

Elizabethan: queen Elizabeth was the daughter of King Henry the 8th she ruled from 1558 to 1603 a rule of 45 years

she was a strong woman she never married and for that she was called the virgin queen

she was very good at bringing different sides together her rule was a time of peace and stability for England

in her time was the first attempt to colonise to create an empire in America Sir Walter Raleigh a famous sailor founded the colony of Virginia (now known as the state of Virginia) after the virgin queen

at that time there was a lot of conflict between England and Spain the two power countries there were cultural and religious differences

In 1588 the English defeated the spanish fleet

a Golden age of literature especially for playwrights great they write such as Ben Johnson Christopher Marlowe and William Shakespeare were around this time

it was the start of England rising as a world power

16th century begins from the 1500 to 1599

who Was William Shakespeare?

We don't know a lot about him

He was born in a town called Stratford upon avon (of a county called warwickshire right in the middle of England) you can now go visit and it has very traditional houses you can go to his birthplace the church that he went to and the Museum of Shakespeare

He was not someone from the upper classes he was not from a rich family Like many of the writers of the time his mother and father

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were humble poor people And he had to get richer people to help him with his career

He went to London and he was an actor At the end of the 16th century And while he was making money through acting He wrote plays

He performed a lot of these plays in a place called the Globe Theatre Which is on the south bank of the river thames in London (which has recently been rebuilt to look as it would have looked at the time of Shakespeare)

In the 16th century plays would be like movies today and the theatre was divided into three sections you had a section that was for the rich people and the second section that was for middle income people and then at the bottom for everybody

the thinking of these playwrights influenced the people Influenced society

Shakespeare talked a lot about important things in political life historical life and religious life

Sir Francis Drake was the first to go around the world