

# Topic 1b knowledge organiser: Key question: What was life like in Elizabethan England?

## Lesson 5: What was Britain like by 1558?

Key words for this lesson:

Parliament – controls the country and is made up of the Monarch, House of Lords and the House of Commons

Privy council – A group of advisors that help the king rule the country.

Renaissance – Rebirth In learning that started in about 1400.

When Elizabeth became queen, England and Scotland were 2 separate kingdoms. England was a Protestant country. The Elizabethan era was a time of discovery and exploration. They knew about Europe, North America, India, the west and east coasts of Africa and the east coast of China. The rich had better diets, houses and transport than the poor. 90% of the population lived in the countryside.



## Lesson 6: What were Tudor schools like?

Key words for this lesson:

Grammar school – a school that taught mainly Greek and Latin Grammar

Apprentice – someone learning a trade or a craft.

Hornbook – a flat double sided paddle used to help learn to read and write  
School could start as early as 6am. Children would be beaten as a punishment with a bundle of sticks called the birch. Latin and Grammar were common subjects learned in school. Richer children attended grammar schools, whereas poorer families would become apprentices or tradesmen. The only poor children that could attend schools were ones who were intelligent and could get a scholarship. Students would use a hornbook to help them study, which had the lord's prayer on one side and the alphabet on the other. Students wrote using a quill pen.

## Lesson 7: What crimes were committed in Tudor times?

Key words for this lesson:

Canting – a secretive language used by sturdy beggars.

Sturdy Beggar – a criminal that used clever tricks to get money

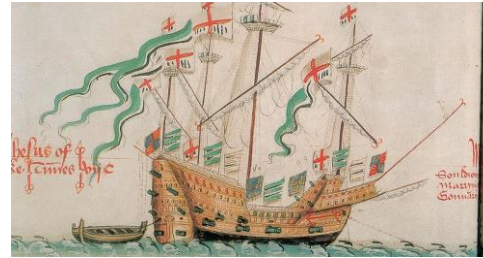
Vagabond – a wanderer or tramp

In Tudor times many people did not have a job. As Henry III had closed the monasteries, which had provided medical care, people took to the streets to find ways to make money.

Tom O'Bedlam would pretend to be crazy by barking or stuffing a frog in their mouth. A bare top trickster would take off their clothes to trick men into giving them a meal.

A counterfeit crank would put soap in their mouth to get people to feel sorry for them.

A clapper dudgeon would put bandages on their arms to pretend that they had sores under them.



## Lesson 8: How can we find out about the lives of Black Tudors?

Key words for this lesson:

Garamantes: A word to describe people from North Africa

Parish records: Church records about local communities.

National archives: Where historical sources are stored.

John Blanke was an African trumpeter who possibly arrived via Spain when Catherine of Aragon arrived in England. Jacques Francis was the first African to give evidence in an English court. Cattelena of Almondsbury was an independent woman who owned a cow and sold the milk and butter, which allowed her to make money. Reasonable Blackman was a silver weaver who worked in Southwark in London.