

GCSE History:

Paper Two




Early Elizabethan England
1558-1588

Option B4: Early Elizabethan England, 1558–88

Key topic 1: Queen, government and religion, 1558–69	
1 The situation on Elizabeth's accession	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabethan England in 1558: society and government. The Virgin Queen: the problem of her legitimacy, gender, marriage. Her character and strengths. Challenges at home and from abroad: the French threat, financial weaknesses.
2 The 'settlement' of religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religious divisions in England in 1558. Elizabeth's religious settlement (1559): its features and impact. The Church of England: its role in society.
3 Challenge to the religious settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nature and extent of the Puritan challenge. The nature and extent of the Catholic challenge, including the role of the nobility, Papacy and foreign powers.
4 The problem of Mary, Queen of Scots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mary, Queen of Scots: her claim to the English throne, her arrival in England in 1568. Relations between Elizabeth and Mary, 1568–69.
Key topic 2: Challenges to Elizabeth at home and abroad, 1569–88	
1 Plots and revolts at home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reasons for, and significance of, the Revolt of the Northern Earls, 1569–70. The features and significance of the Ridolfi, Throckmorton and Babington plots. Walsingham and the use of spies. The reasons for, and significance of, Mary Queen of Scots' execution in 1587.
2 Relations with Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political and religious rivalry. Commercial rivalry. The New World, privateering and the significance of the activities of Drake.
3 Outbreak of war with Spain, 1585–88	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English direct involvement in the Netherlands, 1585–88. The role of Robert Dudley. Drake and the raid on Cadiz: 'Singeing the King of Spain's beard'.
4 The Armada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spanish invasion plans. Reasons why Philip used the Spanish Armada. The reasons for, and consequences of, the English victory.
Key topic 3: Elizabethan society in the Age of Exploration, 1558–88	
1 Education and leisure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education in the home, schools and universities. Sport, pastimes and the theatre.
2 The problem of the poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reasons for the increase in poverty and vagabondage during these years. The changing attitudes and policies towards the poor.
3 Exploration and voyages of discovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Factors prompting exploration, including the impact of new technology on ships and sailing and the drive to expand trade. The reasons for, and significance of, Drake's circumnavigation of the globe.
4 Raleigh and Virginia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The significance of Raleigh and the attempted colonisation of Virginia. Reasons for the failure of Virginia.

Timeline of Early Elizabethan England

1558-1588

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- 1558 Elizabeth I is crowned Queen of England after the death of her sister Mary I.
 - 1559 Elizabeth implements her religious settlement, including the Act of Supremacy, Act of Uniformity and the Royal Injunctions.
 - 1560 Treaty of Edinburgh was signed.
 - 1566 Dutch Revolt.
 - 1568 Mary, Queen of Scots, flees to England from Scotland.
 - 1569 The Revolt of the Northern Earls to place Mary, Queen of Scots on the throne.
 - 1570 Pope Pius V excommunicates Elizabeth from the Catholic Church.
 - 1571 The Ridolfi Plot.
 - 1572 Vagabonds Act.
 - 1576 Poor Relief Act.
 - The Spanish Fury and Pacification of Ghent.
 - 1577-80 Francis Drake, circumnavigates the world and is knighted in 1580 on the deck of the Golden Hind.
 - 1583 The Throckmorton Plot
 - 1584 Treaty of Joinville
 - 1585 All Catholic Priests were ordered to leave England.
 - Treaty of Nonsuch
 - War begins with England and Spain
 - First English colony in Virginia is established.
 - 1586 The Babington Plot
 - Surviving colonists abandon Virginia and return to England.
 - 1587 Mary, Queen of Scots was executed.
 - Colony in Roanoke is established.
 - Drake 'singes the King of Spain's 'beard' by leading an assault on the Spanish fleet in Cadiz harbour.
 - 1588 Philip II of Spain launches the Armada but the Spanish are ultimately defeated at The Battle of Gravelines.
 - 1590 English sailors arrive at Roanoke to find it abandoned.

Glossary of key terms
Early Elizabethan England
1558-1588

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Act of Supremacy	A law passed in 1559 that recognised Elizabeth I as the supreme governor of the Church of England.
Act of Uniformity	A law passed in 1559 that reinstated the English book of common prayer and said all services were required to follow the order of prayer.
Monopoly licence	A royal licence which gave individuals the sole right to manufacture or sell a product.
Parliament	The law-making body of a country.
Privy Council	A group of senior politicians who advise the monarch.
Puritan	Strict Protestants who wanted to get rid of ritual in church services and lead a plain and simple life.
Sovereign	A person who has supreme authority or power – A monarch.
Succession	The issue of who was going to succeed the throne after the death of the existing monarch.
Roman Catholic	A form of Christianity followed throughout the whole of Western Europe until the 16 th Century. A Roman Catholic has an allegiance to the Pope, head of the Catholic Church.
Reformation	A challenge to the teachings and power of the Roman Catholic Church. This movement is said to have begun in Europe in 1517.
Recusants	Catholics who were unwilling to attend church services laid down by the Elizabethan religious settlement.
Heretics	People who deny the teaching of the Catholic Church
Papacy	The system of Church government ruled by the Pope.
Excommunicated	A severe punishment, imposed by the Pope, expelling people from the Catholic Church
Conspiracy	A secret plan with the aim of doing something against the law
Papal Bull	A written order issued by the Pope (Head of the Catholic Church)
Foreign Policy	The aims and objectives that guide a nation's relations with other countries.
New World	North and South America. Europeans were only aware of their existence from 1492.
Privateer	Individuals with their own-armed ships that capture other ships for their cargoes, often with the support of their government.

Feedback from the 2019 exam series about Explain questions from Edexcel.

- Most students were able to accurately develop from the stimulus (bullet) points but sometimes it wasn't in as much detail as the bullet points given by the exam board.
- Other common mistakes were that students covered the wrong detail that did not match the question and therefore could not be awarded any additional marks.
- The highest awarded answers (Level 4) were often written in chronological order when completing three paragraphs. At Level 3, students were able to explain the importance of two to three of these points but did not consistently analyse all three points. At Level 2, students were often able to provide a narrative of the events of what the question was asking but they struggled to address the conceptual focus of the question. **There were a disappointing number of blank responses.**
- Most students produced a complete response of reasonable length, indicating that the time given was fair to answer the question, although many students included an introduction and conclusion, rather than spending time developing their analysis of their chosen points of content.

Mark scheme for a 12 mark Elizabeth exam question.

		<p>Target: Analysis of second order concepts: causation [AO2]; Knowledge and understanding of features and characteristics [AO1]. AO2: 6 marks. AO1: 6 marks.</p>
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
1	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A simple or generalised answer is given, lacking development and organisation. [AO2] • Limited knowledge and understanding of the topic is shown. [AO1]
2	4–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation is given showing limited analysis and with implicit or unsustained links to the conceptual focus of the question. It shows some development and organisation of material, but a line of reasoning is not sustained. [AO2] • Accurate and relevant information is included, showing some knowledge and understanding of the period. [AO1] <p><i>Maximum 5 marks for Level 2 answers that do not go beyond aspects prompted by the stimulus points.</i></p>
3	7–9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An explanation is given, showing some analysis, which is mainly directed at the conceptual focus of the question. It shows a line of reasoning that is generally sustained, although some passages may lack coherence and organisation. [AO2] • Accurate and relevant information is included, showing good knowledge and understanding of the required features or characteristics of the period studied. [AO1] <p><i>Maximum 8 marks for Level 3 answers that do not go beyond aspects prompted by the stimulus points.</i></p>
4	10–12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analytical explanation is given which is directed consistently at the conceptual focus of the question, showing a line of reasoning that is coherent, sustained and logically structured. [AO2] • Accurate and relevant information is precisely selected to address the question directly, showing wide-ranging knowledge and understanding of the required features or characteristics of the period studied. [AO1] <p><i>No access to Level 4 for answers which do not go beyond aspects prompted by the stimulus points.</i></p>

(b) Explain why Raleigh's first colony in Virginia failed.

(12)

You may use the following in your answer:

- the native Algonquians
- damage to the ship, *The Tiger*

You **must** also use information of your own.

~~The first~~ Raleigh's first colony in Virginia failed for a number of reasons. One of which included the fact that the colonists were unable to set up/sustain a strong farm. Raleigh wanted at least 300 colonists to be sent to Virginia, but instead only 107 were sent over. Very little of these colonists were farmers, but even the farmers that were sent to Virginia refused to farm for the other 'higher classes' as they were promised land for their own to farm; they weren't going to be used for cheap labour. This left inexperienced soldiers, merchants etc. unable to farm for themselves.

There ~~was~~ ^{were} also other reasons limiting farming. Firstly, the voyage to Virginia was delayed, meaning that by the time they arrived the conditions (weather, season etc) were not suitable for farming. Secondly, during the voyage, the colonists

largest ship, The Tiger, sustained damage to its hull, causing the lower decks to be flooded. In the lower decks was stored food for the colonists, but also the resources needed to start a farm.

Farms could not be made, so this made the colonists dependent on the food they brought with them, ~~as~~ but mainly dependent on the ~~the~~ native Algonquians ^{who} supplied food. The leader of the Algonquians, Chief Wingina, was at first welcoming to the colonists. But soon he turned on them, as the colonists were draining the natives' resources, but he also turned on them due to his own superstitions.

When the colonists arrived from England, they had brought along common disease as well; disease that could not be found in Virginia. The disease spread to Wingina's people, causing many to become ill and die. Wingina saw this as magic, and believed the colonists served an evil God as soon as the colonists arrived, the natives suddenly

started dying.

Other members of the colonists included merchants. They were promised by Elizabeth that they would find rare raw materials in Virginia, like raw metals, that they could then sell for a high price. They were annoyed when they found no rare materials waiting for them. Other specialists like bakers and weavers, were left with nothing to do as even though they were skilled in their arts, they lacked the basic materials needed to do their jobs.

Inexperienced colonists (arming-wind, ~~delayed~~ delaying in departure, loss of resources from the Tiger and the turning of the natives) can all be blamed for the reason Walter Raleigh's first ~~experiment~~ colony in Virginia failed.



This candidate has maintained a strong focus on the concept of the question throughout and has analysed the material to provide a sustained and logical answer to the question with some impressive links across the points made. The evidence in this response demonstrates both depth and breadth of knowledge and understanding, with the key issues explained and evidenced with precisely selected content – sometimes two or three pieces per point of analysis. This response was awarded full marks.

Explain why Philip II launched the Armada against England in 1588

You may use the following in your answer:

- England's involvement in the Netherlands
- Drake's attacks on Spain's colonies in America

You must also use information of your own

	<u>England's involvement in the Netherlands</u>	<u>Drake's attacks on Spain's colonies in America</u>
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Explain why the attempt to colonise Virginia in 1585-86 was a failure.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The colonists
- Wingina

You must also use information of your own

<u>The Colonists</u>		<u>Wingina</u>
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Explain why there were challenges from the Catholics to Elizabeth's religious settlement.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Catholic features in Church
- Catholic concerns over the acts of the settlement

You must also use information of your own

<u>Catholic features in church</u>	<u>Catholic concerns over the acts of the settlement</u>	

Explain why the Spanish Armada was defeated.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Superior English Ships
- The weather

You must also use information of your own

	<u>Superior English ships</u>	<u>The weather</u>

Explain why Acts of Parliament were passed in Elizabeth's reign to help the poor.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Inflation
- Enclosure

You must also use information of your own

<u>Inflation</u>		<u>Enclosure</u>
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Explain why the Babington Plot was a threat to Queen Elizabeth.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Mary, Queen of Scots
- Spain

You must also use information of your own

<u>Spain</u>		<u>Mary, Queen of Scots</u>
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Explain why Elizabeth I was able to successfully enforce her religious settlement in the years 1558-1569.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Act of Supremacy
- Visitations

You must also use information of your own

	<u>The At of Supremacy</u>	<u>Visitations</u>

Explain why Mary, Queen of Scots was executed in 1587.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Papal Bull of excommunication (1570)
- The Babington Plot (1586)

You must also use information of your own

	<u>The Papal Bull of excommunication (1570)</u>	<u>The Babington Plot (1586)</u>

Explain why Mary, Queen of Scots was a danger to Elizabeth I in the years 1568-1587.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Duke of Norfolk
- The Babington Plot

You must also use information of your own

	<u>The Duke of Norfolk</u>	<u>The Babington Plot</u>

Explain why Philip II had decided, by the end of 1585, to prepare an Armada to invade England.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Francis Drake
- The Netherlands

You must also use information of your own

<u>Francis Drake</u>		<u>The Netherlands</u>

Explain why Elizabeth I sent troops to the Netherlands at the end of 1585.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The Duke of Alencon
- The Treaty of Joinville in 1584

You must also use information of your own

<u>The Duke of Alencon</u>		<u>The Treaty of Joinville in 1584</u>
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Explain why Anglo-Spanish relations declined 1580-1588.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Francis Drake
- The Netherlands

You must also use information of your own

<u>Francis Drake</u>		<u>The Netherlands</u>
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Explain why the Elizabethans colonised Virginia.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Improvements in ships
- wealth

You must also use information of your own

	<u>Wealth</u>	<u>Improvements in ships</u>

Explain why the Elizabethans undertook voyages of discovery.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Improvements in ships
- wealth

You must also use information of your own

<u>Wealth</u>		<u>Improvements in ships</u>

Explain why vagrancy increased in Elizabethan England in the years 1558-88.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Population growth
- Sheep farming

You must also use information of your own

<u>Population Growth</u>		<u>Sheep farming</u>
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Explain why Elizabeth faced challenges both at home and abroad in the years 1558-68.

You may use the following in your answer:

- The religious settlement
- Mary, Queen of Scots' arrival in England (1568)

You must also use information of your own

<u>The religious settlement</u>		<u>Mary, Queen of Scots' arrival in England (1568)</u>
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