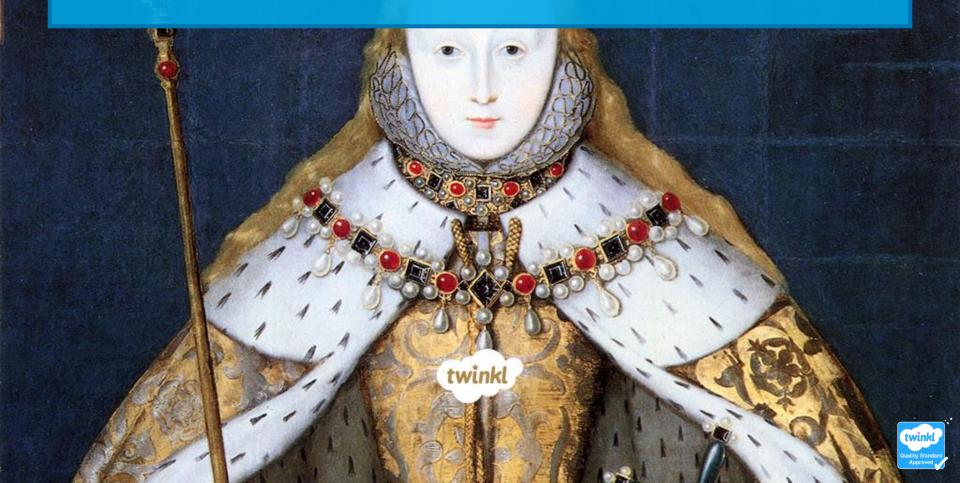
The Tudors Lesson 6 What Did Elizabeth I Look Like?



Learning Objective

• To understand how and why Elizabeth I controlled the image which people had of her.

Success Criteria

- To identify key features from the portraits of Elizabeth I.
- To analyse the reasons why Elizabeth I had strict control over her image.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of the portraits.

Your Profile





Why might it not be an accurate reflection of what someone looks like?

Why do people filter/edit pictures before sharing on social media?

Why do some celebrities filter/edit their pictures?

What Did Elizabeth I Look Like?

- In the sixteenth century, people were very interested in finding out what their Queen looked like. Without television and the internet, people had to rely on artist paintings to see what the Queen looked like.
- Elizabeth I wanted to ensure that everyone who saw these portraits were impressed by her; she wanted to look strong and powerful, beautiful and clever. She controlled what the artists were allowed to include in the portraits and requested that they add features to them.
- Elizabeth I only posed for a portrait on eight occasions throughout her life, yet, over 200 paintings were produced.
- We are going to look at four of these today and make a judgement on how effective we think these portraits were.

Take Notes Make notes explaining how Elizabeth I controlled her image.



The Portraits



What can we learn about the portraits from the following two quotes:

"I know I have the body of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart and stomach of a king, and a king of England too!" (Tilbury speech, 1588.)

The Portraits



Lord William Cecil, Secretary of State.

"Many painters have done portraits of the Queen but none has sufficiently shown her looks or charms. Therefore Her Majesty commands all manner of persons to stop doing portraits of her until a clever painter has finished one which all other painters can copy. Her Majesty, in the meantime, forbids the showing of any portraits which are ugly until they are improved."

Investigation

You are going to study four different portraits of Elizabeth I. You will have to identify key features in each portrait and explain why you think that Queen Elizabeth requested that these be included.

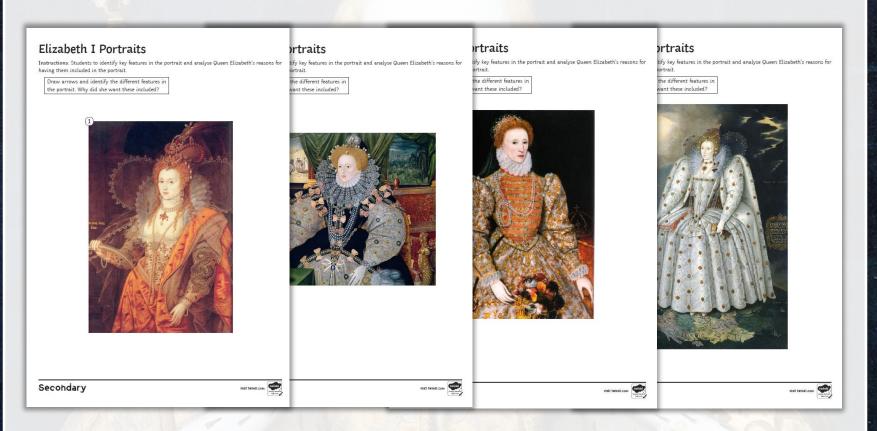


Image Conscious Elizabeth

How and why did Elizabeth I control her image?



Plenary



Which of these portraits do you think that Elizabeth I would have been most pleased with? Why?

