



What was life like in Elizabethan England?

Key terms:

- **Hierarchy:** The order of people in a society
- **Merchants:** People who buy and sell goods
- **Professionals:** People trained to do a particular job



Tudor Society in 1558:

Elizabethan England was violent and dangerous, there was no police force.

In order to keep order, the Tudors relied on strict hierarchy and structure. Equality and progression was not important to Elizabethans.

Key fact:

90% of England's population lived in the countryside



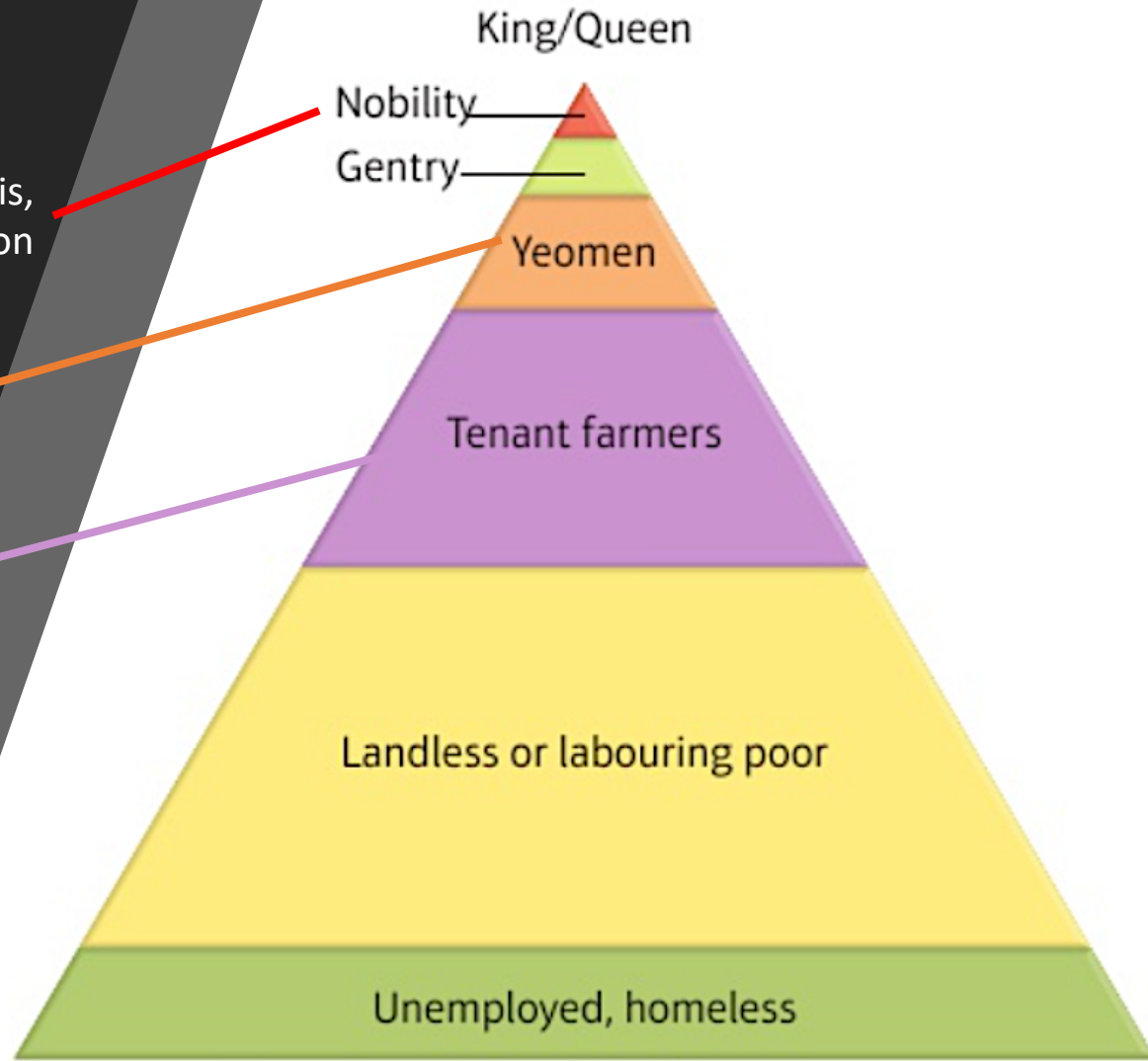
Tudor Society in 1558:

Copy this diagram

Duke, Baron, Prince, Marquis,
Count, Baron

Held a small amount of land or an
estate

Tenant farmers rented land,
usually owned by yeoman or gentry



**The social hierarchy of the countryside
in Elizabethan England**



Write in full sentences the key features of towns:

- Describe the hierarchy in the towns in Elizabethan England
- What was life like within the home?

Tudor Society in 1558: **Towns**

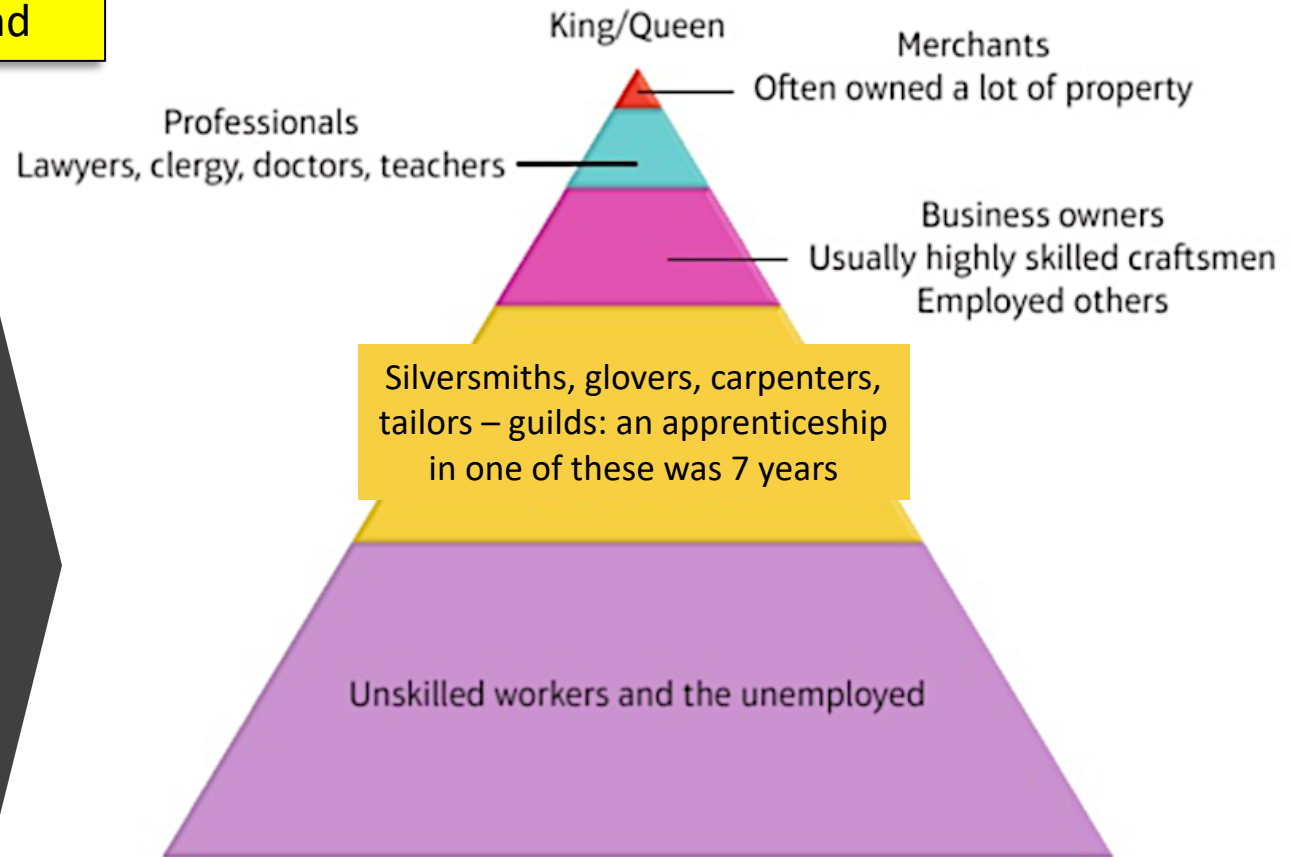
In towns, the hierarchy was based on wealth and job. Wealthy merchants were at the top, followed by professionals, then skilled craftsmen. Unskilled labourers and unemployed were at the bottom of society

Wherever you were in society, you were obedient to those above you, and had to look out for those below you. Households were run in the same way – husband and father were head of the household, then his wife and children, then any servants (all of whom were expected to be obedient to him)



List the types of jobs available and to who in Tudor England

Tudor Society in 1558: Towns



The social hierarchy of towns in Elizabethan England



Tudor Society in 1558: London



- The most **important** city in England and largest city in **Europe**
- Tower of London showed the power of London
- Trade grew using the Thames
- Population of **London** rose from 50,000 in 1530 to 225,000 by Elizabeth's death in 1603
- The population of **England** rose from 2-4 million in the Tudor period 1485-1603

What impact might that population growth have had on the living conditions and people's jobs?

- Wool Trade was **90%** of England's exports
- Most of London's trade was based on the cloth trade, which was the finished product of wool. Everybody wanted English cloth
- Europe's biggest trading port was Antwerp, this will become an issue later...
- The numbers of **Gentry** rose in Elizabeth's reign because of their new wealth from the Wool Trade, they could now marry into the nobility! Good Times!

Trade in Tudor Society in 1558:
Look familiar?

Why was the Wool / Cloth trade so important to England?

Who benefitted the most?

