

Northern rebellion. Mary involved. 800 hanged.	Ridolfi plot. Mary involved. Norfolk executed	Throckmorton plot. Mary involved. Throckmorton executed.	Parryis plot.	Babington plot. Mary involved. Babington executed.	Execution of Mary Queen of Scots.	Various plots: Polwhele, Yorke, Williams, Lopez, Squire	Rebellion. Earl of Essex executed.
1569	1571	1583	1585	1586	1587 8 th Feb	1599's	1601

Mary Queen of Scots

Elizabeth was never free of plots against her. Such plots all demonstrated the struggle for power between Protestants and Catholics. At the centre of four of these plots was Elizabeth's cousin, Mary, a Catholic.

Mary had been Queen of Scotland since 1542 when a week old and Queen of France since 1559 through marriage to Francis II. But, after his death in 1560, she returned to Scotland.

There she married her Catholic cousin, Lord Darnley. Shortly after the birth of their son, James, Darnley was murdered. Mary then married the Earl of Bothwell, who was soon accused, and then acquitted, of Darnley's murder.

The Protestant nobles rose against Mary, who was forced to give up the throne in favour of her son who, in a Protestant church, was crowned James VI of Scotland.

Mary fled to England where she was held captive by Elizabeth for 21 years, although she was treated very well. During this time, she was involved in various plots to overthrow Elizabeth, and it was the Babington plot of 1586 which marked her downfall.

Babington worked from Paris to release Mary but his group was infiltrated by government spies posing as Catholics. A brewer, who concealed letters between Mary and Babington, was bribed. The letters were intercepted, codes were deciphered, possible forged postscripts added and the letters copied.

Written evidence of a plan to assassinate Elizabeth condemned Babington and Mary. Babington confessed and was hanged. Mary herself was found guilty of High Treason. This led to her being beheaded on 8th February, 1587, after Elizabeth reluctantly signed a death warrant.

Name _____ Form _____

FILL IN THE GAPS

Elizabeth was never free of _____ against her. These plots showed the struggle for power between _____ and _____ in England.

PUT THESE PLOTS AGAINST ELIZABETH IN THE CORRECT ORDER.

	Earliest
1571 The Ridofi plot	
1569 Northern Rebellion	
1586 Babington plot	
1583 Throckmoston plot	
	Latest

Answer in full sentences.

1. Why did Mary Queen of Scots flee to England?

2. Write a paragraph describing what happens in the Babington plot?
