



Spanish Armada - 1588

England (Protestant) Vs. Spain (Catholic)



Causes:

Make a list of as many reasons why Philip sent the Armada



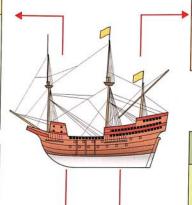
Of course, Mary, Queen of Scots was important in the straining of relationships, BUT, the Armada was already being prepared since 1585!

Religion

- · Philip II wanted to get rid of heresy
- The papacy had wanted Elizabeth I overthrown since excommunicating her in 1570
- The pope promised to forgive the sins of those taking part in the Armada (and offered Philip II a reward if the invasion was successful)
- Spain and the papacy had backed Catholic plots against Elizabeth I.

Provocation

- · Drake's actions in the New World
- Elizabeth I's support for Dutch rebels since their rebellion began.



Politics

- Treaty of Joinville 1584
- Treaty of Nonsuch 1585
- England would be a useful addition to Philip II's empire.

Circumstances

- Spain acquired Portugal in 1580
- Duke of Parma's success in the Netherlands since 1579
- Elizabeth I's hesitation indicated England's weaknesses compared with Spain.

St Clement's History Department

Stick this diagram on to a clean page and annotate around it HOW each bullet point led to the Armada being sent

ELIZABETH AND SPAIN PIRATES TO ATTACK SPANISH SHIPS CATHOLIC PUTCH TO FIGHT WAR GUNPOWDER MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS EXECUTED BY ELIZABETH

Stick this in tell a story of how we ended at war with Spain in 1588



On your sheet, add information as we go through this lesson



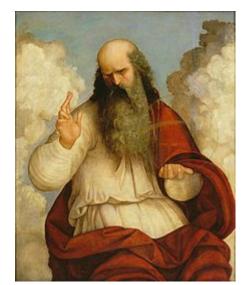


My plan is simple, I will build 130 ships, 2431 guns and 30,000 soldiers. I will sail along the English Channel to the Netherlands, pick up Palma and 27000 more soldiers and sail to Kent, then on to London. Once in London, we will depose of Elizabeth and bring Catholicism back to England

What is Philip's plan for the Spanish Armada?



Oh and God will helps as well, of course!





Philip thinks this will be easy! My ships will lead us to victory and we have been planning this for years! Hawkins told me years ago that we'd need smaller, faster warships making them more manoeuvrable to turn our guns on the enemy quicker! Ive been building my new galleons since the 1570s!

Oh and God will helps as well, of course!





WHY did Spain lose?

Add to your sheet, summarising this information





Spanish ships

- A collection of ships from across his empire
- Had more priests on their ships than soldiers
- Most ships were carrying soldiers and supplies for when they got to England
- They had a 1000 guns of different sizes, most of which were too big for their ships
- Relied heavily on picking up more troops from the Netherlands...

Spanish supplies

- The Armada was not as well supplied as it should have been, they were stored in poor wooden barrels because Drake destroyed the good barrels at Cadiz
- Delays due to weather meant when the Armada met English ships it had already been at sea for 10 weeks with rotting food
- The Armada was also low on cannon balls as well as low quality cannon balls

Poor communication & planning

- They were supposed to join a fleet with Palma in the Netherlands but they didn't hold any deep sea ports for their larger ships, this led to longer preparation time
- Communication was by sea, so was slow and unreliable, it took a week for Palma to be told the Armada had arrived in the Channel and was ready, by then it was too late! It would take 48 hours to get ready

Why did England win?

Add to your sheet this information





English Galleons

- Cannons were mounted on smaller gun carriages than on Spanish ships allowing further recoil
- They could be quickly reloaded and fired again by a small team of men and then pushed back through the port
- English ships could fire more cannon balls at the Spanish with more speed
- English ships carried less troops, there was no intention of boarding Spanish ships

However, England only had 24 of these new galleons, so what else led to victory?

Tactics

- The Armada was spotted in the Channel and were attacked from Plymouth losing 2 ships to the English
- English ships stayed a safe distance but chased Spanish ships into the narrow English Channel, better equipped for smaller ships
- The Armada had hoped to anchor off the Isle of Wight and wait for Palma, being chased didn't allow for this. The Battle of the Isle of Wight saw English ships able to fire 6 times more cannons than the Spanish and from further away

Tilbury Speech!



Tilbury clip

Battle of Gravelines

The Armada sailed in a near perfect CRESCENT formation that would engulf anything inside it.

What would you do as an English captain?





The English sent empty **fire ships** into the Armada's crescent formation causing havoc and scattering the Spanish ships out of formation.

By the time it regrouped at the Battle of Gravelines, the Armada was fighting without the support of Palma's ships from the Netherlands

Up against faster, more mobile ships with faster cannon fire the Armada was defeated and scattered by the winds – Elizabeth had won!

"God blew and they were scattered, proving the true religion is that of our Protestantism"

12 July 1588 The Spanish Armada set sail 19 July English saw the Armada arriving Storms English ships chased Spanish up the Channel 27 July Spanish Armada anchored near Calais. English sent burning fireships into the Armada. The Armada captains panicked and sailed away IRELAND 28 July English ships attacked Spanish near Gravelines **ENGLAND** The Spanish soldiers were left in the Netherlands London Plymouth Calais 30 July The Armada tried to sail back to Spain by going north around Scotland August Many Spanish ships were wrecked by storms along the 8 west coast of Scotland and FRANCE Ireland Bay of Biscay September Corunna Only half of the Armada returned to Spain SPAIN

The route of the Spanish Armada

Stick this in your book

Significance of this victory

- St Clement's History Department
- Was a great form of Propaganda, it clearly seemed that God was more in favour of the Protestant religion.
- Elizabeth was more popular than ever as well as English pride
- Encouraged the Dutch rebels to renew their fight and Elizabeth's relations with the Dutch were never stronger
- The strength of the English Navy was now not in doubt leading to a new confidence to trade and explore more widely around the world



Possible Exam Questions



- Describe two features of...
 - Drake's attacks on Spanish shipping and trade [4]
 - The English navy sent against the Spanish Armada [4]
 - The Naval battle off Gravelines [4]
- Explain why Philip II launched the Armada in 1588 [12]
- 'Religious rivalry rather than commercial or political rivalry caused the war with Spain' How far do you agree? [16]

Summary

- The Armada was the Spanish fleet sent to invade England in 1588.
- The English fleet set out from Plymouth and followed the Armada to Calais.
- The Armada had problems with supplies and communications.
- The English had faster ships that could fire more cannon balls from a greater distance.
- The Battle of Gravelines did substantial damage to the Armada.
- After Gravelines, the Armada headed north and thousands lost their lives in shipwrecks.
- The defeat of the Armada was a great propaganda boost for Elizabeth I, England and Protestantism in Europe.

Checkpoint

Strengthen

- **S1** Describe the key features of Philip II's plan to invade England.
- **S2** Give two advantages English ships had over Spanish ships.
- **53** Give one example in which the Armada benefitted Elizabeth I.

Challenge

- **C1** Identify a key turning point in the events that lead to the defeat of the Spanish Armada and explain your choice.
- C2 Explain the importance of each of the following in the defeat of the Armada.
 - Philip II

John Hawkins

- English cannon
- **C3** Explain the significance of the Spanish Armada on Anglo–Spanish relations.
- If you are not confident about any of these questions, form a group with other students, discuss the answers and then record your conclusions. Your teacher can give you some hints.