

## The Elizabethan Age, 1558-1603

### Elizabethan Government

#### Elizabeth's coronation

**TASK:** Complete the gap fill.

Elizabeth's coronation was deliberately designed to be a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ event to show off the power of the new monarch. On 12<sup>th</sup> January \_\_\_\_\_, Elizabeth travelled from Whitehall to the Tower in a ceremonial barge along the River \_\_\_\_\_. Two days later, she undertook a \_\_\_\_\_ through the streets of \_\_\_\_\_. Elizabeth was crowned at her coronation on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January and came out of the Abbey to loud \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ from the crowd. She was dressed in coronation \_\_\_\_\_ patterned with Tudor roses.

**Robes**

**Splendid**

**Thames**

**London**

**Cheers**

**Instruments**

**Colourful**

**Procession**

**1559**

#### The Royal Court

**TASK:** Match the term to the correct definition.

<b>Lady in waiting</b>	People that attend the Royal Court.
<b>Courtiers</b>	An extreme Protestant who wanted churches to be very plain, without decoration and simple services, without music.
<b>Patronage</b>	A lady who is a queen's or princess's attendant.
<b>Puritan</b>	When the monarch gives out special favours e.g. land, positions in court to keep their support.
<b>Factions</b>	The right by which one person succeeds to an office.
<b>Succession</b>	A group of people within a larger group of people.

**TASK:** Using the terms from above, explain how Elizabeth maintained political power.

---

---

---

---

#### The Privy Council and Councillors

The Privy Council was a body of advisers and administrators, appointed by the queen to help her rule. Privy Councillors were chosen from members of the noble and gentry classes.

➤ Sir William Cecil

As Elizabeth's principal adviser, it was Cecil who managed to meetings in parliament and he served as the link between the monarch and parliament. In 1572, he was appointed lord treasurer and was in charge of government finance.

➤ Robert Dudley

Elizabeth appointed Dudley Earl of Leicester in 1564 and in 1585 he was made commander of the army and sent to the Netherlands.

➤ Sir Christopher Hatton

Hatton was appointed vice-chamberlain of the household and a member of the Privy Council in 1557. He was made responsible for the queen's progresses and was given the post of Lord Chancellor in 1587.

➤ Sir Francis Walsingham

In 1570 Walsingham was appointed ambassador to Paris and 1573 he was made secretary of state with special responsibility for foreign affairs. He was placed in charge of Elizabeth's secret service and organised a network of government spies placed all over Europe.

➤ Robert Devereux

Devereux gained military knowledge fighting in France, Spain and the Netherlands. Elizabeth later put him in command of attacks on Spain and Ireland.

➤ Robert Cecil

He took over Walsingham's responsibilities after his death and was responsible for supervising arrangements for the succession of James VI of Scotland as king, following the death of Elizabeth in 1603.

**TASK:** Using the information above, explain how important Privy councillors were in helping Elizabeth govern England.

---

---

---

---

---

---

**TASK:** Who do you believe was the most significant councillor during Elizabeth's reign? Explain your answer.

---

---

---

---

---

### Local Government

Elizabeth did not travel too far from London and she therefore had to rely upon a trusted body of officials to ensure that her rule was respected and that law and order was maintained across the country.

**TASK:** Match the title to their job responsibility.

The Lord Lieutenant	They were appointed from among tradesmen or husbandmen (farmers). They were expected to hold the unpaid post for 1 year. They were given a number of duties to help the JP. These included preventing trespassing and to keep the taverns and inns in order.
The Sheriff	This person was chief among these royal officials. One was appointed for each county and they kept the queen informed about what was happening in their area. They were in charge of the local militia and their title held great prestige.
Justices of the Peace (JPs)	They helped administering relief to the poor by collecting a local tax (called the poor rate) from everyone in their parish. This money would then be distributed to those in need of support and charity.
The Parish Constable	This role was chiefly concerned with legal affairs such as appointing and swearing in juries, delivering prisoners to court and helping with the collection of taxes.
The Overseer of the poor	The real work of maintaining the law and order at local level fell on the role of this person. There were 30-60 in each county and were usually wealthy country gentlemen. They were unpaid but saw the job as their duty. They were supported by junior officials such as the parish constable.

### The role of Parliament

**TASK:** Complete the gap fill.

During Elizabeth's reign, parliament was much less \_\_\_\_\_ than it is today. It met only when the queen called it and it ceased to meet when she told it to close down. The main motive for calling parliament was usually \_\_\_\_\_, Elizabeth needed Parliament to grant money from \_\_\_\_\_ to pay for the running or \_\_\_\_\_ of the country. Parliament was made up of two bodies: the House of \_\_\_\_\_ and the House of \_\_\_\_\_. Elizabeth was prepared to limit freedom of \_\_\_\_\_ within parliament, because she believed foreign policy and religion were to be discussed in the Privy Council.

**Powerful**

**Lords**

**Defence**

**Commons**

**Speech**

**Taxed**

**Financial**