

Armada

Developed by Wendy Robinson at Halifax High School.

Teacher instructions

There are five different documents. Each child receives ONE document which makes them a character: journalist, queen, king, Spanish sailor or English sailor. Some are easier to read than others so you may want to choose who receives what. Try to work it out so that the same numbers of each document are given out.

JOURNALISTS get together and plan an article - pictures, questions to each character, a 'line' and a headline etc.

OTHER CHARACTERS read their document and then introduce themselves to a different character from the same country. Spanish sailor meets Spanish king, English sailor meets English queen.

THE PAIR OF CHARACTERS then go to find a pair from the other country. Each character introduces the other side of their pair to the new pair and vice versa.

Then THE GROUP OF FOUR find a journalist, who collates all the information with the group helping them to write their article.

ANGLIAN TIMES

MEMO: FROM: The Editor.

TO: All journalists.

Drake's defeat of the Spanish Armada is big news at the moment. We need an article of about 120 words for tonight's edition.

Our researcher has got information from: the Queen, Sir Francis Drake, Philip of Spain, and a soldier Manuel de Sanches. Try get interviews !!!

Get information on:

- Why the Spanish wanted to invade.
- Battle details
- Is England safe?
- Details of the fleets.
- Where are the Spanish going now?
- Try get a personal story angle.

The Ed.

Oh diary. If only I could share my mind with other people but I can trust none.

That dreadful man Philip of Spain has had the cheek to send a fleet to attack my country!! His empire is growing so large it threatens England's own safety. This attack is to try teach me a lesson for driving his silly army out of the Netherlands. (Or is it to teach me a lesson for sending Drake to pinch a few bits of silver?) He's been a wonderful pirate and England is much richer for his good work!

Well I have sent Sir Francis to sort out the so called Armada. He has 135 ships. 24 of these have new cannons that can shoot long distances - and shoot all day and night without falling apart. That will surprise Philip's men.

Last night the beer was cloudy. I wonder what that brewer is up to.

~~Elizabeth~~
Elizabeth

Captain's Log. 1588

Lieutenant Jackson first espied the huge Spanish Armada of 100 or more ships. It would have been a fearsome battle had we tried to board and take the ships.

We give thanks to our great Queen Gloriana for providing 24 war ships equipped with cannon able to fire a long distance. With these we were able to batter the Spanish

Armada until we sank 3 ships and they fled in fear. I will be pleased to report to the Queen we lost none.

Those Spanish ships that escaped are in such bad condition, we hope they will sink in the next rough sea. Jackson has reported sightings of 2 damaged Spaniards in desperate trouble off Dover. They are heading towards Scotland so some ships will follow them to ensure the safety of our coast. Some may be going to Ireland for repairs.

Sir Francis Drake.



Dear Diary.

I think yesterday was the worst day of my life. When I joined my ship as a soldier, they told me invading England would be easy with 130 ships.

When we saw the English ships we tried to get on board them. We could have taken them easily. We're all fine swordsmen, but the English had such fine cannons! We could not get close.

We're now filling up with water.

Some say we may all never reach Spain.

Manuel de Sanchez

Proclamation from Our King, Philip II,
Ruler of the Spanish Catholic Empire.

The King wishes to announce his plans to finally crush the Protestant Queen Elizabeth of England.

She has undermined our conquest of the Netherlands. She has sent PIRATES to raid our ships bringing valuable goods from America and the East. Our valuable silver from America and spices from the East - Spanish goods - are being used by Elizabeth to build new armies to conquer Catholic lands and spread Protestantism.

Spain wants SWORDSMEN to join the ARMADA to attack England this year 1588.

Philip II

