

Year 10. Lesson 2.

Free time in Elizabethan England.

THE THEATRE

Theatre developed as a result of Protestantism. Lots of new literature was written during the reign of Elizabeth I and the most popular form of creative writing was poetry and plays.

At the beginning of Elizabeth's reign the most common form of theatre was mystery plays. They brought Bible and Saints stories to life. Saints were an important part of the Catholic religion and Elizabeth was concerned this might encourage religious violence so her government put a stop to them.

Theatre turned to new, non religious (secular) plays.

There was not a single theatre when Elizabeth came to power.

The theatre was supported by the nobles and wealthy traders whose workers had money to spend on entertainment.

THE FIRST THEATRE WAS BUILT JUST OUTSIDE OF LONDON BY JAMES BURBAGE IN 1576, CALLED THE THEATRE.

FOLLOWED BY THE CURTAIN IN 1577

THEN THE ROSE IN 1587

THE MOST FAMOUS, SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE IN 1599

People from ALL social classes enjoyed the theatre. Entrance fees were cheap, for one penny, you could stand in the pit. For two or three pennies you could sit in the galleries, the upper classes had stools on the stage.

Use pages 84-85 (Hodder) to write one

PEEL paragraph that explains why Elizabethan

theatre was opposed.



Opposition



Describe 2 features of theatre in Elizabethan London /4

Feature one

Feature two
