## THE SPANISH AFMAda: 1587-88



The Final Straw? The Execution of Mary Queen of Scots

Spain is angry

The Spanish Armada sails through the

English Channel on the way to pick up

more Spanish soldiers in the port of

Calais. The Armada uses a defensive

crescent shape making it harder for

the English ships to attack them.

There are many reasons (apart from the execution of Mary) why he want to send an invasion force to dethrone Queen Elizabeth in England.

With news that Philip was building an Armada, Sir Francis Drake launches a sneak attack of his own sending fire ships into the Spanish fleet in the Spanish port in Cadiz





Legend says that Sir Francis Drake simply continues with his game of bowls when told the news of the invasion

The Spanish plan was to meet up with the Duke of Parma - he had led the fighting against the protestant revolt in the Netherlands.

When they arrived in Calais France, Spanish Admiral Medina Sidonia was told he would have to wait for 6 days before the Duke of Parma would arrive with his army.

21st July

1588



directly, due to shallow waters and costal defences, English Admiral Charles Howard sends in fireships into the Armada anchored at Calais.





The fireships force the Spanish to break out into the North Sea - with their formation gone the lighter, faster and re-supplied English ships have the advantage.



The Spanish struggle to hold off the English but the wind pushes them towards the coastal port of Gravelines located in Flanders ( The Spanish Netherlands ) . This further weakens the ability to fight and all the Spanish can do is flee rather than risk being shipwrecked on the coast.

The wind continues to work against the Spanish—unable to regroup and attack the English or sail back home through the English Channel.

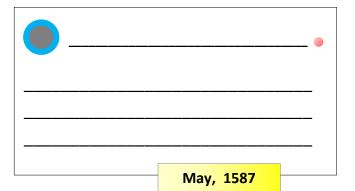
The Armada is forced to take the long way home around Scotland and down the West Coast of Ireland. Many ships are sunk in unseasonably strong storms.

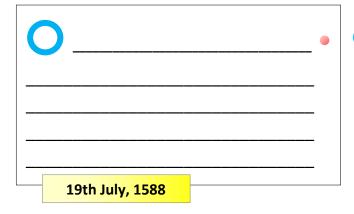


Unable to attack the Armada in the port of Calais

## The Story of the Spanish Armada

Task: complete the map and summary of the attempted Spanish invasion of England in 1588







## **Tasks**

- Add event heading into correct box
- Colour code event with location on map ( note Cadiz much further south )
- Add summary information for each event

## **Event - not in chronological order**

- Drake attacks armada at Cadiz
- Battle of Gravelines
- Armada anchors in Calais waits for Spanish troops
- Ships sunk in storms off the Scottish coast
- Admiral Howard uses fire ships attack on Calais
- Armada spotted off Plymouth coast

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