Exam I

1. How best ought we to understand the Henrician reformation? Was it a mix of Catholic and Protestant thought? Was it part of *the* Protestant Reformation? Or was it something else? What factors (social, economic, political, theological, etc.) contributed to pushing this reformation along or stalling it? Who else, besides the king, was involved, and for what reasons? While answering, consider and compare reforms undertaken during the Edwardian and Marian periods to bolster your argument. **(800 words)**
2. Imagine you are either: a) a Roman Catholic, b) a moderate Puritan, c) a radical Puritan, d) a Conformist.

It is March 25, 1603. Elizabeth I has just died. You are English and writing a letter (i.e. this means you’re literate and high enough up the social ladder to know what’s going on) to a friend on the Continent (pick a place that makes sense for your character) explaining the reign of this monarch and how to best understand it. In your letter (in character, using your imagination) explain the good and bad during the Elizabethan era, your hopes and fears of what is to come. Was her reign unqualified good, unqualified disaster, or a mix? Explain your opinions (i.e. your character’s opinions) by giving the history of her reign, government policies (in both church and state), the politics (both foreign and domestic) that impacted the realm, and the changes ongoing throughout English society. Consider not just Elizabeth, but figures connected to her government (her court, parliament, the Church of England), and how they contribute to an assessment of Elizabeth’s reign. In conclusion, offer a brief, but thoughtful, assessment about the incoming James I, and whether that bodes well or ill for your future. **(900 words)**