

## Notes 1&2 – 2

- The birth of Modern England has deep roots:
  - the **Magna Carta** (1215) had signed away the King's rights to nobles who started a form of parliament
  - parliament grew until the **Stuart Lineage** who believed in Absolute Monarchy
- English Society in 17<sup>th</sup> Century:
  - very firm control of the seas (defeated **Armada** in 1588)
  - led to trade, colonizing, and Empire
  - three classes of people:
    - i) Nobles – king, dukes, knights, etc. *clergy*
    - ii) Middle Class – entrepreneurs, guilds, craftsmen, etc.
    - iii) Lower Class – farmers, thieves, prostitutes, etc.
  - people used to live on meat, bread, and beer, but food from the New World greatly increased their diets
    - coffee
    - sugar
    - tea
    - potatoes
  - Religion was important – Catholic vs Protestant
    - Protestant was the official religion, but there were traditionalists who were still Catholic (Stuarts...)
  - Witch hunts were prominent
    - drowning to prove innocence
    - burning at the stake
    - hangings
    - torture