privy Council

Secretary of State
This was the most important Privy councillor. He was the person Elizabeth was closest to and advised the queen on matters important to the Crown.

Lord Chamberlain
The Lord Chamberlain ran the household, supervised appointments and controlled access to the Privy Chamber.

Vice-chamberlain
The Vice-chamberlain assisted the Lord Chamberlain.

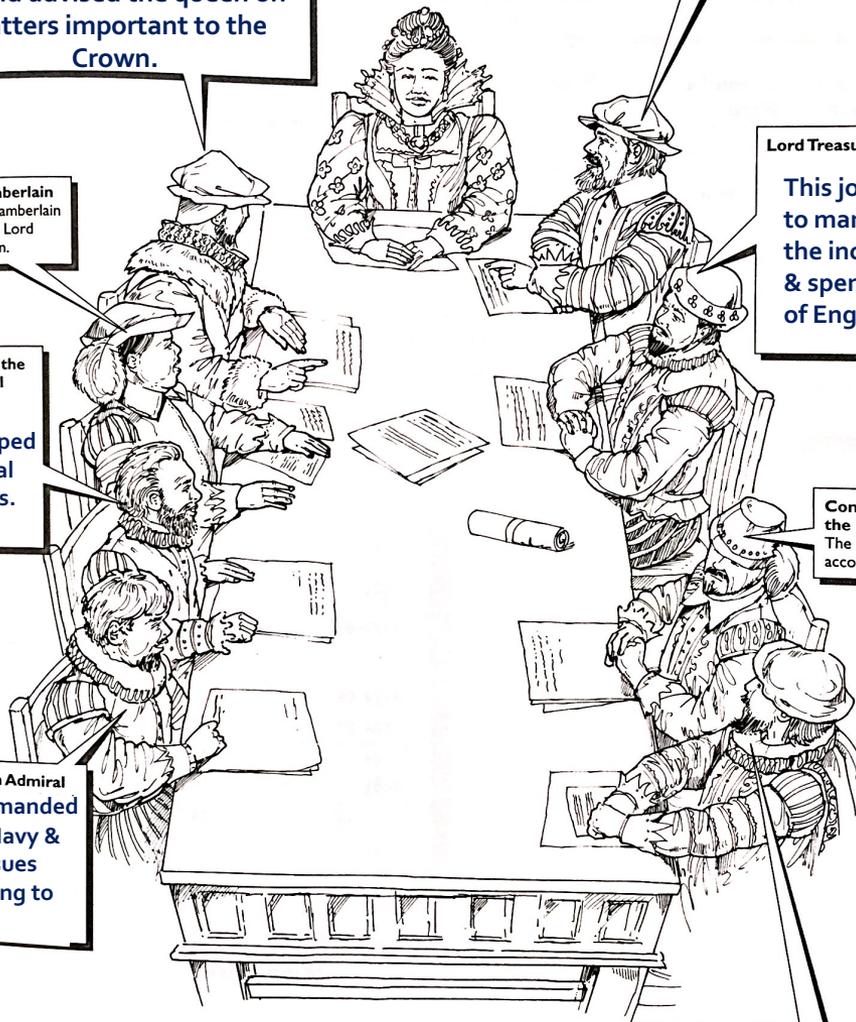
Lord Treasurer
This job was to manage the income & spending of England

Keeper of the Great Seal
Stamped legal docs.

Comptroller of the Household
The Household accountant

Lord High Admiral
Commanded the Navy & all issues relating to sea

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster
Managed the estates, militia and ££ of Lancaster



Parliament



House of Commons



House of Lords

- Parliament was made up of the House of Lords (which included bishops and nobles) and the House of Commons (members of the gentry).
- Parliament could only be called and dismissed by the monarch.
- Elizabeth I called parliament approximately ten times during her reign; usually so that they would grant her taxation (money collected from the people).
- Parliament passed new laws and offered advice to the queen.
- Although Elizabeth had a regular income, there were times when she needed more. Raising extraordinary taxation could only be done with parliament's agreement so Elizabeth needed parliament to govern effectively.
- Acts of Parliament (laws) could be enforced - As a result, any really important policies (usually to do with religion or the poor) were presented to parliament for its approval – They could ask Elizabeth for something in return though and she would need to compromise.
- Elizabeth used her Royal Prerogative to stop parliament discussing any issues she didn't want them discussing, mostly foreign affairs, the succession and her marriage

Elizabeth I sitting in parliament during the 16th Century



What can you see going on here?

Are there any signs to show power?

Are there any similarities to today's parliament?

Do you have any questions or observations?

There were no political parties, no prime minister, only wealthy men could vote or become MPs. Candidates up for election were decided by the Privy Council

How might this help Elizabeth?

Although MPs claimed the right to free speech, often they were sent to the Tower of London if they went too far, in Elizabeth's opinion

How might this give her more control?

Lords Lieutenant



- Each county had a Lord Lieutenant chosen by the monarch. They were members of the nobility and were often also on the Privy Council.
- They were essential to maintaining the monarch's power and England's defences.
- They were in charge of raising and training the local **militia** (soldiers) and overseeing county defences in case England was attacked.
- They ensured that the queen's laws were enforced by people far away from central government by giving orders to JPs.



Monarch

declare war and make peace
call and dismiss parliament, and agree to, or reject any laws they voted for
grant titles, lands, money, and jobs
reward people with land, a title or supporting their cause (Patronage)
Chosen by God (Divine Right)



The Court

Entertain and advise the monarch.
Public display of wealth and power.
Courtiers had influence with the monarch rather than actual power
Foreign ambassadors from every country

Secretary of State

Advised the queen on matters important to the Crown



Privy Council

Debate current issues and advise the monarch on government policy
Made sure the monarch's final decisions were carried out.
oversaw law and order, local government and the security of England
monitored Justices of the Peace
monitored what happened in Parliament

Local Government

Lords Lieutenant

in charge of raising and training the local militia and overseeing county defences
oversaw the enforcement of policies
part of the local government

Justices of the Peace / Sheriffs

made sure all social and economic policies were carried out.
heard county court cases every three months for more serious crimes.
Made sure punishments were given out

Parliament

grant extraordinary taxation
passed laws (Acts of Parliament)
offered advice to the monarch



Which of these parts of Government would be most important to Elizabeth and why?

Homework

Guide to Elizabethan Government

We have just arrived and conquered the east coast of America, we are going to call it Virginia, after our Virgin Queen.

We need to bring our form of government to our new colony

Create an easy but informative guide to Elizabeth's government to present to the natives who live in 'Virginia'

It should include the key features of the role and what they will do.

Use the Govt summary sheet and your government spider diagram as well as today's lesson



Courtier

Privy
Councillor

Parliament

Lord's
Lieutenant

Justice of the
Peace

Which of these 5 roles do you think is the MOST IMPORTANT in helping Elizabeth?

Why?



Write a JOB ADVERT for the role you think is the most important (or choose any other)

- 1) Describe the key features of the role
- 2) Explain what responsibilities of the role involved
- 3) Describe why the job was important to the queen

