

National History Challenge

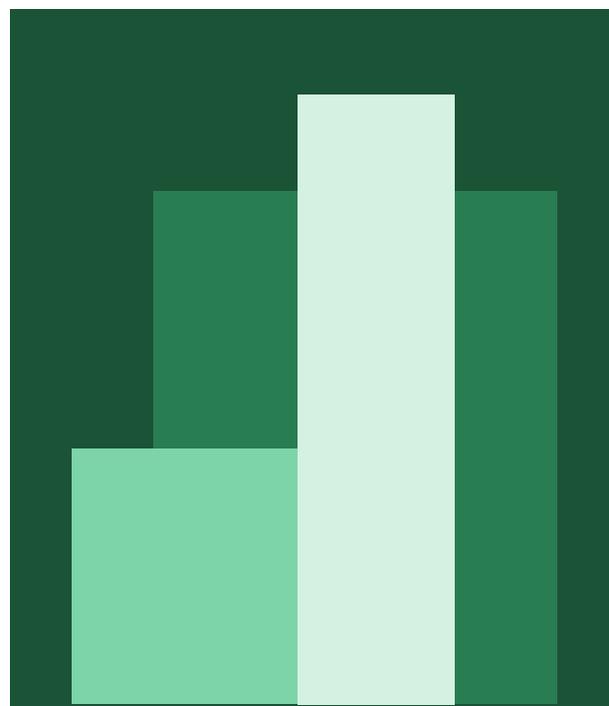
TURNING POINTS

FROM REFORMATION TO TRANSFORMATION:

ENGLAND'S GOLDEN AGE

*How the policies and legacy of
Henry VIII transformed into an era of
national prosperity under Elizabeth I*

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As the policies of King Henry the VIII (1491-1547) fostered the unique conditions of pre-Elizabethan England, the nation's transformation under the rule of Queen Elizabeth I (1533-1603) proved a decisive historical turning point, culminating in the illustrious prosperity of England's 'Golden Age'. Primarily, the policies of Henry's Protestant Reformation generated religious upheaval, inspiring Elizabeth's collective Acts of Settlement which achieved national unification and transpired into cultural and industrial prosperity. Additionally, Henry's Act of Supremacy and subsequent Dissolution of the Monasteries instigated significant development regarding land distribution, hierarchical empowerment, and welfare: transformed into national prosperity through Elizabeth's socioeconomic legislation. Furthermore, Henry's early foreign policy and role in establishing the Royal Navy was key to England's international ascendancy, with Elizabeth's astute grasp of governance later bolstering England's financial, commercial and colonial successes. Ultimately, where Henry's policies instigated distinct change within pre-Elizabethan England, Elizabeth's role in transforming such conditions secured the prosperity of the 'Golden Age', forming a crucial turning point of history.

The policies of Henry VIII's Protestant Reformation generated ecclesiastical upheaval, inciting the Elizabethan Acts of Settlement which achieved cultural and industrial prosperity through national unification. Upon ascension to the throne in 1558, Elizabeth sought to assuage the religious divisions which had entrenched England throughout the reigns of her predecessors: her father, Henry VIII; his son, Edward VI; and daughter, Mary I.¹ Facing papal excommunication, Elizabeth was astutely aware of the importance of pursuing a moderate 'middle way'; eschewing the conservative approaches of her predecessors, she commenced a nation-wide transition through her religious Acts of Settlement in 1559.² As historian Canon Perry noted:

*"The main body of the nation, indifferent to the form of religion, was to be bribed by the restoration to the crown of those sources of revenue ... the lovers of the Reformation were to be propitiated by the restoration of worship, changed to conciliate the more moderate Romanists."*³

Reinstating the policies of Henry's original Act of Supremacy of 1534, the new legislation re-established England's independence from Rome, inaugurating Elizabeth as the 'Supreme Governor' of the Church, now commissioned to *"reform, redress, and amend all errors, heresies, schisms, abuses and offenses which by any ecclesiastical authority may be corrected."*⁴ Through the Act of Uniformity of 1558, church ornaments were standardised, the 1552 version of the Book of Common Prayer reinstated, and religious services mandated to be conducted in English instead of Latin.⁵ Elizabeth presented herself as the selfless Virgin Queen, married to the throne and her nation; through utilising the term 'Supreme Governor',

¹ S. Ellis, 2011, *The Queen's Golden Age*, British Heritage, Vol. 32, Issue 4, p.34.

< <http://web.b.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=1&sid=3982ccb7-1e20-4b94-ac91-9b8e0a1c47d4%40sessionmgr120> >

² C. Haigh, 1993, *The Reformations and the Division of England*, p.285.

< <http://web.b.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail/detail?vid=1&sid=deb6ad94-da43-4104-8690-e4fb78feb801%40sessionmgr120&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWwhvc3QtG12ZQ%3d%3d#AN=740800> >

³ G. Elton, 2003, *Studies in Tudor and Stuart Politics and Government: Papers and Reviews*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, p.109-113.

⁴ S. D'Ewes, 2003, *Parliamentary Journals from the reign of Queen Elizabeth: House of Lords and House of Commons (First Published 1602)*, Michigan: University of Michigan Press, pp.230-233.

⁵ M. Todd, 1995, *Reformation to Revolution: Politics and Religion in Early Modern England*. London: Routledge.

rather than 'Supreme Head', she pacified those concerned about a non-Catholic female leadership.⁶ In the year of her succession, prominent theologian John Knox wrote an angry polemic entitled 'The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women', noting female rulers were "*repugneth to nature,*" and in comparison to males, "*foolishe, madde, and phrenetike.*"⁷ In direct defiance of Knox's stance, Elizabeth demonstrated that women could not only cope but thrive within a position of significant power; as historian Mary Cole noted, her strong monarchical projection proved key to the eventuation of national peace and stability:

*"Her public entertainments and speeches allowed people to form an impression of Elizabeth as accessible and successful ... it fostered an image so necessary to her longevity."*⁸

As England experienced relative social tranquillity, the arts flourished; Elizabeth patronised composers including Thomas Tallis, whilst the works of literary greats such as William Shakespeare and Christopher Marlowe emerged, penned in the standardised English tongue.⁹ The Act of Uniformity of 1558 and the reinstatement of the English language into common use liberated cultural accessibility throughout society, fostering a national identity.¹⁰ Schools received more funding to educate those restricted by social and financial impediments, and national literacy rates rose from 20% to 33%.¹¹ Protestant reinstatement proved additionally beneficial to the industrial sector, which was aided by the arrival of Dutch and Flemish Protestant refugees seeking the tolerance of moderate England.¹² From 1561, Dutch and Flemish migrants dispersed throughout Kent, Norfolk, London, and Southampton; by 1570, there were 4000 Dutch individuals in Norwich alone. Immigration increased following the Siege of Antwerp in 1585, with the large influxes of people from the Low Countries bringing considerable skill and capital.¹³ Refugees from Alencon and Valenciennes transformed the weaving industry; as clergyman William Harrison commented in his 1577 'Description of England':

*"Now, by means of strangers succoured here from domestic persecution, wool hath been employed unto sundry new uses, whereby the makers have reaped no small commodity."*¹⁴

This influx of skilled tradesmen rejuvenated the domestic economy, with foreign exports expanding to Europe and the East.¹⁵ Elizabeth's shrewd implementation of the Acts of Settlement closed the religious upheaval generated by Henry VIII's Protestant Reformation, facilitating national peace and unification, and the subsequent eventuation of cultural and industrial prosperity.

⁶ D. M. Palliser, 1992, *The Age of Elizabeth: England Under the Later Tudors: 1547–1603*, London & New York: Longman Publishing.

⁷ J. Knox, 2006, *The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women* (First Published 1558), Illinois: Project Gutenberg Press, p.57.
< <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/9660/9660-h/9660-h.htm> >

⁸ J. Richards, 2017, *Elizabeth I: Fictions and Realities*, History Review, Vol. 72, p.11

⁹ Watch Tower Library and Tract Society of Pennsylvania, 2010, *The Golden Age of Queen Elizabeth I: Myth or Reality*, viewed 21 July 2018
< <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/102010008#h=23> >

¹⁰ E. Fryde, 1970, Historical Studies of the English Parliament, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press Archive, p.350-355.

¹¹ D. H. Sacks, 1995, *The Countervailing of Benefits: Monopoly, Liberty & Benevolence in Elizabethan England*, Tudor Political Culture, p.272-91.

¹² BBC, 2017, *Immigration and Emigration: The Elizabethan Strangers*, viewed 18 July 2018
< http://www.bbc.co.uk/legacies/immig_emig/england/norfolk/article_1.shtml >

¹³ P. Bowden, 1962, *The Wool Trade in Tudor and Stuart England*. London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp.11.

¹⁴ W. Harrison, 1994, *Description of England: The Classic Account of Tudor Social Life (First Published 1577)*, New York: Courier Corporation, pp. 133-78.

¹⁵ The Conversation, 2017, *The Asylum Seekers of Elizabethan England*, viewed 17 July 2018
< <https://theconversation.com/the-asylum-seekers-who-frightened-elizabethan-england> >

Additionally, Henry VIII's Act of Supremacy and subsequent Dissolution of the Monasteries initiated a period of considerable change regarding hierarchical empowerment and welfare administration, later transformed into prosperity through Elizabethan socioeconomic legislation. Between 1532 and 1540, Henry utilised his jurisdictional capacity under the Act of Supremacy to commence the Dissolution of the Monasteries.¹⁶ The movement sought to attenuate the religious authority and immense wealth of such institutions, diminishing the cornerstone of Papal authority within England and Wales.¹⁷ Throughout 1535, government commissioners executed a *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, examining the ecclesiastical property holdings and fiscal assets; this *comperta* soon dictated the dissolution, by which the landholdings and capital of over 800 institutions was transferred to the Crown by 1540.¹⁸ However, Henry's dissolution generated hierarchical empowerment, primarily assisting the rise of the gentry class.¹⁹ Analysing the British Census of 1831 and the Mill Survey of 1838, economic historian Richard Tawney noted:

*"In places where monastic assets generated more income, the Dissolution had a bigger impact in redistributing either more productive lands, or greater amounts of land."*²⁰

Prior to the Dissolution, the ecclesiastical institutions owned 20-30% of all land; when these properties were sold, the landholding of the lower gentry increased from 25% to 45%.²¹ The entrepreneurial gentry class utilised the former monastic landholdings to a greater level of efficiency, as monastic income directly correlated to the later presence of textile mills: a primary symbol of early industrialisation.²² Returning to 1536, Henrican England was experiencing increased vagrancy and inflation; subsequently, the Poor Laws of 1536 were enacted.²³ The legislature relied largely on the engagement of the ecclesiastical community, stating that the Church should, "*Stirre people to extende their charitable almes and contribucions toward the pore and nedie*".²⁴ The monasteries were the axiom of hospitality and charity; thus, their dissolution proved devastating, yet instigated the transition to secular governmental assistance.²⁵ As continual harvest failures strained the economy, the era became characterised by increases in starvation, disease, and the itinerancy of vagrants; thus, Elizabeth instructed the Commons to "*meddle with noe matters of state but such as should be propounded unto them, and to occupy themselves in other matters concerning the commen wealth*".²⁶ Elizabethan socioeconomic reforms encapsulated this early Tudor concept of a 'common wealth', with notable legislation including the

¹⁶ C. Cooper, 2011, *The Dissolution of the Monasteries by King Henry VIII: Effect on the Economy, Political Landscape, and Social Instability in Tudor England, and Poor Laws*, Orlando, Florida: University of Central Florida, p.3-16.

< <http://stars.library.ucf.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2114&context=honorstheses1990> >

¹⁷ D. Wilson, D. 2001, *In the Lion's Court: Power, Ambition, and Sudden Death in the Reign of Henry VIII*, New York: St. Martin's Press.

¹⁸ Hanover Historical Texts Project, 2001, *Documents Illustrative of English Church History (First Published 1559)*, New York: Macmillan Press, p.458-467.

< <https://history.hanover.edu/texts/engref/er80.html> >

¹⁹ C. Cooper, *op. cit.* p.45-58.

²⁰ L. Luu, 2017, *Immigrants and the Industries of London: 1500-1700*, London: Routledge Press, p.31.

²¹ A. Pabst, 2009, *Henry VIII and the Birth of Capitalism*, The Guardian, viewed 22 July 2018

< <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2009/may/01/religion-henry-vii-monasteries> >

²² L. Stevenson, 2002, *Praise and Paradox: Merchants and Craftsmen in Elizabethan Popular Literature*, London: Cambridge University Press, p.22-26.

²³ D. Dean, 1996, *Law-Making and Society in Late Elizabethan England: Parliament of England 1584-1601*, London: Cambridge University Press, p.133-137.

²⁴ M. Fulbrook, 1983, *Piety and Politics: Religion and the Rise of Absolutism in England, Wurttemberg and Prussia*, Cambridge University Press, p.45-48.

²⁵ G. W. Bernard, 2005, *The King's Reformation: Henry VIII and the Remaking of the English Church*, New Haven & London: Yale University Press.

²⁶ Wrightson, K. 1982, *English Society: 1580-1680*, Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.

Statute of Artificers (1563), and the revised Poor Laws (1601).²⁷ Whilst severely insufficient, the original welfare policies of Henry's parliament did indeed inspire the progress of Elizabethan legislature:

*“Henry’s policy was but brutal, reflecting a puritanical callousness in assessing poverty ... when Elizabeth inherited the problem, her legislative program was immediate, massive, and positive.”*²⁸

The Statute of Artificers provided a cohesive set of regulations concerning wages and labour, whilst the Poor Laws introduced compulsory levies enforced by secular authorities.²⁹ Welfare was now embodied in governmental administration; the laws so successful that they were only intended to be temporary, but were renewed and made permanent, remaining until 1834.³⁰ Where Henry VIII’s policies generated significant change regarding land distribution, hierarchical empowerment, and welfare administration, Elizabeth’s socioeconomic legislation proved crucial to the establishment of national prosperity.

Furthermore, bolstering the early foreign policy and naval augmentation which emerged under Henry VIII, Elizabeth I’s astute grasp of governance decisively contributed to the financial, commercial and colonial successes which proved key to England’s international ascendancy. As aforementioned, the Protestant Reformation ceased English association with the cross-channel Roman Empire, establishing an autonomous sovereign nation-state free from the authority of any foreign potentate.³¹ Henry’s Reformation liberated the English from the papal bulls designating the North Atlantic as a *mare clausum*, or ‘closed sea’, to the Spanish empire in perpetuity: until that point, closed entirely to English traders.³² The expansion of Anglo-American trade would not have occurred without the separation from Rome; thus, the industrial cities would not have experienced immense commercial prosperity.³³ Henry founded the English Royal Navy, establishing the Navy Board in 1546; upon succession, Elizabeth made naval strength a high priority, whilst her support of piratical raids proved fortuitous, with English sea knights often pillaging Spanish and Portuguese merchant ships.³⁴ Within the Anglo-Spanish War of 1585-1604, King Philip II of Spain feared that English naval assistance would hinder his efforts to reconquer the Dutch.³⁵ Advancing with the vast Spanish Armada in 1588, the over-complex Spanish strategy and inferior vessel manoeuvrability ensured an English victory.³⁶ Elizabeth pursued a defensive foreign policy, through which English foreign assistance lasted until the Dutch formed the United Provinces; the French Religious Wars ceased; and the Anglo-Scottish intervention of 1560 installed a Protestant regime, achieving the Union of the Crowns in 1603.³⁷ As anthropologist Edward Evans-Pritchard noted:

²⁷ History of Parliament, 2017, *Elizabethan Social and Economic Legislation*, viewed 29 July 2018

< <http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/periods/tudors/elizabethan-social-and-economic-legislation> >

²⁸ J. E. Neale, 1950, *The Elizabethan Acts and Governmental Systems*, *The English Historical Review*, Vol. 65, Issue 2, p.304-332.

²⁹ V. Ponko, 1968, *The Privy Council and the Spirit of Elizabethan Economic System*, *American Philosophical Society*, Vol. 8, Issue 4, p.22-63

³⁰ *ibid.* p.45.

³¹ J. A. Wagner, 2002, *Historical Dictionary of the Elizabethan World: Britain, Ireland, Europe, and America*, New York: Checkmark Books.

³² A. Evans-Pritchard, 2016, *How Henry VIII's Tudor 'Brexit' lead to England's trading glory*, viewed 26 July 2018

< <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2016/09/25/did-henry-viii-tudor-brexit-lead-to-englands-trading-glory-or-a/> >

³³ *ibid.*

³⁴ R. Wernham, 1980, *The Making of Elizabethan Foreign Policy: 1558-1603*, Berkeley: University of California Press, p.2-10.

³⁵ A. Pettegree, 1988, *Elizabethan Foreign Policy*, *The Historical Journal*, Vol. 31, Issue 4, p.965-972.

³⁶ D. W. Waters, 1949, *The Elizabethan Navy and the Armada Campaign*, *The Mariner's Mirror*, Vol. 35, Issue 2, p.90-138, viewed 13 July 2018

³⁷ University of Wisconsin, 2016, *Elizabethan Exploration & Foreign Policy*, viewed 28 July 2018

< <https://faculty.history.wisc.edu/sommerville/361/361-19.htm> >

“By the end of the century, England and Holland had halted the armies of the Counter-Reformation, bankrupted Spain, and broken Habsburg power ... they won the seas.”³⁸

Having inherited a virtually bankrupt state upon accession to the throne, Elizabeth’s fiscal restraint cleared the regime of debt by 1574, observing a surplus of £300,000 by 1584.³⁹ Sir Thomas Gresham founded the Royal Exchange in 1565, whilst the mercantile policies of Henry’s reign inspired the eventuation of a Franco-English free trade agreement, and the establishment of Mediterranean trade deals.⁴⁰ Following such progresses, the Elizabethan Age was associated with the exploration, colonisation, and acquisition of goods within an expanding international zone.⁴¹ The aforementioned prioritisation of the ‘common wealth’ not only justified reformed socioeconomic legislation, but various new royal policies: such as the granting of licences to enforce penal statutes or trade in prohibited commodities, and patents to protect new inventions and industries. Bolstered by royal investments and seeking to open profitable trading routes, chartered companies soon emerged, whilst renowned explorers such as Sir Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh established English outposts in Northern America, colonising Virginia and Newfoundland.⁴² As historian Alfred Rowse noted:

“The truth is that it gradually became a national venture. Public interest was aroused by the Virginia enterprise: people felt, not obscurely, that the future of the nation was involved.”⁴³

As the sleepy nation erupted with ventures of exploration and trade, Elizabeth I’s skilful governance utilised Henry VIII’s policies regarding autonomy and naval expansion, securing the financial, commercial and colonial successes which proved foundational to England’s international ascendancy.

As policies of Henry VIII established the uniquely dynamic conditions of pre-Elizabethan England, Elizabeth I’s rule formed a decisive historical turning point, instigating a national transformation which facilitated the prosperity of England’s ‘Golden Age’. The policies of Henry’s Protestant Reformation generated religious upheaval, forming the basis of Elizabeth’s Acts of Settlement which secured national unification and transpired into cultural and industrial prosperity. Additionally, Henry’s Act of Supremacy and subsequent Dissolution of the Monasteries significantly altered to land distribution, hierarchical empowerment, and welfare administration: transforming into further national prosperity through Elizabeth’s socioeconomic legislation. Furthermore, Elizabeth’s governance strategy bolstered Henry’s legacy of autonomy and naval development, securing the financial, commercial and colonial successes vital to England’s international ascendancy. Ultimately, England experienced a decisive historical turning point throughout this period, witnessing unprecedented harmony and prosperity in an era of national transformation: all whilst heralding a new age of female leadership.

³⁸ S. Doran and N. Jones, 2014, *The Elizabethan World*, London: Routledge Press, p.412.

³⁹ Tennessee State University, 2017, *Elizabethan Economy*, viewed 16 July 2018
< <http://faculty.tnstate.edu/smcurtis/Elizabethan%20Economy.htm> >

⁴⁰ P. Ramsey, 2017, *Overseas Trade in the Reign of Henry VIII: Evidence of Customs Accounts*, *The Economic History Review*, Vol. 6, Issue 2, p.173-1

⁴¹ C. Hibbert, 1991, *The Virgin Queen: Elizabeth I, Genius of the Golden Age*, Cambridge: Perseus Books

⁴² M. Aronson, 2000, *Sir Walter Raleigh and the Quest for El Dorado*, New York: Clarion Books

⁴³ A. Rowse, 2003, *The Expansion of Elizabethan England*, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, p.206.

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D'Ewes, S. 2003, *Parliamentary Journals from the reign of Queen Elizabeth: House of Lords and House of Commons (First Published 1602)*, Michigan: University of Michigan Press, pp.230-233.

These original parliamentary journals provide a direct historical insight into the legislation implemented by Elizabeth I regarding the Acts of Settlement. Proving a useful source for primary quotations, this collection of official records comprehensively outlines the governmental proceedings surrounding the implementation of Elizabeth's more moderate religious policy.

Harrison, W. 1994, *Description of England: The Classic Contemporary Account of Tudor Social Life (First Published 1577)*, New York: Courier Corporation Press, pp. 133-78.

< <https://books.google.com.au/books?id=4qwDlCPz6OoC&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage> >
William Harrison's renowned account of England's social landscape encapsulates the various geographic, economic, social, religious and political features of the Elizabethan Era. This book provided a key quotation regarding the effects of Elizabethan religious settlement, outlining the economic effects surrounding the increased migration of skilled textile workers to England.

Hanover Historical Texts Project, 2001, *Documents Illustrative of English Church History (First Published 1559)*, New York: Macmillan Press, p.458-467.

< <https://history.hanover.edu/texts/engref/er80.html> >
This collection includes original documentation for all parliamentary Acts passed between 1558 and 1640. Providing primary quotations from the original Act of Supremacy, these documents provide invaluable insight into the progression of ecclesiastical authority and administration.

Knox, J. 2006, *The First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Women (First Published 1558)*, Illinois: Project Gutenberg Press, p.57.

< <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/9660/9660-h/9660-h.htm> >
This polemical work by Scottish reformer John Knox was the most renowned oppositional publication of the era denouncing the rise of any female leadership by justification that female rule is contrary to the Bible; thus, is a crucial text to consider when analysing Elizabeth's monarchical projection as the selfless 'Virgin Queen', and her impact on the history of female leadership within the dynamic Tudor period.

Ramsey, P. 2017, *Overseas Trade in the Reign of Henry VIII: Evidence of Customs Accounts (First Published 1573)*, The Economic History Review, Vol. 6, Issue 2, p.173-182

< <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1468-0289.1953.tb01497.x/abstract> >
This collection includes a comprehensive array of archival documentation relating to the economic situation of Henrican England; most importantly, this text proved a useful source when investigating the economic effects of Henrican foreign policy and the expansion of naval trade.

SECONDARY SOURCES

Aronson, M. 2000, *Sir Walter Raleigh and the Quest for El Dorado*, New York: Clarion Books

This well-researched and insightful biography explores the naval journeys of Sir Walter Raleigh during the Elizabethan era, providing useful information regarding the naval policies of Elizabeth I, and the expansion of English influences through burgeoning trade and colonial expeditions.

BBC, 2017, *Elizabeth I: An Overview*, viewed 20 July 2018

< http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/tudors/elizabeth_i_01.shtml >

This article forms a foundational reference point when exploring the reign of Elizabeth I, providing reliable timelines and general information regarding her leadership and life. Ultimately, this article proved particularly useful as a basis for further research and general fact-checking, guiding further enquiry into the policies Elizabeth implemented during her reign.

BBC, 2017, *Immigration and Emigration: The Elizabethan Strangers*, viewed 18 July 2018

< http://www.bbc.co.uk/legacies/immig_emig/england/norfolk/article_1.shtml >

This article provides comprehensive statistics regarding the post-Settlement migration of skilled textile workers from elsewhere in Europe to England. Most importantly, this piece outlines the distribution of such populations throughout England, whilst providing reliable data relating to the economic and industrial impacts from this influx of highly-skilled workers.

Bernard, G. W. 2005, *The King's Reformation: Henry VIII and the Remaking of the English Church*, New Haven & London: Yale University Press.

This widely-researched book forms an extensive account of the reign of Henry VIII, illustrating how the monarch harnessed the rhetoric of the continental reformation in support of his royal supremacy. This text proved specifically useful within wider research regarding Henry VIII's Dissolution of the Monasteries, including important accounts and statistics regarding the changed trends of land distribution, and the socioeconomic impact of such reformations.

Booth, T. 2014, *Elizabeth I and Pope Paul IV*, Church History & Culture, Vol. 94, Issue 3, p.316.

< <http://web.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=1&sid=10be9db6-f89a-48f5-9472-e998f9955b10%40sessionmgr4009> >

This article is a historical look at the political and religious relationship between England's Elizabeth I and Pope Paul IV, providing key contextual evidence surrounding the Elizabeth's actions in the face of papal excommunication, and the resounding effects of religious settlement upon the populations of Eastern Europe.

Bowden, P. 1962, *The Wool Trade in Tudor and Stuart England*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp.11.

This book provides useful excerpts of data surrounding the social and economic dynamics of post Settlement England, acting as a key source of analysis when interpreting industrial trends within the burgeoning textile trade of Elizabethan England.

- Cooper, C. 2011, *The Dissolution of the Monasteries by King Henry VIII: Effect on the Economy, Political Landscape, and Social Instability in Tudor England, and Poor Laws*, Orlando, Florida: University of Central Florida, p.3-58.**
 < <http://stars.library.ucf.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2114&context=honorstheses1990> >
This research paper was the formed the primary basis of my exploration of socioeconomic policy throughout Tudor England; providing an extensive foundation on Henry VIII's Poor Laws, this paper outlines a well-research chronological account of all key developments in socioeconomic policy across this era, drawing conclusions between economic statistics and social instability following the national Dissolution of the Monasteries.
- Davies, C. 1965, *The Administration of the Royal Navy under Henry VIII: The Origins of the Navy Board*, The English Historical Review, Vol. 80, Issue 31, p.268-288.**
 < <http://www.jstor.org/stable/560133> >
This journal article examines the early administration of the English royal navy, providing a succinct account of the naval development and expansion under Henry VIII. This piece proved useful as a reference point when exploring the naval and foreign policies of Elizabeth I, demonstrating how the work of Henry VIII commenced England's international ascendancy, culminating in the colonial successes of Elizabethan England.
- De Omnibus Dubitandum Est, 2016, *Henry VIII Foreign Policy: 1509-1529*, viewed 26 July 2017**
 < <https://deomnibusdubitandumest.wordpress.com/2015/09/14/henry-viii-foreign-policy> >
Succinctly outlining the foreign policy England's foreign policy under Henry VIII, this article provided key details regarding the separation from Rome, and how such a move resulted in economic profit as Anglo-American trade spread to the North Atlantic.
- Dean, D. 1996, *Law-Making and Society in Late Elizabethan England: Parliament of England 1584-1601*, London: Cambridge University Press, p.133-137.**
Examining a wide range of social and economic issues, law reform, religious and political concerns, and affairs both national and local, this book addresses the importance of parliament both as a political event and as a legislative institution. Drawing upon an array of local, corporate and personal archives, as well as parliamentary records, this text works to reinterpret the legislative history of the period.
- Doran, S. and Jones, N. 2014, *The Elizabethan World*, London: Routledge Press, p.412.**
Encompassing social, political, cultural, religious and economic history whilst crossing several disciplines, this book comprehensively examines the period of transformation under Elizabeth I. Through widely-sourced research, it draws a vivid picture of how politics, religion, popular culture, the world of work and social practices culminated in the prosperity of the Elizabethan age.
- Ellis, S. 2011, *The Queen's Golden Age*, British Heritage Journal, Vol. 32, Issue 4, p.34.**
 < <http://web.b.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=1&sid=3982ccb7-1e20-4b94-ac91-9b8e0a1c47d4%40sessionmgr120> >
This journal article excerpt explores the development of Elizabeth's public image, linking her domestic agenda concerning the arts/education to the wider outcomes of the Golden Age.

- Elton, G. 2003, *Studies in Tudor and Stuart Politics and Government: Papers and Reviews*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, p.109-113.**
This collection of papers revolves around the political, constitutional and personal problems of the English government throughout the Tudor period. Arranged into four sections, this compendium investigates historical preconceptions with renewed evidence, constructing a widely-researched picture of the political events from the reign of Henry VIII to Elizabeth I.
- Evans-Pritchard, A. 2016, *How Henry VIII's 'Brexiteer' lead to English trading glory*, viewed 26 July 2018 < <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2016/09/what-did-henry-viii-tudor-brexiteer-lead-to> >**
Cross-referencing statistical data with numerous other economic studies, this article provides a succinct summary, outlining the repercussions of Henry VIII's religious separation from Rome; thus, drawing a well-researched conclusion which ties the later naval, colonial, and trade-based successes of Elizabethan England with the territorial liberation obtained under Henry's 'Brexiteer.'
- Fulbrook, M. 1983, *Piety and Politics: Religion and the Rise of Absolutism in England, Wurttemberg and Prussia*, Cambridge University Press, p.45-48.**
Connecting the wider religious movements of the era into the context of English politics, this book provides a systematic comparative analysis of the contributions made by the Puritan and Pietist movements to the success or failure of absolutist rule in England, Württemberg and Prussia.
- Fryde, E. 1970, *Historical Studies of the English Parliament*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press Archive, p.350-355.**
Linking key excerpts of primary evidence with well-rounded critical analysis, this book provides a retrospective re-interpretation of previous scholarly work, delving into the operational structure of English parliament whilst drawing in wider evidence regarding the proceedings of the Reformation under Henry VIII, and religious settlement under Elizabeth I.
- Gibbins, H. 2015, *Industry in England: Historical Outlines*, London: Routledge Press, p.34-37.**
This book comprehensively explores the socioeconomic climate of Elizabethan England; investigating specific facets of industry and trade trends throughout the pre and post-Settlement era, this text also uncovers the efficacy of the Elizabethan legislature in combatting poverty, bolstering industrial growth, and securing prosperity.
- Haigh, C. 1993, *The Reformations and the Division of England*, p.285.**
 < <http://web.b.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail/detail?vid=1&sid=deb6ad94-da43-4104-8690> >
Delving beyond the surface of official political policy to explore the religious views and practices of ordinary English people, this book provides a detailed analysis of the governmental proceedings under Henry VIII, fitting the English reformation into the larger contextual picture of Europe.
- Hibbert, C. 1991, *The Virgin Queen: Elizabeth I, Genius of the Golden Age*, Cambridge: Perseus Books**
This book provides key information regarding Elizabeth I's style of governance and adept manipulation of potential threats to her rule; in particular, this source comprehensively analyses the strategic importance of her monarchical projection in maintaining her reign as a female non-Catholic leader.

- History of Parliament, 2017, *Elizabethan Social and Economic Legislation*, viewed 29 July 2018**
 < <http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/elizabethan-social-and-economic-legislation> >
This source was crucial to obtaining an understanding of Elizabethan socioeconomic policies, providing key evidence regarding how Henry VIII's Poor Laws and Dissolution of the Monasteries contributed to and inspired the development of the first English 'common wealth.'
- Lewis, B. 2017, *Elizabeth I: The Reality Behind the Mask*, British Heritage, Vol. 24, Issue 4, p.18.**
 < <http://web.b.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=1&sid=bf126c28-4509-8c0f-54b8e0df455d%40sessionmgr120> >
This article from the British Heritage journal provided a wide variety of information regarding Elizabeth I's governance strategies; commenting on particular facets of her reign, this source uncovered the methods she utilised when dealing with her Court and assuaging the populace.
- Luu, L. 2017, *Immigrants and the Industries of London: 1500-1700*, London: Routledge Press, p.31.**
As Elizabethan religious settlement secured peace, an influx of skilled workers migrated to England in pursuit of safety; this book explores how, through enterprise and persistence, these immigrants' contribution helped transform London from a peripheral and backward European city to become the workshop of the world, generating industrial prosperity of the Elizabethan Age.
- MacCulloch, D. 1995, *Henry VIII: Politics, Policy & Piety*, London: Palgrave Macmillan, p.57-61.**
This collection of essays provides comprehensive historical discussion, exploring the reformation of central and local government, foreign policy, relations between leading politicians, life at Court, the break with Rome, and the growth of evangelical religion in Henry's England.
- Neale, J. E. 1950, *The Elizabethan Acts and Governmental Systems*, The English Historical Review, Vol. 65, Issue 2, p.304-332.**
 < <https://academic.oup.com/ehr/article-abstract/LXV/CCLVI/304/465524/Elizabethan Acts> >
This article expansively investigates the implications and reception of the Elizabethan Acts of Settlement, providing key insights into the operation structure of the government throughout the period whilst cross-analysing the immediate effects of such revolutionary policies.
- Pabst, A. 2009, *Henry VIII and the Birth of Capitalism*, The Guardian, viewed 22 July 2018**
 < <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2009/may/01/religion-henry-vii-monasteries> >
Hinting at the commencement of England's international ascendancy under Elizabeth I, this article links the socioeconomic repercussions of the Dissolution of the Monasteries under Henry VIII to the flourishing trends of industry and trade in post-Henrican England.
- Palliser, D. M. 1992, *The Age of Elizabeth: England Under the Later Tudors (1547–1603)*, London & New York: Longman Publishing.**
Providing an extensive and well-rounded foundation of the Elizabethan era, this book richly contrasts the glamour of privilege with the misery and privation of the poor, balancing the vagabondage and starvation of the Tudor era with the achievements of England's 'Golden Age.'

- Pettegree, A. 1988, *Elizabethan Foreign Policy*, The Historical Journal, Vol. 31, Issue 4, p.965-972.**
This journal article excerpt succinctly outlines the foundations of England's foreign policy under Elizabeth I, linking the influence of Henry VIII's naval interests to success of England's colonial and trading exploits in the new era of global expansion.
- Ponko, V. 1968, *The Privy Council and the Spirit of Elizabethan Economic System*, Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, Vol. 58, Issue 4, p.22-63**
Inspecting the internal workings of the Elizabethan Privy Council, this journal article comprehensively inspects the legislative development of the Elizabethan socioeconomic reforms, uncovering the immediate and long-term effects of such transformative policies.
- Richards, J. 2017, *Elizabeth I: Fictions and Realities*, History Review, Vol. 72, p.11**
 < <http://web.b.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=1&sid=03d73f58-1a45-442> >
Outlining the key facets defining Elizabeth I's reign, this article proved useful as a basic reference point for further research, succinctly outlining the main features of her governance strategy whilst providing extensive contextual information regarding religious strife in Europe.
- Rowse, A. 2003, *Expansion in Elizabethan England*, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, p.206.**
Providing a comprehensive account of England's foreign affairs and colonial quests throughout the Elizabethan era, this article extensively investigates the key ventures of English trade and conquest which perpetuated this era of international dominance.
- Sacks, D.H. 1995, *The Countervailing of Benefits: Monopoly, Liberty & Benevolence in Elizabethan England*, Tudor Political Culture, p.272-91.**
Unveiling the complex nature of politics within the Elizabethan government, this article from the Tudor Political Culture journal explores the emergence of monopolies within English industry and trade, whilst revealing the complex political rivalries within the parliament.
- Stevenson, L. 2002, *Praise and Paradox: Merchants and Craftsmen in Elizabethan England*, London: Cambridge University Press, p.22-26.**
Providing a more concentrated perspective, this book analyses the socio-cultural situation of Elizabethan England, providing comprehensive accounts of the various sectors of English industry and trade which flourished throughout this era of prosperity.
- Tennessee State University, 2017, *Elizabethan Economy*, viewed 16 July 2018**
 < <http://faculty.tnstate.edu/smcurtis/Elizabethan%20Economy.htm> >
This short article explains the fundamental economic activity in Elizabethan England, illuminating the interdependency of foreign trade and exploration in bolstering the domestic growth of skilled manufacturing industries.
- The British Library, 2017, *Exploration and Trade in Elizabethan England*, viewed 22 July 2018**
 < <https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/exploration-and-trade-in-elizabethan-england> >
This article investigates the expeditions which instigated England's pursuit of colonial and trading expansion, chronologically following the key events in the globalisation of English influence.

The Conversation, 2017, *The Asylum Seekers of Elizabethan England*, viewed 17 July 2018

< <https://theconversation.com/the-asylum-seekers-who-frightened-elizabethan-england> >

This article proved a crucial source in exploring the economic effects of migration following religious settlement under Elizabeth I. Providing a variety of specific statistics relating to the various industrial regions of England, this article investigates the movements of textile workers, uncovering the effects of this influx of skilled labours which occurred in such a short time period.

Todd, M. 1995, *Reformation to Revolution: Politics & Religion in Tudor England*, London: Routledge.

This book investigates historiographical debates concerning politics and religion in early modern England, drawing together thirteen articles to analyse revisionist and counter-revisionist viewpoints to offer a considerably broad understanding of this transformative era.

University of Wisconsin, 2016, *Elizabethan Exploration & Foreign Policy*, viewed 28 July 2018

< <https://faculty.history.wisc.edu/sommerville/361/361-19.htm> >

This article provides a solid foundational outline of England's global emergence, succinctly summarising the exploration, colonisation, trade, and foreign policy of this era whilst additionally touching upon the war with Spain and tensions with Ireland.

University of Wisconsin, 2016, *Elizabeth I: Parliament, Church & Economy*, viewed 9 July 2018

< <https://faculty.history.wisc.edu/sommerville/361/361-16.htm> >

Functioning as a simplistic timeline of the key parliamentary movements of the Elizabethan era, this article uncovers the changes in revenue collection, ecclesiastical administration, and worker's rights which grew out of the religious settlement under Elizabeth I.

Wagner, J. A. 2002, *Historical Dictionary of the Elizabethan World: Britain, Ireland, Europe, and America*, New York: Checkmark Books.

Tying together the domestic developments of Elizabethan England with the wider, regional movements of the era, this book presents a trans-Atlantic approach to historical analysis of the period, investigating relevant individuals and events from Irish, Scottish, Welsh, American, and Western European history.

Watch Tower Library and Tract Society of Pennsylvania, 2010, *The Golden Age of Queen Elizabeth I: Myth or Reality*, viewed 21 July 2018

< <https://wol.jw.org/en/wol/d/r1/lp-e/102010008#h=23> >

Providing cross-analysis with multiple other sources, this article presents a foundational outlook on the transfer of power within the Tudor era, exploring the problems Elizabeth inherited, how she dealt with them, and the aftermath of moving away from the grip of the Catholic church.

Waters, D. W. 1949, *The Elizabethan Navy and the Armada Campaign*, *The Mariner's Mirror*, Vol. 35, Issue 2, p.90-138, viewed 13 July 2018

< <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00253359.1949.10657546?> >

Detailing the events of England's success over the Spanish Armada, this article is a valuable source which extensively tracks the transition from Henry VIII's establishment of the navy to the domination of English naval forces on an international level.

Wernham, R. 1980, *The Making of Elizabethan Foreign Policy: 1558-1603*, Berkeley: University of California Press, p.2-10.

This book provides a comprehensive analysis of the origins and outcomes of Elizabeth I's foreign policy, delving into how her decisions were built out of her responses to immediate problems posed by neighboring - and in the case of France and Spain, far more powerful - countries.

Wilson, D. 2001, *In the Lion's Court: Power, Ambition, and Sudden Death in the Reign of Henry VIII*, New York: St. Martin's Press.

This book offers a fresh approach to the political narrative of Henry's tumultuous reign, examining the interlocking stories of six key political figures to illustrate the treacherous environment of the Tudor Court.

Wrightson, K. 1982, *English Society: 1580-1680*, Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press.

This book presents an extensive account of societal and rural change in the Tudor era, discussing both the enduring characteristics of society as well as the course of social change, emphasising the variation in experience between different regional and local communities.