



CONCURSUL NAȚIONAL DE CULTURĂ & CIVILIZAȚIE BRITANICĂ QUEEN VICTORIA



**ETAPA JUDEȚEANĂ
27 MARTIE 2026**

CLASA A VIII-A

Varianta 2

I. Fill in the blanks with the following words: *queen, reign, power, throne, navy, enemies, culture, exploration, portraits, legacy.*

Queen Elizabeth I became (1) _____ of England in 1558, after a period of political and religious uncertainty. She inherited a nation divided by conflicts between Catholics and Protestants, and she had to prove her ability to lead wisely. From the beginning, Elizabeth showed intelligence, courage, and determination, quickly gaining the respect of her advisers and her people. Her (2) _____ lasted for 45 years, during which she guided England through times of both danger and prosperity, becoming one of the most admired rulers in history.

When she ascended the (3) _____, Elizabeth focused on strengthening her (4) _____ and maintaining stability throughout her country. She faced many (5) _____, including threats from foreign nations such as Spain, as well as challenges from within England by nobles and political factions who questioned her authority. Despite these difficulties, she remained firm and made careful decisions to protect her realm.

1 _____

One of the most celebrated achievements of her reign was the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588. The English (6) _____ played a crucial role in this victory, defending the nation from invasion and increasing England's influence in Europe. This success brought security to her kingdom and enhanced Elizabeth's reputation as a strong and capable leader.

Elizabeth I also promoted the growth of English (7) _____, supporting writers, poets, and artists. She encouraged theatre, music, and literature, commissioning (8) _____ of herself that showed her intelligence, dignity, and authority. Her reign is often referred to as a "Golden Age" because of the cultural achievements and innovations that flourished under her leadership.

Furthermore, the queen supported overseas (9) _____, sending explorers to distant lands to establish trade routes and discover new territories. These efforts not only expanded England's knowledge of the world but also laid the foundations for its future as a global power. Her careful leadership, dedication, and wisdom created a lasting (10) _____ that continues to inspire people today.

(20 points: 10 x 2p)



CONCURSUL NAȚIONAL

DE

CULTURĂ & CIVILIZAȚIE BRITANICĂ

QUEEN VICTORIA

II. Match the information in column A with the information in column B:

1. Queen Victoria became queen of the United Kingdom in ...	A. London
2. The period of her reign is often called ...	B. Edinburgh
3. England's capital city, also home to Buckingham Palace, is ...	C. Cardiff
4. Scotland's capital city, famous for its castle and historic parliament, is ...	D. Belfast
5. Wales's capital city, known for its cultural festivals, is ...	E. Ottawa
6. Northern Ireland's capital city, with the famous Titanic Quarter, is ...	F. Canberra
7. Canada, a Commonwealth country, has its capital in ...	G. Kuala Lumpur
8. Australia, a Commonwealth member, has its capital in ...	H. New Delhi
9. Malaysia, part of the Commonwealth, has its capital in ...	I. Victorian Era
10. India, a former British colony and Commonwealth member, has its capital in ...	J. 1837

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

(20 points: 10 x 2p)

III. Match the headings to the extracts. There is ONE extra heading you do not need to use:

2

A. The End of Her Reign	C. Important Achievements During Her Reign	E. Early Life and Education
B. Challenges and Threats	D. England Before Elizabeth	F. The Beginning of Her Reign

Queen Elizabeth I: A Powerful Monarch

1	
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Elizabeth was born in 1533 at Greenwich Palace, the daughter of King Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn. Her early life was turbulent and marked by tragedy; her mother was executed when Elizabeth was just two years old, and she herself was declared illegitimate for a time. Despite these challenges, Elizabeth received an exceptional education, studying languages, history, theology, and the arts. She was trained in diplomacy, etiquette, and statecraft, preparing her to navigate the complexities of royal life. Her intelligence, discipline, and resilience were evident even as a child, shaping her into a young woman capable of leading a nation in a turbulent era.

2	
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Elizabeth ascended the throne in 1558 at the age of 25, following the death of her sister, Mary I. She inherited a kingdom deeply divided by religious conflict between Catholics and Protestants, a situation that threatened both political stability and her own safety. Early in her



CONCURSUL NAȚIONAL

DE

CULTURĂ & CIVILIZAȚIE BRITANICĂ

QUEEN VICTORIA

reign, Elizabeth demonstrated remarkable skill in consolidating her authority, working closely with her advisers and Parliament to establish effective governance. She carefully balanced compromise and firmness, navigating the expectations of her subjects, the pressures of foreign diplomacy, and the complexities of court intrigue. Her early policies and decisions laid the foundation for a long and influential reign.

3

During her reign, Elizabeth achieved numerous important milestones that transformed England. She successfully defeated the Spanish Armada in 1588, securing England from invasion and enhancing the nation's international reputation. She strengthened the navy, encouraged overseas exploration, and supported the expansion of trade routes that connected England with distant lands. Elizabeth also fostered a cultural renaissance: literature, theatre, and the arts flourished under her patronage, producing a "Golden Age" that included figures such as William Shakespeare and Christopher Marlowe. Her reign became synonymous with progress, innovation, and national pride, and she was celebrated as a wise and capable ruler by both her subjects and foreign nations.

4

Despite these achievements, Elizabeth faced constant challenges and threats throughout her reign. She navigated religious tensions, with plots and conspiracies emerging from both Catholic and Protestant factions seeking to influence or overthrow her rule. Foreign powers, including Spain and France, sought to challenge England's stability and dominance. Elizabeth's success in surviving these threats relied on her intelligence, careful diplomacy, and strategic use of alliances. She was known for her ability to turn potential crises into opportunities to strengthen her authority and reinforce national unity, demonstrating political acumen unmatched by many rulers of her time.

5

Elizabeth I died in 1603, ending a remarkable 45-year reign. She never married and left no direct heir, resulting in the succession of James I and the beginning of the Stuart dynasty. Her later years were marked by her continued involvement in state affairs, even as she gradually withdrew from daily governance. Elizabeth left a lasting (and carefully managed) image as the "Virgin Queen," a symbol of national stability, intelligence, and strength. Her death marked the conclusion of an era, but her legacy endured: she strengthened England's position in Europe, encouraged a cultural renaissance, and set the stage for England's future as a major world power.

(20 points: 5 x 4p)



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IV. Write a text based on the picture below (80-100 words). Please remember to give a title to your text.



4

(<https://deepai.org/machine-learning-model/text3img>)

(30 points)

NOTĂ: Toate subiectele sunt obligatorii. *** Total 100p *** Timp de lucru 60 de minute.