Early Modern England

1. Introduction
   a. What is history?
      i. Stuff (from the past) – Facts
      ii. Ideas (about how we know/organize this stuff) – Theory
      iii. Ways (of getting that stuff) – Method
   b. What are we studying?
      i. A place?: England is an island?
      ii. A people?: Who are the English?
      iii. A culture/language?: Where is the English language centered today?
      iv. A period? Early or modern? Why focus on Tudor and esp. Stuart period?

2. From Stonehenge to King Arthur to King Alfred
   a. Ancient Britain to Anglo-Saxons of 5th-8th centuries
      i. 6,000 BCE (B.C.), British isles cut off from mainland
      ii. 4,000–2,500 BCE stone age hunters and gatherers replaced by farmers
      iii. 2,000 BCE peoples from Rhinelannd and Holland join original farming people, formation
           of native Britons
      iv. c. 800 BCE Celts, originally from central Europe, conquer Kent and Southern England
      v. 55 BCE Caesar and Romans invade and retreat
   b. Anglo-Saxon Invasions
      i. Barbaric (not Xtian) tribes from Rhine and Denmark invade Britain, 5th c. CE (A.D.)
      ii. By 6th c. CE, petty kingdoms of Angles and Saxons est. to south (East Saxons, West
          Saxons, Kent, etc.)
      iii. 8th c., invasions from North threaten A-S.

3. Role of Church in formation of England and English Culture (Bede, Dioceses, Norman Church, Regular and
   Ordered Clergy, Cistercians, mendicants, Mortmain)
   a. Conversion of the Anglo-Saxons
   i. Christian Missions (both Celtic and Roman)
   b. Organization of the Church
      i. 663–Council of Whitby
      ii. 669-90, episcopal basis, est. of parishes begun
      iii. Monasticism and Learning
           (1) importance of monastic ideal
               (a) England's first historian from Jarrow: 731
               (i) Bede's *Ecclesiastical History of the English Peoples* (use of
                   B.C. & A.D.)
      c. Origins of Political Unity
         i. Rome as Church, Rome as Empire
         ii. Vikings, Danes, Alfred the Great
         iii. Anglo-Saxon victory and defeat

-6,000 BCE  British isles cut off from mainland
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-2,000 BCE  Peoples from Rhinelannd and Holland join original farming people
-800 BCE    Celts, originally from central Europe, conquer Southern England
-55 BCE     Caesar and Romans invade and retreat
-450-600 CE Anglo-Saxons, but also Jutes, Frisians, etc., invade
-7th cent. CE Anglo-Saxon kingdoms Christianized
            -Irish Celtic missionaries in North (Iona, Lindisfarne, etc.)
            -St. Augustine and Roman missionaries from South (Canterbury)
-789-869    Invasions from Vikings/Norsemen and Danes
            -865, "Great Host" Invasion
-871-899    King Alfred of Wessex and Reconquest of the Danelaw
-978-1016   Aethelred the Unready
-1016-1035  King Cnut and the Danes
-1042-1066  Edward the Confessor
-1066        Harold
-1066-1087  William the Conqueror
            -1086, Domesday Book