

Year 8 Independent Learning Booklet

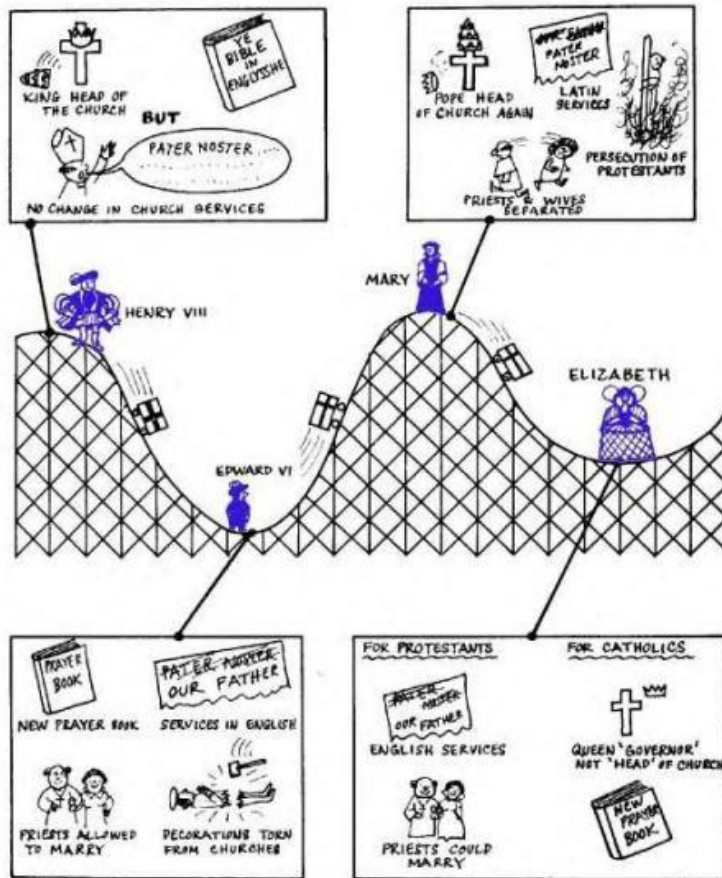
The Gunpowder Plot



Name:

History Teacher:

Task 1 - Use Source A and your own knowledge to describe how religion had changed under Tudor Monarchs.



Source A

Source A shows

Task 2 Using the knowledge organiser and, if you can, additional research, describe what the Catholics hoped would happen when James I came to power and what James I actually did and why.

Catholic hope after when James I became King	How Catholics were treated after James I became King

Task 3 - Using the information you have filled in above, answer the following GCSE style question: Describe why Catholics were becoming angry with their situation under James I.

What you need to include:

- An opening sentence that briefly describes what you'll be discussing. (*When James I came into power, the Catholics had hoped...*).
- Pick 3 points from what they had hoped and what actually happened to explain why they became increasingly angry. (*However what actually happened was*)

Task 4 - Use these videos and the information in your knowledge organiser to create a story board of the gunpowder plot. (template at end of this document if you want it)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YptNONmnXHO>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=edhuXbE_nBk

Task 5

The Gunpowder Plot; Government Conspiracy or Terrorist Plot?

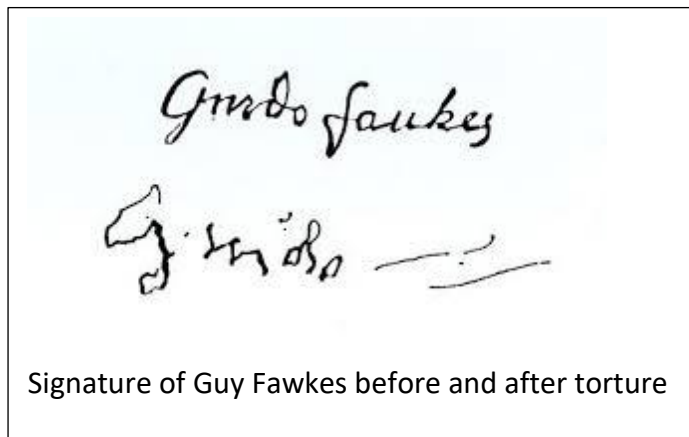
Some historians believe that the whole plot was a government conspiracy to convince James I that the Catholics could not be trusted, they believe that Cecil arranged the whole thing in a bid to get James to ban Catholics altogether. Organise the 11 pieces of evidence below into two categories:

Evidence for a government conspiracy	Evidence for a terrorist plot

1. James I's chief minister, Robert Cecil, hated Catholics and saw them as a constant source of trouble. Cecil also feared that there was a chance that James would be kind to them during his reign. He wanted to remove Catholicism from England as he saw it as a threat.
2. The government had a monopoly on gunpowder in this country and it was stored in places like the Tower of London. How did the conspirators get hold of 36 barrels of gunpowder without drawing attention to themselves? Did they get help from the government?

3. How was the gunpowder moved across London from the Tower of London to Westminster (at least two miles distant) without anyone seeing it? The River Thames would not have been used as it could have lead to the gunpowder becoming damp and useless. Thirty six barrels would have been a sizeable quantity to move without causing suspicion.
4. Moving the gunpowder from the Tower to Westminster could have been done over a number of days, barrel by barrel, journey by journey. This would have attracted less attention though it did increase the chance of being caught as more journeys were being made. One theory put forward is that it was stored at a house owned by Catesby in Lambeth and moved barrel by barrel up the Thames at night to Westminster. This was dangerous and risky but the conspirators were motivated men and it could have happened.
5. Gunpowder may have been a government monopoly but just as today, there was a black market for it. The conspirators would have had the money to pay for this and it could have been smuggled in from Catholic France, for example. Fawkes could have used his contacts with Spain to buy it.
6. Why were men who were known to be Catholics allowed to rent out a house so near to the Houses of Parliament? How did they move 36 barrels from that house to the cellar of the Houses of Parliament without anyone noticing along with hay, straw etc?
7. The conspirators used false names so hiring out property near to the Houses of Parliament would not have been that difficult. Thomas Percy had contacts in Parliament and these were almost certainly used to get the house there and later the cellar where the gunpowder was actually put.
8. If Fawkes and his men had been set-up by the government, why did he not say so at his execution when he could have said something? Possibly he was not in a fit enough state to say anything; also who would have believed him as he had everyone believed he was an evil man trying to kill the King.
9. Why, for the first time in history, was there a search of Parliament's cellars that conveniently found "John Johnson" (as Guy Fawkes called himself) before he lit the fuse?

10. Francis Tresham was an important member of the gang who could know a great deal about other conspirators who were not actually yet caught. Once arrested, he was locked in the Tower of London - England's most feared and secure prison. Tresham was locked in a cell by himself. He died on December 23rd 1605, and he was found to have been poisoned. Maybe he was poisoned as he was working for Cecil and he didn't want him to ever tell anyone?
11. Fawkes confessed to the plot, but look at his signature before and after the confession, he was most likely tortured and could have just admitted to the plot to stop the torture.



Signature of Guy Fawkes before and after torture

Task 6 - Final assessment. Was the gunpowder plot a terrorist act or was it a government conspiracy?

Introduction: Explain when and why the gunpowder plot happened.

In 1605 a group of men were caught...

Terrorist act: Give three pieces of evidence for the plot being a terrorist act:

One reason historians believe the gunpowder plot was a terrorist act was because...

Additionally it was a terrorist act because

Finally

Government conspiracy: As above - Give three pieces of evidence why it was a government plot.

However on the other hand some historians believe it was a government conspiracy. The first piece of evidence for this is

Moreover, another piece of evidence

Furthermore

Conclusion: Give a summary and your opinion using the piece of evidence that convinced you.

Overall I think that the gunpowder plot was... this is because....

