



History Revision Booklet

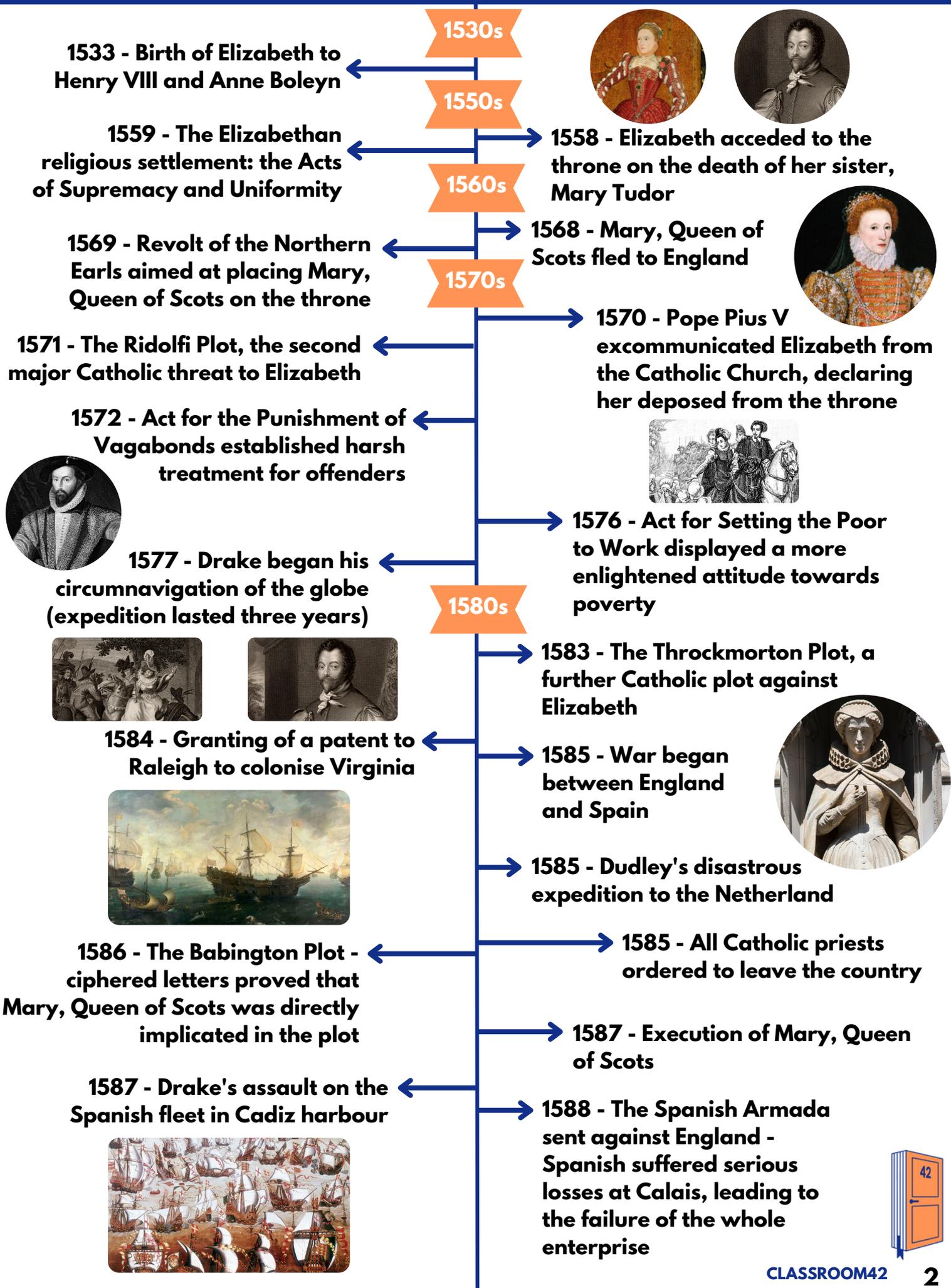
Early Elizabethan England, 1558-88

Name: _____

Class: _____



EARLY ELIZABETHAN ENGLAND, 1558-88 TIMELINE



Societal hierarchy

1. Nobility
2. Gentry
3. Yeomen
4. Tenant farmers
5. Landless/working poor
6. Homeless and beggars

Contemporary belief that women could not rule well

Increasing poverty due to high taxation and poor harvests

Many (especially Catholics) thought she was illegitimate

Problems facing Elizabeth I

The Crown was £300,000 in debt
Ongoing war with France



- Self-confident
- Indecisive
- Protestant
- Unmarried
- 'Virgin Queen'

Monarch → divine right to rule, absolute authority

Parliament → Lords + Commons, advised Elizabeth's government

Privy Council → nobles chosen by Elizabeth to govern country



Religion in England

- Church of England important part of life and preached government's message, people paid 10% tax (tithes) to Church
- England officially Catholic but people heavily divided - Reformation questioned Catholic Church teachings
- Huge tensions between Catholics (supported Pope, majority in North and West), Protestants (no Pope, majority in London and East), Puritans (strict Protestants, found in London)

Elizabeth's religious settlement

- Attempt to quell religious tensions
- Act of Supremacy made Elizabeth Supreme Governor of Church of England, removing power from Catholic Pope, clergy swore oath of allegiance to her
- Act of Uniformity made Protestantism England's official religion, set out rules for Churches, prayer book retained some Catholic traditions as a compromise
- Most ordinary people accepted, 8,000 out of 10,000 priests took Oath of Supremacy, but only 1 bishop - largely successful, 27 new Protestant bishops appointed

QUEEN, GOVERNMENT AND RELIGION, 1558-69

Relations between Mary and Elizabeth

- Casket Letters Affair - letters found allegedly written by Mary which implicate her in husband's murder - ensured Elizabeth's support for James VI rather than Mary
- York Conference (1569) - investigation of possible wrongdoing by Mary, used Casket Letters as evidence

Crucifix Controversy - refused to display Catholic crucifixes in Churches, not challenged by Elizabeth

Vestment Controversy - refused to wear the vestments, 37 priests resigned in 1566



Extent of challenge very small

Puritan challenge to settlement

Wanted a stricter Protestant Church

1/3 nobility and gentry (mostly in North and West) became recusants, refusing to attend Church, powerful threat compared to ordinary people

Political threat posed by Catholic France and Spain, angered by Elizabeth's support for Protestants in France's religious war (1562)



- Catholic Queen of Scotland
- Elizabeth's cousin descended from Henry VIII's sister - no denying her legitimacy
- Elizabeth sent money and troops to Protestant rebels in Scotland, rebellion ended with the Treaty of Edinburgh (1560), Mary had to give up claim to English throne
- 1568 - Escaped prison and fled to England after suspicion of Mary's involvement in husband's death forced her to abdicate

Catholic challenge to settlement

European Catholic Church began 'Counter Reformation' against Protestantism

Pope excommunicated Elizabeth in 1570, which encouraged foreign attacks



Queen, government and religion, 1558-69

Quiz Questions

Take 5 minutes to study the Cheat Sheet on this topic, then see how many questions you can get right without looking!



1. Identify two problems facing Elizabeth I:

2. What role did the Church of England play in English society?

3. What Act made Elizabeth Supreme Governor of the Church of England?

4. What year did the Pope excommunicate Elizabeth?

5. Describe one feature of Puritan challenge to the religious settlement:

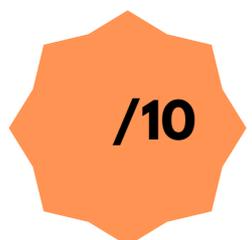
6. What proportion of nobility and gentry became recusants as part of the Catholic challenge to the religious settlement?

7. How did the casket letters damage relations between Elizabeth and Mary?

8. What role did the Privy Council play in English government?

9. Which religion did Elizabeth change England's official religion to?

10. Identify one feature of Elizabeth I's character:



Ridolfi Plot (1571) ➔ **Roberto Ridolfi** (spy for **Pope**) convinced **pain** to raise troops for invasion to crown **Mary** and marry **Duke of Norfolk** - discovered by **William Cecil**, Norfolk executed but **Spain** and **Catholicism** still major threats to **Elizabeth**

Throckmorton Plot (1583) ➔ **French Duke of Guise** plotted to invade with **Spanish** and **Papal** support, **Throckmorton** passed letters between plotters and **Mary** but was discovered by **Francis Walsingham**, **11,000** Catholic sympathisers imprisoned

Babington Plot (1586) ➔ **Walsingham** intercepted letters from **Babington** to **Mary** about **Duke of Guise** invasion, **Mary** sentenced to **death** (Oct 1586), **Catholic** persecution increased

Revolt of the Northern Earls, 1569-70

- **Catholicism** strong in **North**, **Earls** resented loss of power in court
- Wanted to make **Mary** queen, rebels marched **South** but support from **Spain** didn't arrive - **Elizabeth** retained landowner support and moved **Mary** away to **Coventry**
- Showed **Mary** couldn't be trusted, led to **Elizabeth's** **excommunication**



Walsingham used spies across the country, communicated in code and tortured people to ensure loyalty to **Elizabeth**

His evidence proved **Mary** was involved in treasonous plots, leading to her execution but angering **Philip II**

England and Spain rivals in **New World**, **privateers** raided **Spanish** colonies and ships

1577-1580 **Sir Francis Drake** captured **£400,000** of **Spanish** gold and silver

Commercial rivalry

Spain controlled **Netherlands** - England's main trade route to **Europe**

Catholic Spain/England alliance ended when England became **Protestant**

Political & religious rivalry

Elizabeth sent money to **Spanish** rebels combatting persecution of **Protestants**

Philip II involved in plots against **Elizabeth**



CHALLENGES TO ELIZABETH AT HOME AND ABROAD, 1569-88



War with Spain - Robert Dudley

- **Treaty of Nonsuch (1585)** - England financed an army of **7,000** troops led by **Robert Dudley** for the **Dutch Protestant rebels** - England and **Spain** now at war in **Netherlands**
- **Expedition of 1585** huge failure as force was poorly supplied
- **Dudley** angered **Elizabeth** by taking title of '**Governor General**'

1588 - **Philip II** planned '**Enterprise of England**' to invade + overthrow **Elizabeth** - ordered **130-ship Armada** to transport **Duke of Parma's** **27,000** troops from **Netherlands** to **England**

Armada leaders (**Duke of Parma** & **Duke of Medina Sidonia**) unable to communicate

Spanish low on food and cannon **supplies**

English **ships** faster and cannons fired more quickly

Reasons for English victory

Superior **tactics** used by more experienced **English** leaders - chased into familiar territory (**English Channel**)

Battle of Gravelines (8th Aug 1588) - **Drake's fireships** destroyed **Spanish** ships and forced many to drift into **North Sea**



War with Spain - Francis Drake

- **Elizabeth** ordered **Drake** to spy on **Spanish** naval activity
- **April 1587** - **Elizabeth** ordered **Drake** to attack **Spanish** navy port at **Cadiz**, destroyed **30** ships
- Attack known as '**singeing the King of Spain's beard**' - set **Armada** preparations back a year

- ➔ **Victory** cemented **Elizabeth's** power + strength
- ➔ Led to gradual decline of **Spain's** empire
- ➔ **England** emerged as strong naval power
- ➔ Seen as victory for **Protestantism**



Challenges to Elizabeth at home and abroad, 1569-88

Quiz Questions

Take 5 minutes to study the Cheat Sheet on this topic, then see how many questions you can get right without looking!



1. Identify two consequences of English victory over the Spanish Armada:

2. What role did Walsingham play in the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots?

3. How many Spanish ships were destroyed in Drake's attack on Cadiz?

4. What year did Philip II's 'Enterprise of England' begin?

5. Identify a feature of religious rivalry between England and Spain:

6. What country did Spain control affecting England's trade route to Europe?

7. What did the 1585 Treaty of Nonsuch do?

8. Why did the Revolt of the Northern Earls break out?

9. Who discovered the Ridolfi Plot?

10. Identify one reason why England defeated the Armada:



Education

- Prepared people for life in their **social class**
- **No compulsory schooling**, very few attended
- **Renaissance ideas** changed attitudes, belief that society improved through education
- **Protestantism** increased literacy efforts, thought people should read Bible in English
- Invention of the **printing press** made books far cheaper to produce and buy
- Noble girls were educated at home and prepared for married life, but noble boys could attend fee-paying **grammar schools**
- **2 universities** set up: Oxford and Cambridge

Sport, pastimes and theatre

- Leisure activities varied by **social class**
- **Nobility**: intellectual pursuits, elitist culture, reading classics, music, hunting, hawking
- **Working people**: popular culture, escapism from poor living conditions, drinking and gambling in inns/taverns, cockfighting, bear baiting, dice, wrestling, football
- **Theatre** popular with all classes, **Globe** and **Rose** theatres built, wealthy patrons sponsored actors, only **men** could act

Bad harvests in 1562, 1565, 1573, 1586 meant less food + higher prices

Price **inflation** caused fall in value of real wages

Reasons for increase in poverty

Taxes raised for **war** with **Spain**

Enclosure drove many off their lands - became **vagrants/vagabonds**

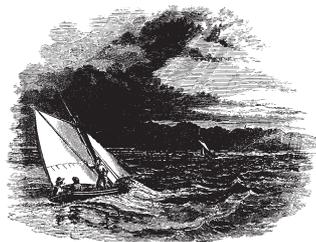
Population growth increased demand for food + housing

Changing attitudes to poverty prompted by belief that growing number of vagabonds would lead to crime, disorder and even rebellion

1563 Statute of Artifices - punished those who didn't pay poor relief, taxes raised at local level

1572 Vagabonds Act - punished vagrants with whipping, death penalty for begging 3 times

1576 Poor Relief Act - distinguished between deserving poor (couldn't work) and idle/undeserving poor (chose not to work)



New science of

transatlantic navigation made sailing safer - maths, quadrants, astrolabes

Printing maps + use of longitude and latitude made navigation more reliable

Expansion of trade routes, especially Trade Triangle

Reasons for exploration

New shipyards, development of faster + more stable ships

Need to compete with European powers in acquiring overseas possessions

ELIZABETHAN SOCIETY IN THE AGE OF EXPLORATION, 1558-88

Drake's circumnavigation of the globe

- Dec 1577 - Sep 1580
- Wanted to attack Spanish colonies in the **Pacific** due to personal **Puritanical beliefs** and **revenge** for Spanish attack on his ships
- Returned to England with huge amount of **treasure**
- Encouraged further **exploration**, claimed Nova Albion for England, worsened relationship with **Spain**

Poor food supplies - damaged on voyage, wrong time of year for planting crops

War with Spain meant few ships were available to send supplies

Reasons for failure of Roanoke colony

Inadequate planning and inexperience of crew

Attacks from Native Americans - colonists had brought **new diseases**

The colonisation of Virginia

- 1584 - **Walter Raleigh** given **royal charter** to establish a **colony** in **Roanoke, Virginia**
- Raleigh organised expedition + raised funds
- First expedition group had to leave after a year (1585-86), second group **disappeared** (1587)
- Became known as the '**Lost Colony**'



Elizabethan society in the Age of Exploration, 1558-88

Quiz Questions

Take 5 minutes to study the Cheat Sheet on this topic, then see how many questions you can get right without looking!



1. Identify two reasons for the failure of the Roanoke colony:

2. Why did attitudes to poverty change in Elizabethan society?

3. Which two universities were set up in Elizabethan England?

4. What year was Raleigh granted a royal charter to colonise Virginia?

5. How did the 1576 Poor Relief Act categorise the poor?

6. What invention made books cheaper to produce and buy?

7. Give one reason for increasing poverty levels in Elizabethan society:

8. How did the science of transatlantic navigation affect exploration?

9. What leisure activity was popular with all social classes?

10. Give two reasons why Drake's circumnavigation was significant:

/10



Paper 2 Section B - Question 4/5a

**4
Marks**

4/5a. Describe two features of ...

- Identify one **valid feature** = 1 Mark
- Give **supporting evidence** for the feature - names, dates, events, places, statistics = 1 Mark
- Do this twice for two different features
- Keep it brief - don't forget it is only worth 4 marks!

Use this guide and your own knowledge to answer the question below:

**4a. Describe two features of education in Elizabethan England.
(4 marks)**



Paper 2 Section B - Question 4/5b

12
Marks

4b. Explain why....

3 PEEL paragraphs: 1 on first point given, 1 on second point given and 1 on your own idea

P - Point

E - Evidence

E - Explain

L - Link

Point - One reason for [wording of question] is ...
Make sure to do one paragraph for each of the given points, and one paragraph on a point of your own

Evidence - Stats, Places, Events, Names, Dates

Explain - Show how this evidence links your point to the question

Link - Link back to the question

Does not need a separate introduction and conclusion



Exam Question

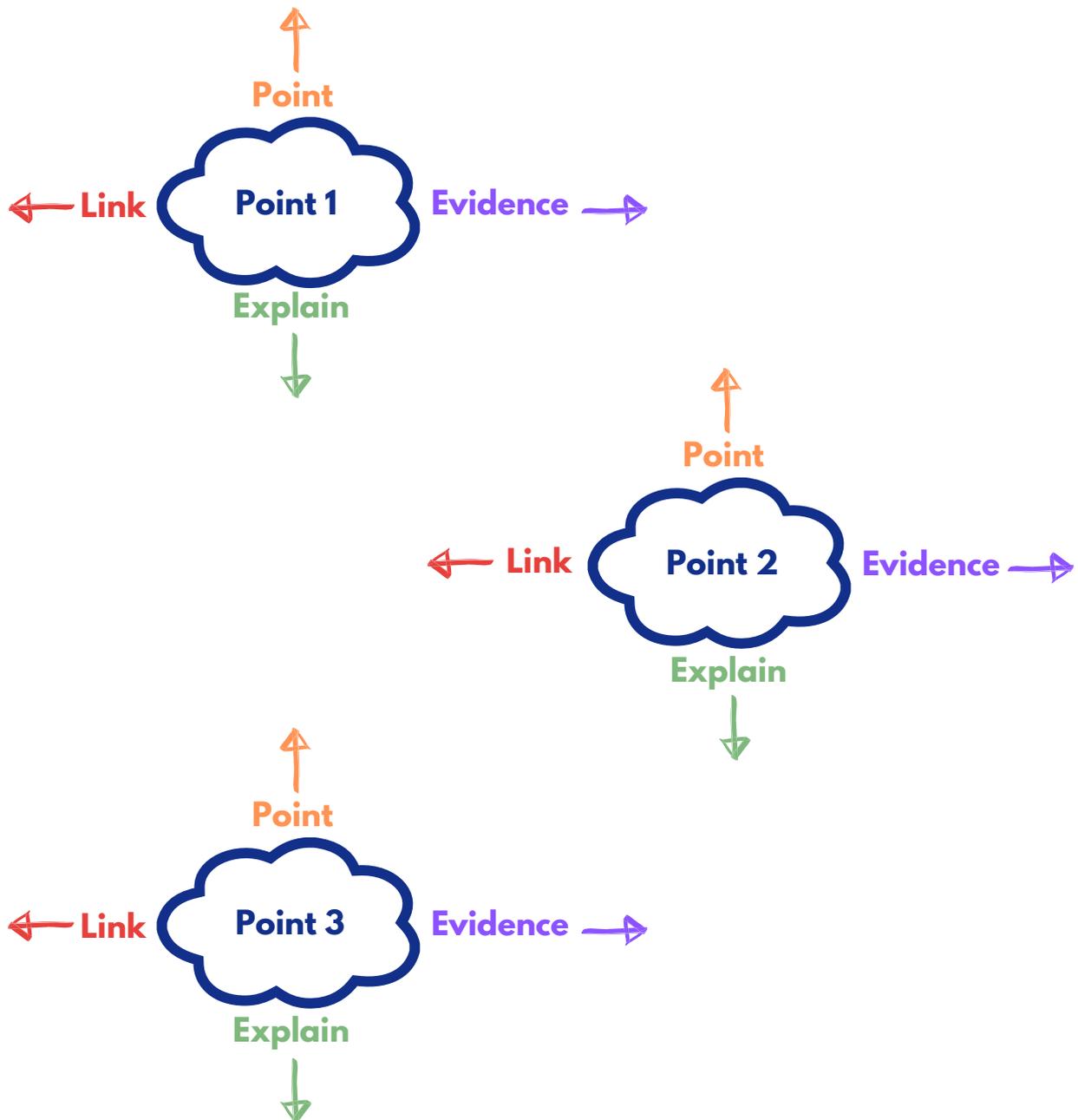
Use this guide and your own knowledge to plan the question below:

4b. Explain why Elizabeth was victorious over the Spanish Armada (1588).

You may use the following in your answer:

- Duke of Parma's army
- Raid on Cadiz (1587)

You must also use information of your own. (12 marks)





Exam Question

Use this guide and your own knowledge to answer the question below:

4b. Explain why Elizabeth was victorious over the Spanish Armada (1588).

You may use the following in your answer:

- Duke of Parma's army
- Raid on Cadiz (1587)

You must also use information of your own. (12 marks)



Paper 2 Section B - Question 4/5c

16
Marks

4/5c. [Statement] How far do you agree?
You may use the following in your answer:

- Point X
- Point Y

3 PEEL paragraphs: one on point X, one on point Y and one on your own point - this can either be two points agreeing and one point disagreeing with the statement, or vice versa

x3 {
Introduction
P - Point
E - Evidence
E - Explain
L - Link & Mini Judgement
Conclusion

Intro - One or two sentences - wording of question, give the three points you are going to make and give your judgement

Point -

Make sure to do one paragraph for each of the factors given in the question, and one paragraph on a point of your own

Evidence - Stats, Places, Events, Names, Dates

Explain - Show how this evidence links your point to the question

Link - Show how this evidence links your point to the question, and add a mini judgement e.g. Therefore I agree/disagree with [Statement] because [Point]

Conclusion - Briefly explain whether you agree or disagree with the statement - why this factor was most convincing and why other was not



Exam Question

Use this guide and your own knowledge to answer the question below:

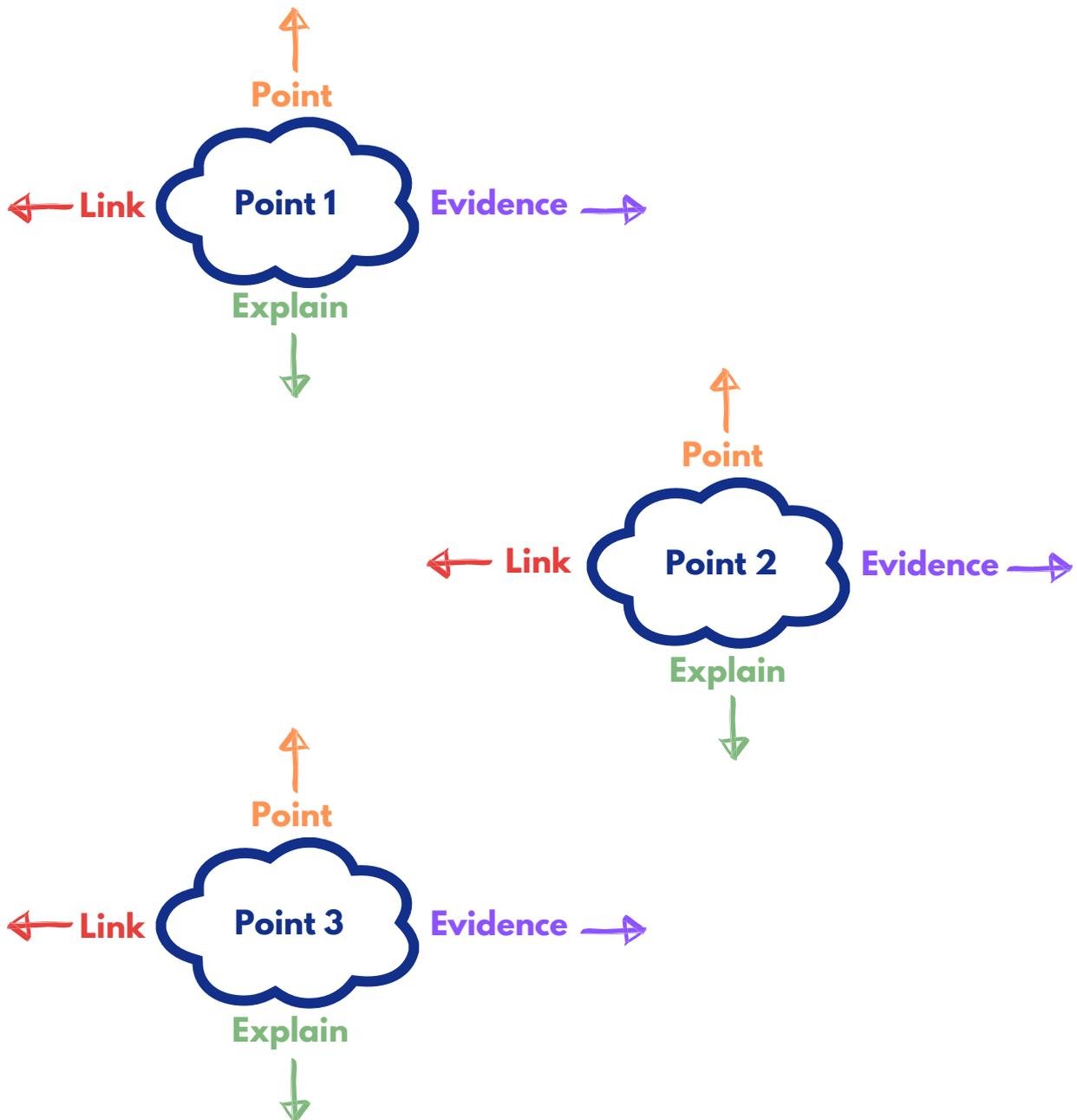
4c. 'Domestic threats were the main problems Elizabeth faced upon accession in 1558.'

How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Poverty
- Calais

You must also use information of your own. (16 marks)





Exam Question

Use this guide and your own knowledge to answer the question below:

4c. 'Domestic threats were the main problems Elizabeth faced upon accession in 1558.'

How far do you agree? Explain your answer.

You may use the following in your answer:

- Poverty
- Calais

You must also use information of your own. (16 marks)

