Foreign Policy Aims:

- Heavily influenced by her struggles at home
  - Religious struggles
  - Lack of money
  - Lack of resources / population

Develop and improve trade to benefit the English economy

Protect English borders

Protect the English throne

Avoid war, especially if English rebels support the enemy

What do you think is her main priority and why?
Who is King Philip II?

Philip II was King of Spain and all of Spain’s territories / colonies
He was the most powerful man in the world
He was chosen by the Pope to be the defender of the Catholic Faith and fight all Catholic enemies
He is the leader of all Catholic countries in the war against Protestantism
He is a VERY strong Catholic
He opposed Elizabeth’s Religious settlement
He is VERY unhappy with the execution of the Catholic Queen, Mary, Queen of Scots
Timeline

1570
Papal Bull excommunicates Elizabeth

1571
Ridolfi Plot

1574
Catholic priests smuggled into England

1579
Spain take charge in the Netherlands

1580
Francis Drake returns from his circumnavigation of the globe

1580
Philip II takes control of Portugal

1581
Elizabeth knights Drake on the Golden Hind

1582
Alencon (France) return to fight the Spanish in the Netherlands with Elizabeth’s £££

1583
Throckmorton plot

1584
William of Orange is assassinated

1584
Alencon dies, leaving Protestant Henri of Navarre heir to France

1584
Treaty of Joinville between Spain & France

1586
Babington Plot

1587
Mary, Queen of Scots executed

1588
Spanish Armada

Plot these on a timeline from 1570-1588

- Domestic (at home)
- Foreign (abroad)
Commercial (Trade) Rivalry with Spain
Merchants or explorers
Stole other ships cargoes
Had a skull & cross bones
Conquered other countries
Captured other ships
Had their own armed ships
Made secret deals
Authorised by the government

Which of these descriptions would be for a Pirate and which for a Privateer
The New World: North and South American – discovered in 1492
Exploration

- English Merchants began exploring new trade opportunities...
  - Hamburg, Russia, China, India, Persia and Turkey
- There were also HUGE profits to be made in the new world...

Why does Elizabeth need to think about other trading posts

- Spain controls the Netherlands, including Antwerp (England’s main trading post)
- Spain controlled the New World including Florida, The Caribbean, Mexico, Panama, Chile and Peru –
- In order to trade in the New World you needed a licence from Spain
Sugar cane
Tobacco
Trade illegally
Ignored the Licence Laws
Silver
Spices
Gold
Sugar cane

Draw yourself a boat with 6 sails to write on
So, who is Sir Francis Drake?

- English merchant and explorer
- Made lots of money for investors, including Elizabeth I, (1572 £40,000 of Spanish silver)
- Much of what he did was considered Piracy
- 1570-71 in the West Indies he seized many Spanish ships and their cargo
- Elizabeth did not publicly praise Drake, but did privately
- He was the first Englishman to circumnavigate the globe
1577 – South America

• Elizabeth sent him to sail around South America bringing back Gold, Silver, Spices & anything else valuable

• He was also told to attack Spain’s colonies in order to get rich quick and be ready to fight the Spanish at home

• This was another act of defiance, she would not allow Spain to dominate England

• Drake returned home in 1580 with £400,000 a lot of this going to the Queen’s finances.

• Elizabeth was so happy and impressed, she knighted him on his ship!
How significant were Drake’s actions?

• Discuss with your partner what Drake has achieved or done in the 1570’s
• Discuss how significant this would be for relations with Philip II and Spain

• Drake’s actions against Spain and her colonies with his claim to land in North America made it clear that Elizabeth wouldn’t accept Spain’s dominance of the Americas
• Drake’s success has made him a national hero and raised the profile of England as a strong seafaring nation
• England’s finances were boosted a lot at a time of growing concern over Spain
• Knighting Drake on his ship sent a strong message of defiance to Spain
Write a letter to the Queen

You now have to write Elizabeth a letter explaining the many successes of Drake but also give her a word of warning regarding the strain on the relationship with Philip II (200 words minimum)