

## Religion in Elizabethan England – a macro view

Stage 1: Elizabeth's Pretty Lenient [11 years]					Stage 2: The Threats Mount [13 years]				
1559	1566	1568	1569	1570	1570	1571	1571	1574	1580
<b>Religious Settlement</b> This was Elizabeth's plan to have a 'middle way' in religion. Catholics had a place in a Protestant Church, e.g they could use a Latin Bible and worship at home provided they went to a Protestant Church, too. Elizabeth kept bishops' robes.	<b>Puritan Bishop Robes</b> Puritans told that they have to wear the Bishop robes to remain in the Church of England.	<b>Puritan Conformity</b> Conformity confirmed when Elizabeth gets tough. Some Presbyterian Puritans leave at this point.	<b>Northern Rebellion</b> Began when Norfolk wants to marry Mary QOS & Elizabeth says no. 4,600 men march on London, but deterred by Sussex's army. Norfolk under house arrest, Northumberland executed. 700 men executed as a message.	<b>Excommunication</b> The Pope, the Head of the Catholic Church, released a Papal Bull of Excommunication, officially saying Elizabeth will go to hell. English Catholics under pressure over who to follow: the Pope or their Queen.	<b>Propheying</b> Meetings of Puritan Clergy where they discussed scripture & criticise the Church/ Elizabeth become popular. Elizabeth wanted Archbishop Grindal to stop them, but he refuses to. He was suspended because of this.	<b>Catholics Restricted</b> First laws came into effect restricting Catholics. Fines were imposed upon Catholics who didn't go to Church (recusants), and rosary beads banned in public. However, not strictly enforced, especially in Catholic areas e.g the North.	<b>Ridolfi Plot</b> Led by Italian Banker, Roberto Ridolfi, he saw a Catholic plot in England needs foreign support. Working with Norfolk, he plotted French & Spanish involvement & Mary QOS on throne. Code breaker under Norfolk's door; executed as a result.	<b>First Missionaries Arrive in England</b> The College at Douai was set up in 1568 by Cardinal William Allen to train missionary priests to go back to England & convert people back to Catholicism. The first of these priests arrived in 1574.	<b>Jesuits Arrive in England</b> The College of the Jesuits (founded 1540) aimed to convert people back to Catholics. The first arrived in England in 1580. Elizabeth saw them as a major threat, and banned them in 1585.
Change for Puritans: VP / P / QP / Neu / QN/ N / VN – why?					Change for Puritans: VP / P / QP / Neu / QN/ N / VN – why?				
Change for Catholics: VP / P / QP / Neu / QN/ N / VN – why?					Change for Catholics: VP / P / QP / Neu / QN/ N / VN – why?				

Stage 2: The Threats Mount Cont [13 years]				Stage 3: Elizabeth Gets Tough(er) [4 years]					
1580	1580	1581	1583	1583	1585	1585	1586	1586	1587
<b>First Puritan Separatist Church</b> First Separatist Church from Puritans in Norwich. Its founder, Robert Browne, was arrested but later released. Elizabeth was unimpressed with this development, increasingly seeing Puritans as a threat.	<b>Campion's Mission</b> Robert Parsons & Edmund Campion (Jesuits) return & disguise selves as jewel sellers to travel and convert Englishmen. Tortured on the rack, convicted of treason & hung, drawn and quartered.	<b>Catholic Restrictions Enforced</b> The laws put into effect against Catholics in 1571 were now increased & strictly enforced. Converting to Catholicism became treason, punishable by death.	<b>Throckmorton Plot</b> Led by Throckmorton, it was a plot to assassinate Elizabeth & replace her with Mary QOS. Then, French Catholic Henry, Duke of Guise, would invade. Throckmorton executed, Mary QOS even closer guard.	<b>Whitgyft appointed</b> John Whitgyft appointed Archbishop of Canterbury to replace Grindal. Whitgyft shared Elizabeth's distrust of Puritans and a period of intensifying restrictions on Puritans began.	<b>More restrictions on Catholics</b> Any new Catholic priest was considered a traitor and he or anyone protecting him could be sentenced to death. It became legal to kill anyone who attempted to assassinate the queen	<b>Troops sent to the Netherlands</b> After almost 20 years of Spain fighting rebel Dutch Protestants, Elizabeth finally sent Dudley with 7,000 men to support the Protestants. Although largely unsuccessful, this was still an act of war against Spain.	<b>Clitherow executed</b> Margaret Clitherow of York was caught hiding a Jesuit priest in her home. She refused to confess, aware that this would mean her family would lose out. She was crushed to death with huge rocks on Ouse Bridge, York.	<b>Babington Plot</b> Anthony Babington planned to Elizabeth & replace her with Mary QOS. He wanted to know if Mary supported him, so wrote in coded letters in her beer barrels. She replied yes, but Walsingham had read everything.	<b>Mary QOS Executed</b> Mary QOS was put on trial in October 1586 and sentenced to death. Elizabeth hesitated to sign the death warrant until she finally did on 2/2/1587 – one week later, Mary was executed at Fotheringhay Castle.
Change for Puritans: VP / P / QP / Neu / QN/ N / VN – why?				Change for Puritans: VP / P / QP / Neu / QN/ N / VN – why?					
Change for Catholics: VP / P / QP / Neu / QN/ N / VN – why?				Change for Catholics: VP / P / QP / Neu / QN/ N / VN – why?					

Stage 4: Elizabeth's Won (Practically) [7 years]				
1588	1588	1590	1592	1595
<b>Armada Attacks</b> Mary's execution was the final straw for Philip II. He launched 151 ships to invade England, with 54,000 men. But, the English used 8 fireships before defeating Spain at Gravelines. Weather then destroyed the fleet. Catholics largely accepted their Protestant Queen.	<b>Dudley dies</b> Robert Dudley, the Queen's former flame, died. He was a Puritan and had helped to soften attacks on them. He had also helped defeat the Armada.	<b>Walsingham dies</b> Walsingham, the Queen's spymaster who had discovered evidence against Mary QOS, died. He was also a Puritan and had helped to soften attacks on Puritans.	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Puritan Separatist Church</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> attempt by Puritans to establish a separate church, this time in London. Its leaders, Henry Barrow & John Greenwood, were hanged.	<b>Statute of Confinement on Catholics</b> This final law against Catholics enacted in Elizabeth's reign said they couldn't go more than 5 miles from their home without permission.
Change for Puritans: VP / P / QP / Neu / QN/ N / VN – why?				
Change for Catholics: VP / P / QP / Neu / QN/ N / VN – why?				

What is this? This is a macro which covers all of the religious changes and issues in Elizabeth's reign. It will help you to make links – however, it is not all of the information you need for each event. It is an overview.

What do I do with it?

- 1) Read each box. In the bottom right of every box, give a score /5 for how much this event was a change for this group. (You may want to have two colours, one for Protestants, one for Catholics).
- 2) Once you have read it all, you may wish to go back and change earlier answers. That's fine.
- 3) You will see that the boxes are split into 'stages'. For each stage, you need to say whether the change was positive or negative for each religious side and why. The letters stand for:  
VP – Very Positive, P – Positive, Q – Quite Positive, Neu – Neutral, QN – Quite Negative, N – Negative, VN – Very Negative.  
Then, explain why you have said that.
- 4) Make a judgement on the PACE (speed) of change – how quickly are things changing?
- 5) CHALLENGE: is there anything else that should be on this sheet? Justify your thoughts.

