

## Early Elizabethan England UNIT 1: Queen, Government and Religion

Term	Definition
1. The Virgin Queen	Elizabeth was called the Virgin Queen because she never married or had a child. There was pressure from the Privy Council to find a suitable match throughout her reign.
2. The Privy Council	Elizabeth's closest advisors were called the Privy Council. Elizabeth reduced the total number to twenty and appointed William Cecil as her Secretary of State.
3. The Religious Settlement	Elizabeth returned England to Protestantism. To do so she returned the language of the Church to English but made some concessions to appease Catholics as well.
4. Act of Uniformity	Act of the Religious Settlement. This act ensured that all Churches looked the same and had similar decoration and style. Each Church was expected to carry a copy of the Book of Common Prayer, in English.
5. Act of Supremacy	Act of the Religious Settlement. This act stated that Elizabeth was the Supreme Governor. This title appeased no-one. Catholics believed that Pope was Head of the Church and Protestants/Puritans believed no-one was between them and God.
6. Puritans	Puritans were a strict group of Protestants. They were unhappy with Elizabeth's concessions towards Catholics.
7. Vestments	There was great debate over what members of the Clergy should wear. Elizabeth decided on slightly decorated robes. This was not enough for Catholics but was too much for Puritans.
8. The Book of Common Prayer	The prayer book ordered to Churches across the country. Importantly it was in English, breaking from Catholic and Latin texts popular under Mary I.
9. The Papacy	The Catholic Church was lead by a Pope and his closest advisors.
10. Mary, Queen of Scots	Elizabeth's cousin, Mary, Queen of Scots. If Elizabeth did not have a child then Mary was the heir to the throne.
11. Legitimation	Elizabeth was considered illegitimate by many. This was because she was the product of a divorce and Henry had declared her illegitimate.
13. The Nobility	The most important people in England were called the Nobles and Lords. Although only a fraction of people they were very powerful and Elizabeth sought to appease them throughout her reign.