

## LIFE IN 1600S ENGLAND QUIZ

- 1. If you were caught swearing "God's wounds" or "God blind thee!" you could be put into the stocks for an hour. True or False?**

True – A statute made it legal to lock anyone in stocks for 1 hour if they were caught swearing and if they couldn't pay a 12 pence fine.

False – Anyone using these words was excommunicated for the sin of blasphemy, a far worse punishment than time in the stocks.

- 2. In Puritan England, Sundays were a day to relax and play games with your family. True or False?**

True – Quiet reflection and family games were an integral part of Sundays. Popular games for children in the 1600s included naughts and crosses, draughts, all hid, lummelen, or hop frog.

False – the Sabbath was a day set apart entirely for worship. No worldly labor or ordinary work was permitted, which meant no cooking, cleaning, buying, selling, playing, or even going for walks.

- 3. Most poor people ate white bread, and the thicker, coarser, healthier bread was reserved for the rich. True or False?**

True – Blanched bread, a hard, flat bread made of white rice flour, was the most common staple for poor families in the 1600s.

False – Most people ate "black" bread which was baked with barley, rye, maslin, and even bean flour. Only the rich could afford the finer types of bread that were made of choice wheat flour.

- 4. It took an expert bobbin lace-maker about 2 hours to weave 1 yard of lace. True or False?**

True – Beginners and apprentices could take five to ten hours to complete a yard, but expert lace makers were masters of both speed and craft.

False – It could take up to 10 hours to make 1 yard. Bobbin lace-making, also known as bone lace, was an intricate process of weaving during which the threads are held in place with pins pricked into a pillow.

- 5. From the 1530s to the 1700s the most common name for a man was John and the most common for a woman was Elizabeth. True or False?**

True – If you were a man named John, you would have the same name as 29 percent of other men. If you were named Elizabeth, 15 percent of women would share your name.

False – The most common male and female names during this time period were old English versions of Thomas and Mary.

## ANSWERS

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