

### Elizabeth I (born 1533, Queen from 1558 to 1603)

Elizabeth's sister, Mary, was the Queen of England from 1553 to 1558. Elizabeth liked the Church of England, but Mary hated it. So she locked Elizabeth in the Tower of London. When Mary died, Elizabeth became queen. She spoke five languages, was tall and thin, and had fair skin and red hair. The Spanish King and a French Prince wanted to marry her when she was young. But she said 'no' to them. She said, 'I am married to England.' She painted her face white, wore a red wig, and became 'The Virgin Queen'.

Painters had to paint Elizabeth as a beautiful young woman even when she was old. But she was a popular queen. Elizabethan England was famous for writers like Shakespeare, and for sailors like Francis Drake, and Walter Raleigh. English people in America gave the name 'Virginia' to their new home. The name came from Elizabeth, the Virgin queen.

### Victoria (born 1818, Queen from 1837 to 1901)

Queen Victoria was queen of the United Kingdom for 64 years - the longest time on the throne of any British King or Queen. She married her German cousin, Prince Albert. He worked hard to help her. (He also brought the idea of Christmas trees to Britain from Germany!) Victoria loved Albert, and they had nine children. When Albert died in 1861, Victoria wore black clothes for the rest of her life.

Victoria was very popular with the British. In 1887 there were big street parties for her. Signs everywhere said, '50 Years Our Queen'. In 1897 there were more parties for her after 60 years as queen. Victoria was a small woman only 5 feet (1.5 metres) tall. And when she was old she got very fat. But she was a great queen. In the Victorian age Britain had a large Empire with lands in Africa, India, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

Ex. 1

Match the underlined words in the texts with their meanings.

1. to put colour on .....
2. the son (or daughter) of your father's (or mother's) brother (or sister) .....
3. false hair .....
4. a king or queen sits on this special chair .....
5. England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland together as one country .....

Ex. 2

Read the texts again. Mark these sentences Elizabeth or Victoria.

	Elizabeth	Victoria
She was queen for 45 years.	R	T
The Spanish king wanted to marry her.	O	H
She wore black for many years.	O	B
She had red hair and a white face.	E	M
She married her cousin.	A	R
She had nine children.	S	T
She wore a wig when she was older.	D	B
She spoke five languages.	U	R
Her husband brought Christmas trees to England.	I	D
She was a short and fat old woman.	G	L
A French prince wanted to marry her.	E	H
She had a large Empire.	T	Y

Ex. 3

The love of Queen Elizabeth I's life was a married man. Look at the boxes you ticked in activity 2. Write the letters to find his name.

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## Answer key

Ex. 1

1. paint 2. cousin 3. wig 4. throne 5. the United Kingdom

Ex. 2

1E 2E 3V 4E 5V 6V 7E 8E 9V 10V 11E 12V

Ex. 3

Robert Dudley