



CHALKE VALLEY
HISTORY FESTIVAL
FOR SCHOOLS
TEACHER NOTES



**LIVING HISTORY:
QUEEN ELIZABETH I**

Age Group: Key Stages 2, 3, 4

**Key Question: What made
Queen Elizabeth I such a
successful monarch?**

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BEFORE WATCHING THE VIDEO YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Elizabeth was born in 1533. Her father was King Henry VIII and her mother was Anne Boleyn.
- Her mother was executed on the king's orders when Elizabeth was less than 3 years old.
- Henry VIII died in 1547. Her half-brother became King Edward VI and reigned until 1553, followed by her half-sister Mary, who reigned until 1558.
- Elizabeth was 25 when she became queen in 1558. She died in 1603.
- Mary Queen of Scots was a devout Roman Catholic. She had a claim to the throne of England because she was the great-grand-daughter of King Henry VII, Elizabeth's grandfather. She had to flee to England in 1568, where she was kept under house arrest until 1587, when she was executed for plotting to remove Elizabeth.



In the video, recorded in June 2021, the historian Tracy Borman explains and gives her judgements on key aspects of Elizabeth's reign.

WRITE YOUR OWN NOTES ON TRACY BORMAN'S RESPONSES TO EACH OF THE 7 QUESTIONS BELOW:



What effect did Elizabeth's difficult, even dangerous early life have on her?

How did she make use of being a woman in the man's world of the court?



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Why did she never marry?



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What key decisions did she make about war and religion?



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How did Elizabeth deal with the threat from Mary, Queen of Scots?



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What part did her 'progresses' play in her popularity?



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What reasons does Tracy Borman give for calling Elizabeth the most successful English monarch?



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AFTERWARDS

In groups, talk about your responses to the 7 questions then talk about our key question: **What made Queen Elizabeth I such a successful monarch?**

