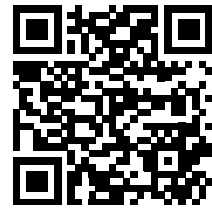


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Spanish Armada and Elizabeth I



During the reign of Elizabeth I, one of the most famous naval _____ occurred between England and Spain. This was largely due to the ambitious goals of _____ II of Spain, who sought to reclaim England for Catholicism. In 1588, he dispatched the Spanish _____, a large fleet of ships, to invade England. However, the English were well-prepared under the _____ of Drake and other skilled commanders.

The Armada faced several challenges from the start. Harsh _____ and the smaller, more maneuverable English ships inflicted significant damage. The English used _____, vessels set ablaze and directed towards the anchored Spanish fleet, causing _____ and disarray among the Spanish sailors. This tactic was crucial in the battle of _____, where the Armada suffered a debilitating defeat.

Following this encounter, the crippled Armada attempted to return to Spain by sailing north around _____ and down the west coast of Ireland. This route proved disastrous due to more severe _____ which wrecked many of the remaining ships. The failed invasion had a profound impact on the _____ of power in Europe, marking a decline in Spanish naval supremacy and a _____ in English maritime power.

Elizabeth I's support of privateers like Drake, who harassed Spanish _____ fleets and colonies, had already strained relations between the two nations. The defeat of the Armada thus became a _____ of Protestant resilience against Catholic domination attempts. It also bolstered national pride and England's _____ as an emerging sea power, influencing naval tactics and shipbuilding for years to come.

For _____ I, the victory over the Spanish Armada boosted her popularity and secured her _____ as a strong and capable ruler. It demonstrated the effectiveness of her naval commanders and the strategic use of naval _____, which played a pivotal role in shaping future English military and foreign _____.

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|-----------|----------|------------|----------|--------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| weather | panic | Gravelines | Scotland | status | leadership | technology | balance | |
| conflicts | policies | rise | Philip | legacy | Armada | treasure | Elizabeth | fire-ships |
| symbol | storms | | | | | | | |