

Invaders challenged Elizabeth

- Philip of Spain sent 170 ships called an Armada to invade England in 1588. They sailed in a crescent formation so it would be hard to attack.
- The Armada was spotted off the coast of England and beacons were lit.
- Elizabeth spoke to her troops wearing white and silver on a white horse. She said “I know I have the body of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and a king of England too”
- The Spanish had to dock at Calais to pick up soldiers from the Netherlands (Holland) before invading England. But they weren't ready. Whilst docked at Calais, Sir Francis Drake attacked the Spanish using 8 Fireships. The Spanish panicked, cut their anchors and sailed away. They were attacked again and again by the English.
- As the Spanish fled they were hit by storms of the coast of Scotland and Ireland. Nearly every ship was damaged. Food on board went mouldy and they didn't have enough water. Many were killed as they tried to get ashore in Ireland. Only half returned to Spain.
- Philip of Spain's attempt at invading was a failure but the threat of religious violence never went away.

Elizabeth was judged by her image

- Elizabeth had strict control of her image so that she appeared strong and powerful. She also wanted to appear attractive to potential husbands. She approved all paintings and used signs and symbols to promote a strong image. 200 portraits were painted by Elizabeth only sat for 8. This is propaganda. However when she died of blood poisoning in 1603 she had no control over what was painted.
- Artists filled Elizabeth's pictures with signs and symbols to make her appear youthful, attractive, rich, powerful, religious, all seeing and hearing, a messenger from God, wise (clever) strong enough to have many children.

Elizabeth was challenged by the problem of religion

- Elizabeth tried to introduce the Middle way – a compromise between Catholics and Protestants but extremists plotted against her and she had to fine, banish and execute her opponents. Elizabeth called herself the Governor of the Church of England
- Her execution of her catholic cousin Mary Queen of Scots led to the Pope encouraging King Philip of Spain to invade England.
- Sir Francis Walsingham was Elizabeth's spy master and sought out Catholic priests and leading Catholics. Priests were tried for treason. Recusants who paid so they didn't have to go to a protestant church found out they had to pay higher fines. Those who couldn't pay were forced to leave the country.

Elizabeth was challenged by the problem of heirs

Despite pressure from Parliament Elizabeth refused to marry but she refused. Consequently she had no children and named her cousin James VI of Scotland

Storm wrecks ships
Off coast of Scotland and
Ireland

½ return home
food mouldy
and no water

Docked at Calais to pick up
Soldiers from Netherlands

Invaders

English sent 8
fireships

1588

Beacons lit to
warn England

Soldiers to pick up



170 ships sent
Crescent
formation

Docked at Calais to pick up
from Netherlands
Elizabeth made
Inspiring speech
"heart of a
King"

Religion

Heirs



Image