**Source A** "Following our encounter with the Spanish fleet on 29 July, God has stricken the enemy with a wonderful fear. The Spanish fleet was followed up the Eastern coast but had to return to port to relieve the wants of water and provisions. The want of powder, shot and victuals has caused us many problems."

Letter from Sir Thomas Fenner, a captain of a ship in the English fleet, to Sir Francis Walsingham, 4 August 1588.

**Context**
This letter explains why the English fleet did not continue to chase the Spanish Armada once it had passed Newcastle.

**Puzzled?**
After the Battle of Gravelines the Armada was forced to escape by sailing up the eastern side of Britain. They were chased by the English fleet but the chase had to be stopped because of a lack of provisions and ammunition for the cannons.

**Source B – THE IMAGE -** Soon after its launching, in Deptford in 1587, Queen Elizabeth acquired the ship in part payment of Raleigh's debts and renamed it the Ark Royal. She was then used as the flagship of the naval campaign against the Armada, under the command of Lord Howard of Effingham. The Ark Royal, at 540 tons, was not the largest ship in the Queen's navy but she was well built, fast and manoeuvrable. The advantage of these ships against the heavy Spanish ships, with their armed castles, was that they could fire broadsides, with cannon placed along the length of the ship, and that they were lighter and more manoeuvrable in windy conditions.

**Source B** "Sir, Although Peter Pette had royal orders to purchase anchors, cables and planks for the fleet as a matter of urgency, certain people have refused to deliver these things because they did not think they would be paid. Sir Owen is to see that such people are put into prison and that Mr Pette obtains the things that he needs."
**Extract from a letter from the Privy Council to Sir Owen Hopton, Lieutenant of the Tower of London, 26 July 1588.**

**Context**
At this time the Armada was sailing up the English Channel and an invasion seemed likely. Despite this, the fleet faced a shortage of supplies. This was probably because rulers had a bad reputation for paying their bills.

**Puzzled?**
Peter Pette, mentioned in the extract, was a master shipbuilder at the Deptford shipyards in Kent. He is obviously having problems with some people refusing to supply materials for the English fleet.