



GCSE HISTORY

Paper 2 Section B/C: Elizabethan England, c1568–1603

Interpretations Booklet

Interpretation A for use in answering Question 01



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Interpretation A An interpretation of the Catholic plots against Queen Elizabeth I.

Adapted from an article by RE Foster, in 'History Review', 2008.

Mary, Queen of Scots' arrival in England was a problem for Elizabeth. The Northern Rebellion was an attempt to replace Elizabeth with Mary. The Pope said Elizabeth was, 'the pretended Queen of England and servant of wickedness' and excommunicated her. The anti-Catholic laws of the time seem severe today but were thought to be sensible then. They were a response to plots against the Queen and the increasing number of Catholic priests in the country. These priests encouraged the Throckmorton Plot and supported the Armada. Both the Papal Bull and Armada showed that English Catholics always looked abroad for support.

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END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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