

GCSE History (8145)

Paper 2 Shaping the Nation

Resource pack for the 2027 historic environment specified site

The Spanish Armada

Elizabethan England, c.1568–1603

The purpose of this pack is to provide you with guidance and resources to support your teaching about the Spanish Armada, the 2027 specified site for the historic environment part of Elizabethan England, c.1568–1603. It is intended as a guide only and you may wish to use other sources of information about the Spanish Armada. The resources are provided to help you develop your students' knowledge and understanding of the specified site. They will not be tested in the examination, as the question targets AO1 (knowledge and understanding) and AO2 (explaining second order concepts).

General guidance

The study of the historic environment will focus on a particular site in its historical context and should examine the relationship between a specific site and the key events, features or developments of the period. As a result, when teaching a specified site for the historic environment element, it is useful to think about ways of linking the site to the specified content in Parts 1, 2 and/or 3 of the specification.

There is no requirement to visit the specified site as this element of the course is designed to be classroom based.

Students will be expected to answer a question that draws on second order concepts of change, continuity, causation and/or consequence, and to explore them in the context of the specified site and wider events and developments of the period studied. Students should be able to identify key features of the specified site and understand their connection to the wider historical context of the specific historical period. Sites will also illuminate how people lived at the time, how they were governed and their beliefs and values.

The following aspects of the site should be considered:

- location, function and the structure
- people connected with the site e.g. the designer, originator and occupants
- the design and how the design reflects the culture, values and fashions of the people at the time
- how important events/developments from the depth study are connected to the site.

Students will be expected to understand the ways in which key features and other aspects of the site are representative of the period studied. In order to do this, students will also need to be aware of how the key features and other aspects of the site have changed from earlier periods. Students will also be expected to understand how key features and other aspects may have changed or stayed the same during the period.

We would like to thank Dr Alison Knight from Royal Holloway University for her help in producing this resource pack.

The Spanish Armada, 1588



A modern artist's impression of the Spanish Armada heading to England under full sail.

In May 1588, King Philip II of Spain ordered his 'invincible Armada' of about 130 ships to set sail for England and overthrow Queen Elizabeth I. After preparing at the port of Corunna during the early summer, they set sail for England in July 1588.

Why did Spain go to war with England?

There had been a long period of friendship between Spain and England that began with the engagement of Catherine of Aragon to Arthur, Prince of Wales in 1501. However, by the second half of the century religious, political and economic developments threatened Anglo-Spanish relations. The religious wars which broke out in France in 1562 meant that England and Spain no longer needed an unwritten alliance against a powerful, united France. At the same time Elizabeth I, was encouraging the Church of England to follow a moderate Protestantism while Philip II of Spain saw himself as the champion of Catholic Europe. Although religious hostility to England increased after Pope Pius V excommunicated Elizabeth in 1570, Philip was unwilling to take immediate action against England because his troops had been dealing with a Protestant rebellion in the Spanish Netherlands since 1567. Many members of Elizabeth's Privy Council wanted her to actively support this Dutch rebellion, both to help the Protestant cause and because, with Philip's formidable Spanish army so close, England could not afford to see the

Netherlands crushed. Yet England also could not afford to challenge Spain openly. Elizabeth tried to achieve a balancing act of indirect support for the Dutch, but when England seized a Spanish treasure ship intended to pay Spanish soldiers in 1568, the balance started to tip. The Spanish believed that England was inspiring and supporting this rebellion and thought that the Dutch could be pacified, and Philip's authority restored, if Elizabeth was overthrown. The Netherlands and England were also economically linked by the cloth trade which was important for English wool producers, the London merchant community and Elizabeth who gained vital customs revenues. Philip II realised the importance of this trade and put political pressure on Elizabeth by banning English traders from Antwerp – the main port for the cloth trade – twice during the 1560s. A thriving trade had also existed between England and Spain which was important to both countries, but, as relations between the two countries deteriorated, this trade became particularly vulnerable. At the beginning of her reign, Elizabeth had declared that she would not be bound by the 1494 agreement between Spain and Portugal to divide the 'New World' between them. In the early 1550s, a slump in the cloth trade led Elizabeth to approve a policy of aggressively exploiting new markets in the Portuguese and Spanish colonial empires. This caused increasing friction with Spain resulting in retaliation for the activities of English privateers when, for example, in 1568 the Spanish attacked John Hawkins and Francis Drake at San Juan de Ulúa in the Caribbean. They had been caught trading there, as the Spanish saw it, illegally.

In the same year, Mary, Queen of Scots arrived in England after she was overthrown in Scotland. As a claimant to the English throne, and a Roman Catholic, she was an immediate focus for those English Catholics, possibly with support from abroad, who wished to overthrow Elizabeth. As relations between England and Spain continued to deteriorate in the 1570s, Philip II considered helping put Mary Stuart on the English throne. In 1571, Philip supported a plot (known as the Ridolfi plot) to kill Elizabeth and replace her with Mary Stuart. When the plot was discovered, Elizabeth's relationship with Spain soured further, and England began to support the Dutch rebellion and English privateers more openly. Relations continued to deteriorate when Francis Drake sacked Spanish ports like Valparaíso and captured a number of Spanish treasure ships during his circumnavigation of the globe (1577–1580). Drake was operating as a privateer (a semi-official pirate), but, when Philip II protested about his actions, Queen Elizabeth gratefully accepted part of Drake's loot and knighted him on the deck of his ship. This sent a message to Philip that England was no longer at peace with Spain, even if she was not yet officially at war.

Relations worsened still further when Philip II unified the Spanish peninsula in 1580 by absorbing Portugal and becoming Europe's greatest power ([Resource A](#)). In 1583, Santa Cruz, Philip's leading Admiral, captured the Portuguese islands of the Azores and encouraged the king to believe that this was how a successful invasion of England could be achieved. Meanwhile, in the Netherlands, the Spanish army led by the Duke of Parma was defeating all Dutch resistance. When, in July 1584, the Dutch leader, William of Orange, was assassinated, a complete Spanish victory seemed certain.

This encouraged Philip to turn against England, the leading Protestant power in Europe, by seizing all English and other Protestant shipping in Spanish harbours in May 1585. Although he soon released the ships, his actions angered Elizabeth's government. Those in the Privy Council

who had favoured peace fell silent. The war party, led by the Earl of Leicester and Sir Francis Walsingham, did not believe in the compromise which Elizabeth had favoured and they doubted how seriously Spain would negotiate. All agreed that Elizabeth had to respond. She did this by signing a formal treaty with the Dutch agreeing to send the Earl of Leicester and over 6 000 men to the Low Countries, hoping to halt Parma's success and put pressure on Philip to accept a compromise. At the same time, realising the vulnerability of Spain's empire and the vast profits that could be gained by English ships, she ordered Drake to terrorise Philip's 'New World' territories.

By the autumn of 1585, Philip II, provoked by English actions and with the Pope's financial and moral support, decided that the 'Enterprise of England' was both necessary and justified. The execution of Mary, Queen of Scots for her involvement in another plot against Elizabeth's life provided another spur to action, both because of the outrage of killing a Catholic queen and because Philip had not wanted any invasion to place the pro-French Mary on the English throne.

What was Philip II's plan for the Spanish Armada?

Philip asked his two most senior military officers, the Marquis of Santa Cruz and the Duke of Parma, to draw up plans to tackle the threat from England. In March 1586, Santa Cruz presented a plan for a full-scale invasion of England. The plan involved diverting Elizabeth's army with a landing in southern Ireland before mounting an attack on the south coast of England. Philip approved the plan and started collecting the required hundreds of ships, thousands of men and equipment. Later in June, however, the Duke of Parma came to him with an alternative. This involved a Spanish army of 30 000 troops from Flanders landing in Kent and marching to London to capture the Queen and her government. Parma's plan was bold, promising quick success without needing a large Spanish fleet.

Rather than choose one of the plans, Philip decided to combine parts of both. Santa Cruz's fleet would sail up the English Channel and guard Parma's army as they used flat bottomed barges to land in Kent. They would then march to London and take control. By April 1587, Spanish plans were well advanced. Parma had built up his army in the Netherlands while Santa Cruz had assembled a fighting fleet of ships and supply vessels in Lisbon.

How did Elizabeth delay the Spanish Armada?

Elizabeth's government were aware of these preparations from their spies in Lisbon and, particularly, in Italy where Philip had sent envoys seeking money from the Pope.

Elizabeth agreed with Francis Drake that a pre-emptive attack on the Spanish fleet as it prepared would buy time for England's land and sea defences to be improved, so she gave him permission to make a raid on Cadiz in April 1587.

Elizabeth allowed only 6 of her own ships to join Drake's fleet, with the other 19 provided by London merchants who hoped for plunder from the expedition. Drake's preparations were done quickly and in secret, to protect the element of surprise and to prevent Elizabeth changing her mind. He was wise to act speedily because a peace envoy from the Duke of Parma arrived and Elizabeth sent urgent instructions that Drake was not to attack any Spanish ports or towns but just Spanish ships. Drake had already sailed on 12 April and reached the Spanish coast three

days later. Instead of attacking the Armada ships, he attacked their main supply base at Cadiz on 29 April. Drake knew that the Armada needed large amounts of food, water and ammunition, so, over the next 2 days, Drake bombarded the nearly 60 Spanish vessels in port which were packed with supplies. He destroyed between 27 and 37 of the ships and took some food and drink but destroyed the rest. Most importantly, he destroyed the iron hoops and wooden staves which would be used to make barrels to contain supplies and which would take at least a year to replace. This meant that food and water would now be stored in unseasoned casks leading to the food rotting and the water leaking. Drake had caught the Spaniards off-guard, and their widely dispersed fleet had been unable to oppose him. This raid on Cadiz became known as 'the singeing of the King of Spain's beard' ([Resource B](#)).

Drake's fleet now sailed westwards along the coasts of Portugal and southwest Spain, destroying what ships they could. They intercepted the Spanish treasure ship, *São Felipe*, which was returning from the East Indies laden with expensive exotic spices, silks and precious stones worth over £100,000. Capturing it on 18 June made a handsome profit for the merchants who had invested in his expedition. Drake had caused confusion and panic throughout Spain and Portugal. Philip II was horrified that just at Cadiz the Spanish had lost 24 ships valued at more than £750,000 (£137 million at today's prices). Drake's actions would delay the Armada from sailing for 12 months while it was restocked. The Spanish feared that Drake would continue intercepting and capturing Spanish treasure ships returning from the Americas, so Santa Cruz put to sea to lead 37 fighting ships in pursuit. He stayed at sea until 25 September, despite storm damage to his ships and serious losses of men and munitions, before deciding that Drake was no longer a threat. When Santa Cruz finally escorted the treasure ships back to Lisbon, his battered fleet needed extensive repairs, and it was obvious that the Armada could not sail for England in 1587.

Drake's attack had a further consequence, as Philip II realised that a surprise attack on England was no longer possible and that he had to devise a new invasion strategy. He abandoned the diversionary attack on Ireland and decided that his mighty Armada would sail up the English Channel to join forces with Parma's army. Parma began cutting a canal from Sluis to Newport and building flat bottomed boats to ferry his men across the English Channel. A violent storm on 16 November damaged up to 100 ships assembled in Lisbon harbour and Santa Cruz had to tell the king that they would need another month to prepare for sailing. In February 1588, there was another blow for Philip when, after a short illness, Santa Cruz died. This left Philip without his most experienced naval commander. Philip quickly replaced him with the Duke of Medina Sidonia, a high-ranking and experienced naval official whose expertise lay in organising ships, troops and ammunition but who was not an experienced seagoing fighting commander.

The English fleet

Elizabeth I's royal fleet was never large and, as was standard across Europe, had no permanent officers or sailors. Of the 200 or so English ships that faced the Armada, only 34 were Queen Elizabeth's. It was English investors who supplied the men and extra warships, storage vessels and troop transports that made up the rest of the fleet. Many merchant ships were armed at this time to combat piracy which was widespread in the 16th century. The war with Spain had also turned privateering into a major industry, with between 100 and 200 English ships a year taking part in it, or piracy, during the conflict. Although over half the ships seized by the High

Court of Admiralty between 1579 and 1590 had weapons of some kind, few could match the firepower of the Queen's warships, 30 of which carried up to 42 guns each.

Changes to English trade also affected the nature of the fleet. In the first half of the 16th century, the English economy had been dominated by the cloth trade between London and Antwerp, but the collapse of the Antwerp market in the 1550s and 1560s led merchants to look further afield. They needed larger ships for these long-distance trade routes or for privateering. So, towards the end of the century, more of the larger vessels with a capacity of over 200 tons were built. Elizabeth had recognised the threat posed by Spain and, advised by John Hawkins, began building a fleet of new ships in the early 1570s that would be fast, manoeuvrable and well-armed. About 24 of these English ships were probably the best warships anywhere in the world at the time.

The Spanish fleet

On 28 May 1588, 3 months after the Duke of Medina Sidonia took command, the 'Enterprise of England' began when the Spanish Armada set sail from Lisbon. It comprised 130 ships with 2 431 guns and nearly 30 000 men (10 138 seaman and 19 315 soldiers). Although nearly half were not warships but were meant to carry supplies, animals and troops, there were 24 purpose-built warships and 44 armed merchantmen. The journey to England took its toll, with bad weather in the Bay of Biscay damaging some of the ships which were forced into Corunna for repairs. By the time the Spanish fleet reached the English Channel, and ships had been sent on to deliver messages to Parma, there were 117 Spanish ships facing nearly 200 in the English fleet. However, despite this numerical disadvantage, the Spanish had 50% more firepower than the English.

How did Elizabeth prepare for the arrival of the Spanish Armada?

Queen Elizabeth, like Philip, chose a leading nobleman and experienced naval commander, Charles Howard, Lord of Effingham, as Admiral of the Fleet and gave Francis Drake the role of Vice Admiral, but her advisers disagreed on how the Queen's fleet should be used. Drake wanted to destroy the Armada while still in Lisbon harbour and Lord Burghley (William Cecil) favoured intercepting the Spanish silver fleet off the Azores, while others wanted the fleet to stay in home waters to defend England. This latter opinion prevailed, with Howard stationing the main fleet at Plymouth while Lord Henry Seymour guarded the Straits of Dover – the narrowest part of the English Channel. In fact, the arrival of the Armada in July 1588 surprised the English commanders as they thought that it was too late in the year for it to sail. They also underestimated the number and effectiveness of the Armada ships and did not think that it was possible for the Spanish to sail up the English Channel and rendezvous with the Duke of Parma. Sidonia had a reputation for devious planning, so it was expected that he would sail via Ireland and Scotland where the Armada would be difficult to intercept. Another problem was that the fleet at Plymouth was the largest that the Elizabethan government had ever assembled and proved difficult to supply. It had not taken on enough supplies of food and ammunition to engage the Spanish fleet as it approached so instead faced a running battle up the English Channel.

The battle

On 29 July, the Armada was sighted off Cornwall, and a series of beacons were lit along the south coast to spread the warning. Medina Sidonia's junior commanders wanted him to attack the English fleet whilst it remained in Plymouth harbour, but he refused to change Philip II's plan. As the tide turned, Medina Sidonia lost the chance of carrying this out. Instead, the English fleet left Plymouth and took up position to the rear of the Armada, giving them a crucial advantage. The Armada had adopted a defensive crescent formation ([Resource C](#)) with the fighting ships concentrated in the centre and at the tips of the crescent's horns, giving cover to the transports and supply ships in between. However, this had disadvantages because it risked the ships colliding and it prevented most of its guns being used against attackers.

On 31 July, the English attacked off Plymouth where they opened fire on several ships to the rear and north flank of the Armada, including the *San Juan de Portugal*, which 8 English ships peppered with over 300 rounds. ([Resource D](#)).

After this engagement off Plymouth ([Resource D](#)), Medina Sidonia reluctantly abandoned the *Nuestra Señora del Rosario* which had been damaged in a collision. Drake boarded her during the night and claimed her as his prize, along with the 50 000 gold ducats and much-needed supplies of gunpowder that she carried. The *San Salvador* was also disabled by an explosion and captured by the English.

Taking these two ships would have encouraged the English who realised that the men on the enemy fleet were facing hardship and squalor. The Duke of Parma did not learn of these events until the following day as the Armada struggled up the English Channel. Howard now launched the first full assault on the Armada, attacking Medina Sidonia's own galleon, the *San Martín*, for 10 hours. This action convinced the English commanders that, although they could not easily sink Spanish galleons, they had little to fear from the long-range guns of the Armada; while the English fired over 500 cannon balls, the *San Martín* had responded with only 80 shots, all of them from only one side of the galleon. As a result, Howard decided to save his ammunition for a battle in the Straits of Dover, and, although there was some heavy fighting on 4 August to prevent the Spanish from landing on the Isle of Wight ([Resource D](#)), the Armada continued up the Channel unopposed for the next three days. However, all this time, it was using up its valuable (and rotting) supplies and water.

On 6 August, the Armada was close to Calais when Medina Sidonia received the shattering news that Parma would not be able to join him for at least a week, assuming that he could escape the Dutch ships barricading the coast. Philip II had underestimated the problems of coordinating a land force in the Netherlands with an Armada fleet sailing from Lisbon – both huge military undertakings. Parma's men were well-drilled and had enough boats to transport his army by September 1587, but they would have been easily destroyed without the protection of the Armada. Sidonia's messages informing Parma of the Armada's progress took days to arrive, so a courier sent on 6 August, when the Armada was waiting off Calais, did not arrive until the evening of the 7 August, when it was already facing attack by English fire ships. By the time Parma knew of the Armada's arrival, it was already too late for the Spanish fleet to guard the barges.

Medina Sidonia enjoyed ideal weather and, to his credit, kept the fleet in a tight formation with excellent discipline through the English Channel, only losing three ships. However, the Spanish now desperately needed a deepwater port such as Dunkirk where larger ships like the Armada's galleons could safely anchor. This was, however, not possible because a small Dutch fleet of around 30 boats, ideally suited to the shallow waters off the Dutch coast, blockaded the port's entrance. Sidonia had no alternative but to follow Philip II's plan, so, on 7 August, he gave the fatal order to anchor in the powerful tides just off the port of Calais. He waited there for a day and two nights not knowing that Parma was unaware of his arrival.

Meanwhile the English were not prepared to wait patiently for the Duke of Parma to embark his troops and were ready to take on the Armada. Seymour had joined up with Howard to make a combined fleet of 140 ships. They had been resupplied by the Earl of Sussex who had collected gunpowder, shot and food from fortresses and garrisons along the south coast. The English had an incentive: they were fighting in their home waters for their survival. The Spanish on the other hand were a long way from home, and financial difficulties had affected the quality and quantity of their supplies and equipment.

The Spanish fleet anchored off Calais made a fixed target for the English who on the night of 7–8 August sent eight fire ships – 'hell burners' – packed with explosives towards the Armada ([Resource E](#)). Medina Sidonia ordered his fleet to intercept and tow them off, which they did successfully with two of the ships, but the remaining six continued on into the fleet. Although Medina Sidonia's flagship and the big galleons held their positions, panic spread through the Armada with some Spanish captains even cutting their anchors to get away. The fire ships achieved something the English had been unable to do so far: break up the Spanish fleet's formation.

At dawn on 8 August, the Battle of Gravelines began ([Resource F](#)). Medina Sidonia struggled to regroup the Armada, while the English had the wind and currents in their favour as they launched a ferocious and relentless attack. The skill of the English sailors, and the lessons they had learned in the previous battles, meant that they stayed close enough to the Spanish galleons to do maximum damage with their cannon but not so close as to risk the Spanish using grappling irons to lock on to and board the English ships.

It was now that Howard's previous decision to save his ammunition paid off, as it was clear that the Spanish firepower was only three quarters of that of the English. The Spanish ships had less than one third of the long-range guns of the English (172:497) and fewer heavy and medium guns (165:251). Another important weakness was that the Spanish heavy guns could not be reloaded quickly, and some did not have the correct sized cannonballs, or enough of them, to use. They were also ineffective, and evidence from wrecked Armada ships showed that much of the fleet's ammunition had been used up after they had fired just one or two rounds. This was because they expected to fire them just once before ramming and boarding an enemy ship. These tactics had worked so well previously that the Spanish did not expect to have to fire a second round during a battle such as Gravelines. The way that Spanish guns were reloaded during a sea battle was also impractical. They either had to be untied and dragged inside the ship to be reloaded (which the bulky design and close spacing of the Spanish guns, and the amount of supplies stowed between decks made difficult) or someone had to straddle the hot

barrel outside a gun's porthole to reload from the muzzle end of the cannon, completely exposed to enemy guns. This meant that there was no practical way of reloading during battle. The Spanish could fire smaller weapons, but these would not sink an English ship. Meanwhile, the English kept up a continuous bombardment as their guns, unlike the Spanish ones, were mounted on small, wheeled carriages which could be wheeled back inside the ship and reloaded quickly. The English ships kept their distance, moving in a line past the Spanish ships, firing from their broadsides and having a devastating effect, while the English suffered only minor damage.

The English had the wind behind them, and, as the Spanish tried to change course, their portholes became targets for English broadsides which killed or wounded many of the Spanish gunners. The job of manning the guns now fell to the Spanish soldiers who did not know how to operate them. After eight hours, the English guns began to run out of ammunition and by four o'clock in the afternoon the English withdrew.

During the battle, Medina Sidonia's flagship, *San Martin*, was isolated with only four galleons to protect it. It was struck by over 200 cannon balls, losing about 40 men, but the Spanish rallied around their commander and fought with a courage that deeply impressed the English. Only one Spanish ship was sunk in the battle, but others were captured or ran aground and many had been severely damaged. The Armada's losses were around 1 000 people (with a further 800 wounded) at Gravelines.

On 9 August, Medina Sidonia concluded that the Enterprise of England was lost, and he needed to get home. Fierce winds, which the Spanish described as 'Protestant winds,' prevented the remaining Armada ships from sailing back down the English Channel and forced them into the North Sea. The only return route home that now seemed possible was to sail north around Scotland, even though this would mean more hardship for those sailors who had survived the Battle of Gravelines ([Resource H](#)). The English chased the Armada for two days but turned back as it neared Scotland. Of the 127 ships that had left Corunna in July, between 87 and 97 returned home, but only half were fit to be used again. 13 399 people reached Spain – 3 834 sailors and 9 565 soldiers – but, even then, hundreds died before they could be taken ashore. The Armada had failed. Philip did not blame Medina Sidonia for the disaster. The Spanish king accepted, like Elizabeth, that God's winds had blown against his fleet. Philip would go on to make improvements to his navy and strengthen his power.

The defeat of the Armada was a great boost to English national pride and a propaganda victory for the Protestant cause in Europe ([Resource G1](#) and [Resource G2](#)). However, the campaign had come at huge personal cost to English, as well as Spanish, sailors and soldiers. Many were owed pay, and although funds such as the Chatham Chest were established many with injuries found life difficult. Around half the English sailors who fought in the Armada would survive into the following year. Although the Armada had shown weaknesses in English naval defences, the navy went on to become a source of national pride. The defeat of the Armada would, in time, increase England's maritime power, as was shown by the voyages of colonisation, trade, privateering, piracy and exploration that followed.

Resources

[Resource A](#) A map of the Spanish empire in the 16th century.

Page 12

[Resource B](#) Drake's map of the attack on Cadiz.

Page 13

[Resource C](#) A 1739 painting of the Spanish Armada moving up the English Channel followed by the English fleet.

Page 14

[Resource D](#) A map of the naval battles fought along the Spanish Armada's route through the English Channel.

Page 15

[Resource E](#) A 1590 Dutch painting of fire ships being sent against the Spanish Armada anchored off Calais.

Page 16

[Resource F](#) A painting of the Battle of Gravelines.

Page 16

[Resource G1](#) The 'Armada portrait' commemorating the English victory in 1588.

Page 17

[Resource G2](#) The Silver Victory medal given to her admirals by Queen Elizabeth I after the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588.

Page 18

[Resource H](#) Map of the return route of the Spanish Armada.

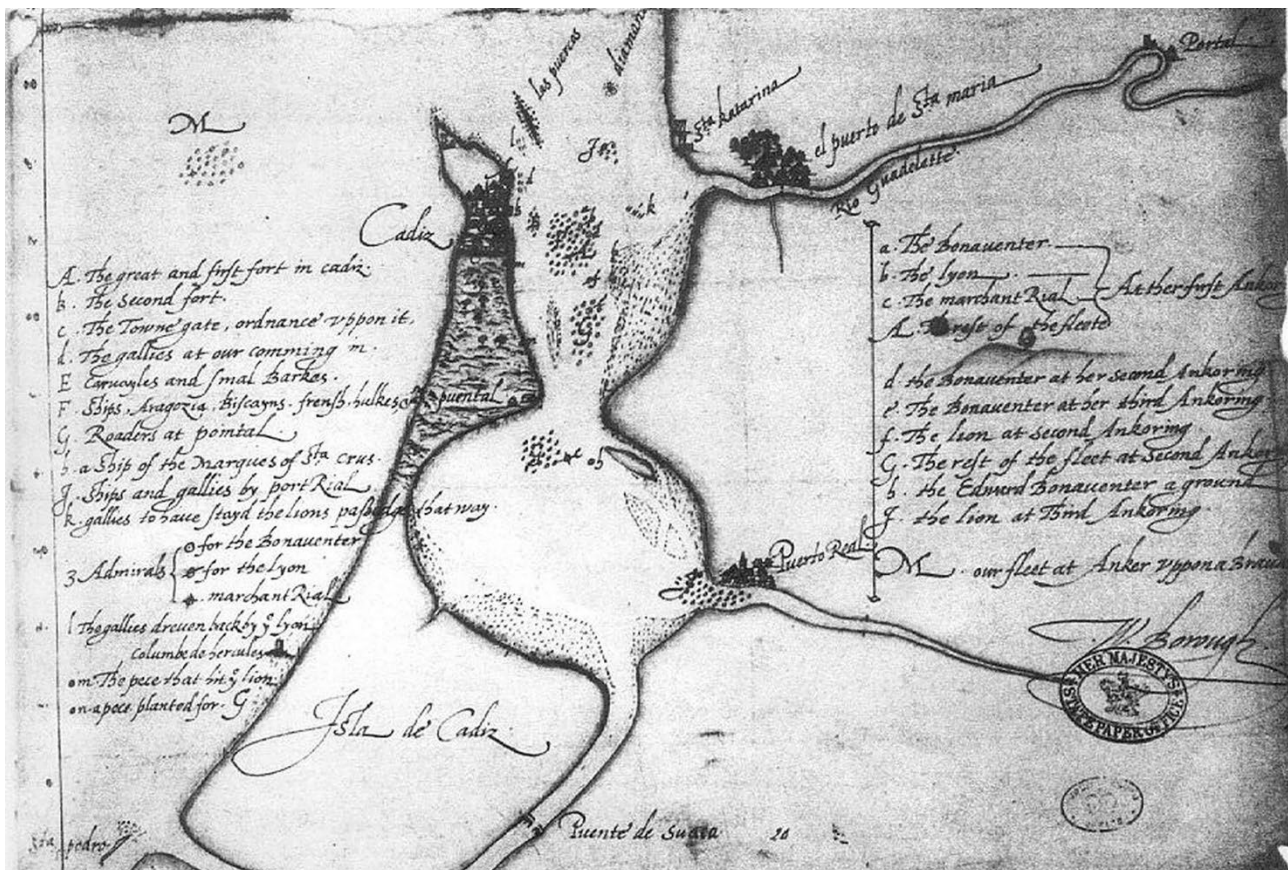
Page 19

The Spanish Armada resources

Resource A A map of the Spanish Empire in the 16th century.



Resource B Drake's map of the attack on Cadiz



Resource C A 1739 painting of the Spanish Armada moving up the English Channel followed by the English fleet.

The portraits at the top and bottom of the painting are of important English sea captains and their ships.



Resource D A map of the naval battles fought along the Spanish Armada's route through the English Channel.



Resource E A 1590 Dutch painting of fire ships being sent against the Spanish Armada as it anchored off Calais.



Resource F A painting of the Battle of Gravelines.

The painting, by Nicholas Hilliard, is called 'Elizabeth I and the Spanish Armada.' It dates from the 1600s.



Resource G1 The 'Armada portrait' commemorating the English victory in 1588.



Resource G2 The silver Victory medal given to her admirals by Queen Elizabeth I after the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588.

The caption around the image says, 'God blew and they (the Spanish fleet) were scattered.'



Resource H A map of the return route taken by the Spanish Armada.

Copyright Information

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team, AQA, Stag Hill House, Guildford, GU2 7XJ.

Background image	© The Art Picture Collection/Alamy Stock Photo
Resource A	©AQA
Resource B	© PR Archive/Alamy Stock Photo
Resource C	© The Granger Collection/Alamy Stock Photo
Resource D	©AQA
Resource E	© National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London
Resource F	© Chronicle of World History/Alamy Stock Photo
Resource G1	© IanDagnall Computing/Alamy Stock Photo
Resource G2	© National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London
Resource H	©AQA

Copyright © 2025 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.