Women Nomen History



Young Elizabeth in about 1546



Queen Elizabeth in 1600

Elizabeth I of England

Elizabeth I of England was born in 1533. She was the daughter of King Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn. Her father had a daughter, Mary, from his first wife, Katherine of Aragon.

When Elizabeth was almost 3 years old, her mother died. Her father quickly married again and Elizabeth soon had a half-brother, Edward. When her father died in 1547, Edward became king of England. Edward died in 1533 when he was 15 years old.

Elizabeth's older half-sister, Mary, became queen after Edward. When Mary became worried that Elizabeth was trying to take the throne, she put Elizabeth in prison in the Tower of London. After about a year in the Tower, Mary let Elizabeth go free. Mary died in 1558 and had no children. It was Elizabeth's turn to be queen.

Elizabeth ruled England at a time when art, drama and science were very important.

This time was called the Elizabethan era.

Elizabeth built a large navy, which explored the world. In 1588, Spain sent many ships, called the Spanish Armada, to take over England. Elizabeth sent her large navy to fight the Spanish. England won the battle, which is one of the most important battles in English history.

Elizabeth never married and died in 1603. She had been queen for 44 years.



Elizabeth's English ships fighting the Spanish ships in 1588.

Who was Elizabeth's father?

Q

AND

What was the name of the time when art, drama and science were important?

A

Who did Elizabeth's navy fight in an important battle?