



**Key topic 2: Challenges to Elizabeth at home and abroad, 1569–88****1 Plots and revolts at home**

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**

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**

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**

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**

Education in the home, schools and universities.  
Sport, pastimes and the theatre.

**2 The problem of the poor**

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**

Factors prompting exploration, including the impact of new technology on ships and sailing and the drive to expand trade.

<p>New shipyards and the development of faster and more stable ships.</p> <p>The development of new navigational aids, and the new science of transatlantic navigation.</p> <p>The reasons for, and significance of, Drake's circumnavigation of the globe.</p>								
<p><u>4 Raleigh and Virginia</u></p> <p>The significance of Raleigh and the attempted colonisation of Virginia.</p> <p>Reasons for the failure of Virginia</p>								