

YEAR 8 API REVISION BOOK

CLASS:

NAME:

TEACHER:



WHAT IS HISTORY?

History is quite simple really – it is the study of the past! It especially focuses on humans and the civilisations which we have built over time.

To help us organise and understand the past, we also tend to look at different themes. These include:

- **SOCIAL** history which focuses on things to do with people such as language, religion and entertainment.
- **ECONOMIC** themes which focus on things to do with jobs, money and trade – buying and selling items.
- **MILITARY** topics which is simply anything to do with wars and armies.
- **POLITICAL** history which is another simple one – this involves power, government and laws.

WHAT IS EVIDENCE?

EVIDENCE is very important to historians – it is the material we use to help us make learn and reach conclusion about the past!

However, there are different types of evidence that we can use as historians. These are:

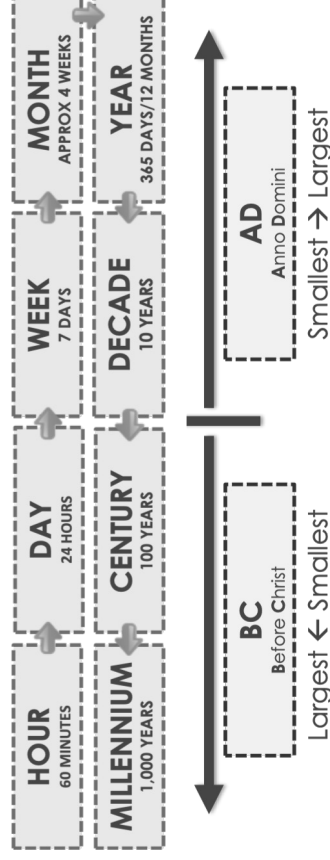


We can also divide evidence into other categories. This is especially useful for sources. These categories are:

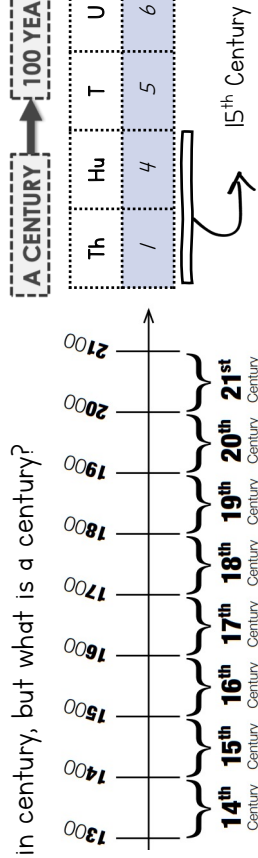
- **WRITTEN**
- **PHYSICAL**
- **VISUAL**
- **ORAL**

HOW DO HISTORIANS ORGANISE TIME?

CHRONOLOGY means the arrangement of dates and events into the order which they happened. However, to help us do this we have some important language that we use - this is outlined below:



CENTURIES are pretty special to historians as well! We often say that events happened in a certain century, but what is a century?



KEY WORD	DEFINITION
SOCIAL	Things to do with people such as language, religion, etc.
ECONOMIC	Things to do with money, jobs, trade and business.
MILITARY	Things to do with war and armies.
POLITICAL	Things to do with power, government and laws.
CHRONOLOGY	The arrangement of dates into the order that they happened.
CENTURY	A period lasting 100 years.
EVIDENCE	Material/Information used to learn and reach conclusion on the past.
SOURCE	Material produced at the time period studied.
INTERPRETATION	An opinion produced by an historian long after the event.



What was life like in the High Middle Ages?

Peasant families lived in wooden huts that they would build themselves. Each had a small garden where they grew vegetables and fruit. They might also keep sheep, pigs, goats, and chickens to help provide them with meat and dairy products.

Most people ate what they grew - if they didn't grow enough, they starved. This meant that their diet consisted mainly of:

- Cereals - wheat for bread, barley for brewing, porridge oats.
- Vegetables - carrots, parsnip, cabbages, peas, beans and onions.
- Fruit - such as apples, cherries and plums

Generally, peasants ate three meals a day - breakfast at around 6am, lunch around 10am and supper at 4pm. The main dish at supper was **POTTAGE**.

Meat like beef was usually for the rich; most, though, would eat pork and fish as both were more available. Beyond this the diet was quite boring.

As most of the population lived in villages, buildings generally looked the same. Walls of houses were made of wood and woven together with small wooden branches covered in a mix of mud, straw, horse hair and animal dung. This was known as **WATTLE AND DAUB**. Roofs were thatched with straw or reeds. It was also common for animals to share the one room in a house - so imagine the smell!

The only structures found in villages and rural locations that were made from stone were those that linked to power and rank. For example, the local lord may have built his mansion out of stone but the main building that dominated the skyline was the Church.

However, there was one silver lining - 'holy days' or holidays! Firstly, no-one was expected to work on Sunday; instead, they were expected to attend Church and worship God. Secondly, Christmas and Easter were obviously a big deal - 12 days of leisure at Christmas and a full week at Easter. Lastly, peasants had on average one saint's day a month in which they would celebrate and feast.



What was working life like in the High Middle Ages?

The majority of England were peasants, and they spent their time working on farms in a **SUBSISTENCE** lifestyle. This means that they relied on themselves to survive, usually by producing just enough of their own food to eat over the year.



Two types of farming existed - **ARABLE** and **PASTORAL**. Arable focused on the growth of crops such as wheat and barley whilst pastoral involved the rearing of animals such as sheep.



A peasants' life was driven by the seasons. In spring, they would plough fields and sow seeds whilst in autumn, they would harvest the crop they laid earlier in the year. Summer jobs included shearing sheep, weeding the fields and hay-making. Ultimately, farming was hard work and required them to constantly work all year round.

The working day lasted from dawn to dusk, in summer it would reach be 16 hours but in winter only 8! However, the day was broken into chunks built around breaks -for breakfast, lunch, an afternoon nap and dinner.

As part of **FEUDALISM**, peasants had to work for the lord; this involved ploughing his land one day a week along with other jobs such as weeding, hay-making and mending fences for two additional days a week. At harvest time, this would increase to five days a week!

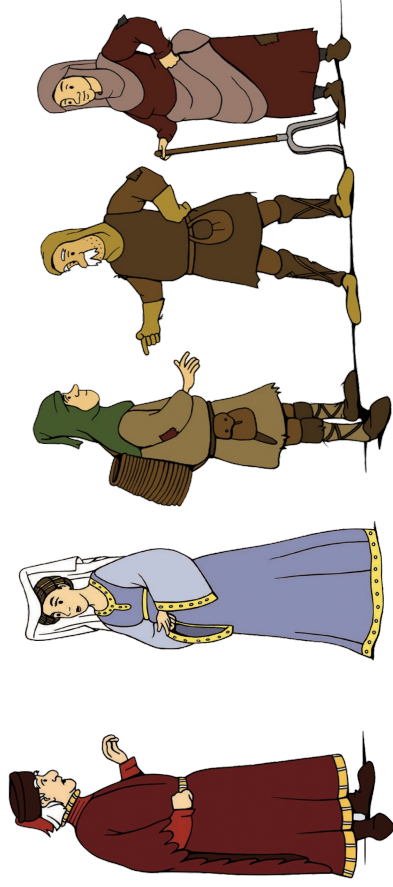
However, not everyone farmed. Some had a specialist job such as blacksmith, carpenter, or cloth weaver. They would sell their goods and services to other people - or even travel to the nearest town or neighbouring village to sell things on market days.



What did people wear in the High Middle Ages?

Clothes were made from fine wool, leather, linen, velvet, silk, or fur. Some were decorated with gold and silver thread, jewels, chains, and fancy buttons. Colours also meant a great deal; red meant love, yellow meant anger and grey meant sadness.

A well-dressed man might wear a **TUNIC**, leggings and a hat. However, the style, length and thickness varied over the period. Women's dresses were always long and got brighter and more elaborate throughout the Middle Ages.



Poulaines or pointed shoes were very fashionable; some were pointed that the toes had to be tied back. Platform shoes called Pattens were common too, for walking through the filthy, muddy streets.



Peasants wore plain and simple tunics, woollen leggings, straw or woollen hats, hoods, and capes – all would have been made of coarse wool. In winter to keep warm, they would have simply worn leather or sheepskin jackets. They dressed in dull colours such as grey, brown and dark green. Some peasants couldn't even afford to buy shoes. Their clothes were nearly always handmade and would last for years!

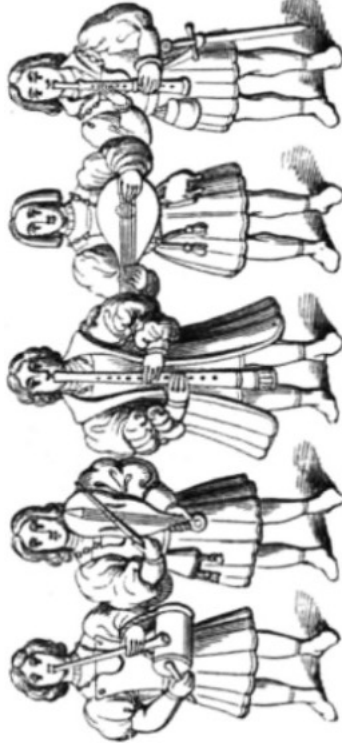


What did people do for fun in the High Middle Ages?

With the silver lining of 'holy days', what did people get up to fun in the spare time they had? In some ways, it is not that different to what we do today – music, sports, and theatre!

Two types of music existed – **SACRED** and **HOUSE**. Sacred music would be played in Church, and it had no harmonies – just a singer singing a tune! House music would be much more entertaining; bands of up to a dozen people would play instruments like the tambourine, lute and flute – even a hurdy gurdy – whilst people would dance in large circles.

Minstrels wandered from town to town, entertaining crowds as they went. They would sometimes sing for the lord but mostly played on the street as people danced and sang along. They were usually paid in coins for their performance, but minstrels had a more important role that just fun – they gathered and spread messages around the country from all their travels.



Plays were also popular and often played in front of large crowds. They originally began in Church and were used to teach peasants about the Bible but over time they turned in big morality tales of good overcoming evil – much like our films of today! Some were known as **MIRACLE PLAYS**. They were performed by groups of travelling actors who toured the country.



Title:

Why was the Church so important in the High Middle Ages?

SOURCE A



A doom painting from the wall of Chaldon Church in Surrey, England.

The Church, based in Rome and led by the Pope, was a powerful organisation that spread across Europe in the High Middle Ages and had tremendous influence in the period.

Within England, the Church controlled 25% of the land available as well as collected a 10% tax known as a tithe. They would also take donations from the public. This meant that the Church was amongst the wealthiest group in England and Europe!

The Church placed great emphasis on the afterlife and taught that, through God, **ETERNAL SALVATION** was possible. That taught that by living a life as free of **SIN** as possible, showing repentance and accepting Jesus Christ, a soul could be saved and enter Heaven. However, things like theft and greed were seen as sins which could impact the ability of a soul to enter Heaven. This meant the Church influenced the behaviour of all people.



The **PARISH** (community) church was the centre of village life. People went for a variety of reasons including news, education, markets, protection and worship. Each had a priest who gave the Sunday services, heard confessions, gave forgiveness, visited the sick and gave shelter, clothing and food to the poor. The most important events in life would also take place in the parish church; baptism, marriage and burial were all done

GUIDED READING

The Late Middle Ages, occurring during the 14th and 15th centuries, was an interesting period for England and Europe in general. Ravaged by disease and conflict, much would change about life but many things remained consistent.

Feudalism, first introduced to England by William the Conqueror, largely remained intact. It maintained the powers of a select few including the monarch at the expense of the villeins, or peasants. The peasantry, also known as serfs, were expected to still do the lion share of the work including for their local lord – often at the expense of their own land and crops.

However, the Peasants' Revolt (1381) would start the process of dismantling this system. The peasants, led by the heroic Wat Tyler, had proven that they had the power to threaten the power of kings and were rewarded with adjustments to feudalism. These included being given slightly more freedom by being allowed to leave the land without the local lord's permission.

Beyond this, the power of the King remained a common thread of society. In fact, when King Richard faced down the rebels in 1381 it led to a brief period where the power of the King was absolute as he relied on no-one other than himself and a small group of allies to run the country. However, this would go on to create more problems as the powerful barons and lords of England were upset by this and orchestrated a further revolt in 1399 that ended with Richard deposed and Henry Bolingbroke crowned as King Henry IV.

Economically, much of England stayed the same. The peasants worked the land, either on arable or pastoral farms, in a system where they grew enough to survive and feed themselves known as subsistence. Little here really changed; wars came, revolts ended but the peasants mainly still farmed the land for their own food.

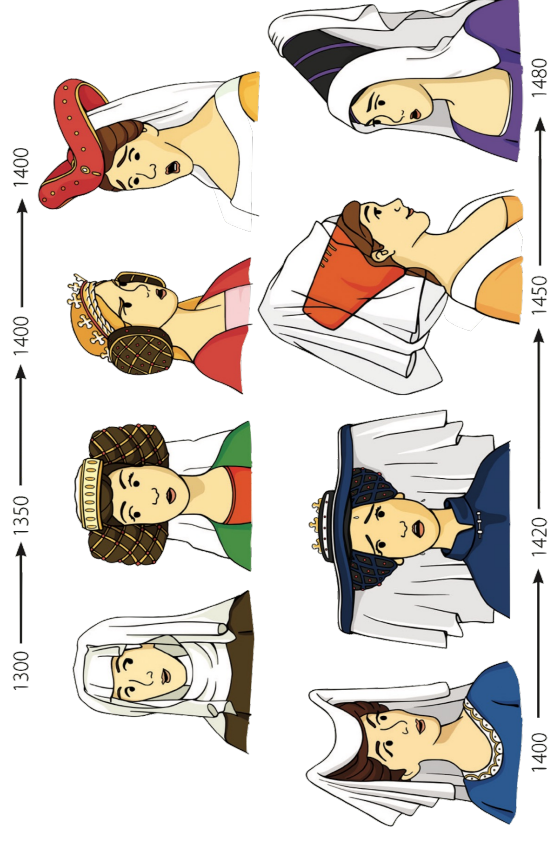
Where changes did happen is for those workers who could move and had freedom due to the skills they offered. As a result of the Black Death, the population of England had shrunk by 1.5 million which meant that there were not enough people to fulfil the jobs needed to keep the economy going. Consequently, wages increased for some; for skilled builders, by 66%, for craftsmen by 45% and even for the average peasants who were paid for services.

These wages led to improvements in living conditions and especially in education. With more disposable income, elements of society could now afford to educate themselves and their

children. University enrolment increased, leading to expansion of places such as Cambridge and Oxford. Beyond this, basic levels of literacy started to steadily grow across the country, particularly in cities and towns.

This change though threatened the fabric of the country and led to some pushback from monarchs who feared a peasant-class with too much money. When King Edward III introduced the Statute of Labourers in 1351, it was done to restrict the economic growth of peasants by forcing wages back down to pre-plague levels and ensuring that everyone under 60 was working. The Peasants' Revolt, though, would lead to Parliament reducing their attempts to control wages in England and, subsequently, wages started again to grow – by an estimated 40% over time.

Socially, much of England remained the same. Clothing continued to reflect that seen overall in the High Middle Ages with certain elements evolving over time as the diagram below shows.



Beyond this, religion continued to play a dominant role in society. The parish church remained the heart of the community, sharing information from local, national and world events as well as overseeing the key rites of passage for individuals such as baptism and marriage. For fun, it was also a case of continuity; plays, song, dance all remained common.



Understanding the Tudors

Over the period 1485-1603, one powerful family ruled England. Known as the **TUDOR** family, the decisions they made about government and religion would have a profound impact on the growth of England, and eventually the UK.



Henry VII was the king of England from 1485 to 1509. He won the Battle of Bosworth Field, ending over a century of war. Once king, he focused on stabilising the country, improving finances, and establishing strong government. This 24 year period laid the foundation for the prosperous **TUDOR** royal family.



The son of Henry VII, Henry VIII only became King because his older brother, Arthur, died. Born in 1491, he ruled England from 1509 to 1547. He married his brother's widow but ultimately ended this marriage, creating his own Christian Church in England to do so. He famously had six wives.



The only male child of Henry VIII, EDWARD VI inherited the throne before his older sisters. Born in 1537, he was only 9 when he took the crown which meant that others ruled the country for him – making even more changes to religion in England. He did not last very long though – dying in 1553.



MARY I was the eldest child of Henry VIII and took the throne when Edward died. She then restored the old Catholic Church to England and tried to remove the new Church created by her father and brother. In doing so, she earned the nickname 'Bloody Mary'. Born in 1516, she ruled England from 1553 to 1558 – all with the help of her husband, Phillip – the King of Spain.



Referred to as the 'Virgin Queen', Elizabeth I was the last Tudor. Born in 1516, she ruled England from 1558 to 1603 and oversaw a 'Golden Age' as England grew economically with limited religious issues as Elizabeth found a way to allow both the old and new religion to survive. This success though brought issues – mostly constant war with Spain! However, she never married which meant she left no heir.



What did Henry VII do as King of England?

What did Henry VIII do?

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Political | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Used Parliament to pass laws that removed any opponents to his power. In total this affected 138 people. Appointed people to rule areas of England on his behalf; for example, the Earl of Surrey run the entire north of England. He organised a marriage between his daughter, Margaret, and the King of Scotland. |
| Economic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Was granted a special tax called TONNAGE AND POUNDAGE worth £38,000 per year for life by Parliament. Improved income of the Crown from £12,000 in 1486 to £42,000 in 1509. Raised over £400,000 through deeply unpopular extra taxes. When he died in 1509, he left over £300,000 worth of jewels and plate along with £10,000 cash. |
| Religious | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given almost total control over the Church in England, using it to grant himself £48,000 in 1491. |
| Military | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signed a peace treaty with France that involved Henry receiving a pension of £5,000 a year. Organised a treaty with Brittany that made sure an English army was available to support them – for a fee. Henry won his crown on the battlefield at the BATTLE OF BOSWORTH FIELD by supposedly leading a group of knights against the enemy. Placed the Earl of Oxford in charge of the army at Stoke Field to defeat a rebellion. |
| Social | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of living increased in the period, leading to food problems and rebellions such as the Yorkshire Rebellion (1489) after a bad harvest. |



Title:

What was religion like in 1500?

In 1500, the only Christian Church allowed was the Catholic Church. Those deemed to have gone against the Catholic Church was labelled a heretic and burnt at the stake. They believed that Catholic traditions were the only way to worship and this included worshipping saints, 'buying' indulgences to gain admittance to Heaven and priests as the only messengers of God.

What was it like?

- Followed the Pope as Head of the Church, who ruled from the Vatican in Rome.
- Cardinals, bishops and archbishops all provided leadership in the local areas.
- England had two archbishops; one based in Canterbury (South) and another in York (North).
- Priests were not allowed to marry and instead had to take a vow of celibacy. This meant that all priests had to not have sexual relationships.

Leadership

- Large majestic cathedrals were built in key locations across England, dominating the skyline with beautiful spires like those at Lichfield Cathedral.
- Built to show the majesty of God with stained glass windows, statues and ornaments all common.
- Large statues were on display showing Jesus, the Virgin Mary and many saints.

Decoration

- The Bible was written in Latin and read only by priests as most people could not read this language.
- Services were also undertaken in the spoken form of Latin – which again most could not understand.
- Believed that the **TRANSUBSTANTIATION** miracle happened during Mass where the bread and wine transformed into the body and blood of Christ.

Services



Title:

Why did England start to challenge the traditional church in the 16th Century?

7

Over the course of the 16th Century, many people in England and across Europe began to challenge the traditional Catholic Church. This was for many reasons which focused spiritual/religious matters and the politics of the time.



Martin Luther, a priest based in Germany, had spiritual and religious issues with how the Catholic Church was organised. He produced a wide-range of pamphlets in the early 1500s that outlined his religious reasons for challenging the Catholic Church. These included:

- Use of the Bible to guide religion, rather than the 'traditions' that the Catholic Church had built up over the last 1,000 years.
- The Pope and other priests' sale of **INDULGENCES**.
- Widespread corruption that saw family members of powerful priests appointed to positions of influence.

Within England, more political reasons drove the challenge to the Church. One of the main duties of the King was to provide an heir to the throne, but by the 1530s Henry VIII's marriage to Catherine of Aragon had failed to produce a male child. Driven by his desire for a child, Henry VIII approached the Pope to annul the marriage through a divorce. However, when he was refused by the Pope, Henry VIII simply created his own church – known as the 'Church of England' – and gave himself the title 'Defender of the Faith' to grant himself a divorce.

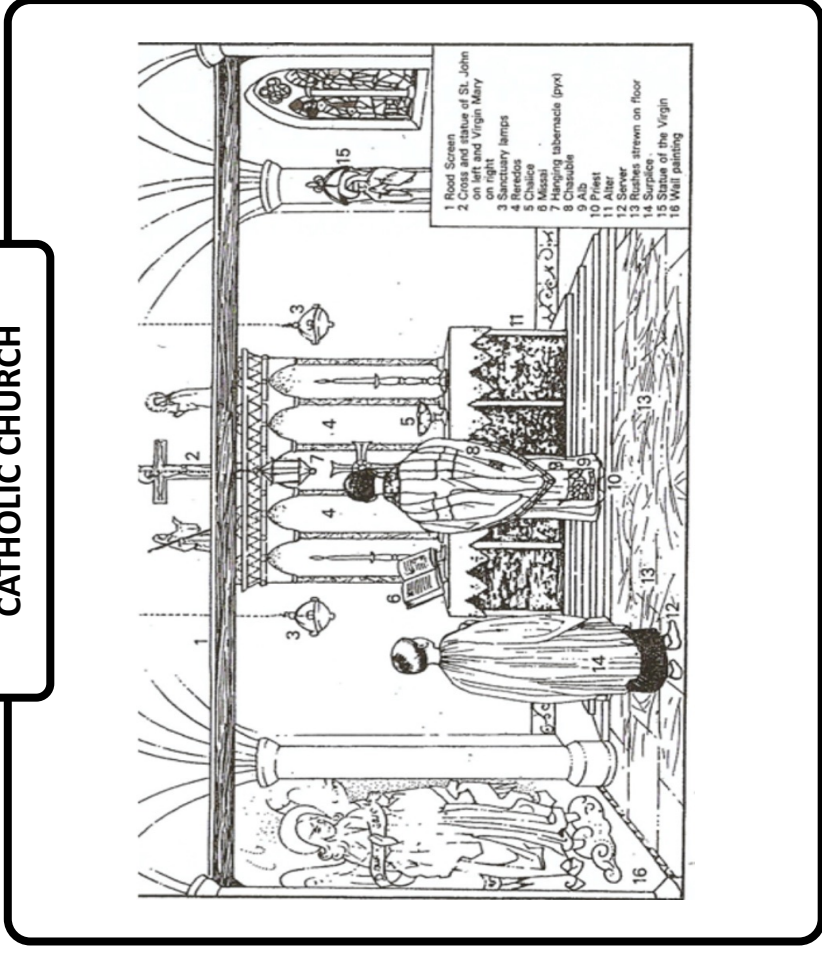


This challenge was known as the **REFORMATION** and was led by Protestants.

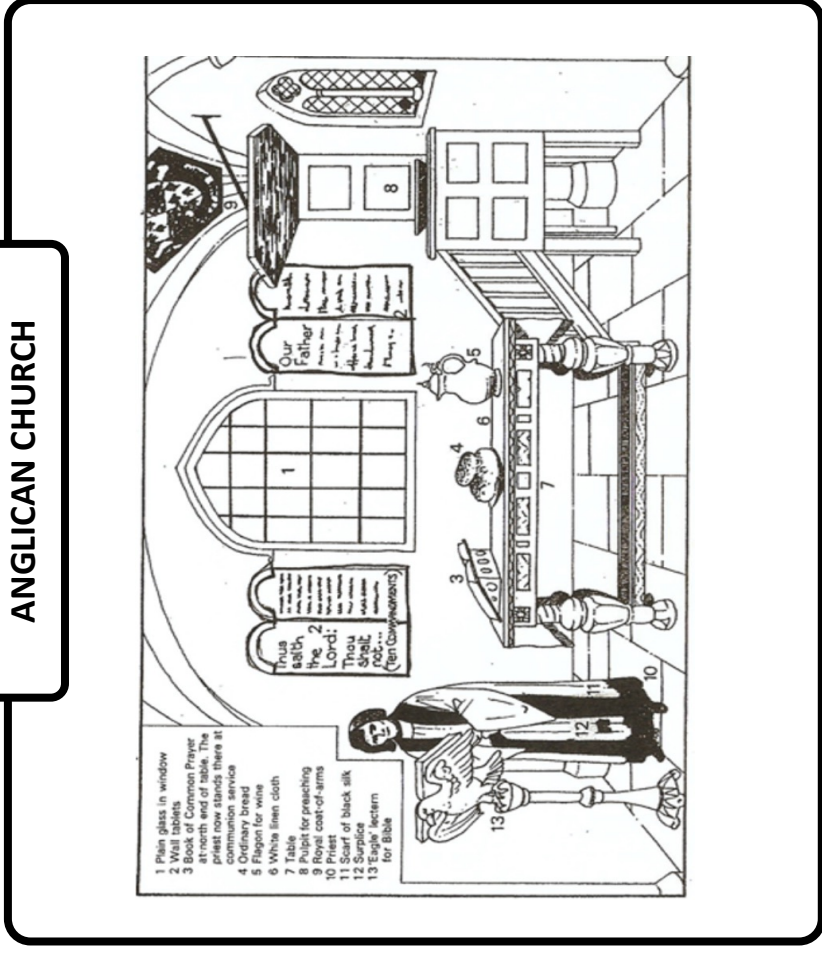


Over the 16th Century, two new groups of Christian emerged – the ANGLICANS and PURITANS. Whilst both groups were Christian, they had different styles and beliefs about how God should be worshipped.

CATHOLIC CHURCH



ANGLICAN CHURCH



	The Anglican Way	The Puritan Way
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church would be led by the Monarch of England. The Monarch of England was also given the title 'Defender of the Faith'. The Monarch would also appoint an Archbishop to lead on Church matters and interpret the word of God. Bishops would remain and continue to run the local area on behalf of the Monarch. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Puritans believed that no single leader of the Church was necessary and therefore there was no need for bishops or any other rank of leader. Instead, Puritans believed that the local parish should elect a committee to decide and enforce upon the religious rules of their parish.
Decoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anglicans favoured a plain church as they saw spending on decoration as going against the word of God This did not mean no decorations at all; just that the decorations would be simplistic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bible makes no comment on how churches should be decorated so Puritans used this to say that they should be plain and bare. Their rationale was that any decorations distracted people from the act of worship.
Priests	<p>Priests were given slightly more freedom including the ability to marry. They were expected to dress in robes but ones that were not as ornate and decorated as those worn by Catholic priests.</p> 	<p>Plainer in dress than Anglicans; again so as not to distract people or the priest from the act of worship.</p> 
Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Services and the Bible were in English and always in view of people which makes them accessible to the public. No actual miracles took place during Eucharist part of services where bread and wine was consumed. Instead, the bread and wine acted as a metaphor for the body and blood of Christ. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everything was in English. Bread and wine remained just that during services but Puritans believed that God was present spiritually during all services.



Title:

Who was James VI and I? Was he a good ruler?

9

In 1603, Queen Elizabeth I died. A messenger called Robert Carey jumped on a fast horse and galloped up to Scotland. So, James VI, King of Scotland, became James I of England – one man with two countries to rule.

JAMES' CHARACTER AND BELIEFS

Considered a clever and well-educated man, James would also write several books on his favourite topic – witchcraft. He also wrote about the dangers of smoking tobacco, which was considered fashionable at the time. A Protestant, James had a strong belief that he was chosen by God to be the King – this was an idea called **DIVINE RIGHT OF KINGS**. He even wrote a book about this known as 'The True Law of Free Monarchies'.

Having been the victim of assassination and kidnapping attempts as a child, it was common for James to wear padded clothing in case anyone tried to stab him. His hygiene and manners left a lot to be desired. He never washed; he swore all the time; it is claimed he picked his nose all the time and used his sleeve as a handkerchief.

Over the course of his reign, James became renowned for his relationships with men; they were no secret at court as he often appointed young, handsome men to positions of influence. He would, though, marry Anne of Denmark and together they had seven children.

JAMES AS KING OF SCOTLAND

James can be considered to have eventually been a successful King of Scotland, ruling the country from 1567. He managed to control both the rich, powerful lords *and* the highland chiefs, dealing with them effectively to prevent any serious rebellions from breaking out.

However, his rule did start out rocky! Only 15 when he inherited the throne, he was easily manipulated by powerful figures like the Duke of Lennox and Earl of Morton. This led to him being kidnapped and imprisoned but after his escape, he established a strong government that began to lead Scotland well.

Politically, he divided Scotland into districts and appointed royal judges to hold regular criminal trials. Economically, he invited talented weavers of cloth from foreign countries to visit Scotland and share techniques to make better cloth with Scottish clothmakers. He also encouraged the mining of gold, silver and coal. Socially, James even managed to keep control of the Scottish Church (known as the Kirk). He did this by passing new laws known as Black Acts that saw two bishops appointed that James directly influenced.

JAMES AS KING OF ENGLAND

James quickly labelled himself King of Great Britain, although England and Scotland still ran their own affairs. In 1606, a competition was held to find a new flag that united both countries – the Union Flag.



Following almost a century of religious turmoil, James knew that one of his most important problems would be the Church. When he met with Protestant Church leaders in 1604, he failed to impress them. Some were so unhappy that they decided to leave England forward, voyaging to the New World. However, from this meeting a decision was made to write a 'new' bible; this would become as known the King James Bible and is the most common version of the Christian bible in existence. On top of this, James also angered the Catholics. When he ordered all 'troublesome' priests to leave England, a small group of Catholics launched a plot to assassinate James and replace him as monarch.

James also inherited a country that was in a prolonged conflict with Spain and had been for the better part of 30 years. In 1604, he signed the Treaty of London that brought peace with Spain as well as several other things. These were:

- Spanish acceptance of England as a Protestant country.
- End the desire of Spain to make England a Catholic country again.
- Opening of English ports and the English Channel to Spanish trade.

However, perhaps the biggest issue facing James was the **GUNPOWDER PLOT**. In 1605, a plan to blow up the King during a meeting of Parliament was discovered. The 'Plotters' were dealt with quickly and strongly; they were dragged through the streets of London, hanged until they were nearly dead, cut down, cut open, and their insides were pulled out and burned on a fire in front of them. Then their corpses were cut into pieces and put on display around the country.

Politically, it also went poorly for James as managed to upset Parliament! Whilst he needed their help to run the country and grant taxes such as **TONNAGE & POUNDAGE**, he did not want Parliament to argue with him about anything as he believed in the **DIVINE RIGHT OF KINGS**. Furious at being questioned, James shut down Parliament in 1614 – for nearly ten years – and relied on his friends to run the country. He also found other ways to get money – mainly by selling lands and titles.



KEY WORD	DEFINITION
POTTAGE	A thick soup or stew made by boiling vegetables, grains, and, if available, meat or fish.
WATTLE AND DAUB	Strips of wood woven together and covered in clay and mud. Used in houses.
SUBSISTENCE	Producing just enough of their own food to survive.
ARABLE FARMING	Farming focused on the growing of crops like wheat.
PASTORAL FARMING	Farming focused on the rearing of animals like sheep.
TUNIC	A piece of clothing, usually simple in style, reaching from the shoulders to a length somewhere between the hips and the knees.
SACRED	Music played within church during the High Middle Ages; it had no harmonies and was usually just a person singing.
HOUSE	Music played with instruments and often by bands in public settings; it would often be accompanied by dancing.
MIRACLE PLAY	Performed by groups of travelling actors who toured the country; they often had religious or moral messages at the core.
PARISH	A small area with a church.
ETERNAL SALVATION	By committing no sin, repenting and God you went to Heaven.
PILGRIMAGE	Undertaking a journey to a special religious site.
TUDOR	The name of the royal family that ruled England between 1485 and 1603. It is also used as an alternative name for the 16 th Century in England.
TONNAGE & POUNDAGE	A special tax granted by Parliament to the King. It was paid on every cask/barrel of wine imported into England.
BATTLE OF BOSWORTH FIELD	The last battle in the War of the Roses. It took place on 22 nd August 1485 and saw Henry Tudor emerge victorious to become the new King of England.

KEY WORD	DEFINITION
TRANSUBSTANTIATION	The miracle that Catholics believe took place during Mass that turned bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus.
INDULGENCES	Pardons issued by the Church to forgive people of sinful behaviour.
DIVINE RIGHT OF KINGS	The belief that Kings were chosen by God and therefore had total power with no-one able to question it.
GUNPOWDER PLOT	An attempt by Catholics to kill James VI and I, King of England and Scotland.