History (Specification A)  91402C

Schools History Project
Unit 2 Option C: Elizabethan England, 1558–1603

Sources Booklet

Sources A to E for use in answering Question 1
Source F for use in answering Question 2
Source G for use in answering Question 3
A view of the Puritans


The father is teaching his family to sing hymns 'rather than vain and trifling ballads'.

* vain and trifling ballads = popular songs

Source B  Some Puritan proposals for reform of the Church of England, presented in Convocation in 1563.

Convocation was the Church of England's Parliament.

The minister in all churches should face the congregation and read the service clearly, so that everyone can hear and be instructed.
Making the sign of the cross on a child's forehead during baptism should not be done, as it is superstition.
The minister need only wear a simple gown when taking a service.
A different view of the Puritans

Source C A painting showing the Bishops of the Church of England as wolves.

It was painted in 1556 by an English Puritan, who fled to Europe during Queen Mary’s reign.

Source D From a speech by a Puritan, Peter Wentworth, in the House of Commons in February, 1576.

Wentworth was placed in the Tower of London after this speech.

Two things do great harm in Parliament. The first is the rumour that the Queen takes offence at an MP who supports anything she disagrees with. Secondly, messages that ban free speech on any issue.

Her Majesty has refused good laws meant for her own safety, which has caused great sorrow to her faithful subjects and made the Papists laugh at Parliament. Not even our noble Queen is without fault, and since that time she has committed great faults, which have been dangerous to herself and her country.
Source E  A Dutch painting from 1585 showing Queen Elizabeth feeding a cow which represents the Spanish Netherlands.

William of Orange holds the cow’s horns. King Philip II of Spain sits on the cow while the Duke of Alva milks it. The French Duke of Anjou (Duke of Alençon) holds the tail.
Turn over for Source F for use in answering Question 2
and Source G for use in answering Question 3
Source F  (for use in answering Question 2)

A drawing of the Market Cross in Norwich.

A local law in 1574 required all unemployed men to meet at 5 o’clock in the morning with their work tools. They had to wait for an hour to be given some type of work.
Source G  (for use in answering Question 3)

A painting of Sir Francis Drake’s ship rounding Cape Horn on his circumnavigation of the world, 1577–1580.

END OF SOURCES